



# KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

*SERVE GOD BY SERVING OTHERS*

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“Lend A Helping Hand During Lockdown”

Dear Brothers,

At this intensely difficult time in our country, I personally, as Supreme Knight, am more appreciative than ever for your dedication to our great Order’s goal of “serving God by serving others” in our local communities and parishes – and, in particular, looking after those less fortunate than ourselves.

From countless communications I have received, I know that this vital work of ours is continuing at local level throughout Britain despite the many problems we are facing as a result of government policies and legislation arising from Covid-19.

During recent weeks new restrictions have been announced in connection with the British government’s coronavirus policy which could last as long as six months and there are further restrictions in Scotland and Wales. There is a great deal of suffering in the community, and, sadly, most of this suffering is being experienced by people who are often unseen and unheard.

In the light of current events, therefore, the Board of Directors has decided to launch a joint initiative with the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), with whom we have collaborated since 1967, entitled “Lend a Helping Hand during Lockdown”.

The Knights of St Columba is a family, a community, and, amidst all our work to serve others, it’s important we are there for each other too in these unprecedented times. Doubtless, you will already be looking out for brothers and their families who may be experiencing great difficulty at this time. I strongly encourage you in such vital, Catholic, charitable work.

In addition, please see the flier enclosed: Lend a Helping Hand during Lockdown. You might like to consider asking local parish priests to put this poster on their church noticeboards and to use the wording on the poster in their local newsletters. The “Lend a Helping Hand” helpline number goes straight through to Charlie McCluskey, Immediate Past Supreme Knight, and his team at the SPUC Scotland office, who are making sure this project runs smoothly. If it is a member of the Order requires assistance this will be redirected to Supreme Director Welfare who will help by asking Councils to assist locally.

Yours fraternally,

*Bertie*

Bertie Grogan

Supreme Knight