

## ADVOCATE'S ADVICE

The only thing I can think of to advise my brothers on is to read the Diary of St. Faustina, "Divine Mercy in my Soul." And pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. I'm pretty sure I recommended this book and prayer to everyone when I was Grand Knight. Since that was over 10 years ago, and we have many new brothers since then, I think it best to recommend it again. You can get it at any Catholic bookstore or online just look it up. Here is a good link . . .

<http://thedinemercy.org/>

Those of you that have been around for a while may remember that I believe that the Divine Mercy Chaplet worked a miracle in my life, and I know it can do the same for you too. You can pray it on rosary beads. Watch EWTN and 12:00 noon any day of the week or here is a good link on how to pray the chaplet. <http://thedinemercy.org/message/devotions/praythechaplet.php>

Here is a short history on St Faustina. I plan to share excerpts from her book in the next few months. Sister Faustina was a young, uneducated, nun in a convent of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Kraków, Poland during the 1930's. She came from a very poor family that struggled on their little farm during the years of World War I. She had only three years of very simple education, so hers were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually in the kitchen or garden. However, she received extraordinary revelations or messages from Our Lord Jesus. Jesus asked Sr. Faustina to record these experiences, which she compiled in notebooks. These notebooks are known today as the *Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, and the words contained within are God's loving message of Divine Mercy. Though the Divine Mercy message is not new to the teachings of the Church, Sr. Faustina's *Diary* sparked a great movement and a strong and significant focus on the mercy of Christ. Pope John Paul II canonized Sr. Faustina in 2000 making her the "first saint of the new millennium." Speaking of Sr. Faustina and the importance of the message contained in her *Diary*, the Pope call her "the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time."

Jesus I Trust in You!

**Robert Hemsley,  
Advocate**



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To learn more about these products, our long-term care insurance or retirement products, please call me today.

**Tony Aguiar**

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Dear Fellow Knight,  
Our 20th Annual Charity Golf & Auction is right around the corner on May 13th. If you, your boss, or someone you know has promotional items, snacks, or other treats that you'd like to include in our golfer goody bags, please reply to this email as soon as possible! We'll need about 125 of the items to include one in each bag for our players. Bring them to the May Business meeting or call **Jim Galuppi @ 579-1111** to coordinate pick-up.

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## RECORDER'S RAMBLINGS

Brother Knights,

I have taken the initiative to cover for our Chancellor, Mike Miranda, this month as I know that his mind is not on the newsletter, but where it should be: on the health and welfare of his wife Nickie, who continues to go in and out of the hospital struggling with the disease that continues to add suffering to the Miranda household. I ask that you all continue to pray both for Mike and Nickie in their continual battle. As always, they both continue to be active throughout the parish: Mike taking time away from the hospital to help with the fish fries and Nickie, as always, helping to prepare the annual MI consecration to our Blessed Mother.

I wanted to write a few lines, however, about how I feel in filling the rather large shoes of my predecessors in putting together this newsletter. You all know that pride is one of the cardinal sins, but I believe this refers to false pride or an overinflated sense of self-worth (not necessarily merited). I think that a sense of true pride in one's work, in one's accomplishments or one's family when it is felt with reference in how it helps to bring continued glory to God and the body of Christ, His Son, here on Earth, it is a good thing. I feel proud to have graduated at the top of my class from high school, to have graduated with two degrees from a prestigious university, to have a beautiful family, to have a good job, to belong to a holy parish, and more. I must say, however, the humility that I felt in being asked to take over the reigns of publishing the ***Knight Light*** was truly intense. This award winning publication that began to be published under the Editorship of Brother John Gorman, was passed on Brothers Mike and then Steve Loschke, and then finally to Brother Tony Lee, who filled the role over the last 11 years. What a responsibility! The honor I felt to even be asked to try to live up to the high expectations left by my predecessors was pretty intense. I ask all of you to read this newsletter with care and offer suggestions, and even send articles to share with our Brother Knights; that and to pray for me, as I continue to learn both in my life and as your Editor.

Yours in Christ,

**Richard Braun, Recorder**



## KNIGHT HAPPENINGS

In keeping with last month's article, I would like to mention a few other Brother Knights who work behind the scenes in order to make our events a success. Ed Fernandes is the person who is at the hall bright and early to receive the delivery of food for our dinners. He is also there early in the morning supervising the cutting of the fish for our fish fries and getting it ready to be prepared for the dinners. He organizes the pre-work necessary for the great food we enjoy at night. Ed also handles the "Coats for Kids" drive at Christmas, as well as arranging for the families to be adopted at the "Adopt-a-Family" dinner. Most people know Ed as one of the cooks, but he does so much more.

Another very visible cook is Rick Dinubilo. Rick, however, does a lot more than cook. He does all the ordering. Over the years, Rick has established contacts all over the central valley and beyond in getting the best food for the lowest price. He has also been instrumental in getting food and other items donated. Rick has been a Knight for many years, and his experience has proved invaluable in keeping our Council moving ahead. We also have many seniors who contribute so much to our Council. Bob Shannon publishes the newsletter and works in the take out area of the fish fries. Robert Hibl (who is 89, by the way) also works the take out and handles the dessert area. Bill Vermillion manages the recruiting table. And that is just to name a few.

And who could forget the creator of our great desserts, especially those killer brownies. Richard Ward has been satisfying our sweet tooth at the dinners for quite awhile, and hopefully, will continue to do so for some time. I could go on and on. There are so many great men who contribute. That is part of the reason why we are known as the best Council around. Thank you, Brothers, for all that you do.

**Mel Mattos, DGK**



## LECTURER'S NOTES

### GOD, ARE YOU REALLY OUT THERE?

“We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.” – Nicene Creed, 381 AD

At Mass we profess our faith with the Nicene Creed which begins with the line above. One short sentence states very quickly and clearly five basic tenets of our faith.

1) We believe. 2) God is one. 3) God is Father. 4) God is Almighty. 5) God is creator of everything that exists. The End. Well, not really. This is more like the beginning. I was privileged recently to teach a class called “The Existence of God” which I have sat in on many times, but don’t recall ever teaching. I have to say that the more I thought about teaching that topic, the more nervous I became. God is a difficult topic to approach; because God is impossible to understand with the human mind, and among human minds mine is pretty average. Facing a challenge like that requires a bit of meditation, a bible and a catechism. I couldn’t do it otherwise. The great thing is that in this one sentence all of Christendom, Judaism and Islam can find agreement and this is a great place to begin a discussion. At the same time, this sentence doesn’t begin to touch the mysteries that encompass God the Father.

Consider some of His attributes; God is one, there is no division within the Godhead, but Muslims and Jews disagree with this Christian truth. God has revealed to His people that He is three individual persons who cannot be separated from one another. As Father, he is creator, law-giver and protector of His people. He is uncreated; He has no beginning. He is the first cause of all creation and has no creator. There is no God equal to or greater than our God. He is Almighty; He has and is the source of unlimited power. He is eternal and will have no end. He is unchanging and is as He always has been, which is the one constant in the entire universe. He is truth, goodness, beauty and love. So He doesn’t just portray or project truth or goodness, He IS truth and goodness. We give love, we seek love and we receive love but that’s just about the best we can do. God is the source of all love because He is love.

In discussions I have had with non-Catholic Christians, I have gathered that they aren’t taught and don’t understand that as creator, God isn’t subject to the laws of His own creation. Let’s use time, as an example. Because God created time, He isn’t subject to it or its effects. He doesn’t grow old and He can see us and our unborn great, great grand- children with the same clarity as Christopher Columbus or Julius Caesar. That may be a small point, but it prevents them from understanding Catholic practices like having Masses said for the dead or any

prayer to or for the deceased. For my Protestant friends, once a person is dead they are forgotten and they have no further knowledge of those on earth. As Catholics, we can ask God to be merciful to someone who died 10 years ago or we can ask a deceased family member or saint to intercede on our behalf.

When mankind wants to solve a problem, we throw money at research until we develop a new drug or invent a better mousetrap; and we admire our prowess. Not so in the pursuit of God. We don’t search and find God; God reveals Himself to us. God’s revelation is gradual and very subtle. It’s usually in ways that you really have to discern, “Is this what I think it is?” For example, our God is a God of great order and organization.

**Ed Ibarra**  
**Lecturer**



Let’s all make a good confession this month and pray that God give us the grace to seek Him in the silence and to do His will in May and throughout the year. Pray for the intentions of the Pope. Pray that Catholics be drawn to the Cross and conversion of heart.

The complete version of this article is posted at: [www.kofc10644.org](http://www.kofc10644.org) - Click on Lecture Notes

## MANPOWER

### Council Offers Job Seekers Help

With Stanislaus County unemployment approaching 20%, it is no surprise that it has affected some of our Brothers. Council 10644 wants to know who you are and how many of you are searching for work. Go to our website [www.kofc10644.org](http://www.kofc10644.org), click on **MANPOWER and register yourself for FREE services**. This will help us identify your needs and measure the magnitude of our situation.

Second, I, your humble Brother Knight, am offering free assessments, career counseling, résumé consultation, interview training and more. If there are 10 or more interested, I will conduct a ½ day workshop on job search and interview skills to give our Brothers a workplace advantage.

More information go to [www.imc-1.net](http://www.imc-1.net) or contact me at 209-572-2271 ext. 101.

¡Paz de Cristo!

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