



# The Mace

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

Issue 683 • December 2025  
District 34 • Division 4  
www.kofc4981.net

## Upcoming Events

Council Bus. Mtg. Dec. 2, 7:00 p.m.  
Sacred Heart (Transfiguration Room)

Council Bus. Mtg. January 6, 7:00 p.m.  
Ascension (Worner Hall Lounge)

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## Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

We greet December with Advent and the anticipation of Christmas. We also celebrate the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. There was a bit of frost before Thanksgiving so it must be winter! Frost is the closest we get to a White Christmas! Many of us reconnect with family and friends during this holiday season.

Our council, with the help of Ron Schoengold, has organized a Holiday Dinner on Saturday, December 13th, for council members and families. We gather at 6:30 pm. The location is Florentine Trattoria in Saratoga on Big Basin Way. Please RSVP to Ron by 5 December. If anyone needs a ride, let us know so we can arrange that.

The December 2nd business meeting will be at Sacred Heart Parish in the Transfiguration meeting room. We will begin by reciting the rosary at 7pm. Inside and Outside Guards and Lector positions are still available. The meeting will also be available on Zoom. Look for the meeting link by email.

Come to the meeting in person or virtual. Help plan for next events. Listen to the reports. Join in social time with your brothers, discuss recent events and how we may be affected. Will you be the lucky winner of the attendance raffle? Attend and find out! You may be the winner! We will all celebrate the lucky winner's good fortune.

Love and Joy,

*Ed Johnson, Grand Knight*

## Chaplain's Message

### Beacons of Peace

During his November 27-30 trip to Istanbul, Turkey, Pope Leo XIV and Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomew reaffirmed their commitment to the path toward full communion and strongly condemned using religion to justify violence. The trip marked the Pope's first foreign visit and commemorated the 1,700th anniversary of the ecumenical Council of Nicaea (present-day İznik, Turkey), which produced the Nicene Creed in 325.

In a joint declaration, the two religious leaders state, "The goal of Christian unity includes the objective of contributing in a fundamental and life-giving manner to peace among all peoples. Together we fervently raise our

voices in invoking God's gift of peace upon our world." Acknowledging that in many regions, conflict and violence continue ravaging the lives of countless individuals, the Pope and the Patriarch made a plea to those holding civil and political responsibilities to take all necessary actions to ensure that the calamity of war comes to an immediate halt.

As we look forward to celebrate the Nativity of the Prince of Peace, let us also remember Pope Leo's prayer intention in December "that Christians facing war and conflict, especially in the Middle East, can become beacons of peace, reconciliation, and hope."

*Fr. Hao*



## Breaking Barriers, Building Brotherhood

After making history in the NFL, LeRoy Jackson has forged a legacy through faith and service

By Zoey Maraist 11/1/2025



*Jackson makes a catch for an 85-yard touchdown against the Baltimore Colts on Dec. 8, 1962 — his 23rd birthday. (Washington Star Photo Collection / Courtesy)*

One of LeRoy Jackson's most memorable birthdays came on Dec. 8, 1962, when the rookie Washington Redskins running back scored on an 85-yard touchdown reception against the Baltimore Colts. At just 23, Jackson was already known for his exceptional speed; the team's media guide called him the "fastest Redskin player of all time," noting he had run the 100-yard dash in 9.4 seconds and could consistently do so in 9.5. A couple months earlier, in the season opener against the Dallas Cowboys, he made NFL history as the first Black player to take the field for

the Redskins — known today as the Commanders.

Decades later, in the mid-1990s, Jackson was recognized in an entirely different setting. By then, he had been a member of Immaculate Conception Shrine Council 4944 in Washington, D.C., for more than 15 years and was helping to mentor a new Knight named Arthur Robinson — showing him how to participate in meetings and assist with charitable events such as their neighborhood free-throw contest. Robinson would go on to serve multiple terms as grand knight, but at the time, he had no idea of Jackson's past.

"You know who that is?" Robinson's brother-in-law asked one day, gesturing at Jackson. "That's the one who played with the Redskins."

At first, Robinson thought he was joking. "I actually saw him play back in the '60s," he said.

Today, at age 85, Jackson is still known as a team player — as a barrier-breaking athlete, a faithful Knight, and a daily presence at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, where he works as a security guard.

"He pioneered the way," Robinson affirmed. "He's a very prime example of what a Knight should be."

## 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

*Donald Goers*  
630-329-9765

### Financial Secretary

*Ron Schoengold*  
408-309 9830

### Treasurer

*John Steffens*  
408-985-9079

### Recorder

*Mark Wright*  
408-203-0942

### Warden

*Thomas Gaynor*  
408-839-3473

### Advocate

*John Ruzzo*  
408-417-9089

### Inside Guard

*Open*

### Outside Guard

*Open*

### Trustees

*1 yr — Patrick Kwok*

*408-896-1462*

*2 yr — John Poznaniak*

*408-230-6006*

*3 yr — Joseph Kenney*

*408-823-4162*

### Lecturer

*Open*

### Insurance Field Agent

*Fernando Motas, Insurance Agent*

*510-404-8080*

### District Deputy

*Toby Laufer*

*408-455-7321*



## How to run Cor



as an opportunity to transition into the main content or focus for this specific gathering.

### Cor Content – Prayer, Formation, Fraternity

Begin the predetermined content structure, either emphasizing the key elements equally or with a specified emphasis. Formation and fraternity usu-ally occur first, concluding. The examples provided above have the content arranged with formation and fraternity occurring first and ending with prayer.

If utilizing Into the Breach or another Catholic Information Service® resource such as the Cor Ecclesiae series, here is where it fits.

### Wrap up

Always end on time. This honors everyone's time.

Recap any action items, reminder for next Cor, and invite to any upcoming council and/or parish events.

### Closing Prayer

Consider using a consistent prayer and asking for prayer intentions that allows for repetition and familiarity.

The closing prayer alone does not satisfy the required "prayer" element.

This general structure is meant to provide a simple framework for the leadership to fill with appropriate content according to what is previously planned and shared with the pastor/chaplain. Each gathering must have a designated leader to manage the content flow and timing.

### Set Up:

Considering hospitality, if any materials or books are needed for prayer, formation, or fraternity, either provide them or communicate in advance. Ensure that the space is set up to match your predetermined content.

### Welcome & Opening Prayer

Open with a prayer, even if starting with food and social fraternal time.

Clergy should be asked to lead the prayer, if present.

The opening prayer alone does not satisfy the required "prayer" element.

### Introduce Theme or Focus

Make any needed introductions or announcements such as the focus or theme. Use this

## Prayer Requests and Deaths

The following Brother Knights, their families, and friends are remembered in the monthly Rosary 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 Mark Wright's sister Anne  
 Brother Harry Tibbetts  
 Brother Peter Pozniak's wife, Patricia  
 Brother Ron Schoengold's wife, Arline  
 Brother Tom Lewis  
 Brother Fernando Motas' mother, Concepcion

### Deceased

Brother Eugene Levitre (05/02/2024)  
 Brother Robert MacKinnon (05/05/2024)  
 Brother Patrick's wife, Susan (04/28/2020)  
 Brother Robert Rolufs, PGK (06/26/2022)  
 Brother Mark Wright's mother-in-law Yingio Leung (06/29/2022)  
 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)  
 Brother John Lehane, PGK (09/14/2024)  
 Brother John Steffens' mother-in-law Emma Firpo (11/8/2024)  
 Brother Rodger O'Brien (12/24/2024)  
 Raymond Mark Gallant (04/10/2025)  
 Albert Pina (11/26/2025)



Harry Tibbetts

Eliodore-Bong Batingana

Dennis Heinz



### Monthly Attendance Raffle

Edgar Manalo won the November raffle of \$60 but was not present to receive the prize. The December 2025 raffle is worth **\$70**. *The winner must be present at the meeting to win!*

## Directors & Chairmen

### Program Director

Ron Schoengold

### Church Director

John Pozniak

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

### Community Director

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

### Council Director

<i>Open</i>	
<b>Fraternal Affairs</b>	Ron Schoengold
<b>First Degree Team</b>	John Pozniak
<b>Public Relations</b>	Ron Schoengold
<b>Website</b>	Ron Schoengold
<b>Communications</b>	Ron Schoengold
<b>Past Grand Knights Dinner</b>	open
<b>Special Appreciation Night</b>	Patrick Kwok
<b>McGivney Pilgrimage</b>	John Pozniak

### Family Director

<i>Ed Johnson</i>	
<b>Leisure Nights</b>	open
<b>Memorial Mass</b>	open
<b>Ladies Night</b>	John Steffens
<b>Ice Cream Social</b>	Grand Knight Elect
<b>Christmas Dinner</b>	Ron Schoengold
<b>Annual Picnic</b>	open

### Youth Director

<i>Open</i>	
<b>Scholarship Program</b>	Patrick Kwok
<b>Altar Servers Appreciation</b>	Patrick Kwok
<b>Free Throw Contest</b>	Ed Johnson
<b>Essay Contest</b>	Ed Johnson

### Membership & Retention

Mark Wright\*  
John Pozniak



### Treasurer's Report

Balances as of 11/30/2025

Charity Checking	\$ 259.20
Checking	\$ 3,021.39
Council Savings	\$15,837.07
	<b>\$19,117.66</b>
<b>Income</b>	
Interest on Capital One Savings	\$ 1.30
Dues	\$120.00
	<b>\$121.30</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Charities	\$ 300.00
Computer and Web Expense	\$ 165.00
MACE Printing	\$ 87.20
Vocations	\$2,000.00
	<b>\$2,552.20</b>



### 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.

# December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 30	Dec 1	2 7:00pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at Sacred Heart, Transfiguration Room)	3	4	5	6
7 Second Week of Advent	8	9	10	11	12	13 6:30pm Council Christmas Dinner (Florentine Trattoria, Big Basin Way, Saratoga)
14 Third Week of Advent	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Fourth Week of Advent	22	23	24	25 Christmas 	26	27
28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 26	2	3

# January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Dec 28	29	30	31	Jan 1, 26 New Year's Day <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b>	2	3
4	5	6 7:00pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at Ascension, Worner Hall Lounge)	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

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# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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