



The Mace

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

Issue 693 • October 2026
District 34 • Division 4
www.kofc4981.net

Upcoming Events

Council Bus. Mtg. Oct. 6, 7:00 p.m.
St. Joseph of Cupertino
Council Bus. Mtg. Nov. 3, 7:00 p.m.
Queen of Apostles

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Grand Knight's Message

Brother Knights,

Welcome to grand October! Often the best month of the year. We celebrate Columbus Day / Indigenous Peoples' Day on October 12th, followed by National Dessert Day on the 14th, and certainly Halloween at the end of the month. These are days to enjoy before entering the November period of remembrances.

Our council will hold its bocce outing and picnic lunch on Sunday, 4 October, at Blackberry Farm starting at 1 p.m. Come and play a game or two with your brothers, family, and friends. Let us know if you will be there.

The October 6th business meeting will be at St. Joseph of Cupertino parish in the Fr. Greg Kimm community center. We will begin by reciting the rosary at 7p.m. The meeting will

also be available on Zoom. Look for the meeting link by email.

The Columbian Corporation's charitable grant program sent letters to selected local organizations inviting them to apply for a grant in this, our second round. We will be anticipating a report on applications at the business meeting.

I encourage all our brothers to attend the business meeting and participate in council activities. If you attend in person or virtually on Zoom, have your lucky charms available for the attendance raffle. Listen for the rapturous sound of numbered bottle caps rattling in a shoebox. There is always a winner, but they must be present to collect! I look forward to seeing you on Tuesday evening.

Love and Respect,

Ed Johnson

Chaplain's Message

Saint Francis, Role Model for our Time

Saint Francis of Assisi is a beloved icon of humility, peace, and environmental care, admired across different cultures and faiths. He truly is a saint for everyone, especially for our Council that proudly carries his name. In this Year of Saint Francis, the universal Church commemorates the 800th anniversary of his death, referred to as "transitus" (meaning passage or crossing over), which occurred on October 3, 1226. This special jubilee year spans from January 10, 2026, to January 10, 2027. In a culture that celebrates birthdays while shying away from discussions about death, the Christian tradition, especially within Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Anglican communities, tends to honor saints on the anniversary of their death instead of their birth. Early Christians referred to the day a martyr or saint died as their "dies natalis," or their true birthday into eternal life. This belief holds that physical death isn't the end, but rather a new beginning into the fullness of heaven and a complete union with God.

Even though Saint Francis walked the earth over eight centuries ago, his influence still

resonates in today's church and the wider world. His strong commitment to radical simplicity, caring for creation, and promoting peace continues to inspire us. By choosing a life of poverty, he challenges our modern obsession with materialism and consumerism. His lifestyle encourages everyone, regardless of their background, to appreciate the fragile balance and interdependence of the natural world. Notably, he crossed battle lines during the Crusades to meet Sultan Malik al-Kamil, setting a remarkable precedent for interfaith dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution. Today, his hometown of Assisi is celebrated worldwide as a "Città della pace" (City of Peace). It's quite ironic that Jerusalem, a name that literally means "City of Peace," has such a tumultuous history filled with conflict. Let's unite in prayer with Saint Francis, asking for guidance for the Church through his prayer before the San Damiano Crucifix: "Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command."

Fr. Hao



Lecturer's Message

Brothers,

When it comes to honoring and serving the Lord, do we do so in our own lives? If we take a look at our lives, where do we see our loyalties? Are we loyal towards God or are we loyal to something worldly? To the best of our ability, it should be to

God, but how do we express our loyalty? We should express loyalty by our desire to "follow Christ's command and go where he asks of us" (Supreme Knight Patrick E. Kelly). When we do this in our lives, we can show the world how we act as Christians.

Joseph Wescoat



Treasurer's Report

September 2026

Balances	
Charity Checking	\$259.20
Checking	\$3,740.25
Council Savings	\$10,848.47
TOTAL	\$14,847.92
Income	
Interest Capital One Savings	\$0.89
Dues	\$60.00
TOTAL	\$60.89
Expenses	
MACE Printing	\$146.27
Council Liability Insurance	\$104.00
State Per Capita	\$93.00
Officer Installation	\$49.95
TOTAL	\$393.22

Monthly Attendance Raffle

Al Mellon won the August raffle of \$30 but was not present to receive the prize. The October 2026 raffle is worth **\$40**. ***The winner must be present at the meeting to claim the prize!***



Hugh Hoganson
Beppino Zambonin
Nick Pisano
Godfrey Mungal

Rev Normandy Segovia
Brian Mc Crone
Richard Sherman
Vincent Moughan

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 Pozniak
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

News From Supreme

SEPTEMBER 2026 MARKET INSIGHTS

By: Douglas A. Riley, CFA,
Portfolio Manager

Last week was the annual Economic Policy Symposium hosted by the Kansas City Fed in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, which is attended by economists, central bankers, academics and policy analysts from around the globe. This year's topic was Financial Innovation: Implications for Payments and Policy. Timely, given the increasing proliferation of blockchain technology within the global financial system and growing adoption of AI within the broad economy with their potentially transformative impact on not just digital payments but currencies, financial markets, labor and prices. There are lots of interesting papers and presentations if you are so inclined.

As the head of the U.S. central bank, Kevin Warsh gave the Keynote address, his first as Chair of the Federal Reserve. His speech offered few surprises relative to expectations. He did share a mostly positive view on the current state of the U.S. economy. Regarding the labor market, he noted a low and stable unemployment rate and cited real consumer spending up 2% over the last four quarters. Conversely, he was less sanguine about elevated inflation (PCE price index up 3.7% and 4.1%, respectively, over the past twelve and six months^[2]). Importantly, he offered clarification on a key market question by definitively reinforcing the Fed's 2% Core PCE inflation target. Warsh spent a good deal of time discussing broad policy philosophy and long-term plans for the Fed's topical research focus. The most notable takeaway, from my perspective, was his discussion of forward guidance, a practice he vowed to do away with upon taking the reins based on his belief that it boxes the Fed in on

short-term decisions and clouds the signals between financial markets and the Fed that are critical to arriving at the right decisions. There is much more in the speech, but the following quote captures the essence of his message:

The economic literature has long described the distorting effects: a hall-of-mirrors problem. If markets rely materially on the Fed's guidance and the Fed relies on market prices, we are all more likely to be blinded to new developments ... more likely to be caught unprepared for a turn of events ... and more likely to commit errors in policymaking. Perversely, market participants are unlikely to bear the biggest costs of the hall-of-mirrors problem. The most serious harm is likely to befall those without financial assets. If the Fed gets inflation wrong and judges the economy wrong, who gets the worst of it? Not the financial high-fliers. Hard-working Americans are the ones left to deal with inflation that is too high or jobs that suddenly appear less secure. So, if forward guidance is ill-suited to normal times, then how about the new Fed chief commits—at the very least—to an explicit reaction function? Surely, he should tell us his interest rate path—if, say, the data were to come in hot or cold. I wish our understanding of the economy were so precise as to provide a mechanical, tried-and-true answer—that some simple function like a Taylor rule could be rigorously relied upon. But our knowledge just doesn't extend that far—at least, not yet—and the factors most relevant to the proper conduct of monetary policy change over time¹

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 Ron Schoengold's wife Arline
Brother Fernando Motas' mother, Concepcion
Brother Ken Rose
Brother Ed Johnson's wife Joan
Brother Mark Wright's wife Manny
Brother Joh Steffen's brother James

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)

A Prophetic Voice of Hope

“Our world is full of prophets of gloom, and I would be one of them if I did not practically believe in God,” Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen wrote in a 1951 newspaper column titled “There Is Hope.”

Sheen helps us to understand mid-20th-century American culture, from roughly 1925 to 1975. As a priest, university professor, bishop and media personality, he engaged the profound ideas and changes of the time. He presented to an audience of Catholics, Protestants, skeptics and nonbelievers ways to navigate a turbulent period and find hope by remaining faithful to the objective truth revealed by God in the person of Jesus Christ. No matter what darkness the world faced, Sheen’s message always conveyed the reality of Christian hope, which he wanted to share with a weary, often hopeless world. That message was present throughout his books, radio broadcasts and syndicated newspaper columns. “Times are bad,” Sheen acknowledged in that 1951 column. “But despite these facts, this is not the end of civilization; nor are we to be without hope. We have simply reached a moment in history where God is permitting us to feel our inadequacy, so long as we trust only in ourselves.” As the Church prepares to celebrate Sheen’s beatification on Sept. 24 in St. Louis, that prophetic note of hope remains timely — as does his long relationship with the Knights of Columbus.

A CALL TO ENGAGE THE WORLD

Fulton John Sheen was born May 8, 1895, in the rural farming town of El Paso, Illinois, the eldest of four boys. His family later moved to nearby Peoria, where the seeds of his intellectual life were planted and his love of learning was cultivated in Catholic schools. After attending St. Viator College and St. Paul Seminary in Minnesota, he was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Peoria in 1919. Then-Msgr. Fulton J. After ordination, he studied at The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium, where he earned a doctorate in philosophy and became the first American to win the prestigious Cardinal Mercier Prize. He returned to Washington in 1926 to teach at CUA, where he remained until 1950. Sheen also engaged his contemporaries through popular media, and his association with the Knights of Columbus began decades before he formally joined the Order. When the national Catholic Hour radio program was launched in 1930, the Supreme Council contributed \$5,000 — the largest single subscription — and continued its substantial support in succeeding years. Following the inaugural broadcast, Sheen delivered a series of seven addresses. Over the following decades, Sheen spoke at numerous K of C events and collaborated with the Order in Catholic educational and evangelization efforts. In 1946, for example, the Supreme

Council promoted his pamphlet “Communism, the Opium of the People” through full-page newspaper advertisements across the United States and Canada, prompting requests for thousands of copies. In 1970, Archbishop Sheen stood before delegates to the 88th Supreme Convention in Houston and offered his brother Knights a challenge characteristic of his lifelong ministry: Engage the world through a faith made visible in action. Five years later, at the 93rd Supreme Convention in Miami Beach, Florida, he would return to that challenge from another direction, urging Knights to place Jesus at the center of their response to modern culture. Sheen’s Houston address, titled “The Signs of the Times,” identified the Church as being in a transitional moment that called for new ways of carrying out her mission. He instructed Knights to take up a “theology of action” rooted in charity and encouraged them to work with others, Catholic and non-Catholic alike, “whenever you can for the betterment of the world.” He reminded them not to assume that “only Catholic organizations work for the kingdom of God.” “Our new mission,” he concluded, “is to rebuild a morally united nation.” Sheen particularly urged Knights to engage young people. “Teach them patriotism, honesty and reverence for parents,” he instructed delegates. But such efforts required trust between the generations, strengthened by works of mercy: “A great example would be given if they would dig into their pockets to give something to the afflicted for whom they plead.”



Supreme Knight John McDevitt escorts Archbishop Sheen to the podium for his address to the delegates at the 93rd Supreme Convention in Miami Beach, Fla., in 1975. (Knights of Columbus Multimedia Archives)

THE PRIMACY OF CHRIST

Sheen opened his address at the 1975 convention with a deeply personal admission: “I am worried about America. So are you.” The bishop believed Americans had become so

(Continued on page 5)

Directors & Chairmen

Program Director

Ron Schoengold

Church Director

John Pozniak

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

Community Director

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

Council Director

Open

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

Family Director

Ed Johnson

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

Youth Director

Open

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

Membership & Retention

*Mark Wright**

John Pozniak

(Continued from page 4)

absorbed in the immediate crises of the age that they had lost the perspective necessary to understand them. "What makes us unable to understand our problems is that we are obsessed with the insanity of the contemporary news of the hour," he said. "Our hands are before our eyes, and we have no retrospect, no views of the past by which we may judge the present." Sheen proposed only one answer to this malaise: "Somehow or other, there has to be a restoration of the meaning of our existence, and that has to center around Christ himself."

Sheen died Dec. 9, 1979. His cause for canonization opened in 2002. He was declared venerable in 2012, and Pope

Francis recognized a miracle attributed to his intercession in 2019. Sheen's voice endures because it points beyond the passing crises of any one age. His answers to the questions of his time — and ours — were grounded in the ultimate source of hope, Jesus Christ. No matter what darkness the world faced, Sheen sounded that prophetic note of hope tirelessly and joyfully for a world that needed to hear it. The hunger for hope in human life was the foundation of his work. Now, as the Church prepares to name him Blessed, his message remains no less urgent.



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.

October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sep 27	28	29	30	Oct 1	2	3
4 1:00pm Council Picnic and Bocci Outing (Blackberry Farm)	5	6 7:00pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at St. Joseph of Cupertino)	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 HALLOWEEN

November 2026						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 1	2	3 7:00pm Council Business Meeting (Meeting at ; Queen of Apostles Chruch, room next to gym)	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 THANKSGIVING	27	28
29	30	Dec 1	2	3	4	5

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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