

# The Pulse



St. Agnes Council 15344  
Knights of Columbus

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

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### Are You a Member of the Fr. Michael J. McGivney Guild?

The Father Michael J. McGivney Guild serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. Members of the Knights of Columbus are not automatically Guild members and must elect to join the Guild. However, there is no cost to join and joining is easy. Just visit the Guild website and complete the online form at:

[www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/register.html](http://www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/register.html).

Guild members receive the *Father Michael J. McGivney Guild Newsletter*, which is published bimonthly except July- August. The newsletter summarizes activities surrounding Fr. McGivney's cause for sainthood as well as news of favors obtained through the intercession of Father McGivney and reported to the Guild.

In addition, there are several spiritual benefits of becoming a member of the McGivney Guild.

#### **WEEKLY GUILD MASS**

Each week a special Mass is celebrated for the intentions of members of the Father McGivney Guild by Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell, vice postulator.

#### **ALL SOULS NOVENA OF MASSES**

For each day between Oct. 24-Nov. 2 (All Souls Day), a Mass is celebrated by the vice postulator, Father Gabriel B. O'Donnell. The Masses are offered for the deceased relatives and friends of Guild members, and petitions sent by the Guild members on behalf of deceased loved ones are placed on the altar.

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# BIRTHDAYS

## September

- 12 – Gary Downs
- 13 – Thomas Farias
- 19 – Thomas O Sullivan
- 20 – Kevin Keeler
- 22 – William Drobick
- 23 – John Wright
- 23 – Juan Fernandez
- 28 – Eutiquio Alimpos

## 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

- Brother Ed Chatterton
- Brother Joaquin Campos
- Brother Neal Campanelli (State Council)
- Brother Ron Artale and his son
- Brother Octavio Padilla
- Brother David Wood's father Stan, daughter Sarah, and brother Hal
- Brother Tom Kisak
- Brother Ray Doorack's son and grandson
- Brother John Wright's brother Larry
- Brothers Claire Tryon and Ed Burgess (Council 6038)
- Brother Gary Down's sister-in-law Julie
- Brother Neil Cuffy
- Deacon Jim Pearce
- Brother Joel Manana special intention
- Health concern for brother Bob McEachran
- Brother Mike's daughter-in-law Josie who is expecting a baby in December, and back surgery in February
- For Zachary Punty (son of brother Mike Punty of QAS) who was seriously injured in a car accident
- Brother Carlos Gutierrez's mother-in-law
- Special intention for Brother King and for his father's conversion
- Brother Daniel Barrington is in Hospice
- Brother Tex asking for Prayers for his sister-in-law Alicia E. Banzos

## Supreme Chaplain's Message

### *A 'SECOND WIND:' MY FRIENDSHIP WITH CARDINAL HICKEY HELPED ME TO UNDERSTAND HOW GOD'S GRACE WORKS IN OUR LIVES*

For many years, I had the privilege of working directly with the late Cardinal James Hickey (1920 – 2004), the former archbishop of Washington. Assisting him on a daily basis as his personal secretary, I saw firsthand that he was a man of prayer, deep faith, integrity, courage, pastoral sensitivity and love for the poor. No matter how tough the day had been, he ended it on a positive note. To say the least, his example greatly influenced me.

Along the way, we developed a wonderful friendship. It's not that I didn't sometimes let the cardinal down or get under his skin, but our enduring friendship continues even now. Not a day goes by without my praying to him and for him.

There was one thing, though, I found difficult. On the rare evenings when Cardinal Hickey didn't have a commitment, he would go back to his office after dinner to sign letters and go through his mail. Usually, we finished around 9:30 p.m. — so far so good. But sometimes we were working on a big project that took lots of research and writing. Around 10:30 or so, the cardinal would announce that he had just gotten his "second wind." Once that happened, he could go until 2 in the morning. As I struggled to keep up, he would come to life and shift into high gear. In time, I came to fear the words "second wind."

One day, while reminiscing about Cardinal Hickey, it struck me that my friendship with him provided me with a way of understanding a bit better some aspects of what friendship with the Lord is like. Please allow me to explain.

First, in my friendship with the cardinal, as he shared some of his life and his work with me, I was certainly the junior partner, but a partner, nonetheless. Surely that is even truer in our relationship with God. In his wisdom and love, God called us into existence. The Father graciously sent us his only Son in the power of the Holy Spirit, and through Word and Sacrament, we continue to share in God's Triune life.

*(Continued on page 4)*



## MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARIES

Ronald Hannan

– Sept 5, 1995 (24 yrs)

Thomas Kisak

– Sept 17, 1991 (28 yrs)

Hugh McManus

– Sept 18, 1990 (29 yrs)

Robert Rigor

– Sept 20, 1994 (25 yrs)

Mark Baumeister

– Sept 21, 2009 (10 yrs)

### *Supreme Chaplain's Message* (Continued from page 3)

Second, even though the cardinal was my boss, our friendship was mutual; so also, our friendship with God is mutual. In God's grace, we are enabled to respond to him in love, even if we do so only imperfectly and haltingly. And as we live in his presence, the Lord begins to influence and shape our thoughts, words and actions. We begin to love what God loves, reject what God rejects and love others the way God has loved us. Thus, God's friendship becomes integral and central in our lives. This is sometimes called "habitual grace" — the grace of habitually living in the presence and friendship of God. What a wonderful blessing!

Third, in the midst of my friendship with the cardinal, there were moments of weariness and crisis that demanded an energetic response. So too, God comes to our aid as we wrestle with life's challenges. When we're weary in our struggle against sin, the Holy Spirit offers us "a second wind," an infusion of divine life and friendship, to help us "fight the good fight" (cf. 1 Tim 6:12). When we're in danger of falling into sin, we receive a "second wind" to help us to speed away from danger. When we're facing a situation requiring of us an extraordinarily wise and generous response, the Lord provides us with fresh energy, wisdom, and resolve, if you will, a spiritual "second wind." Such special help from God is called "actual grace."

As Knights, we should welcome this "second wind," especially in our efforts to live our vocations in charity, unity and fraternity, through thick and thin. And may Cardinal Hickey, who taught me so much by word and example, rest in peace!

Archbishop William E. Lori  
*Supreme Chaplain*

*Reprinted from Columbia Magazine - August 2018*



## UPCOMING DEGREES

### Admission (1st) Degree:

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

### Formation (2nd) Degree:

- Saturday, September 7 – St. Ignatius, Antioch. Registration 9:30 AM. Exemplification 10:00 AM.

### Knighthood (3rd) Degree:

- Saturday, September 14 – St. Ignatius, Antioch. Registration 9:00 AM. Exemplification 10:15 AM.

### Patriotic (4th) Degree:

- Saturday, October 19 – Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption, San Francisco. Details forthcoming.

## Council Calendar of Events

- September 2 Labor Day Holiday (Officers Meeting re-scheduled to 9/3).
- September 3 Council Officers Meeting, 7 PM, Ministry Center. (Note that this is a *Tuesday*.)
- September 5 Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
- September 6 First Friday Dinner, 5:30 PM, Church Hall.
- September 7 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- September 8 Pancake Breakfast, after 9 and 11 AM Masses, Church Hall.
- September 11 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.\*
- September 12 Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
- September 14 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- September 16 Council Business Meeting, 7:30 PM, Church Hall. Dinner served at 6:30 PM dinner, followed by Rosary at 7 PM.
- September 19 Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
- September 21 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- September 26 Knights Adoration Hour, 5 PM, Chapel.
- September 28 Rosary for the Innocents, 10 AM, Queen of Heaven Cemetery – Lafayette.
- September 28 Crab Feed ticket sales after 5 PM Mass.
- September 29 Crab Feed ticket sales after all Masses.

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



## SAINT OF THE DAY

- 3 – St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor
- 5 – St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta
- 8 – Birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 9 – St. Peter Claver, Priest
- 12 – Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- 13 – St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor
- 14 – Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- 15 – Our Lady of Sorrows
- 16 – Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian. Bishop, Martyrs
- 17 – St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor
- 19 – St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr
- 20 – Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs
- 21 – St. Matthew the Evangelist, Apostle, Evangelist
- 23 – St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), Priest
- 26 – Sts. Cosmas and Damian, Martyrs—
- 27 – St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
- 28 – St. Wenceslaus, Martyr or Sts. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
- 29 – Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
- 30 – St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor

## Field Agent's Message

September is Life Insurance Awareness Month. It's the one month each year that the life insurance industry coordinates a campaign aimed at educating folks about the importance of life insurance and helping them get the coverage they need. I don't want to bore you with lots of statistics, but a recent survey from LIMRA (Life Insurance Marketing Research Association) found that only 59% of Americans own life insurance and about half of those are underinsured. So that means that 70% of the population either has no life insurance or has too little life insurance.

So what does that have to do with the Knights? The historian, Christopher Kauffman, spent several years at the Supreme Office and at the Museum, researching the book that he wrote on the 100th anniversary of our founding. That book, Faith and Fraternalism, notes on page 13, "...he [Fr. McGivney] was deeply interested in pursuing the topic of a Catholic fraternal insurance society among groups of Catholic laymen of New Haven." Then on page 35 Mr. Kauffman goes on, "...he [Fr. McGivney again] spent his energy in promoting the insurance feature...his emphasis on business was his pastoral concern for the social and financial security of the family."

Fr. McGivney lived both the social and the financial insecurity of a desperate family, with the breadwinner suddenly taken, that had to be supported. He left the seminary to work and support his mother and siblings. He didn't want other Catholic families to find themselves in such a predicament. That, and uniting men of faith, was the impetus for establishing our Order. Everyone who joined in those first years was insured; that was part and parcel of being in the organization. Now every member has a choice and every member should know what we do, and how we do it. Here's the process I use when I meet with families:

1. Discover – Identify & prioritize your financial goals
2. Gather data – Collect facts & figures based on your current situation
3. Analyze – Input data, run calculations, identify shortfalls
4. Recommend – Propose a financial strategy designed to satisfy your goals
5. Implement – Choose a financial strategy and implement
6. Periodic review – Review regularly, measure success, make adjustments

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## NEW COUNCIL MEMBER INDUCTED

Prior to our regular council meeting on August 19, we held an Admissions (1st Degree Exemplification). During that ceremony we inducted a new Brother into our council: **Oscar Legaspi**, who was introduced to the Knights by our new Membership Director, Deacon Tony Reyes.

Please be sure to welcome Brother Oscar into our council when you meet him.

### *Field Agent's Message* (Continued from page 6)

As you can tell, this is a painless process. But it can help any family, at any age, determine if they have blind spots in their coverage. It can help you avoid the pain of being underinsured. With a variety of life insurance products we offer we can help just about any person within any budget.

I don't know about you, but I don't want to buy life insurance...I want to buy what life insurance provides: no change in lifestyle for the survivors...in the house where they want to be. It'll pay for a daughter's wedding, a child's college education and much more. What does life insurance provide? Peace of mind, security, freedom from anxiety, a safeguard from the unknown.

That's where I can help.

Vivat Jesus!

Alex Torres-Equivel  
*Supreme Field Agent*

925-384-9783  
Alex.torres-esquivel@kofc.org



## NEW SECOND DEGREE MEMBERS

Last month, we introduced to you **Arul Money** and his father **Isidore Money**, who both completed their 1st Degree on July 15. On August 10 they completed their Second Degree at St. Bonaventure. They both plan on attending the Knighthood (3rd) Degree on Saturday, September 14.

***Are You a Member of the Fr. Michael J. McGivney Guild?*** (Continued from page 1)

### ***NOVENA FOR WORLD PEACE***

During the nine days preceding the feast of the Sacred Heart, which falls 19 days after Pentecost, the Guild celebrates daily Mass at various basilicas in Rome for the cause of world peace. Intentions sent by Guild members are placed on the altar for each Mass.

### ***CHRISTMAS AND EASTER TRIDUUM MASSES***

Petitions sent by Guild members are placed on the altar for Masses celebrated in Rome at Easter and Christmas. Each Triduum, or series of three Masses, draws hundreds of petitions from members of the Father McGivney Guild.

Visit the Guild's website ([www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/index.html](http://www.fathermcgivney.org/mcg/en/contact/index.html)) to have your special intentions placed on the altar and remembered at the monthly Masses, special novena, or Triduum Masses celebrated by the Guild. There is no better way to commend a sick or deceased loved one to God's merciful care. Special worries or concerns will also be included in our prayers.

### ***PRAYER FOR THE CANONIZATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY***

God, our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Father Michael J. McGivney, to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your Son, Jesus Christ, more closely, fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his Body which is the Church.

Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and the outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify your venerable servant Father Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your holy will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (*here make your request*).

Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be.*



# 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