



The Mace

St. Francis of Assisi Council 4981
Knights of Columbus
Cupertino • San Jose • Saratoga, CA

Issue 660 • January 2024
District 34 • Division 4
www.kofc4981.net

Upcoming Events

Council Bus. Mtg. Jan. 2, 7:30 p.m.
(Ascension, Worner Hall Lounge)
Council Bus. Mtg. Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m.
(St. Joseph of Cupertino, Location
TBA)

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Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

Happy New Year to all brothers and their families. Let us all work together to make this a memorable year. The Christmas season always seems too short, with only two weeks from Christmas Day to the Epiphany. Our January council meeting will be at Ascension Parish, Worner Hall, Lounge in person. Our hall was successfully sold in December. Going forward, we plan to meet at each of the parishes that our council supports. One benefit is greater visibility at our parishes. This can help reinvigorate participation in Council 4981. The Saratoga-Cupertino Columbian Corporation will be converted into a charitable organization so that the proceeds from the sale of the hall can be properly managed. There will be more discussion on this soon. I learned that

one of our members, Jim Campbell, passed away the week before Christmas. Let us take some time to remember Brother Jim. Our council will make some officer changes prompted by the resignation of Brother Bong as Financial Secretary. There are a few officer positions available for any member wishing to serve. Become a guard, warden, or lecturer! Help make our meetings lively and productive.

I look forward to seeing many brothers at our January meeting as we join together to do the council's business and socialize with our brothers. Perhaps you will be the lucky winner of the attendance raffle. The kitty is now \$170; it could be your turn!

Peace and Joy,

Chaplain's Message

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity," Psalm 133:1 exclaims. Unfortunately, Christian disunity is still a reality, although followers of Christ have come a long way on the journey toward mutual respect and cooperation. In response to Christ's prayer "that they all may be one" (John 17:21), the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is observed annually from January 18-25. It started as the Church Unity Octave at Graymoor in Garrison, New York, in 1908. Since 1966, the week has been jointly sponsored by the Catholic Church and the World Council of Churches. The theme for this year is "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbor as yourself" (cf. Luke

10:27). That's a statement by a lawyer who earlier asked Jesus, "What must I do to inherit everlasting life?" The commitment to love can help others know that we are Christians and lead us closer to the day when Christians are more united than divided.



The Magnificent Sevens

By Jim Schaaf†

In the year 2014, I began writing two articles per month for the MACE rather than only one. In that year, we discussed 10 of the Doctors of the Church. In 2015, these second articles discussed the twelve modern popes from Pius IX to Francis. In 2016, the second set of articles talked about the ecumenical councils of the Church over its 2000-year history. 2017 continued with the ecumenical councils and finished up with three articles on Vatican II, the most recent council and one many of us remember well. In 2018, we discussed the Solemnities of the Church. In 2019, we discussed the remainder of the solemnities and then discussed the Feasts of the Church.

When age-appropriate, I introduced my grandsons to the movie, "The Magnificent Seven." We always enjoy watching it together because it is an action-adventure story of men on a quest to correct a grave injustice. That movie's title got me thinking about all the times the number seven appears in the Catholic Church. Immediately jumping to mind are the seven sacraments or the seven days of creation. I thought this use of "seven" would be a fitting subject to talk about.

Years ago, I took a Bible study class on the Book of Revelation at St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish. It was a class on the

video produced by Ascension Press. Jeff Cavens was the presenter of the eleven sessions. That final book of the Bible is certainly loaded with symbols, hidden meanings, analogies, and metaphors. The book is not easy to understand, even when explained by an experienced Bible scholar like Jeff Cavens. The course was a hard slog because the reading is, to me, so difficult to comprehend.

One of the things that stood out for me in that course was the use of numerology in the Book of Revelation. The number seven is one of the prominent numbers in the book if you'll recall. Remember that the Dragon had seven heads, horns, eyes, etc. But what does the number seven signify? The course notes indicated that the number seven signifies completeness. You can probably guess this when you think about the seven days of creation and how everything was completed after six days, and God was able to rest on the seventh.

You will probably immediately remember that there are seven deadly sins, seven virtues, seven sacraments, seven corporal works of mercy, seven spiritual works of mercy, seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, etc., etc. In the meantime, keep thinking and meditating on the Church's use of the Magnificent Sevens.



Joseph Fitzsimmons	Jim Mathews
Ernest Camacho	Edgar Manalo
Terrence Maguire	Alvin Mellin
Peter DeKruif	Mark Walljasper
Matthew Bordoni	Joseph Kenney
Scott Fitinghoff	Albert Pina
Rev Alan Arnone	Robert OBrien

Monthly Attendance Raffle

The winner of the December drawing was Tom Gaynor who was not present to receive the prize. The January drawing will be \$170. This month we meet at Church of the Ascension, Worner Hall Lounge.

The winner must be present at the meeting to win!

Council Officers

Grand Knight

Ed Johnson
408-296-8146

Chaplain

Fr. Hao Dinh
408-725-3939

Deputy Grand Knight

open

Chancellor

Al Mellin
408-892-0732

Financial Secretary

Eliodoro "Bong" Batingana
408-332-0189

Treasurer

John Steffens
408-985-9079

Recorder

Joe Kenney
408-253-7016

Warden

open

Advocate

Ron Schoengold
408-309-9830

Inside Guard

open

Outside Guard

open

Trustees

1 yr — Patrick Kwok
408-320-2515
2 yr — John Pozniak
408-230-6006
3 yr — Mark Wright
408-203-0942

Lecturer

open

Insurance Field Agent

Joe Ayroso, Insurance Agent
510-403-1499

District Deputy

Lawrence DeSilva
650-400-3333

The Perfect Martini

by Jim Schaaf†

My eldest son is over 50 years old, but when he was just 21 and able to purchase alcohol legally, he noticed a survey in the San Francisco Chronicle that the best place to be 86ed from was a cocktail lounge in San Francisco called the Persian Slipper. So he and a buddy, both young men barely of legal age, sporting shaggy hair and grungy clothing, decided to see if they could get a drink at that establishment.

When they entered the cocktail lounge, Bruno, the bartender, and the original owner's son saw them heading for the booths. He yelled, "Booths are closed!" So they headed for a table. Bruno again bellowed, "Tables are closed! Get out!" And so they were 86ed just like a plethora of others, according to the Chronicle.

About a year later, these two young men were sporting shorter, neater haircuts and were wearing sports coats. So again, they tried to have a cocktail at the Persian Slipper. When they entered, they headed for the booths. Bruno again yelled out, "Booths are closed!" So they headed for the tables, and the miracle of miracles, they sat down without a peep from Bruno. Bruno came over and asked them what they wanted. "Martini!" said both the young men. This was exactly the right thing to say to Bruno, for he envisioned his place as a cocktail lounge, not a wine bar, not a beer garden, but a cocktail lounge. If you wanted to get along at the Persian slipper, you would have to order a cocktail and nothing but a cocktail.

"So," Bruno asks, "what kind of gin do you want?" Well, they hemmed and hawed for a second or two and blurted out, "Beefeater." "I might have known," said Bruno. However, they had their martini with Beefeater and felt proud they could accomplish this no small feat of getting served at this most notorious establishment.

The next day, my son told me about his adventure and asked if I knew of a better gin than Beefeater for a martini. I could not answer him as a Manhattan drinker, not a martini drinker. But, in about 1960, I purchased a book for a dollar on how to mix drinks. It was published in the early 1950's. Well, I pulled that book off the shelf and found an entire chapter on how to make the perfect martini. The secret seemed to be the selection of the gin. The author felt that the best gin was "House of Lords." An English gin was slightly aromatic and a little less than 80 proof. So I told my son, "House of Lords is the best gin."

Well, he and his buddy go back to the Persian Slipper. They head for the booths. Bruno yells out, "Booths are closed!" They sit down at a table, and Bruno comes over to take their order. "Martinis!" Bruno smiles. "What gin," he asks. "House of Lords," proudly proclaims my son. Bruno retorts, "They haven't made that since the 1950s!"

Regardless of the TV series title, father does not always seem to know best.



Prayer Requests

The following Brother Knights, their families, and friends are remembered in the monthly prayer, held each month before the Council's Business Meeting. If any member wishes to submit a name or remove a name from the list, please telephone or email Ron Schoengold at 408 309 9830, ron@egoldsolutions.com



Prayers

Brother Art Salazar
 Brother Ron Miller's wife, Shirley
 Brother Jim Mathews
 Brother John Lehane
 Brother Tony Seidl's wife Helen Seidl
 Brother Mark Wright's sister Anne
 Brother Rodger O'Brien
 Brother Harry Tibbetts
 Brother Jim Campbell
 Brother Peter Pozniak's wife, Patricia
 Brother Ron Schoengold's wife, Arline
 Brother Lawrence DeSilva's wife, Shieroma
 Brother John Steffens' mother-in-law Emma Firpo

Deceased

Brother John Aguirre (10/04/2021)
 Brother Eli Thomas (03/02/2022)
 Brother Freddie Schwalbach (03/30/2022)
 Brother Robert Rolufs, PGK (06/26/2022)
 Brother Mark Wright's mother-in-law Yingio Leung (06/29/2022)
 Brother William Callen (08/29/2022)
 Brother Jim Campbell's father Bob Anselmo (12/2/2022)
 Brother Ted Wyess' wife Ann (01/11/2023)
 Brother Dominic Guido's wife Roca (03/11/2023)
 Brother Ted Wyess (03/19/2023)
 Brother John Steffens sister-in-law Mary Steffens (11/30/2023)
 Brother James Campbell (12/13/2023)

News from Supreme — Roses for Our Lady

Knights present silver roses and thousands of pro-life pledges at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City

By Elisha Valladares-Cormier 12/12/2023



Francisco Saenz (left), past state deputy of Mexico West, and Msgr. Eduardo Chávez, the postulator for the cause of canonization for St. Juan Diego, present a Knights of Columbus Silver Rose before the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City on Dec. 9, the feast of St. Juan Diego. (Photo by Jorge Tenorio)

As thousands gathered at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City to celebrate the feast of St. Juan Diego on Dec. 9, two Knights of Columbus Silver Roses also arrived at the basilica, the final stop of their journey through North America over the past year.

One of the silver roses — blessed by Pope Francis in 2020 — was displayed prominently near the altar during the basilica's 9 a.m. Mass, celebrated by Auxiliary Bishop Luis Manuel Pérez Raygoza of the Archdiocese of México. At the offertory, Knights from Mexico presented thousands of pledge cards signed over the past year by people attending K of C Silver Rose pro-life prayer services, promising to defend life from conception to natural death.

After the Mass, the rose and pledge cards were placed before the tilma bearing the miraculous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

"These pro-life prayers and pledges signify the commitment of so many hearts to remind us that we are God's family," said Msgr. Eduardo Chávez, the postulator for the cause of canonization for St. Juan Diego and a concelebrant for the Mass. "[It's a reminder] that beyond borders, languages, traditions and such different cultures, love unites us."

Msgr. Chavez, a member of Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe Council 14138, added that Knights are called to "follow Jesus as humble Juan Diegos, and we carry God's message and strength as Our Lady of Guadalupe asked."

A K of C delegation from Mexico South led by State Deputy Alejandro Arroyo later presented the second rose to the Virgin of Guadalupe during the basilica's noon Mass, celebrated by Cardinal Carlos Aguiar Retes, the primate archbishop of Mexico.

"This is one of the most emotional events of the year for our jurisdiction, especially as the silver rose, delivered to the protection of Mary, brings hope during the season of Advent," Arroyo said after the Mass. "From here, we will bring the rose to nursing homes and seminaries, and especially hospitals so that all who are suffering may find refuge in the Blessed Mother."

The Silver Rose program, which began in 1960, now features eight roses traveling along different routes through Canada, the United States and Mexico from March through mid-December. Councils hosting a silver rose hold prayer services promoting the dignity of life and honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of the Order. Afterward, attendees are invited to sign pledge cards promising Our Lady that they will defend life at every stage.

Francisco Saenz, a past state deputy of Mexico Central, was among the Knights presenting those pledges at the Nov. 9 morning Mass and later placing them before the tilma.

"At the feet of the Virgin of Guadalupe, offering the Silver Rose along with thousands of pledges in English and Spanish, I felt deeply grateful to God for the gift of life, for my Catholic faith and for being a Knight of Columbus," he said. "May St. Juan Diego inspire us to carry his message of love around the world as lay people and citizens who promote life, family, freedom and human rights."

Directors & Chairmen

Program Director

Ron Schoengold

Church Director

John Pozniak

Vocations	John Steffens
McGivney Shrine	Ron Schoengold
Bingo	open
Parish Round Tables	
Queen of Apostles	open
Sacred Heart in Saratoga	open
St. Joseph of Cupertino	Joe Kenney
Church of the Ascension	Ron Schoengold

Community Director

Culture of Life	Joe Kenney
Charities	Patrick Kwok
Divine Mercy	
& Rosary Visitation	John Steffens
Food for Families	Dick Sherman
People with	
Intellectual Disabilities	open
Mass of Reparation	open
Community Projects	Round Table Members
Breakfast Supreme	Ron Schoengold

Council Director

open

Fraternal Affairs	Ron Schoengold
First Degree Team	John Pozniak
Public Relations	Ron Schoengold
Website	Ron Schoengold
Communications	Ron Schoengold
Past Grand Knights Dinner	open
Special Appreciation Night	open
Building Manager	Ron Schoengold
McGivney Pilgrimage	John Pozniak

Family Director

Ed Johnson

Leisure Nights	open
Memorial Mass	open
Ladies Night	John Steffens
Ice Cream Social	Grand Knight Elect
Christmas Dinner	Ron Schoengold
Annual Picnic	open

Youth Director


open

Scholarship Program	open
Altar Servers Appreciation	open
Free Throw Contest	Ed Johnson
Essay Contest	Ed Johnson

Membership & Retention

Mark Wright*

John Pozniak

	Treasurer's Report	
	Charity Checking	\$ 259.20
	Checking	3,259.52
	Council Savings	<u>15,799.67</u>
		\$ 19,318.39
Income for December 2023		
	Interest on Capital One Savings	\$ 1.34
		<u>\$ 1.34</u>
Expenses for December 2023		
	Computer & Web Expenses	\$ 15.00
	MACE Printing	<u>110.45</u>
		\$ 125.45

Sale of the Knights of Columbus Council 4981 Hall

SPECIAL REPORT January 1, 2024

The Hall at 10201 Imperial Avenue, Cupertino, California, has been sold. The Hall was purchased on May 17, 1989 from the American Legion Post 642 for \$575,000. The legal entity holding the property was Saratoga-Cupertino Columbian Corporation (SCCC), which was formed and registered in the State of California on May 23, 1974. The SCCC is controlled by the Knights of Columbus Council 4981. The purchase included parcels APN 357-18-6 (land and Hall building) and APN 357-18-5 (adjacent lot parking area). On April 12, 1994, SCCC sold APN 357-18-5 (adjacent lot parking area) for \$70,000. The money was used to pay off the existing second mortgage on the property. The first mortgage on the Imperial property was paid off in 2019. Mark Burns, a licensed broker with Coldwell Banker, managed the sale of the Hall. The advertised sales price in the listing agreement, executed on November 18, 2023, was \$1,150,000. The final sales price was \$1,200,000, recorded on December 15, 2023. Proceeds from the sale after expenses are on deposit at Comerica Bank in Cupertino.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Schoengold, Advocate

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury, pardon.

Where there is discord, unity.

Where there is doubt, faith.

Where there is error, truth.

Where there is despair, hope.

Where there is darkness, light.

Where there is sadness, joy.

Oh Divine Master,

grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled, as to console;

to be understood, as to understand;

to be loved, as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

it is in dying that we are born
to Eternal Life.

January 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 31	Jan 1, 24 Happy New Year	2 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Ascension Worner Hall Lounge)	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Martin Luther King Day	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3

February 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jan 28	29	30	31	Feb 1	2	3
4	5	6 <div>7:30pm Council Business Meeting (St. Joseph of Cupertino, Location TBA)</div>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	Mar 1	2

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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