

**KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA**  
**WESTMINSTER WESTERN - PROVINCE 30**  
Minutes of 317th Provincial Council meeting held in  
The Upper Room, Botwell House, Hayes on Tuesday 5th March 2019

"Through working together we are able to commit to an open and collective debate, establishing new ideas, goal setting and achieving quality changes for the good of our Province."

Meeting opened according to ritual at 8.10pm.

Chaplains address. Fr Duncan spoke about his recent visit to the Holy Land and in particular to the Palestinian quarter where all healthcare must be paid for and the resulting poverty is evident. Friends of the Holy Land, a small but effective organisation run Day Centres and support various projects and are badly in need of support. Could we consider supporting them?

*From their website: [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk) :- "Friends of the Holy Land, is a non-political Christian Charity supporting the Christian population of the \*West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan, supporting them to develop a resilient and enduring Christian community."*

**Attendance.** There were 21 Brothers in attendance representing 9 councils.

**Apologies.** Bros Bertie Grogan; Mario Barreto and Emmanuel Diaz.

**Councils not represented:** CI 330 – Ruislip; CI 385 – South Harrow; CI 422 – High Wycombe; CI 948 – North Harrow and CI 970 – Whitton.

**Minutes** of the 316th meeting were proposed and accepted with no matters arising.

**Correspondence:**

- A thank you letter received from Bro Mario Barreto – GK CI 163 following the loss of his wife.
- Details of the Rosary Crusade for Lent received from Head Office.
- The PGK requested names of those attending the centennial mass in July be sent to him by the end of the week.
- The March bulletin from Head Office had been circulated. Do GK's pass this on to all Brothers? This is an important newsletter as it contains so much of the activities of the Order.
- The pilgrimage to Walsingham on 9th June has been cancelled.

**Finance & Administration**

Bro Julien Melville proposed his Administration report for adoption which was accepted.

- Details of council membership statistics required as a matter of urgency.

Bro Julien Melville proposed his Finance report for adoption which was accepted.

- Three councils still outstanding with their Grand National draw tickets.
- An unidentified amount of £63.00 shown in the accounts as since been identified as Draw ticket money paid in early.

**Membership & Development**

Bro John Hibberd proposed his report for adoption which was accepted.

- Bro John Hibberd stated that Recruitment Drives are a matter of **extreme** urgency. It is imperative; that we boost our membership back up to 200 by the end of the year. New leaflets and posters were available upon request.
- Advise the M & D Officer and/or the PGK when Recruitment Drives are arranged in order for support to be arranged and given.
- Bro Nestor Baniqued requested assistance with recruitment in Wembley. Currently Wembley Council has only 1 member and has been declared dormant. A request that Wembley Council meetings be moved from St Joseph's to The English Martyrs at Chalk Hill to be considered.
- Bro Jason Kelly – CI 243 stated that every effort should be made to befriend others and show what a good 'Knight' should be.

## **Spirituality & Welfare.**

Bro Denis Barry proposed his report for adoption which was accepted.

- Condolences went out to Bro Mario Barreto and his family on the sad loss of his dear wife.
- Bro John Collins is recovering after short spell in hospital.
- The PGK asked Bro Denis to regularly contact councils for any information about welfare items in their councils.

## **Action & Youth**

Brother Eric Joseph proposed his report for adoption which was accepted.

- Only CI 422 High Wycombe is hosting the Fraternal Cross – 11.00am Mass at St Augustine's, High Wycombe on 17th March – a very poor response.

## **Social**

Bro Denis Barry proposed his report for adoption which was accepted.

- A Quiz and/or Race Night to be arranged.

## **Election of Provincial Officers 2019/20**

Administration & Finance – Bro Julien Melville

Membership & Development – Bro John Hibberd

Spirituality & Welfare – Bro Denis Barry

Action & Youth – Bro Eric Joseph

Minutes Secretary – Bro Michael Bagness

Warden – Bro Ben Almeida

Auditors – Bro Gerard Kieran & Angelo Manarajah

Deputy PGK – Bro John Hibberd

Officers were asked to sign the Form FA5 after the meeting and brothers were reminded of the Council officers list for the Provincial Directory.

## **Any Other Business**

- Bro Julien explained the importance of circulating the Head Office bulletin to all members as it contains so much important information about the activities of the Order.
- Bro Eric Joseph emphasised the importance of wearing our collars and we should be attempting to recruit younger people in bulk! Always give new brothers a job to do otherwise they will 'walk'. Use the centenary year wisely – let it make a difference.
- The PGK asked Bro John Hibberd to see that all Council have a good supply of recruitment leaflets and invitation cards.
- Bro John Lynn asked about the development of the new regions. They are on hold because of the centenary year celebrations.
- Prayers were asked for Mrs Eileen Berkeley who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- Bro Martin Clancy CI 295 was presented with the Action & Youth Trophy for 2018/19.
- The Order's Centenary Mass will take place in Westminster Cathedral at 2.00pm on Saturday 6th July 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting closed according to ritual at 9.40pm.