

# The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344  
Knights of Columbus

*"You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity"*  
November 2020

## IN THIS ISSUE

Birthdays & Anniversaries  
Council Officers  
Saint of the Day  
Upcoming Degrees  
Council Calendar of Events  
Membership Anniversaries  
Prayer Intentions  
Memorial Brick Order Form

### Advent Hope During the Pandemic

Advent is a time of waiting, of expectation and of hope. This year, we are all waiting, expecting and hoping for an end to the COVID-19 pandemic. We wait for and expect a safe and effective vaccine. We look forward with hope to a return to normal life, to not have to worry about getting too close to people, to be able to gather again with family and friends, to travel, and to worship and praise God in song at our liturgies.

We wait in joyful expectation for the coming of a vaccine. We hope that soon it will be widely distributed. We look forward to going out to eat and shopping without worry of contracting the virus. We look forward to attending sports events and enjoying full stadiums. We look forward to continual in-person classes in our schools, without worrying about having to resort to virtual classes.

We wait with hope to being able to visit our loved ones in hospitals and nursing homes and those who have had to stay home during this pandemic. We look forward to visiting them without the worry that we may be carrying the deadly virus.

We wait to go to church and gathering closely again as we worship the Lord. We hope to see our churches full without necessary empty pews to keep people apart. We look forward to singing without worrying about spreading the virus. We look forward to exchanging the sign of peace with our neighbors.

We wait and we hope. Yet even when life returns to normal, there will not be an end to sickness and suffering. There will not be an end to all loneliness and isolation. The sorrows of life will not disappear. The production of a vaccine, a wonderful accomplishment of science, which we have hoped and prayed for, will not bring peace to the world. As wonderful as it is, a vaccine will not eradicate the diseases of the spirit that are part of our life in this valley of tears. It will not eradicate sin and injustice. A vaccine will not bring eternal life. It will not inoculate us against sin and death.

*(Continued on page 3)*



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Timothy McGallian
- 2 – Arul Money
- 2 – David Wood
- 5 – David Zarri
- 8 – Paul Duckart
- 12 – Craig Haskins
- 16 – John Wachira
- 20 – Richard Duckart
- 24 – Noel Asuncion
- 27 – Sumner Peery

WIVES' BIRTHDAYS

- 13 – Le-Chi Hsiang Tsai (Cheng-Feng)
- 17 – Sue Downs (Gary)

Council Officers / Columbian Year 2020-2021

- Grand Knight .....SK David Wood PGK .....925-458-0888
- Chaplain .....Fr. Johnson Abraham .....510-557-9845
- Deputy Grand Knight .....SK Carlos Garcia PGK.....925-680-2814
- Chancellor .....Open
- Warden .....Cheng-Feng Tsai .....925-890-0353
- Recorder .....SK Mike McDermott .....925-676-2384
- Financial Secretary .....Gary Downs .....925-825-4409
- Treasurer .....SK Richard Milward PGK .....925-699-5852
- Lecturer .....Deacon Tony Reyes .....925-671-0134
- Advocate .....Open
- Inside Guard .....Patrick Monahan .....925-864-9867
- Outside Guard .....Wayne Schafer .....925-323-6518
- One-Year Trustee .....Open
- Two-Year Trustee .....SK Frank Mazzuca PGK .....925-381-5624
- Three-Year Trustee .....John Wright .....925-798-5962
- Supreme Field Agent .....SK Carlos Gutierrez .....415-517-7560
- District Deputy .....SK David Schwartz PGK .....510-325-7810

The positions of **Chancellor, Advocate, and Trustee** remain open.  
 The only qualification for these positions is that you must be a Third-Degree Knight. For more information, contact GK David Wood.



## SAINT OF THE DAY

- 3 – St. Francis Xavier, Priest – Memorial
- 4 – St. John Damascene, Priest, Religious & Doctor – Memorial
- 6 – St. Nicholas, Bishop – Memorial
- 7 – St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor – Memorial
- 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Solemnity & Holy Day of Obligation
- 9 – St. Juan Diego, Hermit – Memorial
- 11 – St. Damasus I, Pope – Memorial
- 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe – Feast
- 13 – St. Lucy of Syracuse, Virgin and Martyr – Memorial
- 14 – St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor – Memorial
- 21 – St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor – Memorial
- 23 – St. John of Kanty, Priest – Memorial
- 25 – Nativity of the Lord – Solemnity & Holy Day of Obligation
- 26 – St. Stephen, the First Martyr – Feast
- 27 – St. John the Apostle and Evangelist – Feast
- 28 – Holy Innocents, Martyrs – Feast
- 29 – St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr – Memorial
- 30 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – Feast
- 31 – St. Sylvester I, Pope – Memorial

*Advent Hope During the Pandemic (Continued from page 1)*

We hope for a vaccine and an end to the pandemic, but this is not our greatest hope. Deep down, we will still feel a longing for something greater, a longing for unending happiness, a longing for joy, peace and love. In a word, we long for salvation. We long for a Savior. We long for God. Without Him, we have no ultimate hope and will not find joy and peace. Without Him, we go through life as a journey toward death. With Him, we go through life as a journey toward the fullness of life.

The season of Advent focuses on this great hope. It is a time of waiting for and expecting the coming of God among us. Our God is the God-who-comes. He is not a God far away in the distant cosmos, a God unconcerned about us and our life. He is the God who became one of us, who sent His Son that we might have life, life in abundance. He is Love and, therefore, He comes to save us.

The angel told Joseph to name the child to be born of Mary “Jesus.” He said: “You are to name him Jesus because he will save his people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21) This message gives us hope. The name of the Messiah is Jesus, which means “Savior.” The purpose of His coming was to save us from our sins. In His infinite love, God sent His Son to rescue us from sin and death. And so, we pray to Him: “Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.”

During these weeks of Advent, we prepare for Christmas, the celebration of God’s entrance into human history 2,000 years ago in the little town of Bethlehem. We prepare to celebrate the Birth of our Savior. He is our hope. Without Him, we fall into despair. St. Augustine prayed the following: “How much you have loved us, kind Father! If your Word had not become flesh and had not dwelt among us, we would have had to believe that there was no connection between God and humanity and we would have been in despair.”

Advent not only focuses on God’s coming in history 2,000 years ago, but also on His future coming at the end of time when He will be seen in glory and majesty. In this second coming in glory, Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead, as we profess in the Nicene Creed. In Advent, the Church invites us to think about this second coming of Christ, His glorious return, which is the final destination of our pilgrimage through life. We don’t know when this will take place, but the Scriptures teach us to be

*(Continued on page 4)*



## UPCOMING DEGREES

### New Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity

- The new Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity is now available on-demand. This means that you can advance to the Third Degree any time of the day or night, 24/7, at your convenience.

To participate in the new Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity, you will need an invitation. To receive an invitation, contact Brother Richard Milward at 925-699-5852 or [richard.milward.pgk@gmail.com](mailto:richard.milward.pgk@gmail.com).

Be sure, also, to tell your friends about the Knights and how easy it is get them started as new members.

### Patriotic (4th) Degree:

- Saturday, April 11, 2021  
- POSTPONED -  
New date to be announced

### Council Calendar of Events

- December 7 Council Officers Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.
- December 9 Todos Santos Assembly Meeting, online.
- December 21 Council Business Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.

*Advent Hope During the Pandemic (Continued from page 3)*

vigilant and prepared for the Master’s return. The expectation of the second coming should spur us on, motivate us to be vigilant in prayer and active in good works, to be ready for the judgment.

As we prepare to commemorate Christ’s coming at Christmas and as we await His glorious return, we also recognize that He comes now. When Jesus ascended into heaven, He did not leave us here alone. He comes to us in the grace of the sacraments. He comes into our souls and in the community of the Church. We need only open our hearts to Him and His love. In Advent, we are called to intensify our prayer so as to welcome the Lord more fully into our lives. We are to be watchful in prayer for the coming of the Lord, preparing to receive the Lord who comes to show us His mercy and give us His salvation.

Jesus, who came among us at Christmas and will return in glory at the end of time, constantly comes to us in the events of our lives. He is always near us. He accompanies us in every situation, in joys and in sorrows, in health and in sickness. He is always close to us. And He has given us His Mother to accompany us as well. In Advent, we will celebrate her Immaculate Conception and also her appearance in America as Our Lady of Guadalupe. In this season of hope, we turn to her, Our Mother of Hope, to guide us. In her heart and in her womb, she bore the Incarnate Son of God. She directs us to Him. Mary our Mother encourages us and supports us with her love and her prayers as we await the coming of her Son.

As we await and hope for the end of the coronavirus pandemic, let us even more importantly await the coming of the Lord and place our hope in Him. In this season of Advent, let us turn our gaze and our heart to Him who is our Savior, in spiritual union with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Our Lady of Advent! May God bless you with a blessed and fruitful Advent!

Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades  
 Diocese of Fort Wayne - South Bend (IN)



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Walter Hubrig

– December 1, 1981 (39 yrs)

Ronald Artale

– December 15, 1987 (33 yrs)

James Stanionis

– December 7, 1993 (27 yrs)

Michael McDermott

– December 1, 2010 (10 yrs)

Octavio Padilla

– December 1, 2010 (10 yrs)

Cheng-Feng Tsai

– December 1, 2010 (10 yrs)

Peter Mazolewski

– December 18, 2017 (3 yrs)

## Prayer Intentions

### Physical Healing

- Brother Ron Artale and his son
- Brother Octavio Padilla
- Brother David's father Stan, his daughter Sarah, his brother Hal
- Brother Ray Doorack's son and grandson
- Brother John Wright's brother Larry
- Brother Ed Burgess (St. Bonaventure)
- Brother Gary's sister in-law Julie
- Brother Neil Cuffy
- Deacon Jim Pearce
- Brother Tex asking for prayers for his sister in law Alicia E. Banzos
- Brother Jorge Garcia
- Brother Norm Andrews and his wife Dianne
- Brother Tom McEachran (recovering from a stroke)
- Brother Ed Lee's sister Marian – diagnosed with cancer
- Richard and Anita Wilbur (St. Francis of Assisi)

### Knights Special Intentions

- Special intention for Brother King and for his father's conversion
- Special intention for Brother Walt Hubrig
- Inmates at the Martinez Detention Facility

### Other Special Intentions

- For peace in war torn regions of the world
- For Christians and others suffering persecution
- For victims of all-natural disasters and terrorist acts
- For the safety of all those enslaved and all refugees
- For an end to Covid-19
- For all protests to be peaceful
- Safety in military service and for first responders: All men and women in uniform serving our country, local and state first responders, including brother Bob's son Andrew serving in the Army.

### Special Life Events and Thanksgiving

- For all deceased Brother Knights: Brothers Ed Chatterton, Ed Lexon, Tom Kisak, Dick Spahl, and Owen Murray (QAS). For Jean Vetro, widow of Brother Bob Vetro.
- Our Parish, Diocese and Universal Church: Prayers for Pope Francis, our Bishop Michael Barber, our Priests, Religious, our Pastor Father Johnson, and for all Seminarians, For Deacons Tony and Sumner.

# LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY... St. Agnes Parish Memorial Brick Order Form



Dear Parishioners,

St. Agnes Parish Catholic Community and St. Agnes Council 15344 of the Knights of Columbus are pleased to offer you and your family the opportunity to purchase engraved memorial bricks to be placed in front of the Parish's new *Memorial to the Unborn*, which will be located next to the statue of Mary.

The *Memorial for the Unborn* will become an important part of our Parish's history and a lasting tribute for loved ones and the engraved memorial bricks are a special way to honor your children, grandchildren, parents, special friends, as well as memorialize your loved ones.

The cost of each 4"x 8" brick is just \$50 and includes your personalized message of up to three lines engraved using state-of-the-art laser technology, ensuring long-lasting strength and durability in the engraving. Ordering is three easy steps...

## STEP 1: Create the message for your brick:

- ◆ You may use any combination of lower and UPPER case letters.
- ◆ Bricks may contain up to three lines of 20 characters per line.
- ◆ Character count includes all letters, numbers, punctuation, and spaces.
- ◆ The example below has a total of 19 characters (15 letters, 1 punctuation mark, and 3 spaces.)

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Example –	T	h	e		R	.		S	m	i	t	h		F	a	m	i	l	y	
Please print clearly	Line 1 –																			
	Line 2 –																			
	Line 3 –																			

## STEP 2: Fill-in your information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

## STEP 3: Mail this form and your check:

Please make your check (\$50 per brick\*) payable to **Knights of Columbus Council 15344** and mail with this order form to:  
Gary Downs, 1756 Bishop Dr., Concord, CA 94521-2022. (\*Each brick requires a separate order form.)

- ◆ We will submit all brick orders for engraving at one time once we have received orders for 100 bricks.
- ◆ We will use your phone/email only for keeping you informed of progress or if we have questions.

For questions contact: Carlos Garcia, 925-250-8969 or cmgarcia@astound.net