



# The Navigator

Knights of Columbus - Fourth Degree

Junipero Serra Assembly 0044

May 2019

Siempre Adelanto (Always Forward) Fr Serra's Motto

## CALENDAR

May's Dinner Meeting 20 May  
June's Officers Meeting 03 Jun  
April's Dinner Meeting 17 Jun

### May's Dinner Meeting

On **MONDAY 20 MAY**, we will have our May dinner meeting beginning with a "SOCIAL HOUR" at 6:30 PM and a LASAGNA DINNER prepared by SK Fuhrer will be served a little after 7:00 PM. At the meeting, the slate of officers for 2019 – 2020 will be discussed.

### BIRTHDAYS for May

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

Fr. Michael Ravenkamp 02 May  
José Hernandez 03 May  
Paul E Christiansen 09 May  
Francis J Donohoe Jr. 18 May  
Juan Garcia 26 May

For submissions or to receive the Navigator by E-mail contact SK Mike Betliskey at 805-280-1103 or email [bubs4carp@gmail.com](mailto:bubs4carp@gmail.com)

Insurance Field Agent  
George J. Majoue #16634  
(805) 478-5200 Direct  
(877) 395-2328 Fax  
[george.majoue@kofc.org](mailto:george.majoue@kofc.org)

District Deputy  
Chris Arnoult, PGK  
805-964-6324  
[francisarnoult@cox.net](mailto:francisarnoult@cox.net)

## MAY MARIAN MONTH

For centuries, the Catholic Church has set aside the entire month of May to honor Mary, Mother of God. In medieval times, similar customs abounded, all centering around the practice of expelling winter, as May 1 was considered the start of new growth. During this period, the tradition of *Tricesimum*, or "Thirty-Day Devotion to Mary," came into being. Also called, "Lady Month," the event was held from August 15-September 14 and is still observed in some areas. The idea of a month dedicated specifically to Mary can be traced back to baroque times. Although it was not always held during May, Mary Month included thirty daily spiritual exercises honoring Mary. It was in this era that Mary's Month and May were combined, making May the Month of Mary with special devotions organized on each day throughout the month. This custom became especially widespread during the nineteenth century and remains in practice until today.

## APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS ON THE CALL TO HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

### CHAPTER FOUR SIGNS OF HOLINESS IN TODAY'S WORLD

#### JOY AND A SENSE OF HUMOR

122. Far from being timid, morose, acerbic or melancholy, or putting on a dreary face, the saints are joyful and full of good humor. Though completely realistic, they radiate a positive and hopeful spirit. The Christian life is "joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom 14:17), for "the necessary result of the love of charity is joy; since every lover rejoices at being united to the beloved... the effect of charity is joy". -*Summa Theologiae* Having received the beautiful gift of God's word, we embrace it "in much affliction, with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit" (1 Thess 1:6). If we allow the Lord to draw us out of our shell and change our lives, then we can do as Saint Paul tells us: "Rejoice in the Lord always; I say it again, rejoice!" (Phil 4:4).

123. The prophets proclaimed the times of Jesus, in which we now live, as a revelation of joy. "Shout and sing for joy!" (Is 12:6). "Get you up to a high mountain, O herald of good tidings to Zion; lift up your voice with strength, O herald of good tidings to Jerusalem!" (Is 40:9). "Break forth, O mountains, into singing! For the Lord has comforted his people, and he will have compassion on his afflicted" (Is 49:13).



## KEEP in YOUR PRAYERS

SK Al Meckelborg, Teresa Barrier, wife of SK Ed Barrier, Roberta Coyne wife of SK Paul Coyne, Sharon Donohoe, daughter of PFN Frank and Cay Donohoe and sister of PFN Patrick Donohoe, Maggie Crosby, fiancé of PFN Patrick Donohoe, Manual Cabrera and his spouse, brother and sister-in-law of PN Francisco Cabrera, Lee Alfano widow of SK Sam Alfano, SK Brian Klinge, Terry Pugh, wife of SK Earl Pugh; SK Larry Torres, Ruben Sanchez, brother of SK Felix Sanchez, Anita Pullens sisters-in-law to SK Felix Sanchez, Sr. Teresa Meza, Sister of SK José Meza, Maria Sanchez, wife of SK José Meza, Enrique Franco, nephew of SK José Meza, SK Dn Wayne Rascati, Christian Franzen, nephew of SK Dn Wayne, Fr. Frank Colburn, and Fr. Tomas Elis.

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

*"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he" (Zech 9:9). Nor should we forget Nehemiah's exhortation: "Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!" (8:10).*

124. Mary, recognizing the newness that Jesus brought, sang: "My spirit rejoices" (Lk 1:47), and Jesus himself "rejoiced in the Holy Spirit" (Lk 10:21). As he passed by, "all the people rejoiced" (Lk 13:17). After his resurrection, wherever the disciples went, there was "much joy" (Acts 8:8). Jesus assures us: "You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy... I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you" (Jn 16:20,22). "These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (Jn 15:11).

125. Hard times may come, when the cross casts its shadow, yet nothing can destroy the supernatural joy that "adapts and changes, but always endures, even as a flicker of light born of our personal certainty that, when everything is said and done, we are infinitely loved." *—Pope Francis* That joy brings deep security, serene hope and a spiritual fulfillment that the world cannot understand or appreciate.

126. Christian joy is usually accompanied by a sense of humor. We see this clearly, for example, in Saint Thomas More, Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Philip Neri. Ill humor is no sign of holiness. "Remove vexation from your mind" (Ecd 11:10). We receive so much from the Lord "for our enjoyment" (1 Tim 6:17), that sadness can be a sign of ingratitude. We can get so caught up in ourselves that we are unable to recognize God's gifts. I recommend praying the prayer attributed to Saint Thomas More: "Grant me, O Lord, good digestion, and also something to digest. Grant me a healthy body, and the necessary good humor to maintain it. Grant me a simple soul that knows to treasure all that is good and that does not frighten easily at the sight of evil, but rather finds the means to put things back in their place. Give me a soul that knows not boredom, grumbling, sighs and laments, nor excess of stress, because of that obstructing thing called 'I'. Grant me, O Lord, a sense of good humor. Allow me the grace to be able to take a joke and to discover in life a bit of joy, and to be able to share it with others".

127. With the love of a father, God tells us: "My son, treat yourself well... Do not deprive yourself of a happy day" (Sir 14:11,14). He wants us to be positive, grateful and uncomplicated: "In the day of prosperity, be joyful... God created human beings straightforward, but they have devised many schemes" (Ecd 7:14,29). Whatever the case, we should remain resilient and imitate Saint Paul: "I have learned to be content with what I have" (Phil 4:11). Saint Francis of Assisi lived by this; he could be overwhelmed with gratitude before a piece of hard bread, or joyfully praise God simply for the breeze that caressed his face.

128. This is not the joy held out by today's individualistic and consumerist culture. Consumerism only bloats the heart. It can offer occasional and passing pleasures, but not joy. Here I am speaking of a joy lived in communion, which shares and is shared, since "there is more happiness in giving than in receiving" (Acts 20:35) and "God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7). Fraternal love increases our capacity for joy, since it makes us capable of rejoicing in the good of others: "Rejoice with those who rejoice" (Rom 12:15). "We rejoice when we are weak and you are strong" (2 Cor 13:9). On the other hand, when we "focus primarily on our own needs, we condemn ourselves to a joyless existence".

*—Pope Francis*

## **BOLDNESS AND PASSION**

129. Holiness is also *parrhesía*: it is boldness, an impulse to evangelize and to leave a mark in this world. To allow us to do this, Jesus himself comes and tells us once more, serenely yet firmly: "Do not be afraid" (Mk 6:50). "I am with you always, to the end of the world" (Mt 28:20).



These words enable us to go forth and serve with the same courage that the Holy Spirit stirred up in the Apostles, impelling them to proclaim Jesus Christ. Boldness, enthusiasm, the freedom to speak out, apostolic fervor, all these are included in the word *parrhesía*. The Bible also uses this word to describe the freedom of a life open to God and to others (cf. *Acts* 4:29, 9:28, 28:31; *2 Cor* 3:12; *Eph* 3:12; *Heb* 3:6, 10:19).

130. Blessed Paul VI, in referring to obstacles to evangelization, spoke of a lack of fervor (*parrhesía*) that is “*all the more serious because it comes from within*”. It is worth noting that in this text Blessed Paul VI closely links joy and *parrhesía*. While lamenting a “*lack of joy and hope*” as an obstacle to evangelization, he extols the “*delightful and comforting joy of evangelizing*”, linked to “*an interior enthusiasm that nobody and nothing can quench*”. This ensures that the world does not receive the Gospel “*from evangelizers who are dejected [and] discouraged*”. During the 1975 Holy Year, Pope Paul devoted to joy his Apostolic Exhortation **GAUDETE IN DOMINO** (9 May 1975). How often we are tempted to keep close to the shore! Yet the Lord calls us to put out into the deep and let down our nets (cf. *Lk* 5:4). He bids us spend our lives in his service. Clinging to him, we are inspired to put all our charisms at the service of others. May we always feel compelled by his love (*2 Cor* 5:14) and say with Saint Paul: “*Woe to me if I do not preach the Gospel!*” (*1 Cor* 9:16).

131. Look at Jesus. His deep compassion reached out to others. It did not make him hesitant, timid or self-conscious, as often happens with us. Quite the opposite. His compassion made him go out actively to preach and to send others on a mission of healing and liberation. Let us acknowledge our weakness, but allow Jesus to lay hold of it and send us too on mission. We are weak, yet we hold a treasure that can enlarge us and make those who receive it better and happier. Boldness and apostolic courage are an essential part of mission.

132. *Parrhesía* is a seal of the Spirit; it testifies to the authenticity of our preaching. It is a joyful assurance that leads us to glory in the Gospel we proclaim. It is an unshakeable trust in the faithful Witness who gives us the certainty that nothing can “*separate us from the love of God*” (*Rom* 8:39).

133. We need the Spirit’s prompting, lest we be paralyzed by fear and excessive caution, lest we grow used to keeping within safe bounds. Let us remember that closed spaces grow musty and unhealthy. When the Apostles were tempted to let themselves be crippled by danger and threats, they joined in prayer to implore *parrhesía*. “*And now, Lord, look upon their threats, and grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness*” (*Acts* 4:29). As a result, “*when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness*” (*Acts* 4:31).

134. Like the prophet Jonah, we are constantly tempted to flee to a safe haven. It can have many names: individualism, spiritualism, living in a little world, addiction, intransigence, the rejection of new ideas and approaches, dogmatism, nostalgia, pessimism, hiding behind rules and regulations. We can resist leaving behind a familiar and easy way of doing things. Yet the challenges involved can be like the storm, the whale, the worm that dried the gourd plant, or the wind and sun that burned Jonah’s head. For us, as for him, they can serve to bring us back to the God of tenderness, who invites us to set out ever anew on our journey.

135. God is eternal newness. He impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond. He takes us to where humanity is most wounded, where men and women, beneath the appearance of a shallow conformity, continue to seek an answer to the question of life’s meaning. God is not afraid! He is fearless! He is always greater than our plans and schemes. Unafraid of the fringes, he himself became a fringe (cf. *Phil* 2:6-8; *Jn* 1:14). So if we dare to go to the fringes, we will find him there; indeed, he is already there. Jesus is already there, in the hearts of our brothers and sisters, in their wounded flesh, in their troubles and in their profound desolation. He is already there.

136. True enough, we need to open the door of our hearts to Jesus, who stands and knocks (cf. *Rev* 3:20). Sometimes I wonder, though, if perhaps Jesus is already inside us and knocking on the door for us to let him escape from our stale self-centeredness. In the Gospel, we see how Jesus “*went through the cities and villages, preaching and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God*” (*Lk* 8:1). After the resurrection, when the disciples went forth in all directions, the Lord accompanied them (cf. *Mk* 16:20). This is what happens as the result of true encounter.

137. Complacency is seductive; it tells us that there is no point in trying to change things, that there is nothing we can do, because this is the way things have always been and yet we always manage to survive. By force of habit we no longer stand up to evil. We “*let things be*”, or as others have decided they ought to be. Yet let us allow the Lord to rouse us from our torpor, to free us from our inertia. Let us rethink our usual way of doing things; let us open our eyes and ears, and above all our hearts, so as not to be complacent about things as they are, but unsettled by the living and effective word of the risen Lord.

138. We are inspired to act by the example of all those priests, religious, and laity who devote themselves to proclamation and to serving others with great fidelity, often at the risk of their lives and certainly at the cost of their comfort. Their testimony reminds us that, more than bureaucrats and functionaries, the Church needs passionate missionaries, enthusiastic about sharing true life. The saints surprise us, they confound us, because by their lives they urge us to abandon a dull and dreary mediocrity.

139. Let us ask the Lord for the grace not to hesitate when the Spirit calls us to take a step forward. Let us ask for the apostolic courage to share the Gospel with others and to stop trying to make our Christian life a museum of memories. In every situation, may the Holy Spirit cause us to contemplate history in the light of the risen Jesus. In this way, the Church will not stand still, but constantly welcome the Lord’s surprises.

***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**