

The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344
Knights of Columbus

"You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity"
May 2021

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Meet Our "Adopted" Seminarian: Brother Ramon Urbina

Each year, through the Knights' RSVP (Refund Support Vocations Program), Councils are encouraged to financially "adopt" a seminarian or religious aspirant and provide them with not only financial but moral support and prayers for their success. This year, our Council adopted Ramon Urbina, a Theology III seminarian at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. Ramon is a Brother Knight of Columbus and member of Antioch Council 3265 at Most Holy Rosary Church in Antioch, where his father, Ramon Sr., is the Financial Secretary.

Earlier this year, Brother Ramon was one of five seminarians from the Archdiocese of San Francisco and the Dioceses of Oakland, Spokane, and Sacramento who went through the Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Holy Orders. Similar to the moment when the Twelve responded to Christ's call, this is a rite of passage for the candidate for Holy Orders. Their Admission to Candidacy is the start of an important grace-filled final period of preparation for the priesthood. The candidates were all called by name and given a blessing as they entered this next phase of their journey.



↑ Brother Ramon Urbina of St. Patrick's Seminary, our "adopted" seminarian.

The seminarians at St. Patrick's Seminary have a common devotion to our Catholic faith, but are also a diverse lot with other different interests. Some are sports-orient, others pursue intellectual challenges, and yet others are artistic.

Brother Ramon has had a life-long interest in the arts. Brother Ramon talks about his interest, "My greatest passion growing up was comic books. I'm a diehard DC Comics fan, but I also love newspaper strips like

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BIRTHDAYS

- 2 – Jeffrey Aquino
- 7 – Jorge Garcia
- 8 – Ronald Artale
- 8 – Michael Souza
- 9 – Oscar Legaspi
- 11 – Philip Sunglao
- 14 – Francis Mazzuca
- 15 – Carlos Garcia
- 15 – Charles Oconnor
- 16 – James Stanionis
- 17 – John Fitzpatrick
- 20 – Johnson Abraham
- 21 – Peter De Paschalis
- 29 – John Ouimet
- 29 – Peter Mazolewski
- 29 – Joseph Moniz

WIVES' BIRTHDAYS

- 20 – Diana Farias (Linus)

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	<i>Open</i>	
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	<i>Open</i>	
Inside Guard.....	Patrick Monahan.....	925-864-9867
Outside Guard.....	Wayne Schafer	925-323-6518
One-Year Trustee	<i>Open</i>	
Two-Year Trustee.....	<i>Open</i>	
Three-Year Trustee	John Wright.....	925-798-5962
Supreme Field Agent.....	SK Howard Tank PGK.....	925-315-8732
District Deputy	SK David Schwartz PGK	510-325-7810

We're still taking nominations for Council Officers for the next Columbian Year and three positions remain unfilled. The only qualification for these positions is that you must be a Third-Degree Knight. For more information, contact GK David Wood or see page 4.



Knights of Columbus.

Howard Tank
Field Agent
 925-315-8732
 howard.tank@kofc.org
 Ca. Lic#0117393



Life Insurance • Long-Term Care Insurance
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SAINT OF THE DAY

- 1 – St. Joseph the Worker
- 2 – St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor
- 3 – Sts. Philip and James, Apostles
- 10 – St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i, Priest
- 12 – Sts. Nereus and Achilles, Martyrs or St. Pancras, Martyr
- 13 – Our Lady of Fatima
- 14 – St. Matthias the Apostle
- 15 – St. Isidore
- 18 – St. John I, Pope and Martyr
- 20 – St. Bernardine of Siena, Priest
- 21 – St. Christopher Magallanes, Priest and Martyr and Companions, Martyrs
- 22 – St. Rita of Cascia
- 25 – St. Bede the Venerable, Priest and Doctor; or St. Gregory VII, Pope, Religious or St. Mary Magdalene de Pazzi, Virgin
- 26 – St. Philip Neri, Priest
- 27 – St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop
- 31 – Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Meet Our "Adopted" Seminarian: Brother Ramon Urbina (Continued from page 1)

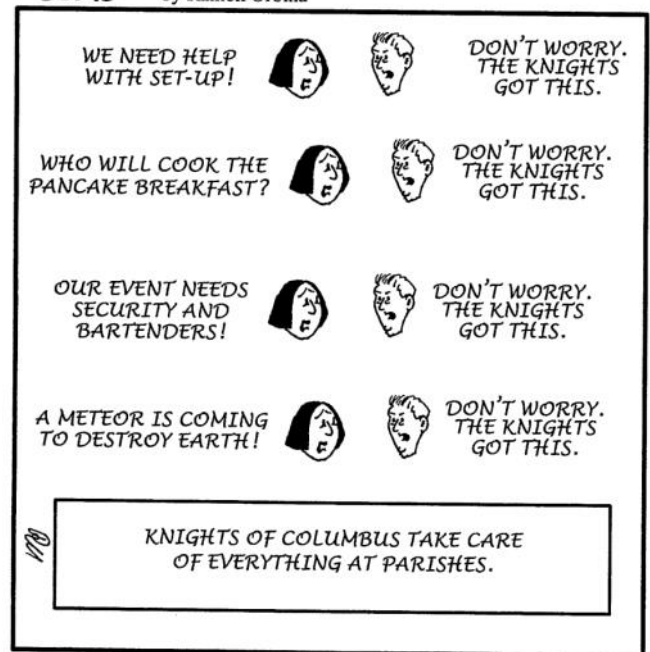
The Far Side, The Wizard of Id, and Pearls Before Swine. After high school I enrolled in art school with the goal of getting into animation. The art scene in San Francisco was competitive and very secular, which didn't fit with my views on God."

He had reached a crossroads in his life and found his calling in Jesus and the sacraments. "I left wanting to do something more with my life, but having no alternative paths in life. But after a while I felt another tug in my heart to help people by bringing them God in the sacraments. I lived life selfishly as an artist, so I wanted to dedicate my life to serving others. I didn't just want to help people, I wanted to show them that God cares for us. The most concrete way God expresses His love is through the sacraments. I decided to enter the seminary, the place where average and unworthy men like me go to become priests who give sacraments to a world in need of reminders that God loves us."

At St. Patrick's Seminary, Brother Ramon found a way to bring his love of God and artistic talents together. "After joining the seminary I stopped making art altogether.

Academics can get heavy at the seminary and stress levels rise often, so to bring a little joy to my classmates I decided to draw a few cartoons of some of the humorous observations I had made around the seminary. I created a comic strip called *Sems* based on life at the seminary and Catholic culture as something only my

"SEMS" by Ramon Urbina



↑ Sound familiar?

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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.

Forward this newsletter to Catholic men interested in the Knights, and let them know that through June 30 they can **become a member for free** online using promo code **MCGIVNEY2020** at kofc.org/join.

Patriotic (4th) Degree:

- To be announced.

Council Calendar of Events

- May 3 Council Officers Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom.
- May 12 Todos Santos Assembly Meeting, online.
- May 17 Council Business Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom.

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 Richard's mother-in-law Anita Wilbur (St. Francis of Assisi)
- Brother Howard Tank's sister Heidi Drugas, a nurse in Fresno.

Knights Special Intentions

- Brother King and for his father's conversion
- 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 SK Dick Wilbur, father-in-law of Brother Richard Milward; Ed Chatterton; Ed Lexon; Tom Kisak; Dick Spahl; and Owen Murray (QAS). For Jean Vetro, widow of Brother Bob Vetro and Brother Ed Lee's sister Marian.
- 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.



WISDOM AND STRENGTH

Father in heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call.

Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that Church vocations may flourish.

Bless our priests with holiness and courage, that they may lead your people to Christ.

Help all sisters and brothers to fulfill their sacred promises, and so be effective signs of your kingdom.

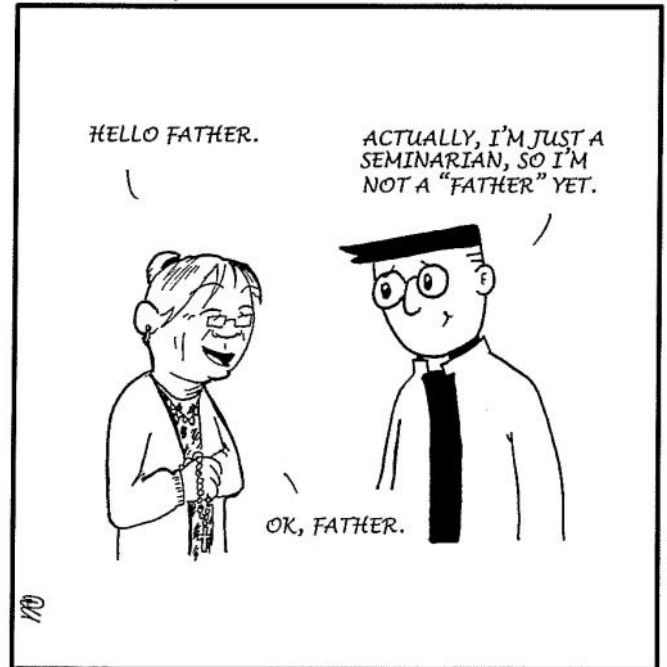
Lord, invite more men and women to your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

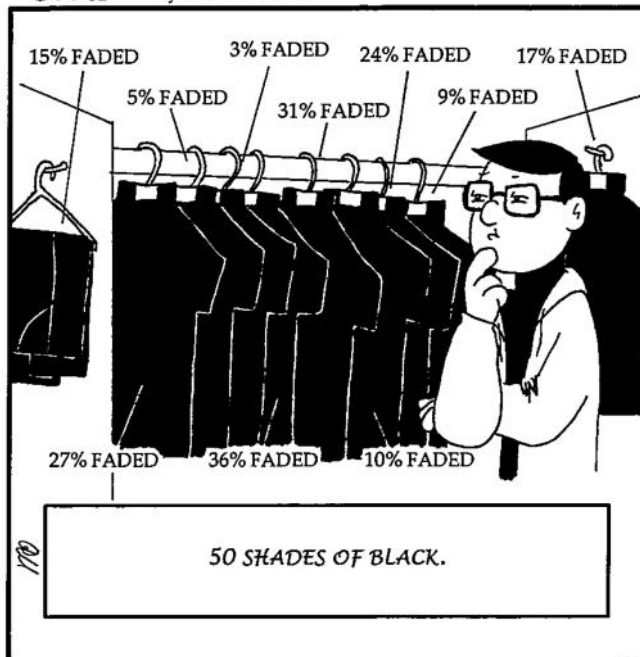
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fellow seminarians and I could laugh about. Eventually priests, professors, formators, employees, sisters, lay people (and even bishops!) expressed how much they enjoyed the humor in that comic strip. I'll never be a Michelangelo, but *Sems* is my small contribution to the world of Catholic art."

"SEMS" by Ramon Urbina



"SEMS" by Ramon Urbina



Brother Ramon's *Sems* cartoons have brought a lot of joy at St. Patrick's Seminary and helped to relieve some of the pressures of seminary life. St. Patrick's Seminary, and our faith in general, is blessed with many young men, like Brother Ramon, who can bright their unique talents to Christ's mission.



MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

David Zarri

– May 1, 2003 (18 yrs)

William Van Hattem

– May 6, 2006 (15 yrs)

Enrico Kevin Bunyi

– May 4, 2015 (6 yrs)

Officer Nominations for 2021-2022 – Last Call

THERE ARE STILL *THREE* POSITIONS TO BE FILLED.

Believe it or not – It is almost time to vote on our slate of officers for the 2021-2022 Columbian Year, but three positions remain open: Chancellor, Treasurer, and Advocate. The nominees for each office and the duties and responsibilities for the three open positions are indicated below.

If you are a Third Degree Knight, consider becoming a Council officer.

We will conduct the election during our May Business Meeting on May 17 at 8:00 PM.

GRAND KNIGHT – NOMINEE: *RICHARD MILWARD, PGK*

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT – *CARLOS GARCIA, PGK*

CHANCELLOR – NOMINEE: *OPEN*

- Assists the Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight with their duties
- Entrusted with strengthening the members' interest in council activities
- Commonly also serves as the council's Membership Director
- Is recommended to serve as the chairman of the Admission Committee

WARDEN – NOMINEE: *CHENG-FENG TSAI*

RECORDER – NOMINEE: *MIKE McDERMOTT*

TREASURER – NOMINEE: *OPEN*

- Handles council funds
- Receives money from the Financial Secretary and deposits it in the proper council accounts
- Maintains all the council's checking and savings accounts
- Is responsible for paying all council expenses, including assessments from the Supreme Council

ADVOCATE – *OPEN*

- Acts as parliamentarian for the council
- Has a working knowledge of Method of Conducting Council Meetings
- Knows council's bylaws and the Order's Charter, Constitution and Laws
- Seeks legal assistance from the state advocate as needed

INSIDE/OUTSIDE GUARD – NOMINEES: *PATRICK MONAHAN/WAYNE SCHAFFER*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – NOMINEES: 1-YEAR: *JOHN WRIGHT*

2-YEAR: *BOB RIGOR*

3-YEAR: *DAVID WOOD, PGK*

LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY...St. Agnes Paris 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 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.
- ◆ 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 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.

For more information contact Carlos Garcia at 925-250-8969 or cmgarcia@astound.net