



# The Mace

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

Issue 662 • March 2024  
District 34 • Division 4  
www.kofc4981.net

## Upcoming Events

Council Bus. Mtg. March 5, 7:30 p.m.  
Queen of Apostles Dominion Room  
Council Bus. Mtg. April 7:30 p.m.  
Sacred Heart Church, Saratoga

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## Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

Welcome to March! Notable events this month include the return to Daylight Savings Time, Spring Equinox, St Patrick's Day, then Palm Sunday and the Easter Triduum completing with Easter Sunday on the last day of March. Don't forget to appreciate the spring blossoms and March Madness tournament! As our calendars fill with events, let us remember that we are still in the time of Lent for most of the month.

Our March council meeting will be in-person at Queen of Apostles Parish meeting room. Q of A was home parish to many of our most senior members, some who have passed on such as Bob Rolufs and Sheila Kenney. May our presence inspire active participation with us.

I wish to announce that Brother Ron Schoengold was appointed council Financial Secretary by Supreme effective 27 February 2024. Let us all support Ron as he takes on these important duties. Let us thank Brother E. Bong Batingana for his years of service in this role as well.

At our March business meeting we will address several resolutions and Bylaw updates for the council and corporation. Voting may be called so please attend the meeting. Hang out and socialize with your brothers and then test your luck with the attendance raffle at the end of the meeting. The winner could be you!

Love and Peace,



## Chaplain's Message

### Living Life to the Fullest

Do you still remember the New Year's resolutions that you might have made about two months ago? The 10 most common resolutions are: Exercise more, lose weight, get organized, etc. I like the fifth resolution on the list: Live life to the fullest. That's close to what we are called to achieve every Lent. Forty days of this season are for renewal and growth in our lives, grounded in a close relationship with the Lord and one another. This season our spiritual

growth can blossom and be more vibrant like a new spiritual springtime. We are nearly halfway through the season of Lent. There's still time to discover what matters the most in life: our relationship with the God who has called us and chosen us to be his own since our Baptism. Let us encounter God anew and discover his love and care for us. This experience can transform us and enable us to live our life to the fullest.



## The Seven Principal Virtues

by Jim Schaaf†

There are seven principal virtues listed in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. They are presented in two categories. The first four are called the Cardinal Virtues. These are Prudence, Justice, Temperance, and Fortitude. The second three are called the Theological Virtues. These are Faith, Hope, and Charity. Seven in all. Many, many other virtues flow from these seven.

Recall from your Catholic training that a Virtue is nothing more than a habit of doing good. Virtues are enhanced in us by accepting the grace that God freely bestows on us.

The four moral or human or cardinal virtues help us to lead good moral lives by assisting us to treat persons and things in the right way so that good is always done. They show us how to have the right disposition to treat one another as the other should be treated.

The virtue of **Prudence** helps us to discern our true good and to choose the right means of achieving it. The virtue of **Justice** helps us to give each person what is his due, that is, what is owed to him. The virtue of **Fortitude** helps us to do good in spite of difficulties. Fortitude allows us to continue the battle with evil and not allow us to give in. The virtue of **Temperance** helps to control our desires to rightly use things that please our senses.

These four virtues are enumerated in the Book of Wisdom, Chapter 8, Verse 7, as

well as in the Book of Proverbs, Chapter 8, Verse 14 (see the Douay-Rheims Bible.)

The theological virtues have God for their proper object. These virtues allow us to properly interact with God.

The theological virtue of **Faith** allows us to believe in God and all the truths that he has revealed. These can be either written or handed down to us orally. The Catholic Church teaches all such truths. The theological virtue of **Hope** allows us to trust that God will be faithful to his promise of eternal life. The theological virtue of **Charity** allows us to love God for His sake and our neighbor as ourselves for the love of God.

Because the cardinal virtues can be considered moral or human virtues they can be acquired with work by every human being. The three theological virtues are not necessary to acquire the four cardinal virtues. This is why you can see and meet people who have no belief in God and no hope in immortal life but who do treat others as they wish to be treated. They are fine, moral, upstanding people who have the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance. God's gift of Faith, freely bestowed, once accepted, allows a person to have a better, more complete interaction with both God and neighbor.

**Be virtuous! Practice virtue! Avoid sin!**



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.

## 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.

## 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

Ron Schoengold  
408-309-9830

### 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

## Good Friday Hymns - I

by Jim Schaaf†

Two special hymns, one for Lauds and one for Vespers are used on Good Friday and for much of Holy Week. Both are ancient. They were written by a Bishop of Poitiers named Venantius Fortunatus. He lived in the middle of the sixth century. This was during what is termed the Dark Ages — the years between 476 and 800 A.D. They were dark because there was no Roman Emperor in the West. Bishop Fortunatus is credited by many with being the greatest Latin hymn-writer of all time. He wrote a large number of hymns many of which survive today. The hymn for Lauds — morning prayer — is called Crux Fidelis — faithful cross. This title comes from the beginning of the second stanza of this beautiful hymn. The hymn is shown below. The translation from Latin to English was done by the Benedictine Nuns at St. Cecilia's Abbey.

See the reed, the gall so bitter,  
See the nails and cruel spear,  
As they pierced Christ's sacred body,  
Blood and water flowed in streams,  
Which would cleanse the whole creation,  
Giving life to all and each.

Faithful Cross beyond all others,  
Noble tree of priceless worth,

Never forest was productive  
Of such blossom, leaf or seed.  
Honored wood and nails more honored,  
Christ as burden to sustain.  
Bend your branches, tree exalted,  
Make your trunk a gentle bed,  
Change the hard and rigid nature  
Of the strength you raise on high,  
To receive the holy members  
Of your dying Lord and King.

You alone were chosen worthy,  
Love's oblation to uphold,  
For the Lamb bedewed your fibers  
With the Blood divine He shed.  
You revealed the sinner's haven  
In a world condemned to die.

Equal glory be forever  
To the Father and Son,  
To the Holy Spirit also,  
Blessed Trinity in One,  
Love and mercy, Grace together,  
Ransom and preserve us all.  
Amen.

## 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 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)  
Brother Joseph Kenney's wife Sheila (02/18/2024)

## Monthly Attendance Raffle

There was no raffle at the February business meeting. The March raffle will be \$20. This month we are meeting at Queen of Apostles Church. ***The winner must be present at the meeting to win!***



## News From Supreme

# 'I Can, You Can, We Can!'

Knights encourage Lenten almsgiving with 40 Cans for Lent food drives

By Cecilia Engbert 2/28/2024



*Members of Our Lady of Guadalupe Council 8306 in Helotes, Texas, kick off their 14th annual 40 Cans for Lent food drive with a special collection outside Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on Feb. 17. (Photo by Ethan E. Rocke)*

Dennis Chaput was lying awake at 4 in the morning in September 2010 when inspiration struck. As he tried to fall back to sleep after a diabetic attack, he heard God ask him to start a food drive with a simple but effective format: inviting parishioners and other members of the community to donate one grocery item for every day of Lent.

Chaput wasted no time bringing the plan to his brother Knights in Our Lady of Guadalupe Council 8306 in Helotes, Texas, and the council held its first "40 Cans for Lent" food drive at Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in March 2011.

Thirteen years later, the idea of a "40 Cans for Lent" food drive has been adopted by K of C councils from Maine to Alaska, bringing in countless donations to feed hungry families. In that time, Council 8306 alone has collected approximately 221,000 pounds of food and more than \$56,000 in monetary donations for Archdiocese of San Antonio Catholic Charities.

"I didn't create this; I just listened," said Chaput. "Forty Cans for Lent is God's plan. When we do this food drive, we honor him because this is what he's called us to do. Our slogan is 'I can, you can, we can.' I can donate and you can donate, we all can donate and then we make a difference in this world for Jesus Christ."

Lent is an optimal time to hold a food drive since donations to banks and pantries sometimes dry up in the first months of the

year, after the holiday giving season ends. At the same time, a food drive offers parishioners a concrete opportunity to fulfill their Lenten obligation to give alms. Contributors can bring their 40 items all at once or incrementally; some people are only able to donate a few cans, but each donation, no matter how small, is welcomed.

"This year, our food pantry is really, truly being tested. There are a lot of people who are struggling to put food on the table," said Tara Ford, chief development officer of Archdiocese of San Antonio Catholic Charities. Building on Chaput's idea, the organization now promotes a 40 Cans for Lent drive throughout the archdiocese, which Ford said is "a critical campaign for us to stock our food pantry."

In Maine, three councils joined forces more than 10 years ago to organize a 40 Cans for Lent food drive in the Portland region. Last year, St. Maximilian Kolbe Council 11747 and Calvary Council 8144 in Scarborough and Cheverus Council 2344 in Portland collected more than 7,000 pounds of canned food donations from members of St. John Paul II Parish in Scarborough; their goal for this Lent is 7,600 pounds. All donations go to the South Portland Food Cupboard.

"We try to help our community and our parish all year round," said Grand Knight Kevin Curtis of Council 11747. "But this particular project is very impactful — there's a big need. Our parishioners have come to know that it's going to happen and are very happy to support it."

The idea for the drive has even been taken up by other food banks and Christian churches in the area, Curtis added.

Councils can get creative in how they advertise the drive and attract needed items. In Helotes, the Knights have theme weekends, designating different Sundays of Lent as "Peanut Butter Sunday," "Mac 'n' Cheese Sunday" and so on.

Knights in Airdre (Alberta) Council 8045 involve several local Catholic schools in their 40 Cans for Lent food drive, and the schools encourage participation with promotions like "Caps for Cans" days, when students and staff can wear ballcaps if they donate.

"The students get a sense of involvement and charitable giving," said Wayne MacGillivray, a member of Council 8045 who helped start the drive in Airdre. "Throughout the Lenten season, this teaches the kids to give service and demonstrate love for their community."

*(Continued on page 5)*

## 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

(Continued from page 4)

With the support of the Catholic schools and St. Paul's Parish in Airdre, Council 8045 raised \$28,000 last year in food and monetary donations for the Airdre Food Bank, which feeds more than 600 families per week. The council has raised over \$120,000 since beginning the drive six years ago.

"We started it because we saw the need in the local area and wanted to help the food bank and families in need," MacGillivray said. "It has gradually increased over the years, and we have tremendous support."

Chaput encourages every council to consider running a Lenten food drive as part of the Order's Food for Families program, whether or not they adopt the "40 Cans" format.

"God has called the Knights of Columbus to fight hunger, and each council can do it their own way," he said. "How you donate and how you distribute the food is up to you; find a food bank and donate locally. But just do it."



Richard Nelson	John Ruzzo
Blake Schindler	John Steffens
Robert MacKinnon	Peter Pozniak
Paul De Benedetti	Thomas Schutt
David Adams	



## Treasurer's Report

Charity Checking	\$ 259.20
Checking	2,612.62
Council Savings	<u>15,802.26</u>
	\$ 18,674.08

### Income for February 2024

Interest on Capital One Savings	\$ 1.25
	\$ 1.25

### Expenses for February 2024

Computer & Web Expenses	\$ 10.00
MACE Printing	130.45
Postage	68.00
Supreme Catholic Advertising	<u>298.00</u>
	\$ 506.45

March 2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Feb 25	26	27	28	29	Mar 1	2
3	4	5 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Queen of Apostles Church, Dominion Room, near	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 PALM SUNDAY	25	26	27	28 HOLY THURSDAY	29 GOOD FRIDAY	30
31 EASTER SUNDAY	Apr 1	2	3	4	5	6

April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 31	Apr 1	2 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Sacred Heart Church, Saratoga)	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	May 1	2	3	4

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# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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