



SAN LORENZO RUIZ ASSEMBLY 3103
www.filipinocatholic.net

WHO ARE FOURTH DEGREE KNIGHTS

A Sir Knight is a Knight of Columbus of the fourth degree. The primary purpose of the Fourth Degree is to foster the spirit of patriotism by promoting responsible citizenship and a love of and loyalty to the Knights' respective countries through active membership in local Fourth Degree groups (called "Assemblies").

By putting words into action a Knight will demonstrate the principal of Patriotism. We do this from multiple fronts:

- Fourth Degree Knights work for the application of Christian principles at all levels of government.
- Fourth Degree Knights oppose the institution and development of any forces that would undermine good government.
- Fourth Degree Knights educate their membership to be defenders of democratic institutions.
- Fourth Degree Knights provide a greater knowledge and appreciation of our Catholic heritage.
- Fourth Degree Knights play important roles in charitable and religious activities.
- Fourth Degree Knights often make public appearances as Honor Guards at religious and civic functions.

Our members are challenged to be always ready to sacrifice everything for our Faith and our Country. The response of our Order to the needs of our Country in times of war attests to the fact that we are true to our commitment. From its foundation, the Fourth Degree has provided Honor Guards for religious and civic ceremonies. Marching in our regalia, with the flag of our Country before us, we are clearly identified as individuals who are not afraid to publicly display our devotion to our Country and our Church.

For a while, many people seem to have shied away from giving expression to their feelings for their country, as if such displays of emotion were to be avoided as old fashioned sentimentality. That is now changing. There is an awakening of Patriotism across the land. More and more people are flying the flag and singing their national anthem. This expression of Patriotism has never been more evident in the member nations where our order exists.

Patriotism is, of course, more than waving the flag. It goes beyond expressing love of country and support of its values and institutions. In its best sense, Patriotism involves commitment and action. It requires us to live our lives in such a way that it will strengthen our society, and actively involve ourselves in whatever action may be necessary to remedy our weaknesses.