

# The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344  
Knights of Columbus

*“You will be Brothers: Our Vocation to Fraternity”*  
October 2020

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## Chaplain’s Message

*THIS IS AN EXCERPT OF THE HOMILY OF THE MOST REV. LEONARD P. BLAIR, ARCHBISHOP OF HARTFORD, CT, AT THE OPENING MASS OF THE 138TH SUPREME CONVENTION OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS – AUG 4, 2020*

We are blessed to celebrate this Opening Mass for the 138th Supreme Convention of the Knights of Columbus on the Memorial of St. John Vianney, the patron saint of parish priests.

St. John Vianney is simply known as the Curé of Ars. “Curé” means pastor, as one who cares for or cures, and to that task he devoted his life in what was initially an almost Godless French village with a population of just 230 people. “There is little love for God in that parish,” the bishop had told him, “you will be the one to put it there.”

The Curé of Ars took to heart the responsibility of a watchman described by Ezekiel (Ezekiel 3:17-21). He knew that if he failed to speak the truth, he would share the fate spoken by God to the prophet: “Son of Man, if they die in their sins and you have not warned them, then you too are responsible for their deaths.”

The Curé of Ars embraced a grueling schedule and undertook to do penance as if to wrest from God the graces of conversion for his wayward parishioners. He practically lived in the parish church, and ate and slept hardly at all. Simple Catechism lessons for the girls in the orphanage he founded near the church soon became a daily presentation of the faith to crowds of people. He spent as many as 18 hours a day in the confessional, a freezer in the winter and an oven in the summer. And his sermons were an exercise of preaching the truth with love, calling people to repentance and faith.

Eventually, so great was his fame as a holy priest who had transformed Ars that even during his lifetime the small village was overrun with pilgrims from all of France and beyond. And now his heroic sanctity lives on, as evidenced by the great devotion of Catholics to the

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BIRTHDAYS

6 – Andrew Wood

7 – Ernest Ameral

7 – Keith Ferrara

25 – J Benavente

25 – Jeff McGallian

WIVES' BIRTHDAYS

3 – Colleen Mazzuca (Frank)

10 – Mary Garcia (Carlos)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Richard & Diane Milward – October 20, 1990 (30 yrs)

Arthur & Mary O'Keefe – October 23, 1982 (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.....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 – St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor
- 2 – Guardian Angels
- 4 – St. Francis of Assisi
- 5 – Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
- 6 – St. Bruno, Priest or Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin
- 7 – Our Lady of the Rosary
- 9 – St. Denis, Bishop and Companions, Martyrs or St. John Leonardi, Priest
- 11 – St. John XXIII, Pope
- 14 – St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr
- 15 – St. Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor
- 16 – St. Hedwig, Religious or St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin
- 17 – St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
- 18 – St. Luke the Evangelist
- 19 – Sts. Jean de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues, Priests and Martyrs; and their Companions, Martyrs
- 20 – St. Paul of the Cross, Priest
- 22 – St. John Paul II, Pope
- 23 – St. John of Capistrano, Priest
- 24 – St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop
- 28 – St. Simon and St. Jude, Apostles

*138th Supreme Convention - Opening Mass Homily (Continued from page 1)*

relic of his preserved heart, which has been made available for veneration under sponsorship of the Knights of Columbus.

St. John Vianney was French, and perhaps France evokes for us great Catholic cathedrals like Notre Dame or Chartres, or the Marian apparitions of places like Lourdes or La Salette. However, the France of St. John Vianney's life and ministry was a country raw with the French Revolution and the transformation it had wrought.

There had been a brutal attempt to de-Christianize the country, although the overthrow of religion did not succeed totally or everywhere. There were pockets of resistance like that of St. John Vianney's own family. Nevertheless, in France's revolutionary heyday, churches had been closed, clergy banished or executed, religious monuments and symbols destroyed, religious teaching prohibited, the state and its institutions secularized, and all ancient religious traditions condemned. At one point a woman dressed as the goddess of reason was sacrilegiously enthroned on the main altar of Notre Dame Cathedral.

And all this was done under the battle cry of the revolution: *liberte, egalite, fraternite* — liberty, equality and fraternity. In other words, Gospel values, but turned upside down on their heads.

In one of his sermons St. John Vianney told his parishioners: "in a nation, state, family, or community where religion is despised or allowed to perish, there the process of disintegration will invariably occur." By word and example, he offered to the people of Ars the truth about the God-given meaning of *liberte, egalite, fraternite*. And he did so by his fearless preaching of the Catholic faith, by his own example, and the gift of his priestly life.

Not many years later, on these American shores, the Venerable, soon to be Blessed, Father Michael J. McGivney, with a priestly heart modeled after the Curé of Ars, did the same.

Out of the depths of pastoral charity that every priest is called to, Father McGivney responded with firm conviction about the God-given meaning of liberty, equality and above all fraternity. In founding our fraternal order, he helped to save countless families from the indignity of

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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](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

- October 2 First Friday Drive-Thru German Dinner, 5:00-6:30 PM. Knights needed to assist with food preparation, cooking, clean-up and general help. Contact GK David Wood for more information. *See page 5 for additional information.*
- October 5 Council Officers Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.
- October 14 Todos Santos Assembly Meeting, online.
- October 19 Council Business Meeting, 8 PM, online via Zoom – see link in email to be sent in days before meeting.
- Every Sunday **We need your help.** Knights are needed to assist with Sunday outdoor Masses at 8:30 AM and with the distribution of Communion that follows Mass from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. Please wear a mask. (A hat is helpful for the sun, too.)

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### 138th Supreme Convention - Opening Mass Homily (Continued from page 3)

destitution, and in doing that he also helped save them from the hopelessness that can lead to a loss of faith in God, in the church, and even in a nation.

My brothers and sisters, in many ways our world stands at a crossroads today, one that should give us pause. We are witnessing attempts to redefine “liberty, equality and fraternity” in revolutionary ways that demand the most careful discernment, a discernment enlightened by both faith and reason. Like the courageous watchmen and fearless shepherds that St. John Vianney and the Venerable Michael J. McGivney were in their day, we too need to be faithful to the truth about God and man that brings us together at this mass; namely, that only in Jesus Christ and his Gospel can people find the real freedom, equal dignity and fraternity for which we and all people have been created and redeemed. May St. John Vianney intercede for us, and Father Michael McGivney too, that in the words of our opening prayer “we may in charity win brothers and sisters for Christ and attain with them eternal glory.”



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

- Robert Vetro  
– October 6, 1965 (55 yrs)
- Vincent Cotter  
– October 1, 1988 (32 yrs)
- Richard Milward  
– October 6, 2004 (16 yrs)
- David Wood  
– October 26, 2004 (16 yrs)
- Paul Murray  
– October 1, 2011 (9 yrs)
- Gary Downs  
– October 8, 2011 (9 yrs)
- Daniel Villasenor  
– October 8, 2011 (9 yrs)
- Johnson Abraham  
– October 13, 2011 (9 yrs)
- Keith Ferrara  
– October 17, 2011 (9 yrs)
- Timothy McGallian  
– October 15, 2012 (8 yrs)
- John Wright  
– October 15, 2012 (8 yrs)
- Ernest Ameral  
– October 15, 2016 (4 yrs)
- Andrew Wood  
– October 15, 2016 (4 yrs)
- Virgilio Acma  
– October 17, 2016 (4 yrs)
- Noel Asuncion  
– October 17, 2016 (4 yrs)
- Joseph Moniz  
– October 17, 2016 (4 yrs)
- Arthur Aronson  
– October 21, 2019 (1 yr)
- Craig Haskins  
– October 21, 2019 (1 yr)
- Philip Sunglao  
– October 21, 2019 (1 yr)

## St. Agnes Knights of Columbus First Friday Drive-Thru

**LET'S CELEBRATE OKTOBERFEST ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2 WITH AN AUTHENTIC GERMAN DINNER!!**

**NO COOKING!**

**NO CLEANING!**

Drive through service will be provided on Friday, October 2 from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Stay in your car for ordering and delivery outside the church kitchen. Price per plate is just **\$7**, which includes all this:

- **2 Grilled Bratwurst**
- **German Potato Salad**
- **Sauerkraut**
- **Apple Strudel**
- **Coke, Diet Coke, or Water**



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BRATWURST\***



*\* Keep Calm and Eat Bratwurst*

# 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