



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



## BIENVILLE PROVINCE

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**United We Stand ~ Religious Devoted ~ Patriotically Proud**

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RE: Disposal and Re-Purposing 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Regalia Capes

Worthy Sirs,

I have been contacted by PSD Steve Thomas with a proposal regarding the discontinued Fourth Degree Regalia capes. Sir Knight Thomas has been in contact with an organization known as, Compassionate Burials for Indigent Babies (cbibinc.com). This organization is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. They are committed to providing dignified burials for abandoned or indigent babies in Louisiana. Their dedicated team assist in the funerals and burials of the babies and in turn brings comfort and closure to their families. Their belief is that all life deserves respect and dignity. Their Mission is to raise awareness of the Safe Haven Law so babies will not be thrown away because the mother did not know there was a place to bring her child, with no questions asked. A dignified burial includes internment of the baby which has been placed in a small casket. This casket has been lined with a silk/satin material usually obtained through donations of wedding gowns and baptismal gowns.

CBIB has advised that they would gratefully accept donations of Fourth Degree regalia capes of any color (red, white, purple, green and gold). They will separate the satin lining from the cloth exterior, and remove any Knights of Columbus insignia and then the cape liner will be used to line the inside of an infant's casket. The cloth exterior will be disposed of. If you have been wondering what to do with your cape, this is a great opportunity for it to be re-purposed for a great cause. Sir Knight Thomas has agreed to collect these capes and deliver them to the CBIB headquarters in Lacombe, Louisiana. This is an opportunity also for Assemblies to donate all their capes they can no longer use. What better way to see these capes used to promote the dignity of all life?

I am asking that, if you wish to donate your cape, please bring it with you to any of the upcoming Fourth Degree events. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> Exemplification in Prairieville, LA. The Biennial Meeting of the Fourth Degree in March. The State Knights of Columbus Convention in May (Alexandria, LA). Steve will collect any capes at these events and deliver them. You can also contact PSD Thomas at [scthom74@gmail.com](mailto:scthom74@gmail.com), or at 225-963-9016 to make arrangements to pick up a cape or if you have any questions concerning this project.

If you would like to remove all of the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree and Knights of Columbus insignias from your cape before donating them, then please do so. As of now, I do not know of any re-purposing of the chapeau. However, if anyone is interested, you may want to contact the Knights of Peter Claver. They do not use the plumes that we use, but they may be interested in the chapeau. All I ask is that whatever you end up doing with the chapeau with respect to disposing of it or re-purposing it in any way, please remove the 4<sup>th</sup> Degree emblem.

VIVAT JESUS!

*Kell J. Luke*

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