

California State Council Knights of Columbus



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Sonny R. Santa Ines

State Chaplain

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Auxiliary Bishop
Archdiocese of Los Angeles

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Golden State Knightletter



State Deputy's Christmas Message



Merry Christmas to you and your family!

Christmas is the season of giving. God gave us the best gift ever in Jesus Christ. What a wonderful gift!

As Knights of Columbus whose principles are Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism, we have a tremendous opportunity to share the meaning of Christmas. First of all, it has to start from within. Are we ready to receive Jesus? Then, we look out for our family, our parish and our community.

We have so many programs in the Knights of Columbus. Each program can be a gift either spiritually or materially. Let us look at our very own council. Are we engaging our Brother Knights? Are we reaching out to them? Can each of us pick a name or two from our council roster and make a personal phone call and/or send a Christmas card? The Brother Knight who receives that unexpected phone call or Christmas card will be pleasantly surprised.

In looking outside of our councils, we see a lot of need out there. I ask each one to be more generous during this season of giving. Can we bring a few canned goods to our parish or community food pantry? How about giving coats specially to children? Can your council donate wheelchairs to our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land and Middle East?

Your State Council is doing its share, too. In conjunction with our membership campaign for December called "A Knight Before Christmas", we will award \$100 to the top recruiting council for each division for a total of \$500. (Division 1 = 60 or less members; 2 = 61 - 90; 3 = 91 - 120; 4 = 121 - 180 and 5 = over 180 members). The winner will be determined based on the highest percentage of intake from December 1 to December 24. In the spirit of giving, we encourage the winners to donate their prizes to the council's favorite charity or to members of the council who are in need.

Finally, the Supreme Council is also doing its share of giving. The Supreme Knight just announced that the per capita credit for councils achieving the Star Council award will continue. That means \$4.50 credit for each billable member of your council. So, let's shoot for the star and make your council a Star Council in this fraternal year.

Vivat Jesus!

Sonny R. Santa Ines
State Deputy
state.deputy@californiaknights.org

Upcoming Major Events

- **DD Mid-Term January 6-8**
- **Walk for Life—January 21, 2017**
- **Intellectual Disabilities—Council Drives**
- **American Wheelchair Mission—Holy Land & Middle East**
- **Youth Essay Competition**
- **FS/Council Training**



*Most Reverend Oscar A. Solis, D.D.
State Chaplain*

Christmas Message

Christmas is a welcome celebration in the life of the Church, our country and the world. So much had happened that brought tremendous impact in the lives of so many especially the least, the last and the marginalized members of our society. In particular, the recent election and senseless violence in many parts of our nation have cut through the hearts of so many sowing fear, uncertainty and very sadly, prejudice, hatred, polarization and discord within families, communities and our society.

The celebration of the birthday of Jesus Christ, the promised Savior is a timely reminder of God's gift of peace and happiness to the world. The message of hope is so meaningful especially to our world experiencing various circumstances in their life contrary to the divine will and design. The culture of death and indifference prevails in forms of poverty, hunger, homelessness and prejudice that bring tremendous suffering and pain and other crimes against humanity especially abortion, war, genocide and other actions that negate the dignity and sanctity of life.

What an opportune time for us to reflect on the meaning of the Incarnation of the Son of God. God the Father sent His only begotten Jesus Christ to be our Savior and to proclaim the Good tidings of joy and peace. His birth brought about hope in the midst of despair, love in the midst of hatred and light in the midst of darkness brought about by our sins. No wonder, there is a reason to sing "joy to the world, because the Lord has come," and he came to forgive our sins.

This Christmas, the Lord calls us to conversion and reconciliation. It begins in renewing our faith in his presence and power to bring in a new day for us. It challenges us to strengthen our hope in his goodness, that with Him and through Him, change is within our reach. Christmas inspires us to rekindle our love for God and for each other in order to overcome hatred and prejudice so we can build His kingdom of justice and peace.

Pope Francis said that "the Year of Divine Mercy may be over, but compassion and acts of mercy must continue and become a part of our daily lives." Let the light of Christ shine bright in our hearts to dispel the darkness, fear and uncertainties in our midst. Lean on the pillars of our Christian faith: prayer and good works. Set our minds and hearts in God and work on loving each other again as Christ loves us. Be the prophetic voice that proclaims "God is alive, he has come and his kingdom is at hand." VIVAT JESUS and MERRY CHRISTMAS!



A KNIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS



Give the gift of Knights of Columbus membership this Christmas! Use any holiday celebrations your council sponsors to tell qualified men about the Order and ask them to join. Sponsor a reception, an evening of caroling or a similar event and invite nonmembers to attend. Have Knights of Columbus promotional flyers and posters on hand. Also, show one of the Order's promotional Videos.



If your council is planning a Christmas social or similar activity, set a date and time for the event well in advance to ensure a positive turnout from your council and their family members. Be sure and invite your pastor and other members of your parish and the Catholic community. Recruit volunteers from your council to set up for the event, run activities, serve food, clean up, etc. Be sure to consider all the details of your event. Will it be a sit-down meal or a standing social with a variety of snacks? What about advertising? Announce your event at Mass and in church bulletins to spread the word to all possible prospects. Plan entertainment for both adults and children. Contests, raffles, sing-a-longs and holiday videos are just the type of things to keep the families of both council members and prospects entertained.

To get prospects and their families interested in the Order, have display materials and items that show your council's history and the various types of projects you conduct. Have plenty of recruitment flyers and other information on hand. Pamphlets are perfect for prospective members to quickly read while at your event, sparking interest and generating a desire to learn more about the Order. Also, have a supply of Membership Documents (Form 100s) available for interested prospects.

Along with members and prospects, invite former and inactive members and their families. Ask for assistance from your Financial Secretary, Past Grand Knights and Trustees in collecting information about these former members and the circumstances of their leaving the Order. Review the list to determine which former members still live in your area and invite them to your celebration.



Finally, ask prospects to attend a council volunteer effort — such as an evening of working in a soup kitchen, cleaning the church, or a clothing and food drive for needy families to show prospects firsthand what the Knights of Columbus does for the Church and the community. Schedule an Admissions Degree during Advent so it truly is a "Gift of Membership."

In all that your council does, share the joy and spirituality of this very special time of year. On behalf of the California State Council — **have a very merry Christmas!**



MEMBER RETENTION

My Brothers,

Scriptures tell us of how we should be caring of our fellow man. This is especially true for Brothers of our Order. I draw your attention to Luke 15: 3-7 (the parable of the lost sheep) and to John 10: 1-17, Mathew 9:36 and Mark 6:34 in which Jesus explains His role as Shepherd. In John 21: 15-17, Jesus transfers the care of his flock to Peter, the Founder and Corner Stone of the Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. So, if we Brother Knights are to also be Apostles like Peter, we must be willing to be Worthy Shepherds who *CARE* about our members and *WORK* to keep our Brother Knights in the Order.

There are several tools at a council's disposal that are helpful in easing the burden for those with extenuating circumstances, or who are having a hard time paying council dues:

- Knights with a medical disability may be eligible for a *Disability Waiver* from Supreme, suspending all State and Supreme per capita assessments. The council can apply for the waiver using Supreme Form #1831, available on the Supreme web site at https://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/council/dues_relief_1831_p.pdf
- Elderly or senior members living on a fixed retirement income may be eligible for *Honorary or Honorary Life Membership*, depending upon their age and years of continuous service. Those 65 years or older with 25 or more consecutive years of service in the Knights of Columbus are eligible for *Honorary Membership*, relieving State and Supreme assessments and reducing their council dues to a minimal rate (usually \$10.00 per year). Those 70 years or older with 25 years of consecutive service are relieved of all state and supreme assessments and exempt from payment of all council dues.
- In matters of extreme financial hardship and/or extraordinary circumstances, the council, at its discretion, may waive the dues for a member found to be in distress or difficulty or another Brother may volunteer to pay for him.

Regardless of the method or situation, it is important the Retention Committee investigate and report the circumstances of every member in arrears, and recommend a suitable course of action or solution for each one.

“Remember, personal contact is the key”

Every Knight, regardless of the circumstances, deserves the dignity and consideration afforded by our Order, faith, Christian charity and belief in the Holy Catholic Church. It is important that every member feel he is a **NEEDED, IMPORTANT, INVOLVED** and a **CONTRIBUTING MEMBER** of our organization. Through our united efforts to retain current members as well as recruiting new ones, we will keep our Order strong and growing.

Vivat Jesus!

Faternally,

Deacon Randy McMahon
Retention Chairman
414 Bolivia
San Clemente CA 92672-7509
949-361-6522
duke41351@aol.com





STATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE December 2016

Worthy Brothers,

The Season of Giving has arrived!

What better way for your Councils to give the gift of warmth to children who could not even afford to get a coat through the **Coats for Kids Program**? Also, let us not forget our less fortunate brothers and sisters who do not have decent meals during the holidays. Participation in the **Food for Families Program** is the perfect gift to give.

For this month of December, let us focused on the following programs and activities:

- **Keep Christ in Christmas Program** – Our Supreme Council had designated this as one of the “Building the Domestic Church” programs. Councils could participate in through the following: Journey to the Inn – A reenactment of the Nativity in the parish; Christ for light – lighting of the nativity and/or Christmas Tree on December 6th, 8:00 pm local time; and Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest (**Order #CPC Kit**) in order to get even more young people engaged (See attached CPC Guideline).
- **American Wheelchair Mission Project** – To date, we have already raised funds just enough to deliver 2 container of wheelchairs to the needy in the Holy Land and Middle East, through our continued efforts in having Wheelchair Sundays/Events at our parishes. However, this is only half of our goal. Let us continue to work on getting councils to participate. Another wonderful gift this Christmas – Wheelchairs - The gift of mobility!
- **Walk for Life Program** – A Supreme “Featured Program” in the Culture of Life Activities category wherein 100 or more marchers participate on **January 21, 2017 (Saturday)**. The Walks will be held simultaneously at three (3) different locations: *Walk for Life West Coast Program (San Francisco)*, *One I Life LA Program (Los Angeles)* and *San Diego Walk for Life Program (San Diego)*. The theme for this year is “Walk the Talk” and your shirts can be purchased on-line at the following website: www.kofcwalkthetalk.com. Please order them early.

May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you and your families all through the Year!

God Bless!

Dr. Noel M. Panlilio
State Program Director
2016-2017
(510) 471-9115
programs@californiaknights.org



YOUTH ESSAY COMPETITION

The Essay Competition is open to all Catholic students in public, private or parochial schools.

Essay Submissions will fall into two groups.

- Group A: Grades 4 thru 7 (Optional for Council, Chapter and State Levels Only – Does Not Advance to Supreme)
- Group B: Grades 8 thru 12 (Qualifies for submission to State and Supreme)

Topics for Group A**4th Grade Topic:**

"Ways I share My Time, Talents and Treasures at Home, School, and in My Church Community"

5th Grade Topic:

"In my life, who have been my Spiritual Role Models and Why?"

6th Grade Topic:

"How do I live Jesus' Teaching, to Love Thy Neighbor?"

7th Grade Topic:

"How My Catholic / Christian School Education has influenced My Personal Values"

Topic for Group B

8th grade thru 12th grades

"The Importance of Religious Freedom"

The Supreme Competition Kit can be ordered thru <http://www.californiaknights.org>. Council competition among schools is ongoing until January 15, 2017. Judging will be held on: Council Level for *Group A & B - January 31, 2017*, Chapter Level for *Group A & B - February 25, 2017* and State Level Judging for *Group A & B - March 15, 2017*. Only Group B winners will be sent to Supreme.

For more information about the Youth Essay Competition, please contact:

Bro. Claire Tryon

Tel No: 925-673-8564

Email: greveototo@sbcglobal.net

5773 Pepperridge Way Concord, CA 94521-5817

YOUTH POSTER PROGRAM - SUBSTANCE ABUSE POSTER COMPETITION

Contestants will compete in two age groups for purposes of judging: (Age as of January 1st)

- Age 8 through 11
- Age 12 through 14

Poster Topics:

Entries in the Substance Abuse Awareness Poster Contest fall under only one of two topics:

- **Alcohol Awareness and Abuse**
- **Drug Awareness and Abuse**

Note: Entrant can only enter in one of the categories.

Timeline:

Competition will run until late January. Kits need to be ordered now. Deadline for submission are as follows:

- *Council Level - January 25; District Level (optional) - February 14*
- *Chapter Level - March 15; State Level - April 15*

Competition Kit Order Form:

<http://www.kofc.org/un/en/forms/council/SA-KITOnline.pdf> found on the State website under Resources or by calling Supreme (203) 752-4016.

For more information about the Youth Poster Program/Competition, please contact:

Bro. Bob Pineschi, CA State Poster Chairman

(H) 916-645-8366

(Email) pineschibob@yahoo.com

2450 Forest Oaks Ct., Lincoln, CA 95648

FREE THROW COMPETITION

Since 1972, councils have sponsored the Knights of Columbus International Free Throw Championship for boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14. The championship is set up to have the contestants compete within their own gender and age group. All competition starts at the local level. Winners move on to the district, chapter/regional, and state levels. From there, some make it to the international level for championship competition in their group.

To sponsor a competition, all your council needs is the *Free Throw Championship Kit (#FT-KIT)*, a couple of basketballs, a hoop and a bunch of kids. It is a great way to get out into the public and introduce the Order to your community — while providing youths with a rewarding activity that yields a chance for local, state or provincial, and international recognition.

You can also use the order form in the *Council Report Forms Booklet* (#1436), or call the Department of Fraternal Services at 203-752-4270.

Who May Enter?

All boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 14 are eligible to compete in the Free Throw Championship. Age eligibility is determined by the age of the contestant as of January 1. High school-age athletes should be advised to check with their school athletic directors or their state's high school athletic association regarding possible eligibility conflicts. Each youngster may compete in only one council competition. Local champions may not represent more than one council.

Championship entrants compete against youngsters of the same age and gender in six age divisions: 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. At the council level, each competitor gets 15 free throws, and the one who makes the most shots wins. If there's a tie, five-shot tiebreaker rounds follow until a winner emerges. Use a tiebreaker if there is a tie for second place; the second place finisher will move on to successive levels of competition if, for whatever reason, the winner is unavailable. In the event that the winner in any level cannot participate in the next level of competition, the second place winner should represent the area group.

All contestants must register using the official K of C Free Throw Championship Entry Form/Score Sheet (#1598). All entry forms/score sheets must include a parent's signature. Proof of age must accompany all registration forms and should be verified at all levels. The entry form/score sheet also contains spaces to record the contestants' scores. This form must accompany each champion as he or she progresses through the competition.

Council Free Throw Competitions will be held on January 2017, District and Chapter Competitions on February 2017, and the State Free Throw Competition on March 18, 2017 (Saturday) at one location in Northern California and another one in Southern California. Locations will be at: **North – Vacaville** and **South – Rancho San Antonio**.



For more information about this program, please contact:

Bro. Julio Jimenez
State Free Throw Chairman
818-919-9545
jimenezjulio12@yahoo.com

BROTHER KNIGHTS • FAMILIES • FRIENDS**Save the Date — Sat Jan 21st 2017****3 California Major Walks For Life****Pick Your Walk . . . Walk The Talk****San Francisco***WalkForLifeWC.com**Los Angeles***OneLifeLA.org**San Diego***SanDiegoWalkForLife.org***Visit individual websites for all the details****WALK FOR LIFE T-SHIRTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ON LINE!****WALK THE TALK**

On Saturday, January 21st, 2017, thousands of Californians will be walking in support of life. Knights from around the state wearing these classic pro-life shirts will show their solidarity with the unborn. Order now to join other Knights in speaking out.

Exceptionally low price of \$6* includes Free Shipping! All orders must be a minimum of 20 shirts or more mixed in various sizes.

*Plus \$2 extra for sizes 2XL and 3XL

Urgent: Place your order soon! Orders placed before December 12th will be delivered the week of December 19th. Orders placed after December 12th will be delivered the week of January 16th.

Order your shirts on line at:

<http://www.kofcwalkthetalk.com>



Sonny R. Santa Ines
State Deputy 2016-2017



December 1, 2016

Worthy Grand Knight,

Although it seems like it is far off, we are excited to plan for our upcoming State Convention to be held in San Diego's Town and Country Resort. I have a favor to ask of you.

Our Thursday Night Welcome Party will be called "Knights Got Talent" to showcase our Brother Knights' talents. We are looking for contestants from our councils and assemblies. Contestants will be a group of at least four active Knights who can showcase their talents in singing, dancing, magic, etc. The performers will be "grilled" by our panel of judges and the winner will be declared by combination of the judges' votes and votes from the audience.

We encourage the members of your council to participate. Ultimately, we would love a team from each Chapter to participate for statewide pride, bragging rights and prizes. Could you please discuss this at your council and chapter meetings and get a team? We look forward to seeing the display of many talents in a brotherly competition.

The rules are as follows:

A team must have at least four but no more than eight active Knights for the on-stage performance.

The performance need to be family-friendly.

The performance can be musical, singing, dancing, magic, etc.

Each team will need to provide a short video in advance of their performance.

That video will be previewed by the event chair in advance for content.

The team will provide its own props, musical background etc.

We have set a February 15, 2017 deadline to register your team. Please contact Event Chair Dan Plein at 619.417.7327 or elltee2861@cox.net

Please help to make this the best state convention ever. Thank you.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sonny R. Santa Ines".

Sonny R. Santa Ines
State Deputy

Strength, Fidelity, Integrity

St. Joseph, Pray for Us



George H. Frates III
State Advocate 2016-2017



To: Grand Knights of the California State Jurisdiction
Re: Endorsement Resolutions for Candidates seeking State Office

Candidates for State Office at the Annual State Meeting (Convention), wishing to participate in the State Office mailing, must have their resolutions into the State Office no later than Wednesday, February 1, 2017.

Council endorsement resolutions must be signed by the council **Grand Knight** and **Recording Secretary** and have the council seal affixed.

The original must be mailed to the State Office. To avoid typographical errors in retyping resolutions for printing, it is strongly recommended that an electronic copy of the resolution also be provided.

E-mail to: state.office@californiaknights.org

This year, 'Council Endorsements' will be mailed with the 'Resolutions' booklet that is mailed to each council 45 days prior to the annual State Meeting. If you have any questions, please call the State Office at 909-434-0460.

Guidelines for Elections:

1. A candidate may prepare a short biography which may be featured on the State Council's web site.
2. If a candidate's council passes a resolution of support for a particular candidate, that resolution can be disseminated to the other councils within the candidate's jurisdiction.
3. A candidate may not mass mail (either US Mail or e-mail) members of the Knights of Columbus or the general public.
4. In the event a candidate's council passes a resolution in support of a particular candidate, that resolution can also be posted on the State Council's web site.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "George H. Frates III".

George "Skip" H. Frates III
State Advocate

Strength, Fidelity, Integrity
St. Joseph, Pray for Us!

Cc: State Officers
Chapters Presidents
District Deputies

McGivney Guild

The McGivney Legacy

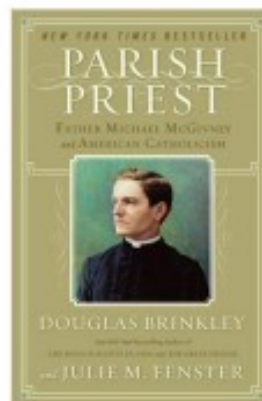


Father Michael J. McGivney was a 29-year-old assistant pastor at St. Mary's Church in New Haven, Conn., when he founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882. Father McGivney's holiness, devotion to priestly ministry and work to protect family life provide a powerful spiritual influence for Knights of Columbus, their family members and a growing number of other Catholics.

Father McGivney's cause for canonization was opened in 1997 by then Archbishop Daniel A. Cronin of Hartford, Conn. Its diocesan phase has been completed. The Congregation for the Causes of Saints at the Vatican is currently reviewing Father McGivney's life and works and investigating two reported miracles attributed to his intercession.

The Knights of Columbus has established the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild to provide people with information about his life, works and spirituality. If you are interested in joining the Father McGivney Guild, please visit the Father McGivney Web site.

For information about the Father Michael J. McGivney Guild and Father McGivney's spiritual influence, faith, legacy, life and cause for canonization visit the **Father McGivney Web site**: <http://www.fathermcgivney.org/en/index.html>



KNIGHTS IN ACTION

ST. FRANCIS CHAPTER 2015-2016 SUPREME AWARD PRESENTATION



Columbian Awards presented by State Secretary Romeo Quevedo to St. Francis Chapter awardees at their Chapter Meeting on October 28, 2016. The Columbian Year 2015-2016 award recipients were for the following:

STAR COUNCILS

- Two Star Council – Our Lady of Visitation Council 12683 – Antonio Tactay, Grand Knight
- One Star Council – St. Dunstan Council 11041 – John Cardon, Grand Knight
- One Star Council – Mater Dolorosa Council 14818 – John Dooley, Grand Knight

FR. MCGIVNEY AND COLUMBIAN AWARDS

- Holy Angels Council 10948 – Daniel Estrada, Grand Knight
- Marian Council 3773 – Dr. Timothy Cushing, Grand Knight

FR. MCGIVNEY AND FOUNDERS AWARDS

- St. Andrew Council 11400 – George Carino, Grand Knight
- St. Mary's Cathedral Council 15883 – Manuel de los Reyes, Grand Knight

FR. MCGIVNEY AWARD

- Epiphany Council 11033 – Lazaro Fabian, Grand Knight

KNIGHTS IN ACTION

OAKLAND CHAPTER FREE FLU VACCINATION CLINIC

Following are the photographs taken during the flu clinic at St. Anne Church, Union City, on Oct. 30, 2016. This is the 9th Annual Free Flu Vaccination Clinic sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #8627.



Two weeks prior, (Oct. 16, 2016) the 3rd Annual Free Flu Vaccination Clinic was also held at St. James the Apostle Church, Fremont. This was sponsored by St. James the Apostle Council #14541.



A total of 460 people were vaccinated. Medical Volunteers (doctors and nurses) from the bay area offered their services to the community during the event. Aside from the brother knights, students also helped in registering patients.

KNIGHTS IN ACTION



Contact Us

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Email:
State.Office@californiaknights.org

Visit us on the web at
www.californiaknights.org



- 1) Southern California Special Olympics Fall Games
- 2) Southern California Special Olympics Fall Games
- 3) Wheelchair Sunday held at St. James the Apostle Church on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.
- 4) Wheelchair Sunday held at St. James the Apostle Church on Oct. 22 and Oct. 23.

