

Happy New Year!

# The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344  
Knights of Columbus

*"You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity"*  
January 2021

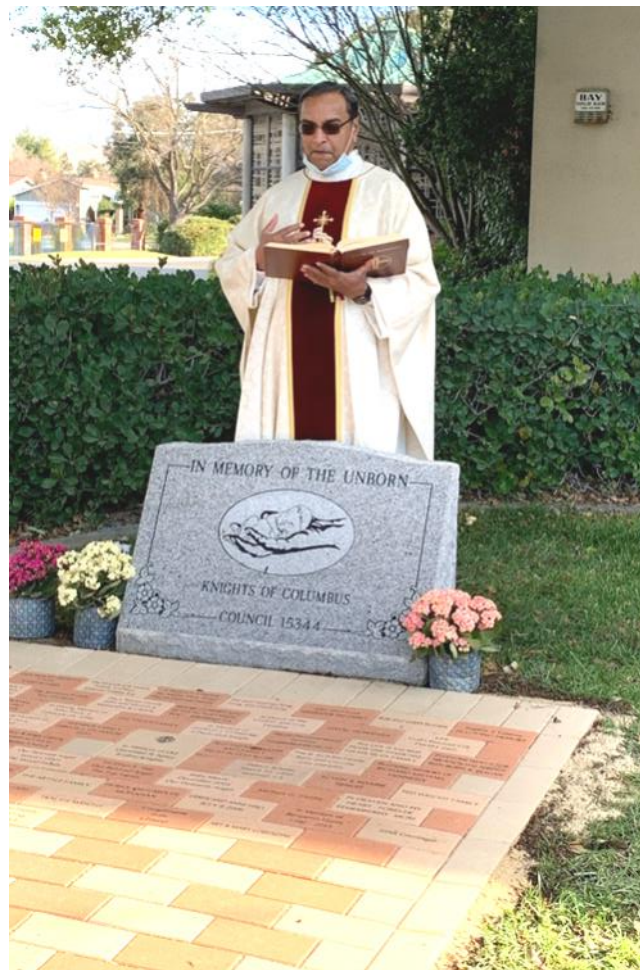
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## Memorial for the Unborn Blessed at Last

On Sunday, December 27, after many, many months of planning, waiting, selling bricks, and waiting some more, Father Johnson blessed the Parish's Memorial for the Unborn and memorial bricks. As a Council, we began selling memorial bricks in September of 2019, but the idea for a memorial for the unborn came about over two years ago.

You can still order memorial bricks – see the order form on the last page of this newsletter. See page 6 for more photos of the Memorial.



← Father Johnson blesses the memorial and bricks.



BIRTHDAYS

- 9 – Michael Marshall
- 12 – Ronald Connolly
- 13 – Isaac Farias
- 18 – Mark Longhi
- 21 – John York
- 27 – Arthur O'Keefe

WIVES' BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Chris McDermott (Michael)
- 1 – Mary O'Keefe (Arthur)
- 30 – Veronica Peery (Sumner)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- David & Christine Wood – January 6, 1996 (25 yrs)
- Gary & Sue Downs – January 15, 1983 (38 yrs)

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

- 1 – Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
- 2 – Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors
- 3 – The Most Holy Name of Jesus
- 4 – St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious
- 5 – St. John Neumann, Bishop
- 6 – Epiphany of the Lord
- 6 – St. André Bessette, Religious
- 7 – St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest
- 13 – Baptism of the Lord
- 17 – St. Anthony of Egypt, Abbot
- 20 – St. Fabian, Pope and Martyr
- 20 – St. Sebastian, Martyr
- 21 – St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr
- 23 – St. Vincent, Deacon and Martyr
- 22 – Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
- 23 – St. Marianne Cope, Virgin
- 24 – St. Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor
- 25 – The Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle
- 26 – Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
- 27 – St. Angela Merici, Virgin
- 28 – St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor
- 31 – St. John Bosco, Priest

## Grand Knight's Message

2020 was a year of challenges, social unrest, and uncertainty. This 2020 was very difficult on many Brother Knights and their families. Some lost their jobs, while others had their workloads become extremely difficult and overwhelming. Our children were not allowed to attend school and became isolated. Many people became lost, overwhelmed with despair, and health issues became prevalent.

The year started off on a positive and successful note. In January we had a remarkably successful crab dinner and as Lent started, we had two extremely successful fish fry dinners. However, all this came to a screeching halt on March 12th when all activities were suspended at the church. Then, on March 16th, the first shelter in place order was given. This new order hit us hard as we were no longer allowed to gather as a Parish community to celebrate Mass. Schools and most businesses closed temporarily while the government tried to figure out how to proceed. Even though, as a Council, we could no longer meet in person or host dinners for our community, we continued to help the Parish in any way we could.

We first helped organize outdoor Communion services; we had signage made to help parishioners know the new flow for Communion and when we were able to move the services into church, we assisted there as well.

We also assisted the City of Concord through the Concord Cares Program. Bi-weekly food distributions were conducted in the church parking lot from the end of March till June. During these three months we assisted those in our community who needed food assistance by handing out over 20,000 lbs. of food.

We then helped rearrange the chairs in the church in anticipation that indoor Mass services would begin again, but when that didn't happen we provided a background banner for outdoor services since we were only allowed to celebrate Mass outdoors. Brothers from our Council assisted setting up and ushering for those outdoor Masses.

On July 4th we hosted a "Drive-Thru" BBQ which was warmly accepted and appreciated by the Parish Community. We then hosted another drive-thru BBQ for Labor Day. The numbers attending these drive-thru meals increased and we received many complements and expressions of gratitude by the Parish Community! We then started to host our First Friday dinners, again as a drive-thru meals, and we hosted a German theme for our October dinner. Once again, it was successful and appreciated.

*(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 17, 2021  
- POSTPONED -  
New date to be announced

## Council Calendar of Events

- January 4 Council Officers Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.
- January 13 Todos Santos Assembly Meeting, online.
- January 18 Council Business Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.

### Grand Knight's Message (Continued from page 3)

We were in the middle of planning our November drive-thru dinner and a December drive-thru “Crab Dinner” when, once again, our activities were put to a halt as per County health department Covid-19 regulations. As frustrating as that was, we still assisted the Parish in any way we could. We continued to assist with setup and ushering of Mass services.

We have also financially assisted our Parish in 2020 with cash donations of \$9,000 and we helped pay for hospitality refreshments and purchased a background banner and shade banner for outdoor Masses. As a Christmas gift to the parishioners from the Parish, we donated the funds necessary to purchase St. Agnes bumper stickers for each family. Lastly, we provided donations to multiple charities, including Share and Birth Right, while also donating \$1,500 to the America Wheelchair Mission which provided 10 chairs to those in need.

Our Brother Sumner Peery successfully completed his five-year Deaconate formation program and was ordained as a Deacon for the Oakland Diocese. He is currently assigned to serve at St. Agnes Parish.

At long last, the Memorial for the Unborn and memorial bricks were installed! (see page 1). After Mass on December 27th, Fr. Johnson blessed this new memorial. You can still order memorial bricks – see the order form on the last page of this newsletter.

Sadly, in 2020 we lost Brothers: Jim Armstrong, Ed Lexon, Dick Spahl, Ed Chatterton, and the wife of Brother Bob Vetro. Let’s keep them, as well as their families, in our prayers. We continue to pray for their souls and their families.

2020 was a difficult year for many of us with job losses, physical and mental issues...if you need anything that I or the Council can help with, or if you just need to talk, please reach out to me 925.207.0270.

My wish is that each of you and your families have a safe, healthy, and Blessed New Year. Vivat Jesus!

David Wood  
Grand Knight



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Eutiquio Alimpos

– January 1, 1968 (53 yrs)

Edward McGuirk

– January 4, 1972 (49 yrs)

Norman Andrews

– January 15, 1991 (30 yrs)

Paul Duckart

– January 4, 2000 (21 yrs)

Kevin Keeler

– January 31, 2011 (10 yrs)

Thomas O Sullivan

– January 16, 2012 (9 yrs)

Mario Soto

– January 6, 2018 (3 yrs)

John York

– January 6, 2018 (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.



### Memorial for the Unborn Blessed at Last



← Brothers Wayne, Carlos, John, GK David, Cheng-Feng, and Bob look over the newly blessed Memorial and bricks.

↓ The Brothers – Unmasked.



# LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY... St. Agnes Parish



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 for the Unborn**, which is located next to the statue of Mary.

The **Memorial for the Unborn** has already 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 include up to three lines of 20 characters per line.
- ◆ Character count includes all letters, numbers, punctuation, and 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 –																			

## ➤ 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 may wait to obtain a sufficiently large number of brick orders before submitting the orders to the manufacturer.
- ◆ We will use your phone/email only for keeping you informed of progress or if we have questions.