



The Mace

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

Issue 665 • June 2024
District 34 • Division 4
www.kofc4981.net

Upcoming Events

- Council Bus. Mtg. June 4, 7:30 p.m.
(St. Joseph of Cupertino)
- Council Bus. Mtg. July 2, 7:30 p.m.
(Queen of Apostles)

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Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

Meteorological Summer has arrived! Longer warm days and cool evenings make for comfortable living here. Ordinary Time began after Pentecost and the culmination of Easter season. June is a great time to connect with family and friends, perhaps at graduations or weddings. Stay close with family and support your brother Knights.

Our June 4th council meeting will be in person at St Joseph of Cupertino Parish in Cupertino. We will use the Fr. Greg Ng Kimm Community Center as the meeting location.

June brings our Columbian year to a close. It is again time to select and elect officers for the next year. I encourage

member Knights to take an officer position as there are several openings, as shown in this Mace.

Progress has been made regarding the corporation's investments. There will be a report presented at the meeting. Thanks to Brother Ron Schoengold for all his organizing.

Members present at the meeting are eligible to win the attendance raffle at the end of the meeting. We had a winner in May; read the Mace to see who won. Are you feeling lucky? Come and find out. Spend some time with your brothers.

Peace and Love,
Ed Johnson

Chaplain's Message

Sacred Heart of Jesus

The human heart has been a symbol of love, and a metaphor for the innermost essence of things. In the Roman Catholic tradition, the physical, mystical heart of Jesus is an object of popular devotion. The Sacred Heart of Jesus is celebrated on the Friday of the third week after Pentecost (June 7 this year), and also every first Friday and the entire month of June. This devotion includes acts of honor and reparation to the Sacred Heart, depicted as a radiant yet wounded heart, encircled by a crown of thorns. The devotion, promoted by St. Francis de Sales and some religious orders, became especially popular due

to the visions of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque in the late 17th century. It's a response to the religious indifference or confusion at the time, and an antidote to Jansenism, a popular heresy, that emphasized human sinfulness and sense of guilt. While this devotion and the Divine Mercy are both about God's mercy, the Sacred Heart is about the Son of God with the call for reparations, and the Divine Mercy is about the Holy Trinity with a spirit of trust. The feast of the Sacred Heart became universal in 1856 during the reign of Pope Pius IX, and the Divine Mercy Sunday was instituted in 2000 by Saint Pope John Paul II.



Knights in Love With Mary

Five popular devotions exemplify the deep affection Filipino Catholics feel for the Blessed Mother

By Roy Lagarde 5/30/2024

Filipinos are known as *pueblo amante de Maria*: a people in love with Mary.

Images of Mary are found in churches, homes, schools and offices. Philippine cities and towns name her as their patroness and celebrate their devotions with grand festivals or “fiestas.” The Blessed Mother is even credited with keeping the historic People Power revolutions of 1986 and 2001 bloodless and peaceful.

Some of the Marian devotions popular among Filipino Catholics are well known throughout the world; some originated elsewhere but have been adopted in the Philippines with special fervor; and some are uniquely Filipino — such as Our Lady of Manaoag, a beloved image of Mary in the northern province of Pangasinan.

John Rosmond Claveria, a member of Pangasinan (Luzon North) Council 3711, is not unusual in praying to the Blessed Mother every morning to ask her guidance and intercession in the day ahead.

“This daily ritual sets the tone for my spiritual journey, grounding me in the loving presence of Mary as I navigate the challenges and joys of my calling,” he explained. For Knights, he said, devotion to Mary isn’t an abstract theological concept, but “informs the way we live our life.”

Learn more about Our Lady of Manaoag below, as well as four other images of Our Lady — or Mamma Mary, as Filipinos affectionately call her — widely venerated in the Philippines.

Our Lady of Manaoag

According to folk tradition, Mary appeared to a farmer in the province of Pangasinan in the early 17th century and asked for a church to be built there. The church, now known as the Manaoag Shrine, has since become a popular pilgrimage destination. The center of devotion is a centuries-old image of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary enshrined in the main altar of the church, which is also a minor basilica.

The image is believed to have miraculous powers, drawing pilgrims from the Philippines and around the world to seek Mary’s intercession for healing from illness, passing an exam, finding a job and much more.

Every day, especially on weekends, thousands of people flock to Manaoag to attend Mass, pray the rosary, offer flowers and light candles at the shrine. The number of pilgrims peaks on the feast of Our Lady of Manaoag, on the third Wednesday of Easter, and the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, on Oct. 7.



Xenar Dimalanta, a member of Banal na Sacramento Council 8753 in Quezon City, Luzon North, teaches his granddaughter, Hope Felicity, how to pray the rosary during one of the council’s block rosaries in 2023.

Council Officers

Grand Knight

Ed Johnson
408-296-8146

Chaplain

Fr. Hao Dinh
408-725-3939

Deputy Grand Knight

Dick Sherman
408-444-3725

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

John Ruzzo
408-417-9089

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



Treasurer's Report

Balances as of 5/31/24

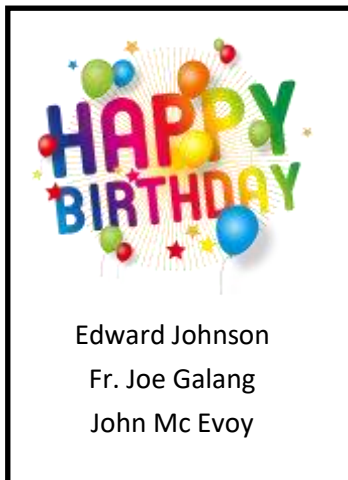
Charity Checking	\$ 259.20
Checking	8,032.85
Council Savings	<u>20,806.28</u>
	\$ 29,098.33

Income for May 2024

Council Rent Refund	\$ 12,000.00
Dues	120.00
Interest on Capital One Savings	1.38
Pancake Breakfast	<u>430.00</u>
	\$ 12,551.38

Expenses for May 2024

Computer & Web Expenses	\$ 75.00
MACE Printing	143.32
Scholarships	2,000.00
Vocations	<u>2,000.00</u>
	\$ 4,218.32



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, FS 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 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

Thirteen Knights from Council 4981, not previously listed, have passed away:

Brother William Callen (08/29/2022)
Brother Ernest Camacho (01/04/2016)
Brother Philip Dean (12/26/2007)
Brother Joseph Denham Jr. (11/19/2014)

Brother Joseph Fitzsimmons (03/28/2017)
Brother Francis Hopkins (12/06/2018)
Brother Eugene Levitre (05/02/2024)
Brother Robert Lewis (08/08/2016)
Brother Robert MacKinnon (05/05/2024)

Brother John Marvin (05/06/2020)
Brother Larry Sandstrom (03/28/2021)
Brother Edward Shiras (04/02/2021)
Brother Philip Young (03/01/2016)

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

The May raffle of \$40 was won by Ed Johnson, GK, who was present. The month the raffle is worth \$10. **The winner must be present at the meeting to win!**

Continued from page 2

Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage

The image of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage was first brought to Manila in 1626 by Governor-General Juan Niño de Tabora from the Mexican town of Acapulco and went on to serve as patroness of six more successful voyages across the Pacific Ocean.



Bishop Ruperto Santos of Antipolo (right) and Archbishop Charles Brown, apostolic nuncio to the Philippines, crown the centuries-old image of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage outside Antipolo Cathedral, Jan. 26, 2024, before a Mass to mark the designation of the cathedral as an international shrine. (Photo by Roy Lagarde/CBCP News)

In 1632, the wooden statue was brought to a church in Antipolo, which later became the Antipolo Cathedral. The local population quickly began to venerate the Virgin, asking her intercession for safe voyages and miracles.

In June 2022, the Vatican designated Antipolo Cathedral as an international shrine — making it the first in Southeast Asia and the 11th worldwide. The new status officially took effect March 25, 2023. The shrine attracts millions of devotees, especially during its annual pilgrimage season from May to July. The feast day of Our Lady of Antipolo falls on the first Tuesday of May, and local Knights assist with the celebration.

“I have been supporting every novena and procession during her feast,” said Teodulo Sandoval of St. Therese Council 13548 in Antipolo City, the ceremonial director of Luzon South. “My Marian devotion [has] guided me to be more helpful to others.”

Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Devotion to Our Mother of Perpetual Help was introduced to the Philippines by the Redemptorist missionaries, who

brought the icon to the country in 1906. They established a base in Manila, where they built a church dedicated to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, marking the beginning of widespread veneration across the nation. Today, more than 50 parishes in the Philippines are dedicated to Our Mother of Perpetual Help, and her image can be seen in homes, businesses and even public transportation.



A member of the faithful touches a prayer card to the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help at Baclaran Church in Parañaque City, Metro Manila. (Photo by Elmarc Lim/CBCP News)

The most famous shrine dedicated to Our Mother of Perpetual Help is Baclaran Church in Parañaque City, Metro Manila, where thousands of people gather every Wednesday for a novena to Our Lady. Wednesday is popularly known as Baclaran Day in Manila.

Jesus Tugay, grand knight of Mary Queen of Apostles Council 9877 in Parañaque City, credits the novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help with helping him and his family live more virtuous lives.

“My devotion has had a great impact on me. I have also learned to help my neighbors and become more involved in our parish,” Tugay said. “As I join the novena to Mama Mary every Wednesday in Baclaran and in our parish, I know that she always guides and protects me and my family.”

(continued on next page)

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

Michael Abdallah

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	Patrick Kwok
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	Patrick Kwok
Altar Servers Appreciation	Patrick Kwok
Free Throw Contest	Ed Johnson
Essay Contest	Ed Johnson

Membership & Retention

Mark Wright*

John Pozniak

(continued from page 4)

Our Lady of Piat

Devotion to Our Lady of Piat began when Spanish Dominican missionaries brought the image of Our Lady of Visitation of Piat from Macau to Manila in 1604. After some time in the Santo Domingo Church in Intramuros, the black Marian icon was taken to Lallo in Cagayan province; two decades later, it found a permanent home in what is now the Shrine of Our Lady of Piat, near the provincial capital of Tuguegarao in northern Luzon.

Our Lady of Piat is credited with saving the farming region from a severe drought that killed animals and devastated farmlands in 1624. Today, many miracles, including healings, continue to be attributed to her intercession. Declared a minor basilica in 1999, the Shrine of Our Lady of Piat is a center of pilgrimage in northeast Luzon; thousands visit every year, especially on her feast of July 2.

“The devotion is very strong because she has become ... a refuge during calamities, especially for farmers and their families,” explained Robert Bassig, program director of Father Manuel Apostol Council 9869 in Penablanca, Cagayan.

Our Lady of Peñafrancia

This devotion originated in Europe — Peña de Francia is a mountain in Spain — but it began growing in the Philippines in 1712, when the son of a Spanish official in the region of Bicol fell seriously ill. Miguel Robles de Covarrubias and his family prayed to Our Lady of Peñafrancia and vowed to build a church in her honor if he recovered.

After his recovery, Miguel kept his vow by constructing a chapel in Nueva Caceres (now Naga City), where he later became a priest. He also requested the creation of an image similar to the one he prayed to during his illness.



Our Lady of Peñafrancia is transferred from the Minor Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia to the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral on Sept. 9, 2022, for the novena leading up to her feast day. (Archdiocese of Caceres/CBCP News)

(Continued from page 5)

Since then, devotion to Our Lady of Peñafrancia and stories of miracles attributed to her intercession have spread not only in the region, but throughout the country and abroad. Millions of people gather in Naga every year on the third Sunday of September to celebrate her feast day. Before the feast, her image is brought from the Minor Basilica and Shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia to the Naga Metropolitan Cathedral for a novena. On the last day of the novena, a boat procession along the Bicol River escorts the statue back to the basilica.

While the original image of Our Lady of Peñafrancia remains in Naga, a pilgrim image often visits other churches around the

country, allowing the faithful to express their devotion without having to travel to Bicol.

For Edgran Datiles, a member of Divino Rostro Council 5183 in Naga, devotion to Our Lady has brought him closer to God, deepening his faith and influencing his actions. "By following her example, I strive to make decisions and interact with compassion, mercy and justice," he said.

ROY LAGARDE is a staff writer and photojournalist in the media office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines and a member of Manila Council 1000.

Council 4981 Awards Scholarships

Two scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors at Queen of Apostles School and St. Joseph of Cupertino School. Each school also received a stipend.

Sara Velazquez-Morales was the awardee at Queen of Apostles School

Meagan Mekata was the awardee at St. Joseph of Cupertino School.



Meagan Mekata with Principal Dr. Cheryl Palladino and Patrick Kwok, PGK



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.

June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May 26	27	28	29	30	31	Jun 1
2	3	4 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (St. Joseph of Cupertino Church)	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	Jul 1	2	3	4	5	6

July 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 30	Jul 1	2 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Queen of Apostles Church)	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	31	Aug 1	2	3

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