

KNIGHT LIGHT NEWSLETTER

February 2016

St. Joseph's Council #10644, Division 5, Volume 20, Issue 8

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE



Hello, Brother Knights. February is upon us; and, by now God willing, we had a successful Crab Feed. I know Brother Michael Loschke, his team, and all those who were involved worked very hard on this event. I want to thank them all for their efforts. We also had the Blue Mass for first responders of Stanislaus County. I need to acknowledge our director of parish operations, Tammy Menezes, for her help and support of this event. Without Tammy and Brother Knight Ramon Aguilar in IT, this would not have gone as smoothly as it did. If you didn't have the chance to attend, you should mark the date on your calendar for next year. This is an annual event and is held on the second Saturday of January. It's a day of celebration for our men and women of public safety who put themselves

before others each day to make the world a little safer for the rest of us. We, as Knights, could use all these fine people as examples in our daily lives as this is our Year of Mercy. We don't have to put ourselves in harm's way to make a difference. You can be the difference in so many ways you just need to take the first step. You might find the Year of Mercy to be fulfilling and meet and make new relationships along the way.

This month also marks the beginning of the Lenten season starting with Ash Wednesday on the 10th and our first fish fry dinner two days later, on the 12th. Deputy Grand Knight, Tim Keating will be looking to fill the positions of chairmen for these events. Family participation is encouraged: it a good way to include spouses and

children, and let them see some of the things you're doing with other Brother Knights.

Also this month is Valentine's Day, a day to lavish your significant other and show your love and appreciation. The older we all become, we should never take our spouses for granted. Life is too short. A Brother Knight shared a perfect analogy his wife once told him. It goes like this, "The closer you get to the end of the roll, the faster it disappears."

In closing, please continue to pray for Christians though out the world being persecuted. And please pray for our Holy Father in Rome and all our priests. God bless you and your families!

Mike Glendon
Grand Knight

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grandknight@kofc10644.com



Next Meeting

Knight Light Editor: Richard Braun

Send your letters, stories, ideas, typed with your name and phone # no later than the 15th of each month.

Please, note, all submissions are subject to editing and space availability.

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EMAIL:

NEWSLETTER@KOFc10644.COM

Date: 2/2/2016

Location: **Father O'Hare Hall**

Don't forget to bring another Brother Knight. Also, don't forget the Fish Fry Dinners start this month.

Last month there was an interesting article in the Modesto Bee about a man who tried to kill himself by jumping off of the L Street overpass bridge onto the busy 99 Freeway. A Modesto truck driver named Stephen Rodriguez had only 30 feet to react in order not to run over the crumpled body that had fallen onto the road in front of him. Rodriguez swerved and pulled over. He looked into his rear-view mirror and he could see the body moving in the early morning darkness. Then he backed up in such a way that his truck protected the crumpled body of the man who was now trying to crawl. He dragged the man off the road and encouraged him to have hope. He used a flashlight to direct cars into middle lane. In this article it is clear that everyone had the appropriate and natural reaction of trying to help this man to survive. It is wonderful that they did not think of helping the man to do what he wanted to do, which was to kill himself. The police officers at the scene congratulated him. His employer gave him the remainder of the day off with

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

pay and congratulated him: "Stephen has a good heart. Even under dangerous highway conditions, he did not hesitate to help someone. That's truly heroic. We're really proud to have him as part of the Save Mart family." And Rodriguez himself knew that he did the right thing: "I thought I hit him; it was awful. It was an awful feeling inside to think that I just killed someone. I knew I did the right thing. I just did what was natural."

This newspaper article was beautiful because of the way it commended Mr. Rodriguez for his heroic actions in preventing the death of this suicidal man. Of course, it is beautiful and natural to defend life and to try to lovingly prevent someone from committing suicide. This is what is so wrong with the recent legalization of physician-assisted suicide in California. It amounts to discrimination because young people will be treated differently from elderly or "unwanted" people who have no potential. It is discrimination when some people are given suicide-prevention counseling whereas other people are given the option of suicide. This is the kind of discrimination and

abuse that will now begin to happen in California. It is important that we protect our loved ones and our vulnerable fellow citizens from the evil attitude which would encourage physician-assisted suicide. It is as if all of our elderly parents and grandparents are on that overpass. Will we try to prevent them from killing themselves or will we encourage it? If they choose to jump will we try to prolong their lives or will we help to finish them off?

Here is a link to the article and a video interview about the heroic actions of Stephen Rodriguez:

<http://www.modbee.com/news/article53623805.html>

Sincerely,

Father

Mark Wagner

Chaplain and Pastor

St. Joseph's

Catholic Church



SUNSHINE COMMITTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Prayers are requested for Brothers: Matt Bettencourt and his wife, Wendy; Leonard Churilla and his wife, Belen; Robert de Villiers; Dan Dwyer; Mike Glendon; John Gorman and his family; Fred Ibarra; the Keating Family; Tony Lee; David Malsom; Jeremy Hemsley; Mike Miranda and his wife, Nicky; Don Reed and for our Brother Loy Sagrado as he prepares to meet our Lord and Savior soon!

Please pray also for: Kathy Anderson; Carlos Chavez, brother

of Alfonso Chavez; Phyllis Edwards, niece of Frank Holmes; Stephen Harker, son of Kent Harker; Mary, mother of Ed Hough; Eleanor Karaz, wife of John Karaz; Helen Moya, wife of Gary Moya; Darlene Nielsen; Dawn Powers, wife of Chris Powers; and Maryann Powers, mother of Chris Powers. And also pray for the repose of the soul of Brother Joe Castagna. May he rest in Peace in the arms of our Lord! Remember in your prayers all our faithful religious and those in the Consecrated life that the world will see the Love of Jesus Christ in all they do and come to know and serve our God!

**Sunshine Committee Chair
John McCave PGK**

If you have or know of any updates or other prayer requests, please let me know at 209-551-9534 or prayers@kofc10644.com



~ February 2016 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Officers' Meeting 6:30 PM Meeting Room in Main Office	2 Business Meeting 7 PM O'Hare Hall Presentation of the Lord	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Ash Wednesday	11	12 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	13 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
14	15	16	17	18	19 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	20 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
21	22	23	24	25	26 Fish Fry Dinner 5 PM O'Hare Hall	27 Clean up Patio O'Hare Hall
28	29 Officers' Meeting 6:30 PM	Notes:				

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS

Marc Abenoja 2/1
 Richard Dinubilo 2/1
 Mark Hunter 2/1
 Kwei-Cee Chu 2/2
 George Sanchez 2/3
 Steven Wunschel 2/3
 Christopher Bengochea 2/5
 Henry Mendoza 2/5
 Patrick Ringer 2/5
 Tony De Caro 2/7
 Alan Saca 2/7
 Dave Wharton 2/8
 Nathan Steingrebe 2/10
 Andrew T. Gonzales 2/11
 Carroll Lammey 2/11
 Efram Florendo 2/12
 Albert E. Gonzales 2/14
 Robert Hemsley 2/14
 Norbert Mendonca 2/14
 Michael Grodt 2/15
 Tyson Murphy 2/17
 Brandon Harker 2/18
 Timothy Dickert 2/20
 Richard Elson 2/20
 Ed Ibarra 2/21
 Vito Paxia 2/22
 John Karaz 2/23
 Jeff Mc Carthy 2/24
 Sean Garcia 2/25
 Jesse Cristerna 2/26

LADIES' BIRTHDAYS

Jennifer Richmond 2/4
 Sandra Uyeshiro 2/12
 Monica Gonzales 2/13
 Deanna Kitcher 2/16
 Aylene Wee 2/16
 Julita Casiano 2/17
 Debbie Goulart 2/17
 Kristi Marsella 2/17
 Andrea Hemsley 2/18
 Rose Mary Law 2/23
 Cheryl Driggs 2/24
 Ileana Walsh 2/25

ANNIVERSARIES

James & Amanda Towne 2/2
 Jim & Kim McDoal 2/5
 Donald & Debbi Cavagnaro 2/8
 Mark & Margaret Hunter 2/10
 Robert & Margaret Offermann 2/11
 Hugo & Alejandra Fausto 2/12
 Raymond & Patricia Chavarria 2/14
 Gary & Maryann Koblentz 2/15
 Efrain & Gloria Ortega 2/24
 Ed & Sue Gamboa 2/25
 Victor & Maria Lopez 2/27
 Amado & Kelly Valencia 2/27
 John & Mary Mullins 2/28



FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Blue Mass on January 9, 2016, as it has in the past, ended with the Fireman's tradition of the "Last Bell."

It got me to thinking maybe we need to recognize those who have passed on in the past calendar year. We tried sometimes to dedicate one of our Fish Fry events to a Knight that had recently passed, but we did not always live up to that goal. My musical research involves research and part of that is documenting someone's passing for history to note. In some cases we learn of a Knight's passing when a relative gets a mailing or call, so once a month I search the Bee's obituaries for mentions of Knights.

In 2015, we lost the following Brothers of our council: John Adams, Emil Carney, Joseph Castagna, Robert Della Santina, Gerard Oftring, and Robert Perry. Along that line of thought it brings up a song that was written and sung by Hank Williams. Hank was unafraid to write and record Gospel tunes, and I have this on an old 78rpm. I modified the words a bit to reflect the passing of a Knight.

*When God Comes and
Gathers His Jewels*
by Hank Williams
The ceremony was over.
A lady stood alone in tears
For she had just said goodbye
To the one she had loved
thru the years.
She stood all alone with her
head bowed down,
As though her heart would break
Then the Father came over

and took her hand
And to her these words he
did say.
When God comes and
gathers his jewels
All his treasures of
diamonds and gold
You'll meet him up there
in heaven so fair
When God comes and
gathers his jewels.

**Financial Secretary,
Dave Sichak**
finsec@kofc10644.com



An uneducated man wants a promotion, but the boss doesn't want to, so he says he can't unless he passes a little math test. "Here is your first question," the boss said. "Without using numbers, represent the number 9." "Without numbers?" the man says, "Dat's easy." And proceeds to draw three trees. "What's this?" the boss asks. "Tree and tree, plus tree makes 9," says the man. After a hesitation the boss says "Fair enough." "Here's your second question. Use the same rules, but this time the number is 99."

JOHN'S JOKES

The man stares into space for a while, then picks up the picture that he has just drawn and makes a smudge on each tree. "Ere ye go." The boss scratches his head and says, "How on earth do you get that to represent 99?" "Each of them trees is dirty now. So, it's dirty tree, and dirty tree, plus dirty tree. Dat makes 99." The boss is getting worried that he's going to actually have to promote the guy, so he says, "All right, last question. Same rules again, but represent the number 100."

The man stares into space some more, then he picks up the picture again and makes a little mark at the base of each tree and says, "Ere ye go. One hundred." The boss looks at the attempt and says, "You must be nuts if you think that represents a hundred!" The man leans forward and points to the marks at the base of each tree and whispers, "A little dog came along and pooped by each tree, so now you got dirty tree and a turd, dirty tree and a turd, and dirty tree and a turd, which makes one hundred!"

What a beautiful Christmas! I thank the worthy Grand Knight and all the other Knights of Columbus that ushered and attended my father's funeral. At the end of that day, I was exhausted from the stress of the day. By 6:30, I was ready for bed. I knew if I went to bed at that time, I would be awake at 3:30-4:00 in the morning. Then I remembered the Simbang Gabi, the Filipino masses at 5 in the morning had already begun, and there was two completed seven to go. I made the remaining 7; and, if you can imagine you have to be showered and dressed for church and work by 5 AM, so when the breakfast is completed you can still get to work on time. What a great discipline, sacrifice, and humility gathering of parishioners to praise the Lord Jesus Christ before his 2016 birthday! Yes, I did see my friend, Richard Braun, there also. The mass was just what I needed for my grieving process. The Filipino Catholic community is a beautiful collective of souls that complement each other, our Catholic faith, and our St Joseph's Catholic Church very well. Their shared joy and celebration of each other and our faith was exactly what I needed after my father's funeral and for this Christmas season.

I always mention daily Mass and how lucky we are that we have it available to us. I wasn't aware that other parishes do not all share in this tradition. The daily mass calls me: I run to receive its grace. When I mentioned this and the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to a gathering of brothers, one of my brothers mentioned, "That's just not my thing."

I get it, guys. I felt that way also, and I was recently reminded by Father Mark when he mentioned that Mother Teresa struggled because for years she was never comforted by prayer. I thought wow! What faith and hope she maintained because she didn't waiver or stammer. Her humility

LECTURER'S NOTES

and good works and prayer life were Christ like and modeled after His life. STOP right now, and close your eyes and contemplate on St. Thomas for just 10 seconds.

"You believe because you have seen. Blessed are those who have not seen yet still believe!" That being said Daily Mass is not required, nor is the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Let me reassure you, brothers, it is our thing! And it is calling each and every one of us! Try one morning or night a week or every other week of Daily Mass. Maybe make it the beginning of your date night with your spouse! What do you mean: you don't have date night or time for it? Ha! If you haven't felt called to dedicating yourself to an hour of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, maybe try 5 or 10 minutes there when you can. You can just be there listen and meditate if you like, if you do not feel called to pray. Again these simple truths I only encourage, they are not required. But I feel all are called. I am reminded of Brother Loy Sagrado, whom I saw at Daily Mass every day, when he stopped driving and his daughter would bring him to mass. One day she wasn't available to give him a ride, and he asked me if I could give him a ride. On that short ride, I learned a lot, that he attended every mass every day, and confession 1-2 times a week. He told me, "I have the opportunity to receive Christ several times a day and reflect on the readings. I'm going to do it." Now, I really don't know if it's acceptable per Catholic doctrine to receive communion multiple times in one day, so I would have to direct that question to Father Mark ["No, it isn't. Only one and twice if participating in a special mass, like a funeral or wedding."] But my personal feeling is that's like being a tax collector in a sycamore tree or a paralytic being lowered through the ceiling. I mean talk about ending strong. I think Loy is still doing his best to do so.

I'm also reminded of the recent passing of Joe Castagna, a Knight

with a strong hand shake, a booming voice, and a smile a mile-wide: always willing to greet you. He always made me feel like a million dollar bill, even when I felt like a 20. He will be greatly missed in my heart and my prayers go out to my personal friends, Mrs. Joe Castagna, his daughter, and their son and daughter-in-law, Elizabeth and Tim Zuniga, and the rest of their family. I attended the concert and midnight mass for Christmas and was pleased to see so many friends that night. I was able to sit and sing with the booming voice of Ed Ibarra and his beautiful wife. I rang in the New Year with New Year's mass and the Holy Hour in the church from 11:30 PM to 12:30 AM. I am encouraged and strengthened by each and every one of you. This is the Year of Mercy: lift someone up who needs your love. Encourage and forgive everyone everything in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. P.S. June 11th Catholic Men's conference at Father O'Hare hall will be great! How many will answer the invitation? I love you all! God bless you all and your beautiful families. Thank you!

Stephen Edward Michael
Lecturer
lecturer@kofc10644.com



CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE

By the time this month's newsletter gets to you, two of our major events will be behind us already: the Blue Mass and one of our biggest fund raisers of the year, our annual Crab Feed. Were you there to help out? If so, you know how rewarding these events are. If not, "Time's a wastin'" to get involved with our annual **Lenten Fish Fry Dinners**. My challenge to you for this month is to call or e-mail any of us Officers and ask where your help is needed! Let's make this year's Lenten Fish Fry Dinners even more fun than they always have been in the past.

Special Olympics Later in the year (4/23/16) we will be hosting a Spaghetti Dinner to, again, give you a chance to help out the Special Olympics. Save that date. I am looking for some "Sports Celebrities" to come and give a little speech and to sign autographs. I have approached 49ers and Raiders that I know and am awaiting responses. If you have any contacts or references who would be willing to donate an evening in exchange for a good meal and a fun event, let me know ASAP.

Al Toschi,
Chancellor
chancellor@kofc10644.com



2016 LENTEN FISH FRY FRIDAYS :
FEB. 12, 19, 26, MARCH 4 & 11



SOUP: MARCH 18
 Soup Dinner is \$5.00 Flat



ADULTS: \$10.00 CHILDREN (12 & under): \$5.00, SENIORS: \$8.00

DEPUTY GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

Fr. Mark has been reminding us in his sermons and talks that 2016 is the Jubilee Year of Mercy, and each month will be dedicated to a singular act of compassion.

Contemplating this, I found this fitting verse in The Book of Proverbs: *"One person is lavish yet grows still richer; another is too sparing, yet is the poorer.*

Whoever confers benefits will be amply enriched, and whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11:25-25

This brought to mind a story I had heard about the multiplying benefits of good acts, which I want to share with you. There once was a farmer who grew award-winning corn. Each year he entered his corn in the state fair where it won a blue ribbon. One year a newspaper reporter interviewed him and learned something interesting about how he grew it. The reporter discovered that the farmer shared his seed corn with his neighbors.

"How can you afford to share your best seed corn with your neighbors when they are entering corn in competition with yours each year?" the reporter asked.

"Why sir," said the farmer, "didn't you know? The wind picks up pollen from the ripening corn and swirls it from field to field. If my neighbors grow inferior corn, cross-pollination will steadily degrade the quality of my corn. If I am to grow good corn, I must help my neighbors grow good corn."

He is very much aware of the connectedness of life. His corn cannot improve unless his neighbor's corn also improves. So it is with our lives. Those who choose to live in peace must help their neighbors to live in peace. Those who choose to live well must help others to live well, for the value of a life is measured by the lives it touches. And those who choose to be happy must help others to find happiness, for the welfare of each is bound up with the welfare of all.

The lesson for each of us is this: if we are to grow good corn, we must help our neighbors grow good corn.

So we Knights must keep this in mind as we strive to perform good works; our efforts will multiply.

Vivat Jesus and see you at the February business meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Keating
Deputy Grand Knight
dgk@kofc10644.com



MESSAGE FROM THE FIELD AGENT

Put Your Loved Ones First

During the month of January, we spend a lot of time thinking about ourselves. What will our New Year's resolutions be? How will we change our lives? What will 2016 bring for us?



But what about the ones you love? Is protecting them part of your plan for 2016? Sure, there's a lot that you can and do to protect your loved ones. You make sure they're safe. You make sure they're taken care of. You do your best to make them happy. But what if you weren't there for them? What if you couldn't be? Many are afraid to think about life insurance because they're afraid of their mortality. But life insurance isn't about dying, it's about helping your family to

live if and when something should happen to you. Life insurance allows you to continue providing for your family after you're gone, by seeing to it that they have the money they need to be as safe and secure as they have always been. It can provide mortgage protection, income replacement, retirement income, final expenses, and so much more. And life insurance doesn't need to be a gift that you'll never see given. Your family can benefit from your policy while you're still here to see them enjoy it.

So this Valentine's Day, when you're out buying that box of chocolates or flowers for your wife to express your continued love for her, make a point to schedule time with me to get your wife a special life-giving gift



that will help you to protect her and your whole family for decades.

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