

The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344
Knights of Columbus

"You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity"
November 2018

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Grand Knight's Corner

"They also serve who just stand and wait." This is not our problem! We thought we were going to slow down in November after Earl's sendoff. However, since then we have been called upon to help with several events in November. (See the calendar on page 6 for details.)

On the first weekend, we have been asked to set up for the brunch following the Mass of Remembrance Saturday morning as well as break down afterwards. That afternoon we are running the Free Throw Contest at the School during its CYO Social/BBQ. Did I mention BBQ? Yes, we are doing the BBQ, too. Food will be provided; we just need to cook. If you have time to help set up, break down, cook, or clean – please let me know.

The second weekend finds us helping with the Women's Guild Tea. So far, they have 130 people signed up, which means they will need the entire church. Therefore, we will need a lot of help Friday evening for set up and again for break down Saturday afternoon in time for the 5 PM Mass. Finally, after we get the Church back in order, we have a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning. So, if you like Mimosas, come on down and help.

Besides all this service, we continue to excel in growth and advancement. We have several new applications for membership and are scheduling First & Second Degrees for the very near future. With cold weather starting, we have a Coat Drive in which we will request donations of secondhand coats instead of money. We have our Monument to the Unborn in its development stage and we our Keep Christ in Christmas Card sales campaign in development. If you think of a project you need help developing with your brother Knights, bring it up.

Finally, I pray for you, your families, and your needs. We live in a great country and I thank God every day that we have the freedoms to serve the needy, help the hungry, and support our church in its many outreach endeavors.

SK Frank Mazzuca
Grand Knight





BIRTHDAYS

November

- 1 – Ed Mc Guirk
- 10 – Gilbert Chavez
- 10 – Hugh McManus
- 12 – Robert Bove
- 17 – Enrico “King” Bunyi
- 25 – Tom Grewis
- 26 – John Neudecker
- 28 – Virgilio Acma
- 29 – H. Edward Lexon
- 29 – Ed Lee

**WIVES’
BIRTHDAYS**

- 24 – Christine Artale (Ron)

**WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES**

Carlos & Mary Garcia
– November 14, 1982 (36 yrs)

Council Officers

Grand Knight	SK Frank Mazzuca.....	925-381-5624
Chaplain	Fr. Johnson Abraham	510-557-9845
Deputy Grand Knight	SK King Bunyi.....	510-427-3596
Chancellor	SK Jorge Garcia.....	925-676-3750
Warden	Tex Alimpolos.....	925-687-3798
Recorder.....	SK Mike McDermott.....	925-676-2384
Financial Secretary	Gary Gowns.....	925-825-4409
Treasurer	SK David Wood PGK	925-458-0888
Lecturers	Dcn Bill Drobick	925-689-0838
	Dcn Tony Reyes	925-671-0134
Advocate	Cheng-Feng Tsai	925-890-0353
Inside Guard	Ron Artale	925-827-3713
Outside Guard	SK Jeff Aquino PGK	925-356-2474
One-Year Trustee	SK Richard Milward FDD PGK.....	925-699-5852
Two-Year Trustee	SK Carlos Garcia PGK.....	925-680-2814
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

Council Directors

Program Director	SK King Bunyi.....	510-427-3596
Faith Director	Fr. Johnson Abraham	510-557-9845
Community Director	SK King Bunyi.....	510-427-3596
Family Director.....	Wayne Schafer	925-323-6518
Life Director.....	Linus Farias.....	510-423-3705
Membership Director.....	SK Jeff Aquino PGK	925-356-2474

If you would like to assist with one of the program areas above, contact the program area director or GK Frank Mazzuca.



PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Brother Ed Chatterton
- Brother Joaquin Campos
- Brother Neal Campanelli
- Brother Ron Artale and his son
- Brother Octavio Padilla
- Brother Earl Koski
– Repose
- Brother Earl's mother-in-law Muriel Gordon
- Brother David Wood's father Stan
- Brother Tom Kisak
- Brother Ray Doorack's son and grandson
- Brother John Wright's brother Larry
- Brothers Claire Tryon and Ed Burgess PGK (6038)
- Brother Mike Souza's sister Judy
- Brother Gary Downs' sister-in-law Julie
- Brother Neil Cuffy
- Brother David Wood's brother Hal
- Brother Mel Recacho
– Repose
- For peace in war torn regions of the world
- For Christians and others suffering persecution
- For all in military service

Chaplain's Message

The month of November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Church commemorates all her faithful children who have departed from this life, but have not yet attained the joys of heaven. St. Paul warns us that we must not be ignorant concerning the dead, nor sorrowful, "even as others who have no hope ... For the Lord Himself shall come down from heaven ... and the dead who are in Christ shall rise."

The Church has always taught us to pray for those who have gone into eternity. Even in the Old Testament prayers and alms were offered for the souls of the dead by those who thought "well and religiously concerning the resurrection." It was believed that "they who had fallen asleep with godliness had great grace laid up for them" and that "it is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." We know that a defiled soul cannot enter into heaven.

The Church Suffering and the Church living constitute in their relations a second circle of most vital activities. Having entered into the night "wherein no man can work," the Suffering Church cannot ripen to its final blessedness by any efforts of its own, but only through the help of others—through the intercessory prayers and sacrifices of those living members of the Body of Christ who being still in this world are able in the grace of Christ to perform expiatory works. The Church has from the earliest times faithfully guarded the words of Scripture that it is a holy and a wholesome thing to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins. [2 Macab. 12, 43] The suppliant cry of her liturgy: "Eternal rest give to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them," can be heard already in the Acts of the martyrdom of SS. Perpetua and Felicitas (A.D. 203) and is represented in numerous sepulchral inscriptions of the most ancient period, while theologians and Fathers of the Church, beginning with Tertullian, have supplied its substantial proof. So fundamental indeed and so natural to man's hope and desire and love is this belief, that historians of religion have discovered it among almost all non-Christian civilized peoples: a striking illustration of Tertullian's saying that the human soul is naturally Christian.

The Catholic, therefore, is zealous to expiate and suffer for the "poor souls," especially by offering the Eucharistic Sacrifice, wherein Christ's infinite expiation on the Cross is sacramentally represented, and stimulating and joining itself with the expiatory works of the faithful,

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MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Robert Bove
– Nov 7, 2000 (18 yrs)

Sumner Peery
– Nov 7, 2000 (18 yrs)

J. Othon Benavente
– Nov 9, 1995 (23 Yrs)

Linus Farias
– Nov 19, 2012 (6 yrs)

H. Edward Lexon
– Nov 20, 1984 (34 yrs)

Timothy Hadley
– Nov 22, 2014 (4 yrs)

Ed Lee
– Nov 20, 2017 (1 yr)

Tom McEachran
– Nov 20, 2017 (1 yr)

Wayne Schafer
– Nov 20, 2017 (1 yr)

Program Director's Message

THE THANK YOU LIST (PART 1)

It's that time of the year when everyone is in a mood to celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. It's that time of the year when everyone is always in a rush to shop, to celebrate, and, sometimes, to get it over with. It's that time of the year when everyone reflects on the highs and lows of their year and looks forward to the following year.

First, let's look at what we had for this year. We had a tremendous year for which to be thankful. The continued success of our programs that had a great impact on the Council and the Parish. We are thankful for our Brothers who continuously gave their time and effort for all the events that we hosted. Without them, we would not be successful.

We also would like to thank our Brothers Jack Ryan and Earl Koski who passed away this year. They were with us until the very end of their lives. They committed to join us and volunteer at our events even though they were ill. We hoped they could be with us more, but they could not, due to their illnesses. However, God has called them home.

We thank our Brothers for the gift of faith rooted through service in our Council. After all, we are the frontlines in evangelizing God's mercy and goodness to all. We thank them for including us in their prayers for strength and energy to continue this ministry. We are thankful for our Pastor Fr. Johnson and Deacons Bill and Tony for keeping us grounded in God's word.

We thank our families for allowing us to immerse ourselves in service to the community while maintaining the balance of being husbands, fathers, grandfathers, sons, brothers, and grandsons.

We thank the St. Agnes Community for its continuous support in our activities and programs. Its support and help make our Council thrive. These are the people that serve. Incidentally, they are our number 1 fans.

Lastly, we thank God for making us a part of His plan in being a gift to others. He has tapped our shoulders to be part of His grand plan that has a positive effect on everyone's lives. Without Him and His grace, we would not bond as Brothers in the Council.

In this time of the year of celebrating Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day, may the value of gratitude be in our hearts and may we spread it to everyone who has touched our lives.

SK King Bunyi

Deputy Grand Knight & Council Program Director



UPCOMING DEGREES

1st (Admission) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: www.koc15344stagnes.org

2nd (Formation) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: www.koc15344stagnes.org

3rd (Knighthood) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: www.koc15344stagnes.org

4th (Patriotic) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: www.koc15344stagnes.org

District Deputy's Message

Greetings St. Agnes Council! As we get to November with the Thanksgiving Holiday, let us all think about what we are thankful for. Since I have attended 4 funerals over the last month as a Color Corps member, let's focus on the gift of life. Of course, life starts at conception, but the life I'm talking about happens each time you wake up in the morning. Do yourself a favor and as you make your morning prayers, thank God for another day of life! Because you never really know when your last day will be, try to make sure all your relations are in good order. Don't maintain any grudges, because you if someone will pass and you did not make it up with them, it can be hurtful. So be thankful for the gift of life from our Lord as we start our Holiday celebrations!

SK David Schwartz CS PGK PFN
District Deputy

Chaplain's Message

(Continued from page 3)

passes to the Church Suffering according to the measure determined by God's wisdom and mercy.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Fr. Johnson Abraham
Chaplain



SAINT OF THE DAY

November

- 1 – All Saints – Solemnity
- 2 – All Souls Day – Commemoration
- 3 – St. Martin de Porres, Religious – Memorial
- 4 – St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop – Memorial
- 9 – Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – Feast
- 10 – St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor – Memorial
- 11 – St. Martin of Tours, Bishop – Memorial
- 12 – St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr – Memorial
- 13 – St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin – Memorial
- 15 – St. Albert the Great, Bishop and Doctor – Memorial
- 16 – St. Margaret of Scotland & Saint Gertrude the Great, Virgin – Memorial
- 17 – St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious – Memorial
- 18 – St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin – Memorial
- 21 – Presentation of the B. V. Mary – Memorial
- 22 – St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr – Memorial
- 23 – St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr – Memorial; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr – Memorial & St. Columban, Abbot – Memorial
- 24 – St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and his Companions, Martyrs – Memorial
- 25 – St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr – Memorial & Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe – Solemnity
- 30 – St. Andrew the Apostle – Feast

Council Calendar of Events

- November 2 No First Friday Dinner (due to Crab & Tri-Tip Dinner in October). Go ahead, take the night off. You earned it.
- November 3 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- November 3 Mass of Remembrance, 10 AM, Church Hall (Set up and break down help needed for ensuing brunch).
- November 3 Free Throw Competition and BBQ at CYO Social/BBQ, 11 AM, School yard.
- November 5 Council Officers Meeting, 7 PM, Ministry Center.
- November 10 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- November 10 Women’s Guild Autumn Tea, 11:30 AM, Church Hall (Set up will take place Friday night; Break down will take place following the Tea [approx. 2:30 PM]).
- November 11 Pancake Breakfast after 9 AM and 11 AM Masses. *Assistance needed and always appreciated.*
- November 11 Todos Santos Assembly Veteran’s Day, Christmas Party & Admiral’s Ball, 5 PM, Zio Fraedo’s, Pleasant Hill.
- November 14 Todos Santos Assembly Meeting, 7:30 PM, St. John Paul II Room, St. Francis of Assisi Church. Dinner served at 6:30 PM, followed by Rosary at 7 PM.*
- November 17 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- November 19 Council Business Meeting, 6:30 PM dinner, 7:30 PM meeting, Church Hall.
- November 24 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.

* Fourth Degree Knights only may participate in this event.



TEST YOUR DISABILITY AWARENESS

Answer *True or False*.

1. Initial claims for Social Security disability benefits are almost always accepted.
2. The average long-term disability claim lasts about 1 year or less.
3. Men are more likely than women to become disabled for 3 months or longer.
4. Most disabilities occur at work.
5. Long-term disability insurance pays benefits for as long as a person is disabled and unable to work.
6. Employer-sponsored disability insurance benefits are typically adjusted for inflation.
7. People do not need disability insurance because their health insurance covers all the costs associated with a serious illness or disability.
8. Employer-sponsored disability insurance benefits are typically not taxed when you receive them.
9. Short-term disability insurance benefits typically start as soon as you become disabled or sick, with no waiting period.
10. Accidents are the leading cause of disability.

How did you do?

Find the answers on page 8.

Field Agent's Message

Worthy Brothers:

I bring you greetings from our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. Today the question is: What is your plan in case you become disabled? I have asked this question many times and heard many answers. Seriously, what is your plan? How will your family do if you become disabled and cannot work? I ask that you keep reading for your wife's and children's benefit.

Workers are becoming disabled in increasing numbers every year. In May of 2013, there were 10,978,040 individuals in the U.S. collecting federal disability benefits; a record at the time that has subsequently been surpassed. More significant than the sheer number is the fact that it was the 196th consecutive month in which the number of disabled workers had increased. That's over 16 years of consecutive month-over-month increases in the disabled population! To put this trend in perspective, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 1968 there were 51 full-time workers for every disabled worker. Today there are only 13 Americans working full-time for each worker on disability. One of the causes behind the trend is that impairments that once resulted in death now render individuals disabled due to advances in medical care. As a result, the incidence of disabilities in our society has dramatically increased.

Compounding the problem of an increasing number of disabled workers is the reality that fewer employers are willing to provide employer-paid group long-term disability coverage. With sharply increasing health care costs, long-term disability coverage is something many employers are no longer willing to pay for. It is estimated that approximately 70% of workers are currently without long-term disability protection – that's approximately 100 million workers. Many of the remaining workers have coverage, but are not adequately insured. For those that don't have disability insurance, their safety net is really limited to the disability protection afforded by social benefits. While the average Social Security disability benefit is small and certainly not enough to sustain a family's lifestyle, additional problems result from the time it typically takes to get a claim reviewed (approximately two years) and the high number of claims that are denied. Perhaps most troubling, the Trustees of Social Security and Medicare have reported that "Disability Insurance (DI) Trust Fund reserves, expressed as a percent of annual cost, declined to 62% at the beginning of 2014, and the Trustees project trust

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TEST YOUR DISABILITY AWARENESS

Answers to pg. 7 Disability Quiz:

1. **False.** When a person files for Social Security disability benefits, their initial claim is rarely accepted.
2. **False.** The average long-term disability claim lasts longer than 1 year.
3. **False.** Women are more likely than men to become disabled for 3 months or longer.
4. **False.** Most disabilities do not occur at work.
5. **False.** Long-term disability insurance does not always pay benefits for as long as a person is disabled and unable to work.
6. **False.** Employer sponsored disability insurance benefits are not typically adjusted for inflation.
7. **False.** Health insurance does not cover all the costs associated with a serious illness or disability.
8. **False.** Employer sponsored disability insurance benefits are typically taxed when you receive them.
9. **False.** Short-term disability insurance benefits do not typically start as soon as you become disabled or sick. Generally, there is a waiting period.
10. **False.** Arthritis is the leading cause of disability.

Field Agent's Message

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fund depletion in late 2016...Lawmakers need to act soon to avoid automatic reductions in payments to DI beneficiaries in late 2016.”

Disability income insurance protects one's ability to earn a paycheck. With increasing life expectancy, greater individual responsibility for funding retirement and longer working careers, we need our paychecks more than ever. An unexpected, long-term disability represents the greatest threat to one's future stream of paychecks. For most, those future paychecks represent their greatest asset. It is with good reason that almost half of all mortgage foreclosures are the result of financial hardship associated with a disability. Further, unexpected illnesses and injuries cause over 350,000 personal bankruptcies each year.

Please contact me so I can help you get a disability plan together for you and your love ones.

SK Francisco Fernandez FIC PGK

Supreme Field Agent





Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Francisco Fernandez, FIC, PGK
255 Station Ave
Daly City CA 94014
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MEMORIALS TO UNBORN CHILDREN

In 1992 Cardinal John O'Connor of New York challenged Knights of Columbus units throughout the Order to pay tribute to the millions of children killed by abortion by erecting memorials in Catholic cemeteries, on council hall grounds, and at Parishes.

Since the program began, thousands of these memorials have been built. These monuments, ranging from simple headstones to elaborate memorials, stand as testimony to one simple fact: Human life is a sacred gift from God to be protected and cherished at all stages, from conception to natural death.

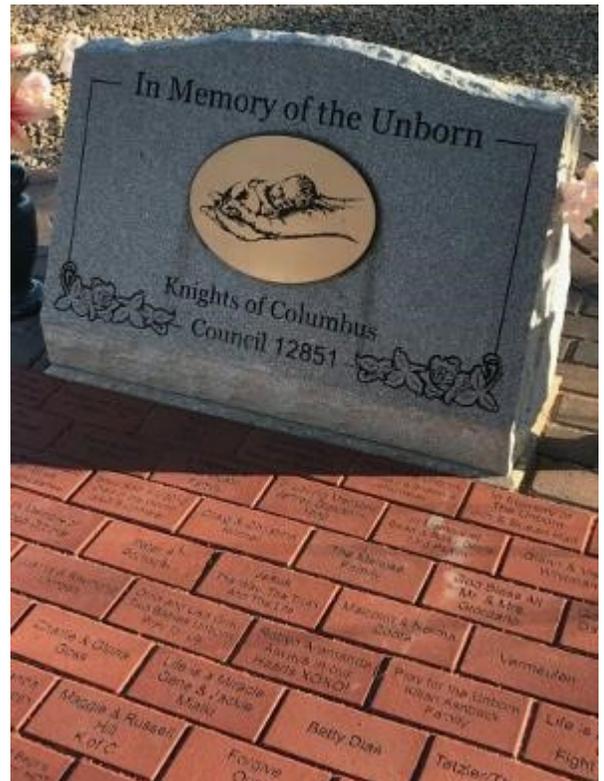
*from Knight's Lifeline,
December 2009/January 2010*

Council Motion to Erect Memorial to Unborn Children

At our October 15 business meeting, PGK Carlos Garcia made a motion for the Council to purchase a granite memorial to the unborn. This memorial will be for all unborn children, either due to abortion or miscarriage, died in the womb, or during the birth process.

The memorial (36" wide, 16" high, and 10" deep) and would be placed at the northwest corner of the church, behind the statue of Mary. The total cost to purchase and install the memorial and its concrete base is \$4,242. By now, you should have received a separate email explaining this motion per our Council By-Laws on proposed purchases over \$500.

The photo at right shows a similar memorial erected by a Council in Arizona. The front of our memorial will read "In Memory of the Unborn" across the top, with "St. Agnes Council 15344 Knights of Columbus" across the bottom. The emblem of the Order will be featured in the center of the memorial, rather than the round bronze plaque in the photo.



About one-half of the total cost to purchase and install the memorial is estimated to be recovered through the sale of 4 x 8-inch Prayer Bricks at \$50 each. Using state-of-the-art laser technology the bricks – like those in the photo in front of the memorial – can be custom engraved with up to three lines of text to honor children, grandchildren, parents, special friends, as well as memorialize loved ones.

Fr. Johnson has already approved of the memorial. At this point we need only a majority of Council members present at the November 19 business meeting voting in favor of PGK Carlos' motion to move forward.



Oktoberfest Dinner – October 5

On October 5, our normal First Friday Dinner took on a Germanic twist when we presented an authentic (or as authentic as can be expected being so far from Munich) Oktoberfest Dinner.

We served grilled bratwurst, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, salad, and ice cream to over 50 guests. German beers complemented the meal and a good time was had by all.



← (L to R) Brothers Paul Murray, James Waters, and Pat Monahan grill the brats.



← Parishioners and friends enjoy the finest Oktoberfest meal served in all of Concord (that day).



← What's a Knights event without a bar? Brothers Pat Monahan (isn't he supposed to be out at the grill?), David Wood, and Hugh McManus (far right) ensure Fr. Johnson is well taken care of.



Crab & Tri-Tip Dinner – October 27

On the weekend of October 27-28, we presented the first of two planned Crab & Tri-Tip Dinners for the 2018-2019 Columbian Year and hosted a Wheelchair fundraiser.

At the Crab & Tri-Tip Dinner over 100 guests got their fill of king crab, tri-tip, pasta, salad, and all the fixings. No one went away hungry and the bar was so busy it started running out of libations just in time to close. The Concord High School Key Club served the guests and were well-rewarded for their efforts.

Brother Louis Salvatore (PGK and former member of Queen of All Saints Council who now resides in Vacaville), represented The American Wheelchair Mission and made presentations at all Masses over the weekend. Donations to the Wheelchair Mission go to provide wheelchairs and mobility to those who cannot afford purchase their own.

Reports on the success of both weekend events are forthcoming at the next Council business meeting on November 19.



← Brother Cheng-Feng Tsai readies the crab.



→ Brother Lou Salvatore, American Wheelchair Mission California State Chairman.



← (L to R) Grand Knight Frank Mazzuca, Hugh McManus, Sumner Peery, and Fr. Johnson.

↓ Knights and their families enjoy crab, tri-tip, wine, and good company.

