



# The Navigator

Knights of Columbus - Fourth Degree

Junipero Serra Assembly 0044

December 2014

Siempre Adelanto (Always Forward) Fr Serra's Motto

Have Merry and blest Christmas!! The most important gift to open on Christmas is the Gift of Salvation under the tree of the Cross!! Allow this gift to transform you into a more loving, caring Christ-like person in 2015 and throughout your life.

## CALENDAR

December's Christmas Dinner	13 Dec
January Officer's Meeting	05 Jan
Clergy Appreciation Dinner	21 Jan
February Officer's Meeting	02 Feb

**NO DINNER MEETINGS IN  
DECEMBER AND JANUARY**

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Assembly are due in January each year. Dues are \$30 per year the same as it was in 1996.

Please send your check payable only this way **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS JUNIPERO SERRA ASSEMBLY** to Paul Coyne, 5451 Toltec Dr, SB 93111-1609

## EDITOR'S APOLOGY

For those with snail mail, sorry for the late delivery for October's Navigator. Due to a couple of infections, I was unable to make copies and mail the November's one out.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

Assembly 44 and Council 5300 Christmas Party will be on **DECEMBER 13** at **6:30 PM** in St Raphael's Hall. The dinner will cost is only **\$20** per person.

## CLERGY APPRECIATION DINNER

Clergy Appreciation Dinner will be on **WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>** at **BISHOP DIEGO HIGH SCHOOL** with a "SOCIAL HOUR" beginning at **7:00 PM** and **DINNER** will be served **7:30 PM**.

## 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
Roy F Schrader Jr.	18 Dec
Mell Hueston	23 Dec
John F. Corcoran	24 Dec
Archbishop José Gomez	26 Dec



## KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Lee Alfano widow of SK Sam Alfano, SK Brian Klinge, Terry Pugh , wife of SK Earl Pugh; SK Steve Schlesselman, SK Larry Torres, SK Bill McNamara, SK Felix Sanchez, Bro. Fritz Cahill and his son Tom Cahill, SK Joseph Connolly (Council 1684 & Color Guard), SK Al Meckelborg, Bro. Roy Fong who has Parkinson's Disease, Camille Moynihan, widow of SK John Moynihan, Carol McLafferty, widow of SK Bill McLafferty, Denise Swiacki wife of SK Walter Swiacki, Donna Abels wife of SK Jim Abels, Cindy Peyton's son who has been deployed for a 3<sup>rd</sup> tour to Afghanistan, 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, SK Roy Schrader, Patricia Schrader, wife of and David, son of SK Roy Schrader, SK Joe & Ruth Duwel, Daughter of PFN Jim Garland, Christian Franzen, nephew of SK Dn Wayne, Bro Dan Engler (Council 1684), Eileen Pando, widow of SK Joe Pando, Frances Diani, wife of Bro. Frank Diani Fr. Dennis, Collins, Fr. Bruce, who is having some medical issues, Fr. James, 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.

## 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 FOUR GOD PREPARES A CITY FOR THEM (CF. HEB 11:16) FROM POPE FRANCIS' ENCYCLICAL *LIGHT OF FAITH*

### *A Light for Life in Society*

Absorbed and deepened in the family, faith becomes a light capable of illumining all our relationships in society. As an experience of the mercy of God the Father, it sets us on the path of brotherhood. Modernity sought to build a universal brotherhood based on equality, yet we gradually came to realize that this brotherhood, lacking a reference to a common Father as its ultimate foundation, cannot endure. We need to return to the true basis of brotherhood. The history of faith has been from the beginning a history of brotherhood, albeit not without conflict. God calls Abraham to go forth from his land and promises to make of him a great nation, a great people on whom the divine blessing rests (cf. Gen 12:1-3). As salvation history progresses, it becomes evident that God wants to make everyone share as brothers and sisters in that one blessing, which attains its fullness in Jesus, so that all may be one. The boundless love of our Father also comes to us, in Jesus, through our brothers and sisters. Faith teaches us to see that every man and woman represents a blessing for me, that the light of God's face shines on me through the faces of my brothers and sisters. How many benefits has the gaze of Christian faith brought to the city of humanity for their common life! Thanks to faith, we have come to understand the unique dignity of each person. At the heart of biblical faith is God's love, his concrete concern for every person, and his plan of salvation, which embraces all of humanity and all creation, culminating in the incarnation, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without insight into these realities, there is no criterion for discerning what makes human life precious and unique. People lose their place in the universe, they are cast adrift in nature, either renouncing their proper moral responsibility or else presuming to be a sort of absolute judge, endowed with an unlimited power to manipulate the world around them. Faith, on the other hand, by revealing the love of God the Creator, enables us to respect nature even more, and to discern in it a grammar written by the hand of God and a dwelling place entrusted to our protection and care. Faith also helps us to devise models of development, which are based not simply on utility and profit, but consider creation as a gift for which we are all indebted; it teaches us to create just forms of government, in the realization that authority comes from God and is meant for the service of the common good. Faith likewise offers the possibility of forgiveness, which so often demands time and effort, patience and commitment.



Forgiveness is possible once we discover that goodness is always prior to and more powerful than evil, and that the word with which God affirms our life is deeper than our every denial. From a purely anthropological standpoint, unity is superior to conflict; rather than avoiding conflict, we need to confront it in an effort to resolve and move beyond it, to make it a link in a chain, as part of a progress towards unity. When faith is weakened, the foundations of life also risk being weakened, as the poet T.S. Eliot warned in **“CHORUSES FROM THE ROCK”**, in *The Collected Poems and Plays 1909-1950*, New York, 1980, p. 106: “Do you need to be told that even those modest attainments / As you can boast in the way of polite society / Will hardly survive the Faith to which they owe their significance?” If we remove faith in God from our cities, mutual trust would be weakened, we would remain united only by fear and our stability would be threatened. In the Letter to the Hebrews we read that “God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them” (Heb 11:16). Here the expression “is not ashamed” is associated with public acknowledgment. The intention is to say that God, by his concrete actions, makes a public avowal that he is present in our midst and that he desires to solidify every human relationship. Could it be the case, instead, that we are the ones who are ashamed to call God our God? That we are the ones who fail to confess him as such in our public life, who fail to propose the grandeur of the life in common which he makes possible? Faith illumines life and society. If it possesses a creative light for each new moment of history, it is because it sets every event in relationship to the origin and destiny of all things in the Father.

*Blessed is she who believed (Lk 1:45)*

In the parable of the sower, Saint Luke has left us these words of the Lord about the “good soil”: “These are the ones who when they hear the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance” (Lk 8:15). In the context of Luke’s Gospel, this mention of an honest and good heart, which hears and keeps the word is an implicit portrayal of the faith of the Virgin Mary. The evangelist himself speaks of Mary’s memory, how she treasured in her heart all that she had heard and seen, so that the word could bear fruit in her life. The Mother of the Lord is the perfect icon of faith; as Saint Elizabeth would say: “Blessed is she who believed” (Lk 1:45). In Mary, the Daughter of Zion, is fulfilled the long history of faith of the Old Testament, with its account of so many faithful women, beginning with Sarah: women who, alongside the patriarchs, were those in whom God’s promise was fulfilled and new life flowered. In the fullness of time, God’s word was spoken to Mary and she received that word into her heart, her entire being, so that in her womb it could take flesh and be born as light for humanity. Saint Justin Martyr, in his dialogue with Trypho, uses a striking expression; he tells us that Mary, receiving the message of the angel, conceived “faith and joy”. (**DIALOGUS CUM TRYPHONE IUDAEO**, 100, 5: PG 6, 710) In the Mother of Jesus, faith demonstrated its fruitfulness; when our own spiritual lives bear fruit we become filled with joy, which is the clearest sign of faith’s grandeur. In her own life Mary completed the pilgrimage of faith, following in the footsteps of her Son. (Vatican II **DOGMAIC CONSTITUTION ON THE CHURCH LUMEN**

**GENTIUM**, ¶58) In her, the faith journey of the Old Testament was thus taken up into the following of Christ, transformed by him and entering into the gaze of the incarnate Son of God. We can say that in the Blessed Virgin Mary we find something I mentioned earlier, namely that the believer is completely taken up into his or her confession of faith. Because of her close bond with Jesus, Mary is strictly connected to what we believe. As Virgin and Mother, Mary offers us a clear sign of Christ’s divine sonship. The eternal origin of Christ is in the Father.

He is the Son in a total and unique sense, and so he is born in time without the intervention of a human. As the Son, Jesus brings to the world a new beginning and a new light, the fullness of God’s faithful love bestowed on humanity. But Mary’s true motherhood also ensured for the Son of God an authentic human history, true flesh in which he would die on the cross and rise from the dead. Mary would accompany Jesus to the cross (cf. Jn 19:25), whence her motherhood would extend to each of his disciples (cf. Jn 19:26-27). She will also be present in the upper room after Jesus’ resurrection and ascension, joining the apostles in imploring the gift of the Spirit (cf. Acts 1:14). The movement of love between Father, Son and Spirit runs through our history, and Christ draws us to himself in order to save us (cf. Jn 12:32). At the center of our faith is the confession of Jesus, the Son of God, born of a woman, who brings us, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, to adoption as sons and daughters (cf. Gal 4:4). Let us turn in prayer to Mary, Mother of the Church and Mother of our faith. Mother, help our faith! Open our ears to hear God’s word and to recognize his voice and call. Awaken in us a desire to follow in his footsteps, to go forth from our own land and to receive his promise. Help us to be touched by his love, that we may touch him in faith. Help us to entrust ourselves fully to him and to believe in his love, especially at times of trial, beneath the shadow of the cross, when our faith is called to mature. Sow in our faith the joy of the Risen One. Remind us that those who believe are never alone. Teach us to see all things with the eyes of Jesus, that he may be light for our path. And may this light of faith always increase in us, until the dawn of that undying day which is Christ himself, your Son, our Lord!

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

***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**

*The Navigator*



SK Mike Betliskey  
5750 Via Real Sp 307  
Carpinteria CA 93013-2612

**One Nation, Under God**