



Report of the Fifth District

District of Columbia State Council

126th Annual State Convention

May 17-18, 2015

Summary:

As District Deputy #5, I am disappointed to report that District 5 continues to struggle with activity across all councils. District 5 is unique in that all councils are known to have varying circumstances that make engaging council membership and leadership challenging and it is my recommendation that nearly all councils in District 5 be treated as inactive and given dedicated effort to re-engage their parishes and their current membership.

St Martin de Porres Council #9386

St. Martin de Porres Council #9386 continues to struggle with recruitment and membership engagement from council leadership. From conversations with the council leadership, there is a desire to build bridges and work with the pastor but so far little progress has been made. I believe this council has the potential to grow in the future but needs committed council leadership to work to re-engage the parish community. The council is currently suspended for lack of payment for Supreme per capita assessments.

St. Cyprian Council #10008

St Cyprian Council #10008 has struggled the past few years since a previous Grand Knight left the area. This has left a void in council leadership and current leadership has acknowledged that they have not been able to get things going. Council is currently in good standing with regards to per capita assessments. This council has the potential to become a Star Council again but needs dedicated effort from council leadership and membership.

St. Thomas More Council #11578

St Thomas More Council #11578 continues to struggle with recruitment as it has for several years. Without recruitment the council has become effectively inactive although it remains in good standing by paying per capita assessments. It is unclear if the council is having meetings or holding events. I recommend continued outreach to council leadership and a discussion with leadership on a long-term strategy.

St. Michael the Archangel Council #14823

St Michael the Archangel Council #14823 began the year off strong and recruited two new members. Since that recruitment effort, there has been no activity and no communication with council leadership. It is my belief that the council will be better served with new leadership and with that and an effort to engage the membership the council can continue to serve the community well.

St. John Paul II Council #16773

St John Paul II Council #16673 currently serves the St John Paul II National Shrine. Due to the nature of the council located at a Shrine and not a parish, most of the council members do not attend Mass at the Shrine. This means that there is not a visible council presence to the community there. However, the council does support the Little Sisters of the Poor and occasionally hosts BBQs for the community there. This is an opportunity for service and one that is very needed in the community. The long term health of the council will continue to struggle and without new leadership and a sustainable recruitment pool, this council will continue on its current path.

Bl. Karl of Austria Council #17834

Blessed Karl of Austria Council #17834 is virtually non-existent. When this council was chartered, it was based on St Mary Mother of God parish in Chinatown which had historically become a community with a strong commitment to the Latin Mass. After Pope Francis and Cardinal Gregory made changes to where the Latin Mass could be celebrated the membership of the council left the parish and moved elsewhere. Since that time, the council's Financial Secretary moved and resigned from their position and transferred to a council out of the jurisdiction. The combination of lack of leadership, and difficulty engaging with the parish and current membership makes this council effectively inactive. Additionally, the council does not have bank accounts set up, has not paid State or Supreme per capita assessments, and is suspended. The current Grand Knight is actively taking steps towards merging the council with Potomac Council with votes and paperwork forthcoming.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I recommend that the state council take a close look at these councils and determine a strategy for long term council growth through an examination of current leadership, membership, and parish health.

Respectfully,



SK Joshua Bryant, DD, PGK

State Secretary

District Deputy No. 5

Membership to Date:

	Quota	Gain	Loss	Net	Percent
9386	5	0	0	0	0%
10008	5	0	0	0	0%
11578	5	0	0	0	0%
14823	5	2	0	2	40%
16773	5	0	0	0	0%
17834	5	0	0	0	0%
Totals	30	2	0	2	6%