



The Mace

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

Issue 690 • July 2026
District 34 • Division 4
www.kofc4981.net

Upcoming Events

Council Bus. Mtg. July 7, 7:00 p.m.
Queen of Apostles
Council Bus. Mtg. August 4, 7:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart Church

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Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

July welcomes us with long, warm days that very slowly shorten. It's a time to enjoy time outdoors. Notable holidays are Canada Day on 1 July for those with some Canadian heritage, like me, US Independence Day on 4 July, the US National Day, and Bastille Day on 14 July for those with French heritage. Bring out the flags, drinks, and food! Enjoy and remember why these days are special.

Our July 7th business meeting will be at Queen of Apostles in the meeting room near the gymnasium. We will begin by reciting the rosary at 7 pm. The meeting will also be available on Zoom. Look for the meeting link by email.

Our council is hosting a family bocce outing and picnic lunch on Sunday, 19 July, at Blackberry Farm in Cupertino, from 1 pm to 4 pm. Those who played last year are ready to

test and improve their skills while having a fun outing. Come and join us!

Our corporation's charitable grant program issued grants to St. Joseph of Cupertino Parish and Church of the Ascension during June. The process works and will flow more easily with practice. Thank you to all the leaders and reviewers; you made this a success! More grant applications are coming.

Come to the meeting, bring your ideas, listen to the reports, and discuss plans with your brothers. Remember to listen for the rattle sound as the attendance raffle box is shaken at the conclusion of the meeting. Members are eligible if attending in person or virtually. Will you be the lucky winner? Come and find out! We can all congratulate the winner.

Peace and Respect,
Ed Johnson

Chaplain's Message

Martyrs of Charity

Father Michael McGivney died of pneumonia at the age of 38 in 1890 during a pandemic while tending to the sick. He was beatified in 2020 during our own pandemic for his heroic virtue in caring for vulnerable families, widows, and orphans through the Knights of Columbus that he founded.

Father Maximilian Kolbe, a 47-year-old Franciscan, died at the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in 1941. He heroically sacrificed his life by volunteering to take the place of a family man condemned to die from starvation as a consequence of an escaped prisoner. He was the first to be canonized as a martyr of charity, a newly recognized category of saints.

Most recently, **Father Francis Xavier Truong Buu Diep**, aged 49, a priest from Vietnam, was beatified as

another martyr of charity in the parish where he served as pastor for 16 years. He devoted himself tirelessly to assisting the poor, irrespective of their religious beliefs, and to the congregation entrusted to him. He was murdered in 1946 while defending impoverished farmers against landlords. Armed men captured him along with 70 of his parishioners and began to set fire to the barn where they were held. Father Diep offered himself to the captors in exchange for the release of the others. His death invites us to respond to Jesus' calling to proclaim his love in our daily lives through charity and embracing the suffering of others. Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, said the Mass for his beatification, celebrated in Vietnam on July 2, 2026.

Fr. Hao

The Blessing of Confession

Brothers, as we gather on Sunday, it is important to remember that we should live in ways that show we live for God. It is important to remember that sometimes we fall short of that in our human nature. That's when we need to remember that there is confession. Confession may be intimidating and sometimes something we dread. Instead of something we dread, it

should be a blessing, as it restores us to full unity with God. When this occurs, we can participate fully in the Mass. Therefore, we can fully accept the blood and body that God has blessed us with every Sunday.

Joseph Wescoat

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

Joseph Wescoat — 408 724 0797

Insurance Field Agent

Fernando Motas, Insurance Agent
510-404-8080

District Deputy

Toby Laufer
408-455-7321

Statement from Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

In recent days, many Catholics and other people of goodwill have been deeply disappointed by the disparaging comments directed at Pope Leo XIV by the President of the United States. The Successor of Saint Peter is not a politician — he is the Vicar of Christ, entrusted with proclaiming the Gospel and shepherding souls.

The Knights of Columbus has always stood in solidarity with the Holy Father, recognizing in him a spiritual father who calls the world not to division, but to unity, not to conflict, but to peace. In this moment, we reaffirm that commitment with clarity and conviction.

At the same time, we recognize that faithful Catholics can and do engage vigorously in the public square, and that nations have a right and duty to safeguard the security of their own people — always in accordance with the demands of justice and the pursuit of peace. The Church does not ask Catholics to withdraw from civic life, but to engage with and elevate it — bringing to our civic dialogue the light of truth, respect for the dignity of every human person, and a steadfast concern for the common good.

Pope Leo XIV has consistently called for peace, dialogue, and restraint in a world marked by war and suffering. The Holy Father's words are not political talking points — they are reflections of the Gospel itself. Whether one agrees or disagrees with particular policy judgments, the Holy Father's prophetic voice deserves to be heard with respect and engaged seriously.

As Knights, we are called to be men of unity, as followers of Christ and patriotic citizens. I encourage all Knights of Columbus to pray for the Holy Father, to pray for civic leaders, and to pray for peace and those working to achieve it. And let us recommit ourselves to charity in our public discourse. May we be known not for echoing the divisions of our time, but for healing them. In a moment of tension, the path forward is not louder conflict, but deeper fidelity — to truth, to charity, and to the Gospel.

Monthly Attendance Raffle

Patrick Kwok won the June raffle of \$130 and was present at the meeting. The July 2026 raffle is worth \$10. **The winner must be present at the meeting to claim the prize!**

Prayer Requests

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



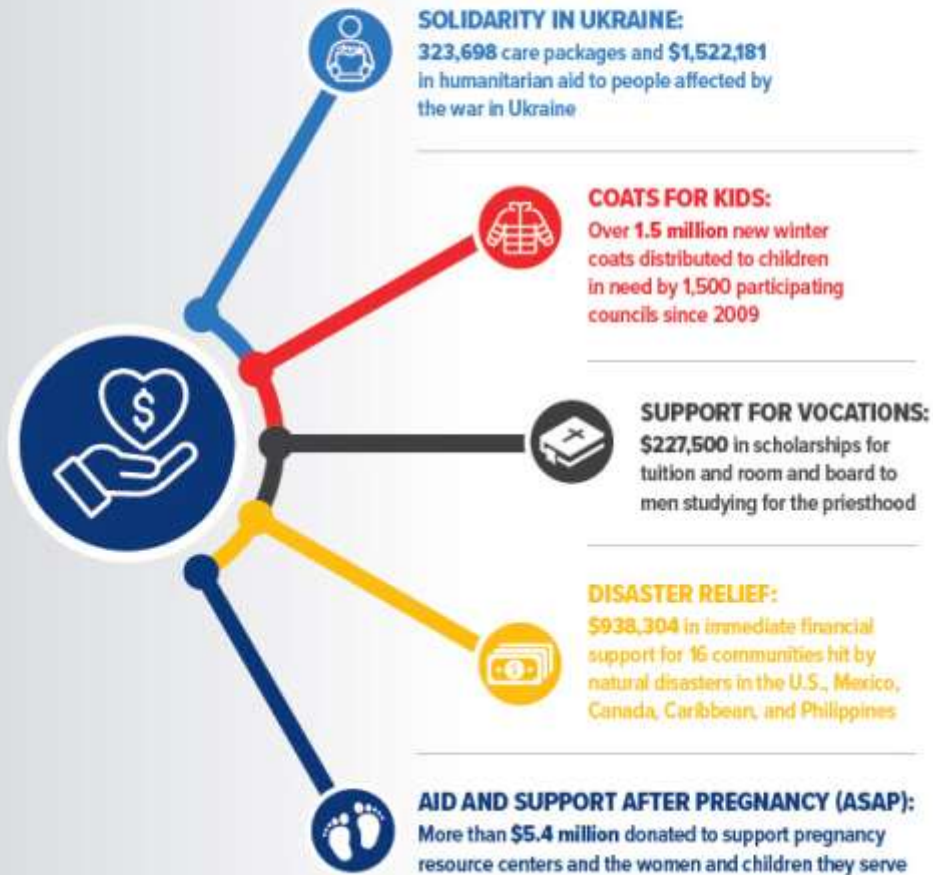
Prayers

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 Peter Pozniak
 Brother Ron Schoengold's wife, Arline
 Brother Tom Lewis
 Brother Fernando Motas' mother, Concepcion
 Brother Ken Rose
 Brother Peter Pozniak's Sister Karen Pozniak, SND de N

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)
 Brother Raymond Mark Gallant (04/10/2025)
 Brother Albert Pina (11/26/2025)

By the Numbers: YOUR KofC CHARITABLE IMPACT IN 2025



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Arturo Salazar
John Mote
Rev Michael Carson

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.

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	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

Help Us Point the World to Jesus Christ Forming Men in Christ

"If we get the man right, we get everything right – the marriage, the family, the parish, the community. We need men who will say 'yes' to their God-given vocation."

- Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly

Be courageous. Witness to Jesus Christ.

Our Founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, gathered and empowered Catholic laymen to become faith-filled leaders in their families and community. We invite you to follow in their footsteps.

With the Knights of Columbus, you'll stand shoulder to shoulder with more than 2 million brothers

around the world. Whether you're looking to strengthen your faith, help protect your family with our financial products and services, or serve your neighbors in need, the Knights of Columbus has the tools to help you point the world, and your family, to Christ.

Right now, we are offering a FREE download, Prayer Time: A Collection of Catholic Prayers, to help you and your family deepen your prayer life and relationship with Jesus Christ right at home. By praying together, you can help us point the world to Jesus Christ.



Treasurer's Report June 30, 2026

Balances	
Charity Checking	\$259.20
Checking	\$4,235.54
Council Savings	\$10,845.74
TOTAL	\$15,340.48
Income	
Interest Capital One Savings	\$0.75
TOTAL	\$0.75
Expenses	
MACE Printing	\$146.84
Membership Expenses	\$130.00
Scholarships	\$2,000.00
Computer and Web Expense	\$120.00
TOTAL	\$2,396.84

July 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3	4
5	6	7 7:00pm Council Business Meeting at Queen of Apostles (Meeting at)	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

August 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1
2	3	4 7:00pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at Sacred Heart 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	31	Sep 1	2	3	4	5

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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Published monthly by
Saint Francis of Assisi Council 4981
Knights of Columbus
Serving Cupertino, San Jose & Saratoga California
District 34 — Division 4
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