



# Knight Light Newsletter

## GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

**NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS to all.** Merry Christmas and happy New Year. I hope you all had a very happy and enjoyable Christmas Season! We've had a busy December with our:

- **Adopt-A-Family / Christmas Party**, which was well attended. Thanks to the "many hands" that helped with this family dinner: **Gary Humphreys, Tim Matalone, Bill Manning, Craig Benzes, Ed Gamboa, Richard Braun,** and Santa, **Warner Norleen**, and at least a dozen more! A very special thanks goes out to **Ruben Sanchez (and his wife & daughters)**. Ruben did an excellent job organizing/coordinating the event and his daughters provided setup/takedown help along with a Christmas serenade! Fun! The result was one of the best Christmas parties that we have had in years and a sizeable pot of donations that will really help our 10 "Adopted Families" have a special Christmas.
- **Third Annual Knights of Columbus support of the Special Olympics end of season Bowling Tournament.** We had over 15 brothers and their family members help out with the tournament and a good community deed was done and fun was had by all!



- **Upcoming in January**, we are starting the new year off running with our **Blue Mass** honoring all first responders on January 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 10 AM. **PGK Jim Ortman** and **PGK Kent Harker** have stepped up as co-chairs for this amazing event. It is a lot of hard work and outreach to put on this event. Volunteers to help out ushering and/or with serving lunch to our first responders are needed so contact Jim [jim@waterjobs.com](mailto:jim@waterjobs.com) or Kent [kent.harker@att.net](mailto:kent.harker@att.net)

- Our single biggest fund raiser of the year our **Crab Feed** scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup>, is coming along nicely headed up by **Tim Matalone** and co-chaired by the officers of this Council. We can always use a few more donations for the silent auction and raffle. So ask the people you do business with: the barber, the coffee barista, the grocery store manager, your auto me-

chanic, etc. Their business gets some local exposure, and we can then help out the poor and needy in the area! Help out by getting some auction items and then come have a good time at the crab and fettuccini dinner.

- **Future Fund Raiser:** Save the date, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "**Pasta Feed**" to help generate funds for the Special Olympics.

Make a New Year's Resolution: Re-commit to your Knights. Get active, get involved! I will see you at the next business meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2108 @ 7 PM. Bring your rosary! Vivat Jesus

## Al Toschi, Grand Knight

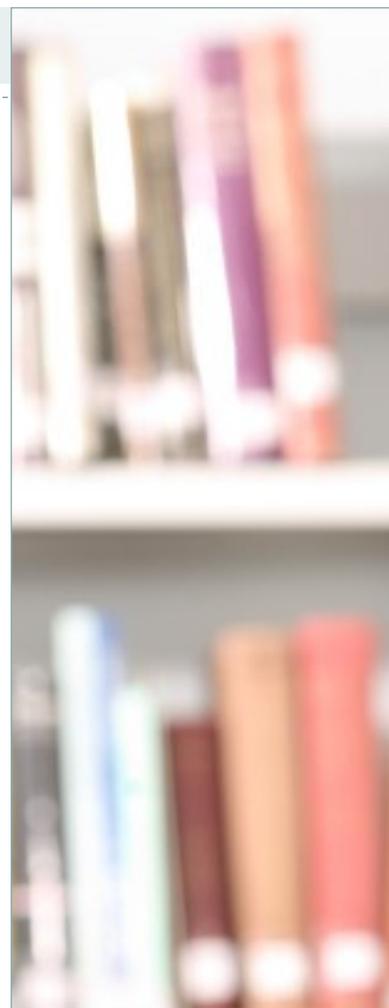


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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- The Business meeting will be on January 2nd at 7 PM in the parish hall. Don't miss it and bring a brother Knight.



January 2018						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 5:30 PM Officers' Meeting 7 PM Business Meeting both in Father O'Hare Hall	10	11	12 5:45 PM Memorial Mass for Deceased Members of the Council	13 10 AM Blue Mass
14	15	16	17	18	19	20 5 PM Crab Feed in Father O'Hare Hall
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Members' Birthdays

Troy Cazares 1/1  
 Jason Sablan 1/2  
 Mark Jeffords 1/3  
 Eduardo Torres 1/3  
 Kyle Kemper 1/5  
 Belmiro Goulart 1/6  
 Cliff Judd 1/9  
 Efrain Ortega 1/9  
 Samuel Moraca 1/10  
 Daniel Golling 1/14  
 Michael Ringer 1/14  
 Ralph Curtis 1/16  
 Patrick Ryan 1/16  
 Vito Baccellieri 1/17  
 Michael Staud 1/17  
 Wayne Sousa 1/19  
 Guadalupe Valdovinos 1/20  
 Timothy Matalone 1/21  
 Ramiro Morales 1/21  
 Leo Alvarez 1/24  
 Joseph Lucas 1/24  
 Robert Luna 1/24  
 Thomas Hogan 1/26  
 Brian Archuleta 1/28  
 Matthew Loretelli 1/28  
 Marco (Tony) Martinez 1/29  
 Ronald Lamont 1/30  
 Msr John Foster 1/31  
 Kenneth Kramer 1/31  
 Jim McDoal 1/31

### Ladies' Birthdays

Joanna Ibarra 1/9  
 Jill Martinez 1/11  
 Lupe Perez 1/13  
 Michelle Nunes 1/14  
 Rosalie Gardella 1/18  
 Anita Mendoza 1/18  
 Rosemary Davison 1/20  
 Christi Wharton 1/21  
 Judy Shannon 1/26  
 Carol Luna 1/31  
 Helen Moya 1/31

### Anniversaries

Matt & Wendy Bettencourt 1/15  
 Jeff & Kim McCarthy 1/16  
 Gary & Rosemary Davison 1/18  
 Michael & Aninya Lamanet 1/19  
 John & Karen McCave 1/19  
 Eddie & Lucy Munoz 1/27  
 Eugene & Lynn Thiel 1/27  
 Kenneth & Ann Kramer 1/28





Save a stamp. Save a trip to the post office.

<http://www.kofc10644.com/resources--photos.html>

Scenes from The Adopt-A-Family Dinner on Dec 2



**KNIGHTS  
YOU ARE... ..DUES  
YOU MUST PAY**

# FATHER MARK'S MESSAGE

Dear Brother Knights,  
I pray that the Christmas Season and the New Year may bring rich blessings upon each of you faithful men, upon your families, and upon our beloved parish family of St. Joseph's. As we begin the new year, we must make resolutions in order to focus our manly energies toward doing good. Otherwise, our manly strength will be dissipated, dissolved or misdirected. At St. Joseph's Parish our Pastoral Council has decided that during this new year of 2018 we should focus our energies on PROMOTING VOCATIONS. Every year, we chose a theme so that we can focus our energies. This past year 2017 was our Golden Jubilee celebrating our 50th Anniversary as a Parish. The previous year 2016 was the year designated by Pope Francis as a Year of Mercy. For the year 2018, we will once again follow the guidance of our Holy Father. Pope Francis has announced a special synod on vocations to be held in Rome in October. The theme of this bishop's synod will be "Young People, the Faith, and Vocational Discernment." Pope Francis will be calling on the bishops of all the local churches of the world to gather together and discuss new ways to encourage vocations to the priesthood and religious life. That is why we have decided that here at St. Joseph's. Also, we will try to dedicate our energies on helping our many young men and women from our parish to consider becoming priests and religious sisters.  
The reason for having priests and consecrated virgins in the church is primarily to save souls and make saints. They are called to be brides of Christ or to wed themselves to the church. That is the lofty purpose for which young people would be inspired to renounce money and marriage and enter a convent or seminary. They are not called to be mere social workers who do things that can be done by lay persons. That would never be enough to inspire young people who aspire to do something

great and important with their lives. During the coming year, all of us must help young people to see priesthood and religious life as something heroic and exciting. Pope Francis explains: "To suggest to a young person today to 'come and follow me' (Jn 1: 39) requires evangelical audacity; the conviction that the following of Christ, also in the consecrated life, is worthwhile, and that the total gift of oneself to the cause of the Gospel is something beautiful that can give meaning to a whole life." (Spoken at a conference last month at a conference in Rome about vocations).  
Young people need to know that they can be heroes and that Modesto needs heroes. Young people can become almost like the "superheroes" that they see in the movies who have "superpowers." It is possible to become a saint like the saints who performed prodigious miracles. Even in our own country there have been canonized saints. Just in the first week of January there are three Feast Days of modern saints who lived in North America. January 4 is the Feast Day and the anniversary of the death of the first native born American Citizen to be canonized: Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821). She was a convert to Catholicism and suffered greatly because her Episcopalian relatives denounced her. She raised five children and later as a widow established an order of sisters who opened the first Catholic school in America. After her death there were three miraculous cures attributed to her intercession which led to her canonization in 1975.  
January 5 is the Feast Day and the anniversary of the death of St. John Neuman (1811-1860), an immigrant to America who became the kindhearted bishop of Philadelphia, known for visiting the poor immigrants in rural areas and for organizing a Catholic schools. After his death there were three miraculous cures approved by

the Vatican which led to his canonization in 1977.  
January 6 is the Feast Day and the anniversary of the death Saint Andre Bessette (1845-1937), who was canonized in 2010. He was a sickly, uneducated orphan who became a Holy Cross Brother who was famous for performing thousands of miraculous cures during his lifetime and for building the largest shrine to St. Joseph in the world in Montreal, Canada. Over one million people attended his funeral. So you see, it IS possible to become a saint, even in America! And it IS possible to become a miracle worker! Therefore, it SHOULD BE possible to inspire our young people to choose to embark on the exciting adventure of a life with God!

**Father Mark Wagner  
Chaplain and Pastor  
St. Joseph's**



## JOHN'S JOKES

### **New Year's prayer for the elderly.**

God Grant me this senility to forget the people I don't like,  
The good fortune to run into the people that I do like,  
And the eyesight to know the difference!

### **A New Year's prayer for the rest of us**

Dear Lord,  
So far this year I've done well.  
I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help.  
Amen

# LECTOR'S MESSAGE

Merry Christmas to you all! By the time you read this happy New Year! welcome to a blessed and joy filled 2018 for you and your families.

I am late again! Late for work, late for Mass, late for buying poinsettias from the boy scouts of America (second to the last mass that they sold them at before Christmas), late for "That Man Is You!" meeting. Yes, I'm even late for dinner. As usually happens, I'm late for writing my newsletter article. Ouch! My apologies to the editor.

I am happy to say that Christmas lands on Monday this year. As Father Mark pointed out: our holy obligation for weekly mass either Saturday night or Sunday masses does not meet our obligation for Christmas. Meaning what? Well, for one thing check your bulletin for weekend mass times oops too late! LOL That's right: Christmas is now over! Or is it? What it meant for me is that it was a joy and not a hardship to attend two masses on Sunday the 24<sup>th</sup> and then go again on December 25<sup>th</sup>. How wonderful to see all the college students and family members fill St. Joseph's Catholic Church for Sunday mass and return the very next day or that evening for midnight mass in celebration of Christmas day! I think the holy trinity planned that one. When you think of all the time we spend at work or in our own activities compared to how much time we spend in mass, prayer and fellowship it might tip the scales a little.

A very good friend of mine ~~was a Catholic~~, I mean is a Catholic. Do you know someone like that? That's what I call when your raised and baptized a Catholic, so they ARE a Catholic and recognize themselves as Catholic but do not attend mass or bathe themselves in the grace of the sacraments fulfilling their holy obligations to their faith. I love the man so much. My friend he is a great person and a great a friend. He has expressed interest in returning home to the Catholic church and or "That Man Is You!" He has been openly invited, but he has only attended a handful of masses and has not experienced yet the wonderful love of TMIY!

Yes, Lord, if my faith was only the size of a small mustard seed, they would be called to you through me without speaking a word. It took a good woman to get him back to Christ. When I hear him describe the protestant church they are attending, I want those feelings for anyone visiting St Joseph's or coming back home to it. Statements like: "Everyone greets everyone and makes you feel welcome." "I enjoy the fellowship after the service." "The pastor is young and when he's preaching, it seems relevant and as if he is speaking right to me as if he knows this sin is something I'm struggling with."

I'm hoping some fellow parishioner, convert, or Catholic that is seeking home may come across this newsletter in your living room and read this and relate. If we are going to fill or pews starting with all those people standing that can't get a seat in our own church

or are afraid to try, we have to start and or continue to welcome each other in, make room, smile, be attentive, aware of our surroundings, help, include, recognize, and love, love, love each other. This is not a hardship this is free to give and receive.

Why do our pews empty after the Eucharist? I'm preaching to the choir here, but why does that happen? Are there too many announcements? Is it too hard to get out of the parking lot? Is it a race to go and get the heck out? Do we have medication to take? I drive by the new Life Center in Turlock right off highway 99. There parking lot is always full and it's a huge center and parking lot. It's such a huge place that they're building another parking lot and adding on to their sanctuary. I'm kind of curious how many scowling-faced, righteous folks you have to step over, trip over to get a seat there? Yes, we and they should be punctual, but we're not always on time. It's not our time anyway, it's God's.

I heard something very hopeful on the Patrick Madrid Show. A person said their protestant experience was so great in its welcoming and Christian sensory enlightenment actually helped them understand their Catholic faith better than they had ever known it. The woman was called them back to the Catholic Church by what the protestant fellowship lacked in the sacraments. Father Leo said once, "It doesn't matter how many masses we attend if we don't take the Gospel from our pews into the rest of our lives, into the streets. If we cannot love each other in our own pews, how can we preach the Gospel to the world?"

I love you and recognize you as the most important part of my life. Have a blessed and fantastic year! Greet someone, attend daily mass, and the blessed sacrament chapel and love, love, love one another. Your friend in Christ,

**Stephen Michael  
Lector**



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