



The Mace

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

Issue 668 • September 2024
District 34 • Division 4
www.kofc4981.net

Upcoming Events

- Council Bus. Mtg. Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m.
Church of Ascension Worner Hall
- Installation of Officers Sept. 6, 6 p.m.
Ascension Mass & reception
- Parish Picnic Sept. 8, 12 p.m.
Church of the Ascension
after 11 a.m. Mass
- Council Bus. Mtg. Oct. 1, 7:30 p.m.
St. Joseph of Cupertino

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Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

Welcome to Serious September! Summer vacations are wrapping up and we now focus on the work ahead. Our warmest weather is ahead this month. That is always a shock to out-of-area visitors. September is a prelude to glorious October, often the best month of the year. Our September 3rd council meeting will be at Ascension Parish in Saratoga in the Worner Hall meeting room. Installation of Officers will be on September 6th at Ascension. Fr. Hao will celebrate a Mass for us. See the Mace for more details. Please consider attending; spouses are welcome. Officer positions are available for members including Warden, Inside Guard and Outside Guard. Come brothers, take a position and support your council. There

are two opportunities to support St Joseph of Cupertino Parish. The first is the Parish Feast Day celebration on Sunday, September 15, following the 11 a.m. Mass. Patrick Kwok and I recommend offering \$250 donation and helping serve food. The second is to help with coffee and doughnut hospitality, typically once a month after the Sunday 9:30 and 11 a.m. Masses. See me if you can volunteer for either.

Members present at the meeting are eligible to win the attendance raffle at the end of the meeting. Our Dick Nelson's number was called in August, but he was absent. Are you feeling lucky! Come and find out. Listen for the rattle of the raffle box! Spend some time with your brothers.

Chaplain's Message

Faith – Charity – Life

In anticipation of the Holy Year 2025, the Vatican is restoring the 390-year-old baldachin, or canopy, over the tomb of Saint Peter and the papal altar in the basilica named after the Apostle. This \$750,000 project is mostly funded by the Knights of Columbus.

A more impressive contribution by the Knights is their faith, charity, and defense of life, as recently recognized by Pope Francis. In a message written on his behalf and sent to the Knights' annual convention, held Aug. 6-8 in Québec, the Holy Father thanks the Knights for their "concrete witness to the faith that works through love," in their charitable activities, their

"outstanding support and encouragement to efforts to defend God's gift of life at every stage of its development, to uphold the dignity of the institution of marriage, and to advance the mission of the Church in developing countries." Pope Francis also recognized the Knights of Columbus for their efforts at rebuilding and restoring Christian communities in the Middle East devastated by persecution as well as efforts to help the poor affected by the war in Ukraine.

Let us continue to be "in service to one, in service to all," and to serve the Lord in all we do with great confidence and joy.

A Testament to Unity



Bishop Bryan Bayda, associate state chaplain of Ontario, witnesses the work of Knights in Ukraine and Poland

By Jarosław Herman 8/22/2024

Bishop Bryan Bayda (front row, second from left) stands with then-State Deputy Youriy Maletskiy and other Knights gathered at a K of C distribution warehouse outside Lviv, Ukraine, in June.

Bishop Bryan Bayda, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Toronto and Eastern Canada, and associate state chaplain of Ontario, demonstrated the solidarity of Knights around the world by visiting war-torn Ukraine and its close neighbor, Poland, this past spring.

Traveling with Father Yaroslav Lazoryk, a priest from Ontario, Bishop Bayda met personally with those fighting, those suffering from the war and its effects, those who have lost loved ones, and those providing aid, including fellow Knights.

“To truly understand [how it is to live during wartime], one must visit Ukraine and stay here for at least two to three days,” Past Ukraine State Deputy Youriy Maletskiy said of the bishop’s visit.

Bishop Bayda spent 10 days in Ukraine and Poland, May 28-June 6, visiting various charitable initiatives supported by the Knights. Since his return to Ontario, he has been working to pass on what he learned from his experience and encourage the Knights in his jurisdiction in their work and prayers on behalf of the war’s victims.

“When you see these suffering people, it brings it home, puts it on your front doorstep. It gives you an opportunity to think, ‘What kind of charity am I able to do?’” he said. “And when you look at people ready to give their lives, it gives you another perspective about what kind of charity God is calling you to do. I look at my efforts and say, ‘What have I done? Can I do better? Is God calling me to do more?’”

Mary: Symbol of Unity

Before he left Canada, Bishop Bayda encouraged children in Ukrainian schools there to paint images of Our Lady of Perpetual Help for him to distribute during his travels.



Ukrainian children hold images of Our Lady of Perpetual Help given to them by Bishop Bayda during his visit to the Mercy Center at St. Klemens Hofbauer Parish in Warsaw, Poland.

For people in Ukraine, the images were symbols of solidarity to displaced families, people living in constant danger close to the front line, wounded soldiers and others, “to give them hope, to know that we’re supporting them morally and spiritually,” said Bishop Bayda. Each picture represented the many prayers offered from across the world to bring an end to the war in Ukraine.

“Knights want families to know they are cared for and are never alone,” he said. “I believe this is the spirit of Blessed Michael McGivney working in our midst.”

In Poland, Bishop Bayda visited two Knights of Columbus Mercy Centers: a center at St. Klemens Hofbauer Parish in Warsaw and Blessed Michael McGivney

(Continued on page 3)

Council Officers

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Fr. Hao Dinh
408-725-3939

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Dick Sherman
408-444-3725

Chancellor

Steven Schauer
408-931-4756

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
408-896-1462

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

(Continued from page 2)

House at Our Lady of Częstochowa Parish in Radom. They both provide assistance for displaced Ukrainian children and their mothers who have been deprived of a normal family life due to the war.

“It was a real insight for me personally as to how Father McGivney felt when he saw families that would break up because of tragedy,” Bishop Bayda said. “This was an opportunity for me to see through the eyes of Blessed Father McGivney and witness how the Knights are continuing his legacy.”

In addition to material aid, the centers address the psychological and spiritual needs of refugees. Ukrainian women and children often feel lost in Poland, in part because they do not know the language. With support from the Ukraine Solidarity Fund, the centers offer activities that help children assimilate socially and resources to help adults find jobs. In difficult health cases, like cancer and other illnesses, staff and volunteers help organize care, arrange medications and provide translation at clinics.

At the Mercy Center in Warsaw, Bishop Bayda attended a play by Ukrainian children about Our Lady of Fatima, after which he distributed the drawings from the children in Canada.

“This visit was special for the Polish Knights, as it took place right in the heart of our charitable work,” said Supreme Warden Andrzej Anasiak. “At the request of Pope Francis, we continue and will continue to provide this assistance as long as it is needed.”

Closest to the War

Bishop Bayda met with one such family during his stop in Kyiv, where he spent time with Ukraine State Deputy Mykola Mostoviyak and local Knights. Among them were the parents of Bogdan Dovzhinsky, a helicopter pilot who was shot down and killed in 2022 during a rescue mission in the besieged city of Mariupol. The meeting took place at the Father Michael J. McGivney Synodal Hall, restored with the Order’s support in 2021.

Bogdan’s father, Ivan, is a charter member of Blessed Nicholas Charnetsky Council 16890 in Irpin.

“We are most grateful for the gift that you have given, for your patriotism, and we mourn for your loss,” Bishop Bayda told Ivan’s parents.

The bishop also met other Knights from the Kyiv Oblast, including members of Sts. Boris and Hlib Council 17740 in Fastiv. Council 17740 was recognized with the International Community Program of the Year Award at the 141st Supreme Convention in 2023 for its swift response to the urgent needs following the brutal battles in February and March 2022 in the Bucha region, where numerous Russian war crimes took place.

After the region’s liberation, Knights from Fastiv visited the area to deliver hundreds of pounds of essential supplies, wheelchairs and power generators funded by the Ukraine Solidarity Fund.

As his journey ended, Bishop Bayda reflected on the solidarity that made the efforts of Council 17740 — and so many other charitable works — possible.

“What struck me the most is the real unity that the war on Ukraine has brought about. It’s a very physical thing; it’s very tangible,” he said. “Many, including Knights, fight for their country. Other members in Ukraine and Poland help on the ground, while Knights in many other countries — Canada, the U.S. and elsewhere — help by prayers and donations to the Ukraine Solidarity Fund.”

He hopes those Knights will be inspired to persevere in their work: “I would ask every Knight to reflect on why you joined the Order — to really deepen your experience of Blessed Michael McGivney’s missionary vision of charity and unity. And to consider taking an extra step to do more, in the light of that vocation of compassion God has given you.”

“I must say,” he added, “I’ve never been more proud to be a Knight than having been here. Never been more proud.”

To learn more about our work in Ukraine and to support those efforts, visit kofc.org/ukraine.



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.



Happy autumn !



Patrick Sheehy
 Luciano Saccani
 Francis Kurupacheril
 Donald Sifferman
 Sherwin Delacruz

Monthly Attendance Raffle

Richard Nelson won the August raffle of \$30 but was not present to claim the prize. The raffle is worth \$40 this month. **The winner must be present at the meeting to win!**

Installation of Officers- September 6, 2024

St. Francis of Assisi Council 4981 invites you to join us for the Installation of Officers on Friday, September 6, at Church of the Ascension.

Fr. Hao Dinh, our Chaplain, will begin with the celebration of Holy Mass at 6:00 pm. The installation ceremony will occur at the Shrine of Blessed Fr. Michael McGiveny on the church grounds.

A simple pizza reception will follow in Worner Hall.

Spouses, family, friends, and significant others are invited to join the celebration.



Treasurer's Report

The August Treasurer's Report will be published at a later date.

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

Prayer Requests and Deaths August 2024

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 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

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)
 Brother Tony Seidl's wife Helen Rose (08/21/2024)

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)

September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 1	2	3 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at Church of the Ascension, Worner Hall)	4	5	6 6:00pm Installation of Officers-Spouses Invited (Ascension Mass and Pizza Reception)	7
8 12:00pm Ascension Parish Picnic (BBQ after 11:00 am Mass)	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	Oct 1	2	3	4	5

October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 29	30	Oct 1 7:30pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at St. Joseph of Cupertino)	2	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	Nov 1	2

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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