

# The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344  
Knights of Columbus

*"You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity"*  
November 2019

## IN THIS ISSUE

Birthdays and Wedding  
Anniversaries

Council Officers

Prayer Intentions

Supreme Chaplain's Message

Membership Anniversaries

Field Agent's Message

Upcoming Degrees

Council Calendar of Events

Saint of the Day

Invitation to Dominic  
Borchers' Installation as  
Acolyte

New Council Members

Into the Breach Retreat

Have you visited the new  
Supreme website?

Memorial Brick Order Form

## Grand Knight's Corner

### *DEFINING A CATHOLIC IN THESE MODERN TIMES*

What does it mean to be a Catholic in today's modern times? This question ponders each Catholic, including myself. We are confronted by different social, economic, technological, and cultural changes that test each of us Catholics. I must admit: it is difficult staying in the course of our Catholic Faith. I received formation in numerous Catholic Schools and Universities all my life. The Catholic formation, instilled in me by these institutions, is still strong. What makes my faith unsettled is the negative perception bombarded on the Catholic identity and its importance to today's challenging times.

First, I am happy to claim that being a Catholic is a challenging religion. The notion of "... being a Catholic is a challenging religion," is not negative in itself. By being Catholic, we respond actively to our faith through free-will. Christ explained the two basic commandments that we should follow: love your God and love your neighbor (Mark 12: 28-34). That is all that Christ has asked us to do. If we follow these two commandments, our faith journey is at ease. That is in the ideal sense. In reality, it is not. Our free-will enters our psyche. Following Christ and His commandments is an open invitation repeating again and again. The free-will allows us to decide if we accept this open invitation every day. That is the challenge we constantly face.

The perceptions of a Catholic identity make Christ's invitation even more difficult to accept. Non-Catholics and even Catholics are attacking this identity. Questioning the Catholic practices to the polarization of ideals by the Church hierarchy are some of the attacks. The negative reaction in addressing the Church's recent scandals adds insult to injury. The attacks have transcended into the political realm, using it to throw dirt on someone who is serving a public office.

It has disheartened some, including myself. Former Catholics are returning to the faith, and are renewing themselves in accepting Christ's constant open invitation. Little did they know that they are returning to a broken and divided faith. These attacks have divided Catholics and made Catholicism shattered into pieces.

*(Continued on page 8)*



# BIRTHDAYS

## November

- 1 – Edward McGuirk
- 10 – Hugh McManus
- 12 – Robert Bove
- 17 – Enrico Kevin Bunyi
- 25 – Tom Grewis
- 26 – John Neudecker
- 28 – Virgilio Acma
- 29 – Edward Lee
- 29 – H Lexon

# WIVES' BIRTHDAYS

- 24 – Christine Artale (Ron)

# WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Carlos & Mary Garcia  
 – November 14, 1982 (37 yrs)

# Council Officers / Columbian Year 2019-2020

Grand Knight .....	SK King Bunyi.....	510-427-3596
Chaplain .....	Fr. Johnson Abraham .....	510-557-9845
Deputy Grand Knight .....	<i>Open</i>	
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 .....	SK David Wood PGK .....	925-458-0888
Inside Guard .....	Patrick Monahan.....	925-864-9867
Outside Guard .....	Wayne Schafer .....	925-323-6518
One-Year Trustee .....	SK Carlos Garcia PGK.....	925-680-2814
Two-Year Trustee .....	John Wright.....	925-798-5962
Three-Year Trustee .....	SK Frank Mazzuca PGK.....	925-381-5624
Supreme Field Agent.....	Alex Torres-Esquivel.....	925-384-9783
District Deputy .....	SK David Schwartz PGK .....	510-325-7810

**The positions of Deputy Grand Knight and Chancellor remain open.**  
 The only qualification for these positions is that you must be a Third-Degree Knight. For more information, contact GK King Bunyi.



## PRAYER INTENTIONS

### Physical healing:

- Bro. Ron Artale (heart surgery) and his son
- Bro. Paul Murray (surgery)
- Bro. Ed Chatterton
- Bro. Joaquin Campos
- Bro. Neal Campanelli
- Bro. Octavio Padilla
- Bro. Tom Kisak
- Bro. Ray Doorack's son and grandson
- Bro. John Wright's brother Larry
- Bro. Claire Tryon and Brother Ed Burgess (St. Bonaventure)
- Bro. Gary's sister in-law Julie
- Bro. Neil Cuffy
- Deacon Jim Pearce
- Bro. David's daughter Sarah, his father Stan, his brother Hal (car accident), and Aunt Marianne (spine surgery)
- Zachary Puntty, son of Bro. Mike of QAS (car accident)
- Bro. Carlos Gutierrez mother in law
- Bro. Daniel Barrington (hospice)
- Bro. Tex's sister in law Alicia E. Banzos
- Bro. Jorge Garcia
- Bro. Norm Andrews
- Bro. Tom McEachran (stroke)
- Bro. Ed Lee's sister Marian (cancer)

### Special Intentions of:

- Bro. King and for his father's conversion
- Bro. Walt Hubrig
- Inmates at Martinez Detention Facility
- Patricia Viscay

## Supreme Chaplain's Message

### ***COMING TO TERMS WITH OUR PRIDE – A CHALLENGE AND MESSAGE FROM SUPREME CHAPLAIN ARCHBISHOP LORI***

*“For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”*

— Lk 18:14

We live in the age of the selfie, in what the writer David Brooks has called the culture of “the Big Me.” Such a culture constantly urges us to exalt ourselves, but as Christians we need to be radically different by striving for humility. This means coming to terms with our pride, our desire for “likes,” approval and recognition. As Mother Teresa put it, “It is in being humble that our love becomes real, devoted and ardent.” Surrounded by the message to exalt ourselves, may we instead seek to humble ourselves and demonstrate real love to others.

### ***This Month's Challenge:***

This month, I challenge you to kneel before a crucifix each morning and ask Christ to give you the gift of humility. I also challenge you, in this month dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to pray the rosary (either as a council through the Faith In Action Rosary program or as an individual) for an increase in humility.

### ***Questions for Reflection:***

- What are some ways you can grow in humility?
- How can you strengthen your resistance to the lure of others' praise and the sting of their criticism?
- Did the act of humbling yourself before Christ on the cross teach you anything about how to be humble?

Archbishop William E. Lori  
*Supreme Chaplain*

*Reprinted from Knightline - October 2019*



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

- H. Lexon  
– November 20, 1984 (35 yrs)
- J. Benavente  
– November 9, 1995 (24 yrs)
- Robert Bove  
– November 7, 2000 (19 yrs)
- Sumner Peery  
– November 7, 2000 (19 yrs)
- Linus Farias  
– November 19, 2012 (7 yrs)
- Timothy Hadley  
– November 22, 2014 (5 yrs)
- Edward Lee  
– November 20, 2017 (2 yrs)
- Thomas McEachran  
– November 20, 2017 (2 yrs)
- Wayne Schafer  
– November 20, 2017 (2 yrs)

### Field Agent's Message

*As Thanksgiving approaches at the end of the month, I like to take stock of all the things I'm thankful for.*

*It's easy to say family and friends, those are blessings; and we sometimes take them for granted...but how about the little things in life? It might be that smile you get from person who hands you your cup of coffee in the morning, it may be relishing the crisp air on an autumn day. It may be a simple stroll in the park marveling at God's nature abounding. Maybe the joy of helping an older neighbor with a chore. All little things to be thankful for.*

*When I think about helping older neighbors, I often wonder just how many members have taken advantage of help that they might need as they age. Some won't be able to do the simple activities of daily living. They'll need assistance, and with our mobile society, may not have a relative nearby to help. That's where our Knights of Columbus Long Term Care Insurance plan might help.*

*Many people don't know how a long-term care insurance policy helps cover the costs of care when the policy holder has a chronic medical condition, a disability, or a disorder such as Alzheimer's disease. You can receive care in your home, a nursing home, an assisted living facility, or an adult day care center.*

*LTC insurance helps protect all those assets you've worked so hard for over the years: your house, IRAs, savings, investments. They could all be wiped out with even a short stay in a nursing home. The website: <https://longtermcare.acl.gov/costs-how-to-pay/costs-of-care.html> says that home health care costs about \$22/hour, assisted living facilities about \$51,000 per year, and nursing homes \$85,000 per year. More expensive areas of the country – such as the San Francisco Bay Area – are far more than that. Without LTC insurance many families would face a serious financial crisis.*

*Most people aren't eager to talk about long term care; but it's important to have a plan. Many people want to wait until they are in their 60s or 70s before they start to consider long term care. But at younger ages it's more likely you can qualify...and the price is less expensive when you're younger.*

*(Continued on page 6)*



## UPCOMING DEGREES

### Admission (1st) Degree:

- Thursday, November 14  
– St. Augustine, Pleasanton.  
Registration 7 PM  
Exemplification 7:45 PM

### Formation (2nd) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: [www.koc15344stagnes.org](http://www.koc15344stagnes.org)

### Knighthood (3rd) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: [www.koc15344stagnes.org](http://www.koc15344stagnes.org)

### Patriotic (4th) Degree:

- None scheduled – Watch for email announcements or check council calendar: [www.koc15344stagnes.org](http://www.koc15344stagnes.org)

## Council Calendar of Events

November 1	NO First Friday Dinner (The grill needs a break).
November 2	Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
November 4	Council Officers Meeting, 7 PM, Ministry Center.
November 5	Installation of Dominic Borchers as Acolyte, 5 PM, St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park ( <i>see page 6 for more information</i> ).
November 7	Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
November 9	Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
November 10	Pancake Breakfast, after 9 and 11 AM Masses, Church Hall.
November 13	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 14	Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
November 16	Into the Breach, 9:30 Am, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 1219 Excelsior Ave, Oakland ( <i>see page 7 for more information</i> ).
November 16	Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
November 18	Council Business Meeting, 7:30 PM, Church Hall. Dinner served at 6:30 PM dinner, followed by Rosary at 7 PM.
November 21	Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
November 23	Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
November 28	Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
November 30	Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.

\* Fourth Degree Knights only may participate in this event.



## SAINT OF THE DAY

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

### **Field Agent's Message** *(Continued from page 4)*

*I can help design a plan to fit your needs...and your budget. With that you can have peace of mind that you will get the care you need, when you need and where you want it.*

*Let's talk and see how you can protect your assets. Vivat Jesus!*

Alex Torres-Esquivel

*Supreme Field Agent*

925-384-9783

Alex.torres-esquivel@kofc.org

### **YOU'RE INVITED TO THE ACOLYTE INSTALLATION OF DOMINIC BORCHERS**

Dominic Borchers, the seminarian from Walnut Creek that our Council has chosen to support over the next couple of years, has invited us to a very special ceremony during which he will be installed as an Acolyte.

**When:** Wednesday, November 6th at 5 PM.

**Where:** St. Patrick's Seminary, 320 Middlefield Rd, Menlo Park.

**Why:** In the journey to the priesthood, a seminarian is installed by several rites to perform certain liturgical duties. First is Lector to proclaim the Word at Mass in the First and Second Readings; next is Acolyte, whose primary function is to serve as extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, and usually also to serve during the liturgy of the Mass; and lastly, the Deaconate.

This is the big installation before Dominic's Deaconate in two years, so it is a momentous occasion for him. The Rite is very beautiful and solemn and will be presided over by Bishop Joseph Brennan of Fresno. In total, about 20 seminarians will be installed as Lectors and Acolytes.

**Dinner:** Dinner will be provided to all attendees.

**Tour:** Dominic is willing to provide a seminary tour prior to the installation.

**RSVP:** **If you plan to attend, please contact Richard Milward, 925-699-5852 or [richard.milward.pgk@gmail.com](mailto:richard.milward.pgk@gmail.com) by Tuesday, November 5.**





## NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS INDUCTED

Prior to our regular council meeting on September 21, we held an Admissions Degree Exemplification (that's the official new name for the First Degree Exemplification). During that ceremony we inducted two new Brothers into our council:

- Craig Haskins
- Bernardino Sunglao

Additionally, we have a new member from Hawaii by transfer:

- Arthur Aronson

Please be sure to welcome our new Brothers when you meet them. (Because we all know each other so well, they'll be easy to pick out: they will be the Brothers that you don't know – yet.)

### Into the Breach

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS —**

***ST MARGARET MARY CHURCH AND THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE HOSTING A RETREAT FOR CATHOLIC MEN—INTO THE BREACH.***

In his apostolic exhortation *Into the Breach*, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted outlines the challenges faced by men of faith in the world today. *Into the Breach* is a call to battle for Catholic men which urges them to wholeheartedly embrace masculine virtues in a world at crisis. By reading and discussing Bishop Olmsted's inspirational words and accompanying study guide, councils will prayerfully examine the enormous breach in the battle line that lies before them. In doing so, they will begin to devise a personal plan of spiritual battle.

This will be a tremendous opportunity to understand the spiritual battle lines that men will face for the next two generations. Fathers are encouraged to bring their sons who are prepared for this retreat.

**Time:** 9 AM to 2:30 PM.

**Date:** Saturday, November 16, 2019

**Location:** St Margaret Mary Catholic Church, 1219 Excelsior Ave., Oakland, CA

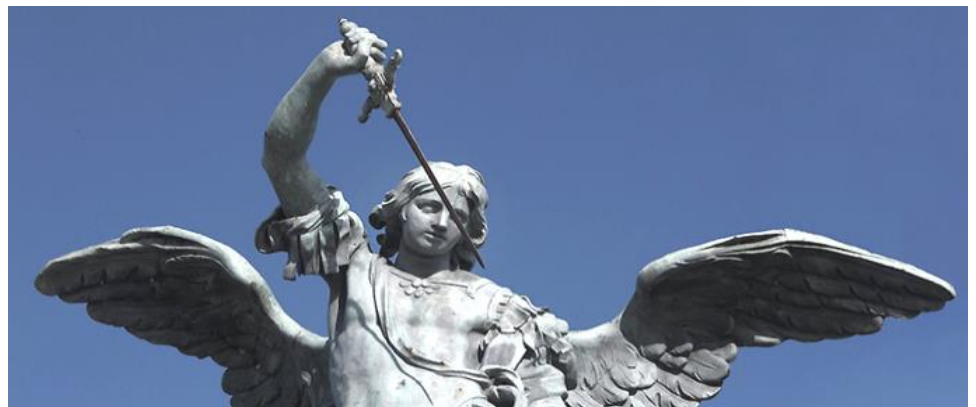
**Lunch:** Served compliments of the Knights of Columbus, provided by Zarri's Delicatessen.

**Trailer:** [www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Sv4NP\\_aJaA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Sv4NP_aJaA)

**Download:** [www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/cis/cis340.pdf](http://www.kofc.org/un/en/resources/cis/cis340.pdf)

This is a good will donation event. For more information, feel free to contact Carlos Gutierrez via email [Carlos.Gutierrez@kofc.org](mailto:Carlos.Gutierrez@kofc.org), or text on 415-517-7560.

***BE CALM. BE BOLD. STEP INTO THE BREACH. VIVAT JESUS!***





## HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW SUPREME WEBSITE?

The online home of the Knights (kofc.org) has a fresh look. Now more engaging, the site highlights three key areas — growing our membership, improving the member experience, and refreshing our brand identity.

Visit the new site and check out the News Hub and the redesigned pages on Fraternal Mission, Charity, Faith, and Insurance.

While you're on-line, don't forget to visit our Council's website for up-to-date information on Parish and Council activities, as well as links to other noteworthy and informative sites of interest to Knights and their families (koc15344stagnes.org).

### *GK's Message* (Continued from page 1)

The word Catholic comes from the Greek *katholikos*, meaning universal. Christ came into this world for us to be united in embracing God once again. The early Christians, though rattled by fear of persecution, were united in demonstrating their faith. No matter where they were, God protected them through signs and miracles. They, in reciprocation to God's providence, demonstrated to the people the goodness of their faith. These events coined the existence of Catholics.

The disadvantage of being Catholic is that we are only human beings. We are not God. Yet sometimes, we think like Him as a perfect being. One example is fostering pride, which divides Catholics more brought by polarization on both ends of the spectrum. Both sides of the spectrum do not dialogue with each other because of pride.

These attacks are destroying the Catholic's universality or its unity. Catholics are called to unite as one body to counter these attacks.

Is there hope? Yes, there is still hope. It circles back to the challenge of accepting Christ's invitation every day. As we accept His invitation, our faith – prayer and work – should be strong as united Catholics. In prayer, we deepen our relationship with God, making it an interpersonal connection, and, at the same time, consecrate ourselves in making God the center of our lives. We entrust God what He wants for us and not let our selfishness be on our way. In our work, we dedicate ourselves to selflessly working for the good of our families, our Church, and our Community. We evangelize wherever we go about the good of our Catholic faith. We counter the attacks made against us by showing the positive aspects of our faith.

What makes me a Catholic in today's modern times? I am a Catholic that constantly gives me the free-will to accept God's invitation every day. I am a Catholic that constantly urges myself to love my God and my neighbor. I am a Catholic that constantly commits to deepening my faith in God through an interpersonal relationship with Him and make work selflessly for the good of His creation. I am a Catholic that constantly unites with other Catholics in defending our faith by demonstrating the good of it. I am Catholic, and I am proud of it.

SK King Bunyi  
*Grand Knight*



# 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](mailto:cmgarcia@astound.net)