



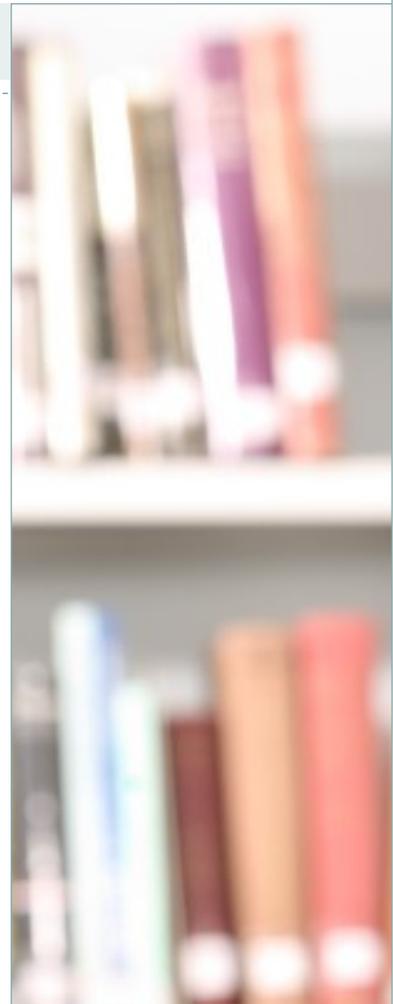
Knight Light Newsletter

My message this month is short. We have many fund raising events & work coming up in December & January. For us to be successful we need all members to carry the weight!

Please, see the following schedule of events and volunteer to do your share:

Grand Knight Al Toschi

Day	Date	Event	Location	Start Time	End Time	CHAIRMAN
Sat	12/02/17	Adopt-A-Family Dinner	Fr. O'Hare Hall	5:30 PM	8:00 PM	Stephen Michael & Ruben Sanchez
SAT	12/09/17	Special Olympics Bowling	McHenry Bowl	10:00 AM	1:00 PM	Al Toschi
Sat	01/13/18	Blue Mass	Sanctuary	10:00 AM	11:30 AM	Jim Ortman / Kent Harker
Sat	01/13/18	Blue Mass Brunch	Fr. O'Hare Hall	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	Rick Dinubilo
Sat	01/20/18	Crab Feed and Auction	Fr. O'Hare Hall	5:00 PM	10:00 PM	Tim Matalone & All Officers



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The Business meeting will be on Thursday, December 7th at 7 PM in the parish hall due to the parish mission on the 5th. Don't miss it and bring a brother Knight.

December 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Adopt A Family Dinner 5:30 PM Father O'Hare Hall
3	4 Officers' Meeting Vatican Council Room, St. JP2 Center	5	6	7 Business Meeting 7 PM Father O'Hare Hall	8 Memorial Mass for Deceased Members of this Council	9 Special Olympics Bowling 10 AM McHenry Bowl
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28	29	30
31 New Year's Eve						

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Members' Birthdays

Edward Gamboa 12/1
James Galuppi PGK 12/2
Ruben Sanchez 12/2
Anthony Butera 12/5
Robert Lorenz 12/5
Lee Wolf 12/7
Kevin Mollard 12/11
Severino Pongase 12/12
Daniel Roman 12/12
Alex Trujillo 12/12
Oren Tuss 12/12
David Castro 12/14
Patrick Laubacher 12/14
Carlos Torres 12/14
Brian K. Porta 12/17
Roger E. Missall 12/19
Alex L. Richmond 12/19
Stephen Santos 12/21
Nelson R Henriquez 12/22
Steven W. Tubbs 12/22
Nicolas Delgado-Braun 12/24
Alfredo Ibarra 12/24
Noel Lazo 12/24
James Brady 12/26
John Stephen Bacay 12/27
Jerry Blankenship 12/27
Mel Mattos PGK 12/28
Franklin Holmes 12/29

John Luty 12/29
Kenneth Rairden 12/30
Charles Gardali 12/31
Robert Hazy 12/31

Ladies' Birthdays

Cindy Trujillo 12/9
Kay Elson 12/11
Theresa Galuppi 12/11
Guadalupe E Valdovinos 12/12
Sonita Saalfeld 12/13
Linda Standart 12/13
Marilyn Hancock 12/14
Lucille Ortiz 12/15
Karen McCave 12/16
Judy Chavez 12/17
Bethany Gorman 12/17
Alvera Baumgratz 12/21
Anne Missall 12/22
Mary Judd 12/25
Lucy Mattos 12/29
Silvia Ramirez 12/31
Selvina Samson 12/31

Anniversaries

Matthew & Camille Iorns 12/1
Belmiro & Deborah Goulart 12/7
David & Lorna Sichak 12/8
John & Sara Bacay 12/9
Joseph & Joan Castagna 12/15
Ronald & Sandra Uyeshiro 12/18
Albert & Monica Gonzales 12/21
Lovinio & Julito Casiano 12/22
John & Illeana Rodriguez 12/26



LECTURER'S MESSAGE

Happy December. First off most important message: I love you all. The title of my article this month is "There is no room at the inn here at St. Joseph's" or "Sit in a pew, just not in mine," or "There's not enough chairs, we prefer you sit in the vestibule or chapel. You pick!"

I agree: it does not sound funny at all; and it is not meant to! I would also like to mention: I realize I'm speaking musical theory to the choir, but I've prayed about what I have been personally experiencing in our beautiful sanctuary for a while; and I've got to tell you, it's been painful to watch. As I prayed, I thought of this vehicle to make us all aware and for solutions. After discerning to write about this Catholic phenomenon, I heard an interview on Relevant Radio about the same concern by a Catholic priest who stated this was becoming a big problem in parishes as of late. I think the solution is very easy and simple and any of you that usher already know.

Here are a couple of my most recent experiences. Mind you, these things are happening at every mass. I arrived at mass on time (one of the things I am working on and have been falling short) As we were standing and singing the opening hymn, people are still arriving and trying to humbly find seating whether one person or a whole family of five or family of seven. I can see whole pews, several of them, wide open with able-bodied "bookends." People who are of good health sitting on the ends of the pew courageously guarding the pew, so no one else can sit in their private sanctuary. I wrote that to sound funny. Do not get me wrong, if you are one of those "bookends," I still love you.

Common sense says, "There's a simple solution there." If you have a health issue or are help in the mass where you need to get in and out of the pew without disturbing others, then it is totally understandable and thoughtful. Sit on the end, but still welcome people in make room for them and explain. When I help with collections, I like to sit on the end and try to find a full pew with just one opening at the end. If I am not helping, and I am by myself, I will go to the middle of an open pew, and then two families of five can easily sit on either side. At this particular mass, my friend and his family of four showed up before the song was over and stood next to one of those "bookends" and I saw him politely gesture to the young woman several times inches from her. She was not even singing. Now, it could be that she has a hearing handicap. He had to go one pew forward just to experience more of the same. Honestly, there was a large open pew two people one on either end. My friend politely gestured several times trying to get the person attention to share the pew. Once he did the look he received from the "bookend"! Let us just say it was not warm and fuzzy. My friend and his family maintained their joyful composure, as usual, as I stood convicted by God in my pew.

I wanted to scream out, "Is it that difficult to get a seat in the most beautiful place in Modesto?" God spoke to me, "Patience, Stephen."

It went on and on as people were searching for seats and the downright ugly look on faces at times. I wanted to yell out, "Your scowling face is not Catholic!"

Or maybe it is. If a non-believer or one of our protestant brothers were visiting and experienced that they might say that is a Catholic experience all right. I sure would not want them or anybody else to say that. On the other hand, I have seen people rudely almost force their way in to a pew before a group of kind parishioners or unaware "bookends" alike. That is equally wrong. I talked to my friend after the mass, and he stated he quit going to a particular mass on Sunday, because they have experience on several occasions parishioners will not even move or lift their feet and legs off the floor or kneelers and make them step over them. I thought it was just me.

How can we expect to fill up this church if we will not allow it to fill? Solution? Hit the easy button. It is LOVE. It is always love. It is the only way to teach common sense is by example. For most of us Knights, it is just easy we are all greeters. Smile, smile, smile. Who knows: you might save someone's life. Be aware, people are trying to get a seat. Show them welcome. Greeters welcomed us at the door, right? Should the welcoming stop at the door? Besides its part of your calling to sainthood. If you are in a big open pew, do not be a "bookend." Moreover, if you are sitting in your favorite bookend spot, do not be afraid to step out and welcome them in. When entering the pew, you will hear me ask permission to share the mass wait and give a smile afterwards. I say, "God bless you!" and "Thank you!" We have to get back to genuine simple politeness. We could save and change the world by our simple example.

After the mass, I thank them for allowing me to share the mass with them. These words, I hope are not soon forgotten. I fall short in many things; smiles and gracious, Christ-like greetings is not one of them. SMILE, INVITE, GREET, THANK, AND LOVE. Forgive everyone everything.

I love you brothers. Continue in your greatness!

Stephen Michael
Lector



JOHN'S JOKES

Top Ten Things To Say About A Christmas Gift You Do Not Like

10. "Hey! There is a gift!"
9. "Well, well, well..."
8. "Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes that would've fit."
7. "This is perfect for wearing around the basement."
6. "Gosh. I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season though. There are many unexplained fires."
5. "If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!"
4. "I love it -- but I fear the jealousy it will inspire."
3. "Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Federal Witness Protection Program."
2. "To think -- I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity."

And the Number One Thing to say about a Christmas gift you don't like:

1. "I really don't deserve this."

The judge asked the defendant what he was charged with, "Doing my Christmas shopping early," was the reply.

"That not illegal! How early were you shopping?"

"Before the store was open."

How do you know Santa has to be a man?

No woman is going to wear the same outfit year after year.

Maria went to the Post Office to buy stamps for her Christmas cards.

"What denomination?" asked the clerk.

"Oh! Good heavens! Have we come to this?" said Maria, "Well give me 50 Methodist and 50 Church of England ones please."

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

New Knights

As many of our brothers know, we held a membership drive the same weekend we did the annual drive for People with Intellectual Disabilities (sometimes referred to as the Tootsie Roll Drive). Announcements were read from the lectern after each mass. The mass I attended, Brother Richard asked Knights to stand up so the congregation could see who we were.

The council received about a dozen Form 100s. Because of the high interest, the Admissions Degree (aka. "First Degree") ceremony was moved to the meeting on November 7.

We welcomed SIX new members as well as welcoming a transfer from a council in the Philippines. (PS: He was from the same area where my wife grew up.)

We welcomed:

- Marco (Tony) Martinez
- Norm Andrews
- Vincent Benzes
- Daniel Golling
- Eddie Munoz
- William Manning
- Isidro Tadena (from Phillipines)

Keep Christ In Christmas

Brother Everardo Ramirez has been striving to find projects or efforts to help raise awareness, raise funds or help the parish. We decided that this year we will once again be selling the "Keep Christ In Christmas" car magnets on the plaza the weekend of December 16 and 17 while at the same time selling tickets for our annual Crab Feed on January 20, 2018. We will have these at the December meeting if you wish to purchase any.



Remembering Our Knights

We have lost a couple of our brothers recently.



Ron Perkins passed away on October 7, 2017. He became a Knight in 1963 then came back into our fraternity in 2013. He was a third degree knight.

On November 10, 2017, Brother **Richard Rekart** passed away. At the time this was written, funeral arrangements were not published nor his obituary. Richard became a Knight in 1961 and became a Fourth Degree knight in 2007.



Our newest members!

Christmas Memories

This year, Christmas will be a different feeling. It will be the first Christmas my sisters and I celebrate without our mom who passed away in January. But her memory lives on in the memories each of us has and the recipes we all got from her over the years.

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