



The Navigator

Knights of Columbus - Fourth Degree

Junipero Serra Assembly 0044

December 2013

Siempre Adalento (Always Forward) Fr Serra's Motto

HAVE MERRY AND BLEST CHRISTMAS!!

MAY WE CONTINUE TO GROW CLOSER TO THE LORD AND SPREAD HIS LOVE IN 2014!!

CALENDAR

December's Christmas Dinner	14 Dec
January Officer's Meeting	06 Jan
Clergy Appreciation Dinner	22 Jan
February Officer's Meeting	04 Feb

DUES REMINDER

For those of you who did not have E-mail and as a reminder for those who have E-Mail, Paul Coyne reminds us that dues to the 4th Degree Assembly are due in January each year. Dues are \$30 per year the same as since 1996.

Please send your check payable to Junipero Serra Assembly to Paul Coyne, 5451 Toltec Dr. SB 93111-1609

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Assembly 44 and Council 5300 Christmas Party will be on **DECEMBER 14** at **6:30 PM** in St Raphael's Hall. The dinner will be Prime Rib of Beef with all the trimmings. Cost is only \$ 15 per person.

CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER

Clergy Appreciation Dinner meeting will be on **JANUARY 22ND** in **ST RAPHAEL'S HALL** with a "SOCIAL HOUR" beginning at **6:00 PM** and **DINNER** will be served **7:00 PM**.

NO DINNER MEETING IN DECEMBER

POLICY CHANGE DISCONTINUANCE OF FREE BIRTHDAY DINNER

At the November Dinner Meeting, the Assembly voted to discontinue the free meal on your birthday. The reason is that the free meal does not attract any members who do not normally attend the dinner meeting.

BIRTHDAYS FOR DECEMBER

The following Sir Knights will celebrate a birthday during the month of December.

N. Albino Prado	2 Dec
Joseph W. Connolly	8 Dec
Msgr. Stephen N. Downes	8 Dec
David Farebrother	8 Dec
Paul H. Coyne	9 Dec
John I Balster	11 Dec
John W Moynihan Jr	15 Dec
Roy F Schrader Jr.	18 Dec
Mell Hueston	23 Dec
John F. Corcoran	24 Dec
Archbishop José Gomez	26 Dec



KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Bishop Curry, SK Earl and Terry Pugh; SK Steve Schlesselman, SK Mel Hueston, SK Jim Wasil, Bro. Fritz Cahill and his son Tom Cahill, SK Joseph Connolly (Council 1684 & Color Guard), SK Bernie Jochum, SK Al Meckelborg, Bro. Roy Fong who has been diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, Bro. Dal Diebold, Christine Placencia, daughter of SK Jack Turney, Judy Klinge wife of SK Brian Klinge, Camille Moynihan, widow of SK John Moynihan, Denise Swiacki wife of SK Walter Swiacki, Donna Abels wife of SK Jim Abels, Anita Pullens sisters-in-law to SK Felix Sanchez, Sr. Teresa Meza, Sister of SK José Meza, Joe Vampola, brother of SK Mark Vampola, Nancy Herrera, widow of SK Pablo Herrera, Maureen Lacey, widow of SK John Lacey, Alice Velasco, wife of SK Bruce Velasco, Patricia Schrader, wife of SK Roy Schrader, SK Joe & Ruth Duwel, Christian Franzen, nephew of SK Dn Wayne, Pjot Vandermuellen, son-in-law of SK Frank Donohoe, Dan Engler (Council 1684), for the mother of John Peyton, Fr. Dennis Collins of Our Lady of Sorrows, Fr. Bruce, who is having some medical issues, Fr. David Velasquez of St Joseph who is dealing with many medical issues, Fr. Frank Colburn, and Fr. Tom Ellis.

Pray for Pope Francis, our bishops, priests and deacons who are our spiritual leaders in our spiritual community.

COLOR GUARD NEWS

The Assembly would like to thank Paul Coyne. After 20+ years as a dedicated and faithful Commander of the Color Corp, Paul will retire at the end of the month, great job.

FOR SUBMISSIONS OR TO RECEIVE THE NAVIGATOR BY E-MAIL contact SK Mike Betliskey at 745-1009 or email m2bubs@catholicweb.com or mbubs_3@sysmatrix.net.

LOOKING FOR USHERS AT CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Six 4th Degree members are needed to be ushers for St. Raphael's 10:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass (also referred to as Midnight Mass). Dress for the Mass is your tuxedo with social baldric. Please contact PFN Bill Fuhrer, 683-4236 to sign up.

A CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of Your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

CHAPTER ONE WE HAVE BELIEVED IN LOVE (CF. 1 JN 4:16) FROM POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL *LIGHT OF FAITH*

The fullness of Christian faith Part II

This fullness, which Jesus brings to faith, has another decisive aspect. In faith, Christ is not simply the one in whom we believe, the supreme manifestation of God's love; he is also the one with whom we are united precisely in order to believe. Faith does not merely gaze at Jesus, but sees things as Jesus himself sees them, with his own eyes: it is a participation in his way of seeing.



In many areas in our lives we trust others who know more than we do. We trust the architect who builds our home, the pharmacist who gives us medicine for healing, the lawyer who defends us in court. We also need someone trustworthy and knowledgeable where God is concerned. Jesus, the Son of God, is the one who makes God known to us (cf. Jn 1:18). Christ's life, his way of knowing the Father and living in complete and constant relationship with him, opens up new and inviting vistas for human experience. Saint John brings out the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus for our faith by using various forms of the verb "to believe". In addition to "believing that" what Jesus tells us is true, John also speaks of "believing" Jesus and "believing in" Jesus. We "believe" Jesus when we accept his word, his testimony, because he is truthful. We "believe in" Jesus when we personally welcome him into our lives and journey towards him, clinging to him in love and following in his footsteps along the way. To enable us to know, accept and follow him, the Son of God took on our flesh. In this way, he also saw the Father humanly, within the setting of a journey unfolding in time. Christian faith is faith in the incarnation of the Word and his bodily resurrection; it is faith in a God who is so close to us that he entered our human history. Far from divorcing us from reality, our faith in the Son of God made man in Jesus of Nazareth enables us to grasp reality's deepest meaning and to see how much God loves this world and is constantly guiding it towards himself. This leads us, as Christians, to live our lives in this world with ever greater commitment and intensity.

Salvation by faith

On the basis of this sharing in Jesus' way of seeing things, Saint Paul has left us a description of the life of faith. In accepting the gift of faith, believers become a new creation; they receive a new being; as God's children, they are now "adopted children in the Son". The phrase "Abba, Father", so characteristic of Jesus' own experience, now becomes the core of the Christian experience (cf. Rom 8:15). The life of faith, as a filial existence, is the acknowledgment of a primordial and radical gift, which upholds our lives. We see this clearly in Saint Paul's question to the Corinthians: "What have you that you did not receive?" (1Cor 4:7). This was at the very heart of Paul's debate with the Pharisees: the issue of whether salvation is attained by faith or by the works of the law. Paul rejects the attitude of those who would consider themselves justified before God on the basis of their own works. Such people, even when they obey the commandments and do good works, are centered on themselves; they fail to realize that goodness comes from God. Those who live this way, who want to be the source of their own righteousness, find that the latter is soon depleted and that they are unable even to keep the law. They become closed in on themselves and isolated from the Lord and from others; their lives become futile and their works barren, like a tree far from water. Saint Augustine tells us in his usual concise and striking way: "Do not turn away from the one who made you, even to turn towards yourself". (De Continentia, 4, 11: PL 40, 356) Once I think that by turning away from God I will find myself, my life begins to fall apart (cf. Lk 15:11-24). The beginning of salvation is openness to something prior to ourselves, to a primordial gift that affirms life and sustains it in being. Only by being open to and acknowledging this gift can we be transformed, experience salvation and bear good fruit. Salvation by faith means recognizing the primacy of God's gift. As Saint Paul puts it: "By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" (Eph 2:8).

Faith's new way of seeing things is centered on Christ. Faith in Christ brings salvation because in him our lives become radically open to a love that precedes us, a love that transforms us from within, acting in us and through us. This is clearly seen in Saint Paul's exegesis of a text from Deuteronomy, an exegesis consonant with the heart of the Old Testament message. Moses tells the people that God's command is neither too high nor too far away. There is no need to say: "Who will go up for us to heaven and bring it to us?" or "Who will go over the sea for us, and bring it to us?" (Dt 30:11-14). Paul interprets this nearness of God's word in terms of Christ's presence in the Christian. "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' (that is, to bring Christ down), or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead)" (Rom 10:6-7). Christ came down to earth and rose from the dead; by his incarnation and resurrection, the Son of God embraced the whole of human life and history, and now dwells in our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Faith knows that God has drawn close to us, that Christ has been given to us as a great gift, which inwardly transforms us, dwells within us and thus bestows on us the light that illumines the origin and the end of life.

We come to see the difference, then, which faith makes for us. Those who believe are transformed by the love to which they have opened their hearts in faith. By their openness to this offer of primordial love, their lives are enlarged and expanded. "It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me" (Gal 2:20). "May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith" (Eph 3:17). The self-awareness of the believer now expands because of the presence of another; it now lives in this other and thus, in love, life takes on a whole new breadth. Here we see the Holy Spirit at work. The Christian can see with the eyes of Jesus and share in his mind, his filial disposition, because he or she shares in his love, which is the Spirit. In the love of Jesus, we receive in a certain way his vision. Without being conformed to him in love, without the presence of the Spirit, it is impossible to confess him as Lord (cf. 1 Cor 12:3).

***INTERCESSION TO APOSTLE OF CALIFORNIA
PADRE JUNIPERO SERRA***

O Lord Jesus Christ, reward the apostolic zeal of Your servant, Padre Junipero Serra, who departing his native Spain, labored for the salvation of souls in Mexico and California. Graciously deign by evident signs and prodigies to glorify him, so that for the exaltation of Your Most Holy Name, he may be elevated to the honors of the altar. Through Padre's intercession kindly grant the special favor, I request.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father

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One Nation, Under God