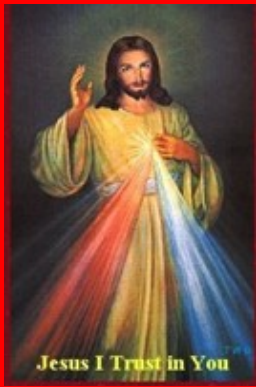


California State Council Knights of Columbus



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Cathedral of Saint Mary of Assumption

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Golden State Knightletter



Columbus Day



Article provided by Brother Gerry V. Hernandez—On October 8 this year, we are celebrating "Columbus Day" in honor of the Patron of our Order, Christopher Columbus.

Legendary explorer Christopher Columbus was born in 1451 in a sea town in Italy and began sailing as a teenager. Columbus believed that sailing west would be a faster way to get to India. He went to Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, who were intrigued with the idea and eventually gave Columbus the financing for the voyage. In August of 1492, Columbus set sail with the Nina, the Pinta and the Santa Maria.

Columbus Day has its roots in cultural pride, a celebration of the Italian explorer's "discovery" of the Americas when he landed on a Caribbean island in what's now the Bahamas on Oct. 12, 1492. The 300-year anniversary of Columbus' landing prompted the first recorded celebration of the achievement, in New York City in 1792. On the 400th anniversary, President Benjamin Harrison issued the first official proclamation urging Americans to celebrate the day. It led the Knights of Columbus, an organization with a largely Italian, Roman Catholic membership, to lobby heavily for states and the Federal Government to make Columbus Day official. Franklin Roosevelt created the first federal observance of Columbus Day in 1937; Richard Nixon established the modern holiday by presidential proclamation in 1972.

The Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882. He and the founding Knights chose Christopher Columbus as the Order's patron. He considered Columbus as one of the few Catholics considered a hero of American history. Father McGivney believed the explorer represented both Catholicism and Patriotism at the very root of America's heritage, thereby symbolizing that faithful Catholics also can be solid American citizens.

Lately, even Pope Francis in one of his speeches mentioned Columbus as an example. He said that a disciple of Christ needs the "virtue of a navigator". He pointed that Columbus who faced "a great challenge" and showed "courage", as trait he indicated was important to becoming a "good missionary".

But despite the legacy and accomplishments of Christopher Columbus deserve to be celebrated as a man ahead of his time and a fearless explorer and brilliant navigator whose daring discovery changed the course of history, Columbus has frequently been falsely blamed for the actions of those who came after him and is the victim of horrific slanders concerning his conduct. As we observe yet another Columbus Day celebration, the debate over will carry on.

We as the Knights of Columbus should continue to defend our own patron from unfair attacks. We should continue our official recognition that Columbus is a man of faith and bravery. We should be continually reminded that he represents the kind of heroic courage and religious faith that inspired the establishment of the United States of America.

As we continue to defend the truth about Columbus and Columbus Day as our Supreme Knight Carl Anderson proclaimed, here are some suggested activities that councils can do for this event:

- The councils are asked to display a portrait of Christopher Columbus for the public to be informed who we are honoring on this day.
- Gather some materials, pamphlets and flyers about the origin, life and accomplishments of the patron of our Order. These materials can later be donated to schools and libraries for the use of the younger generations.
- Initiate to hold an informational night about Christopher Columbus tracing his voyage leading to the discovery of America.
- Holding of sporting events to be participated by adults and the young ones of the parish.
- A parade maybe included – inviting public officials and the various ethnic groups in the area. Have a picnic style get together at the end for the purposes of fellowship.

Upcoming Events

- Charitable Service Outreach Week Sep 30-Oct 8
- Council Church Drives Oct 7/8 and Oct 14/15
- Columbus Day Observed Oct 9
- Family Rosary Program Oct 28/29



State Deputy's Message September 2017

The months of July, August & September has been devastating for all of us. We have seen the news of wildfires, deadly hurricanes and earthquakes. During these disasters, we have witnessed brother Knights helping brother Knights. Local councils such as Council 15583 have been active in assisting local organizations in providing and distributing food packages to families affected by the Mariposa County wildfire. Other local councils like Council 9363 & 11338 in Livingston and Council 15632 in Merced have raised funds to purchase supplies for families. Volunteers drove 45 min – 1 hour to deliver loads of food and supplies. As DD Javier Aguilar of District 65 said, "In service to One, In service to All"

Back-to-back Hurricanes Harvey, Irma & Maria has left a devastating effect on Texas, Florida & Puerto Rico. Knights have mobilized efforts to help those affected by the Hurricanes. Supreme Knight Carl Anderson said that brother Knights, their families and others have contributed \$2.3 million for victims of the recent hurricanes and natural disasters. The Knights of Columbus also has taken a leadership role in assisting those affected by these storms, including the immediate distribution of more than \$720,000 for food, water and other necessities with more funds being distributed every day. Charity has always been a defining characteristic of the Knights of Columbus. Many of the volunteer Knights are men whose own homes and property have been destroyed and yet are putting the needs of others in front of their own. Supreme Knight thanked all those who volunteered and those who contributed to our relief efforts. He encouraged those who have not contributed to do so.

Within hours of the powerful earthquake that struck Mexico on September 19, Knights in Mexico City and the surrounding areas reached out to the victims by bringing food and other supplies to those displaced. This 7.1 magnitude earthquake leveled buildings and killed hundreds of people. These Knights have been collecting supplies for distribution in affected areas that are remote.

As Knights of Columbus, we continue to ask for prayers for the victims of these hurricanes and earthquakes. Let's offer prayers for those who have lost their lives and those whose lives have been tragically affected. For those that want to donate for these relief efforts, you can donate to the State Council for Disaster Relief or to the Knights of Columbus Charities.

We also thank our 1st & 2nd Responders for what they do in helping out during these disasters.

Thank you.

VIVAT JESUS!





**State Membership Director
Matt McDonagh
2017-2018**

Fall is in the air and the First Quarter of the Columbian Year is behind us. It's time to review where we are and make adjustments as necessary to star on track for Star Council. If you haven't planned your Columbus Day Membership Drive as well as your Intellectual Activities, it's not too late. Please reach out to your Chapter Officers, District Deputy, Field Agent, and State Membership Team if you need help with your drives. We are here to help you.

October is the month dedicated to the Blessed Mother. On the 7th, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Rosary also known as Our Lady of Victory. This feast celebrates victory over the Turkish Navy at the Battle of Lepanto. Pope St. Pius V attributed the victory to Mary's intercession that saved Europe from the forces of Islam. The Blessed Mother was invoked on the day of the battle through a campaign to pray the Rosary throughout Europe. It is especially fitting that we, as Knights of Columbus, continue to pray the Rosary and to call upon Mary's intercession in our daily lives especially during this month. Please consider giving the Rosary as special place in your daily prayer life especially during October.

The State Membership Team is here to help you. Please call me or any of Committeemen if you need help with recruiting, retention, or starting a new Council. Everything starts and ends with the Council. Be the Star in your Parish and in your Community. Light the path for others to follow.

Thank for all you do for your Parishes, your Councils, and your Communities. Together we can make a difference in the lives of other. We save lives and we change lives!

"Change a Life, Recruit a New Knight!"

Matt McDonagh
State Membership Director





California State Service Programs
Stephen Peterson, FM
2017 -2018

September 2017

The first quarter of this Columbian year draws to a close and many of our Service programs are beginning and some have ended. Let's recap on what has happened so far. Hopefully all the Councils have submitted their Forms 185 and 365 reports. The 365 report is the first leg toward Star Council and the 185 is vital for the State Directory.

Family Week was in August and many of the Councils had Family events. Thank you to Brother Alberto Morales, Family Week Chairman for getting the message out regarding this Building the Domestic Church Activity.

The running of the "Silver Rose" made its way through California and has been transferred to the Knights in Arizona. A special thank you to Brother Jerry Fong who coordinated the schedule for the Chapters. A heartfelt thank you and appreciation to Brother Dan Hargis, California President of the Knights on Bikes who with his team of bikers escorted the Silver Rose and sometimes took the handoff from Chapter to Chapter when no one else was available. The Principles of our Order were at work with these Brothers.

In early September there was a ribbon cutting ceremony at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. The newly renovated Fr. McGivney Lounge where the Seminarians gather to socialize was dedicated. The renovation was funded by Chapter, Councils and individual Brother Knight's generosity. Many Brother Knights from the Bay Area as well as State Officers and Directors were in attendance. A big thank you goes to Brother Rick Jarrett, Vocations/RSVP Committeeman from the North for his commitment and dedication to promoting the needs of our Seminarians.

There have been three applications sent into Supreme for Ultrasound machines in the last two months. Congratulations and thank you to Brother Bernard Vitichus, Ultrasound Machine Program Chairman for his efforts on promoting this Supreme Featured Program activity.

There have been a couple of State Deputy Forums, we would like to see more DDs, GKs and members in attendance. This is a chance for all to meet the State Deputy, receive information on Programs, Membership and Operations and have your questions answered.

The Service Program Monthly Reports are coming in slow. These reports help us in knowing what program activities the Councils are conducting. Kindly send them in, they are submitted online.

As mentioned above, many programs are beginning. Christmas Card sales, Essay Competition, Soccer and Free Throw Competition, Food for Families, Coats for Kids and the big Columbus Day Recruitment Drive. I have mentioned some, but we all know that there are more activities that are ongoing. Plan your work and work your plan. Remember that every event is an "Opportunity for Recruitment."

Vivat Jesus!

Brother Stephen Peterson, FM
Programs Director



Council/Fraternal Activities

As a friendly reminder, you should be well on your way to producing your council year book. It is a great recruitment tool when you hold your church membership drives. It also inspires members to participate in future council events. Everyone likes to see them in a photo.

And how about your council bulletin. Only 23 councils out of 600+ councils in California have submitted their council bulletin for judging. The council bulletin editor spends many hours putting the bulletin together. It is a great way to keep members informed of council activities. Since you are sending the bulletin to council members, why not add the state bulletin chairman on the mailing list. Bulletins are judged by division. 5 divisions – 23 inputs – everyone a winner. Join the competition and reward your bulletin editor.

We will celebrate Columbus Day on October 9, 2017. It is hoped, and actually expected each council will find a fitting way to celebrate the memory of our founder. A special Mass, participating in a local parade, or holding any function to honor our founder would be appropriate.

Fraternally
John Giltner, FDD, PGK, PCP



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL

STATE NEWSLETTER ARTICLE
"COMMUNITIES HELPING COMMUNITIES"

31 August 2017

Brother Knights-

How many times have you turned on the television to see another community being impacted by a natural disaster. If you have never been impacted by a natural disaster and lost everything, would you know what to do? When seeing others impacted by natural disasters, it makes me think of what would I do if I was flooded, wildfires, earthquake, or tsunami hit where I live? How do you rebuild a life?

There are two parts every natural disaster, preparedness and recovery. We need to be prepared for the unexpected, having information gathered, emergency kits ready, and knowing a plan. The American Red Cross provides some great information on how to be prepared for a natural disaster (<http://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies>). The second part of a natural disaster is the recovery. Rebuilding a home and life will be the most challenging thing one can experience. There are many resources that a family can use for financial assistance, and the Knights of Columbus is a great resource. But the Disaster Relief program needs your financial support. Simply go to Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief website to donate (<http://www.kofc.org/en/charities/articles/disaster-relief.html>).

Another program that the Knights of Columbus has recently started up is the Second Responders Program. The Second Responders Program is designed to identify and train members in the council to be prepared for natural disasters and be assistance to our community members. Having members trained in CPR and First Aid and getting preparedness packages ready and available for when a natural disaster hits. Please review the State Service Programs Handbook for more information about the Second Responders Program.

We all need to be prepared for a natural disaster, whether it affects us directly or our communities around us.

Via Jesus!

Jeff Lambert, PCP PGK

Community Activities Chairman

California State Council



Partnership With Habitat for Humanity
By Michael Jones, HFH State Chairman
2017-2018

As a featured Knights of Columbus Community program, Habitat for Humanity offers KofC councils continued opportunities to help our communities and families.

Knights of Columbus councils help give shelter, by supporting Habitat for Humanity. In 2016, Knights donating more than 1 million volunteer service hours and \$1.7 million to Habitat for Humanity helping to build or renovate houses for deserving families in need.

Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, Christian organization founded in 1976 that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness one family at a time. The organization assists in providing quality-built, affordable homes to needy families by cooperatively involving the future homeowner with community volunteers and suppliers to build or renovate their home. To date, Habitat for Humanity has provided more than 3 million people with safe, personal shelter.

In addition to a down payment, recipients work alongside the construction crew and volunteers, and are then provided an affordable mortgage plan. Knights look favorable on the mission of Habitat for Humanity, which not only helps people to become homeowners, but actively involves them in their homes' preparation and construction. This teaches them valuable skills, develops confidence and provides experience. In addition, many families will create "sweat equity" with the hours of actually working to build their home.

At your local level, your council has a unique and rewarding community opportunity to volunteer and help Habit for Humanity. Explore and join this great community volunteer effort.

Contact the local Habitat for Humanity affiliate in your community. Visit www.habitat.org or e-mail volunteer@habitat.org for information on your local affiliate. They will be able to brief you on the volunteer opportunities available to council members, prospects and families.

If your council donates both \$1000 and 200 man hours to Habitat for Humanity, it will fulfill all four requirements for the community activities category of the **Columbian Award** (SP-7). Councils are encouraged to promote this program to their membership, inviting personal consideration as well as implementing this program as an ongoing charitable event.

For the most up-to-date information on how your council can participate with Habitat for Humanity, go to the Supreme Knights of Columbus website, <http://www.kofc.org> under Programs: Partnership Programs.

Working with the State Habitat Chairman explore "**HOW TO GET INVOLVED**" and presenting it to the membership.

Chairman: Michael D. Jones, Email: mjones53@comcast.net or 916-684-5803
Michael Ochoa, Committeeman North, Email: mkochoa@pacbell.net
John Murphy, Committeeman South, Email: wmurphy8801@aol.com



September 27- November 5

40 DAYS FOR LIFE™

HELP SAVE LIVES IN CHULA VISTA

You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization!

Through prayer and fasting, peaceful vigils and community outreach, 40 Days for Life has inspired 725,000 volunteers!

With God's help ... we've seen proven results in 19 coordinated campaigns:

- **12,668 babies** saved from abortion
- **143 abortion** workers converted
- **83 abortion** centers closed

Here's how to take part:

- **Vigil location:** Outside of Planned Parenthood on the corner of Broadway & Palomar in Chula Vista.
- **Vigil hours:** 24 hours per day for 40 days!
- **Local contact:** Vigil Coordinator, Michael Brault
 – [619-548-3190](tel:619-548-3190)
mbrault54@gmail.com
- **Learn more** and get involved by visiting our campaign at the address below!

40daysforlife.com/chulavista

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER - KofC MARINE CORP RECRUIT LUNCHEON

On August 22, 2017, the San Diego Chapter of the Knights of Columbus hosted its first annual luncheon at the San Diego Airport USO, for 271 Marine Recruits who graduated from "Boot Camp" at the Marine Corp Recruit Depot (MCRD). The Marine Recruits, their families, and the USO Staff were treated to a delicious lunch of: Manicotti, Baked Ziti, and Antipasto Salad prepared by the Knights of Our Lady of the Rosary in downtown San Diego. The event was covered by two local TV Stations: KUSI 51 and KGTV 10. Both TV Stations did a great job of covering the entire luncheon and interviewing both the Marines and our Knights of Columbus.

All 271 Marine Recruits had undergone twelve demanding and grueling weeks of recruit training at MCRD. After graduation at MCRD, the Recruits convened at the San Diego International Airport USO for lunch. After lunch, they departed to Camp Pendleton for an additional 29 days of combat training. The Marine Recruits will finish their combat training at Camp Pendleton and then continue with their training at their respective "Follow On" Schools to be trained for their various roles within the Marine Corps. These new Marines will learn how to conduct land-based and amphibious operations of an offensive, defensive, humanitarian, reconnaissance and/or security nature.

Our San Diego Chapter of the Knights of Columbus were honored to serve lunch and to be in the company of these Marine Recruits during this warm August afternoon. Each of these Marines has selflessly sacrificed a portion of their lives to defend our country and our way of life. Many of our Knights are Veterans and we discussed our experiences in the military with the Recruits as well as what these young Marines may expect in their near future.

November 11, 2017, Veteran's Day is quickly approaching. A venerable way for our Brother Knights to honor our military Veterans this Veterans Day would be to host a breakfast/luncheon/dinner for any Veterans at their Parish, local military organizations, and/or Veterans who are in-patients at the VA Hospitals. If you would like information on how to contact the VA Hospitals or how to organize a meal for our Veterans please contact me.

I want to sincerely thank all the Brother Knights that helped make this event a success. I would also like to extend my deepest appreciation for the continued support of our Veterans displayed by our local San Diego Chapter of the Knights of Columbus.

Fraternally in Christ,

Carlos Cuellar PGK, PFN
State Veteran's Assistance Chairman
California State Council
Knights of Columbus



Operations

Rene Trevino
Operations Director

September 2017 Message

This month we will focus on an exciting and new way we have been communicating with our Brother Knights for the past several months. The State Council has established an “app” in order to communicate better with all of the Knights in California. Through *ConnectU*, this app is available for anyone, even non Knights for download on your smartphone. All you have to do is follow the instructions below and you will be able to see the latest information from your State Council. On the following page, you will find information on how your Council, Assembly and Chapter can have your own “app” to share your respective information. This tool is a wonderful way to communicate with your members and your potential candidates.

State APP Download Instructions

If you have an iPhone, iPod, or iPad follow these steps:

1. Tap the App Store icon on your phone
2. Tap search
3. Type "Knights of Columbus" in the search bar
4. Select "Connectu Knights of Columbus" app published by Yoursphere
5. Tap "Get"
6. You will be prompted to enter your iTunes password
7. Tap "Open" after the app has successfully downloaded
8. Use the search bar to search for your council, assembly or chapter
9. To download the State APP, enter California State Council

If you have an Android phone, i.e. Samsung or LG, or a tablet, follow these steps:

1. Tap the Google Play Store icon on your phone.
2. Tap search
3. Type "Knights of Columbus" in the search bar
4. Select the "Connectu Knights of Columbus" app published by Connectu Media
5. Tap "Install"
6. Tap "Accept"
7. Tap "Open" after the app has successfully downloaded
8. Use the search bar to search for your council, assembly or chapter
9. To download the State APP, enter California State Council

Once you have used the APP for yourself and find it very useful, encourage your Council, Assembly or Chapter to develop an APP of your own. It can be easily developed for an annual fee of \$299.00. All you need to do is contact: Connectu at 888.905.9898 or email MaryKay@ConnectuMedia.com .

**God Bless and Vivat Jesus,
Rene Trevino, PCP, PFN, PGK, FDD
State Operations Director 2017-2018**



Introducing the Knights of Columbus App For Every California Council, Chapter and Assembly*

Each California Knights of Columbus Council, Chapter and Assembly is Invited to Have Their Own Communications App

Sign up at Connectumedia.com/AppForCaliforniaKnightsOfColumbus

YOUR APP:

- is filled with unique content specific to your individual Council, Chapter or Assembly.
- seamlessly integrates your news, information, events, calendars, membership, social media, website and much more – into one app.
- offers a “share” feature that provides the option to easily promote your events with parishioners, families, friends,

- colleagues and associates directly from the app.
- allows for instant communication of important news and information through push messaging.
- can be utilized to collect dues and sell event tickets.
- can include your Council's Degree schedule.
- will easily incorporate parish news and information.

Example Council apps



Affordably priced at \$299 per year.

*This app is sanctioned and approved by the Knights of Columbus California State Council for use by all California councils, chapters and assemblies.

Sign up at:

Connectumedia.com/AppForCaliforniaKnightsOfColumbus

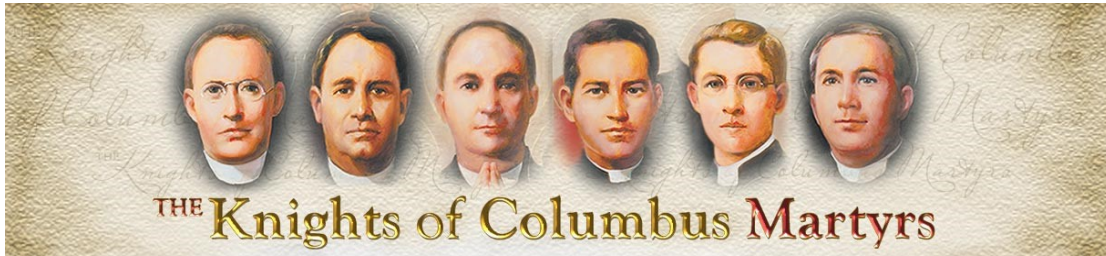


Questions?

888.905.9898

MaryKayHoal@Yoursphere.com

MaryKayHoal@Connectumedia.com



Mexican Martyrs Prayer Service

The Knights of Columbus for over 135 years have been promoting vocations to the priesthood. This prayer service is intended to continue that long tradition by reflecting on the gift of priests to the church. Specifically, we also honor those six Mexican Priest Martyrs who gave their lives for their people who were all Knights of Columbus Brothers. It involves the entire parish family and supports the Domestic Church. Details with the complete Prayer Service are available in the 2017-18 Program Handbook.

Mexican Martyrs Service Award for Chaplains

The six Mexican priests were martyred for their faith during a time of turmoil in Mexico when Catholics were being persecuted. All of them died because they chose to continue to serve their people despite the threat of death. We want to honor their sacrifice by creating an award in their name that will be given out during the year to the chaplains in California who give of themselves not only to their parish and diocese but also to the Knights as a chaplain.

The Knights of Columbus are forever thankful for the dedicated priests who not only serve their parish or community but who also take the time to serve the Knights of Columbus as chaplains. The Knights want to honor and thank those dedicated priests for their service throughout the Columbian Year. Each month beginning in September 2017 through February 2018 we will honor the Knights of Columbus Chaplains who have displayed extraordinary service to their Council and Parish. These priests will automatically be considered for the yearly Fr. Juan Perez Award given out at the California State Convention. Details can be found in the 2017-18 Operations Handbook.

October: SAINT FATHER RODRIGO AGUILAR ALEMÁN



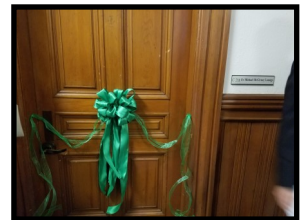
Father Rodrigo Aguilar Alemán of Union de Tula in Jalisco was a member of Council 2330. After a warrant was issued for his arrest, he took refuge at the Colegio de San Ignacio in Ejutla, celebrating Mass and administering the sacraments.

Rather than escape when soldiers arrived, Father Aguilar Alemán remained at the seminary to burn the list of seminary students, and thus protect them from being known. When the soldiers demanded his identity, he told them only that he was a priest.

St. Patrick's Seminary and University Council and Student Lounge Ribbon Cutting



On September 9, St. Patrick's Seminary and University, Menlo Park, California, held its annual GALA honoring the Walk for Life West Coast. Over 600 loyal supporters of the seminary and priestly vocations attended the 10th year of the gathering. This was the first GALA since the installation of Fr. George Schultze SJ. as the new president and rector of St. Patrick's.



Earlier in the day, St Patrick's celebrated the establishment of a Knights of Columbus Council on their campus and a ribbon cutting for the reopening of a newly remodeled student lounge.



Many of the seminarians attending St Patrick's are already Knights of Columbus at their home parish. Now, they can benefit from building and being active in their own Knights of Columbus Council with a wonderful opportunity to learn and practice the four principles of the Knights: Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. The new council already has 22 members!

Knights of Columbus from Northern CA donated \$6000 to renovate the student lounge at St Patrick's. The updated student lounge includes a large screen TV, 18 inviting recliners and a new mini kitchen. The new lounge is named after Fr. Michael J McGivney, the founder of the Knights of Columbus. We hope that this will be a place where seminarians will gather to share their leisure time and become a close team serving our Church.



St Patrick's Seminary is the main seminary for Northern CA, Hawaii and Guam. It is managed by the Archdiocese of San Francisco. Formed in 1898, it has produced over two thousand priests and Bishops.

Knights In Action

St. Timothy Council 10802 in Escondido, California paid tribute to the remembrance of 9/11 with a ceremony at the Parish's Flag Staff. There, the flag was lowered and retired, and a new one was raised in triumph, and then slowly lowered to half-mast. The new flag is one of thirteen flags that flew over the Arizona Memorial in Honolulu, Hawaii on 9/11/2016. It was donated to St. Timothy Council 10802 by special arraignments with the Arizona National Memorial Association and the National Park Service. During the ceremony, a re-dedication of the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and a series of prayers and songs were offered up for the souls of those who made the ultimate sacrifice for the safety of our Country, our Community, and our Families.



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Visit us on the web at
www.californiaknights.org



Past Grand Knight and Programs Director, Frank Tooker leads the participants in the re-dedication of the Pledge of Allegiance while Past Grand Knight Mark Zecca raises the "9/11" American Flag. Assisting as color guard are Brothers Pat Burke, Chuck Crandall, Roy Galli, Gene Nagle, Jim Healey and Fred Progrer.