



# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOURTH DEGREE JOHN T. DONOHUE ASSEMBLY 0067

December 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 8<sup>th</sup> – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation).

December 21<sup>st</sup> – Winter Solstice.

December 25<sup>th</sup> – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas and Holy Day of Obligation).

December 31<sup>st</sup> – Holy Family Sunday and Happy 2024 to all!

## SPIRITUAL ADVISOR:

### The Season of Christmas-Epiphany

To understand and experience the Christmas-Epiphany season more fully, it is useful, as we celebrate it today, to recall how the feasts that make up the liturgical year came into being and developed.

It is not until the fourth century that a calendar mentions the celebration of the Lord's nativity. This was the Christianization of the pagan feast sol Invictus— "the invincible sun"—introduced in 274 by the emperor Aurelius (270-275) and celebrated in Rome on December 25. The sun wanes continually from the end of June until the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year. As if to vanquish darkness, however, the sun wins out over the long, dark days by shining a little

longer each day until its brightest and most glorious moment at the summer solstice.

The substitution of one feast for another was easy for those who, having once participated in the pagan feast, became Christians. The prophet Malachi had said that one day “the Sun of Justice” (Mal 3:20) would arise, and Jesus called himself “the Light of the world” (John 8:12). The true Sun, the “vanquisher of darkness,” is the one who has triumphed over sin and death. After the Peace of Constantine (313) the feast of the Nativity of the Lord also supplanted altogether the pagan celebration of the Sun

About the same time, as a Christianization of the celebration of the winter solstice observed in Egypt and Arabia on January 6, the feast of Epiphany came into being. Epiphany means “showing forth,” “manifestation,” and as if to refute certain pagan myths, emphasis was placed on the baptism of Jesus, his mission, and on the miracle at Cana by which he revealed his glory (John 2:11). Soon, Epiphany was celebrated throughout the West: we find mention of it as a great feast in Gaul in 361. The East gradually adopted the feast of Christmas somewhere between the end of the fourth century and the first half of the fifth century.

From their beginnings up to today, both in the West and the East, various emphases characterize these feasts. Quite early on, different liturgical traditions crossed paths and had influence on each other. Reciprocal borrowing has been the rule. But no matter what has developed since the beginning, and despite all the liturgical formularies, one thing remains: it is impossible to encompass and express in only one liturgy the richness and complexity of the mystery that it celebrates. The “good” liturgies are those that are not limited to one perspective. This accounts for the diversity of scriptural texts that are

offered for reading and meditation. They are not as distracting as one might think. They open a greater awareness of what is being celebrated.

### FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR:

For those not in regular attendance, our main social event in the making since our Columbian Year began in October is upon us. That will be the annual Christmas Dinner Party to happen on December 6th in place of our regularly scheduled meeting. This will be internally supported by the voluntary support of several gracious Sir Knights, and I thank all of you who have contributed.

Our next business meeting will be on January 3, 2024, when we will delve into the subject of goals to achieve the Star Assembly Award. So, plan to join us and participate in this worthy patriotic activity. If you are not planning to attend the Party as we meet in honor of our gracious Lord's birthday, I wish you a Blessed and Merry Christmas and to remember to keep Christ our focus as we strive to remain faithful and patriotic Catholic men.

May God Bless,

Steve Mormann, FN  
Assembly 67

### NOTES FROM THE COMPTROLLER:

So far, we have 21 Sir Knights/wives/guests committed for the Christmas Dinner out of 78 total members. I know many are in their later years and do not get around very well, others are not in the area, but numbers should be twice as high. Such is life! Candy sales are going quite well this year. Hopefully, we sell out before Christmas, like we did last year. **Thanks to all the worker bees.** If you are the lead seller at your church, please bring your remaining candy to the dinner on the 6<sup>th</sup>

so we can redistribute to those who are low or out of a certain kind. I can also relieve you of the monies you have collected so far. It is that time of year again and I will be sending out the annual billing to all members of record. If you would like to save the assembly some money, you can send it to me any time before Christmas. The dues are \$31.00. If you are Honorary Life, it is \$16.00, and Life Membership is \$6.00 for the Memorial Fund. **Unfortunately, as in past years, 25% of the membership do not PAY their dues!!**

Tom Cunningham, Sr

DISTRICT DEPUTY:

My Brothers,

Wishing you all a merry Christmas and the most blessed Advent season! As we start the new liturgical year, it is a time of faith, hope, and renewal. It gives us a fresh start and new chance to live the Lord's Gospel and demonstrate our devotion to Him by the way we lead our lives.

All the councils in District 2 have just concluded or are planning major upcoming events. Council 1137 at St. John the Baptist Church in Chico will be holding their annual Crab Feed the evening of Saturday, February 10 (traditionally the evening before the Super Bowl). Like last year it has gone back to a face-to-face format and promises to be a most enjoyable event! For tickets contact Grand Knight Matt Crete at [matt\\_crete@outlook.com](mailto:matt_crete@outlook.com) or call 530-864-4040. Council 7773 at St. Thomas More Church in Paradise just completed erecting over sixty flags along the Skyway on Veteran's Day and are currently involved with the construction of a new Social Hall replacing the one that burned in the Camp Fire in 2018. Council 9135 at Immaculate Conception Church in Corning just participated in the annual Corning Olive Festival and has begun hosting monthly Corn Hole tournaments in the Parish Hall. The

next one will be December 17 at 3:00 PM. The entry fee is \$20 with half going to the winner's purse. Council 13765 at Our Divine Savior Church in Chico just concluded a successful Harvest Festival netting approximately \$1,300 for the parish youth Group. Councils 1137 and 13765 are collaborating to begin the COR "Men of the Word" Bible Study Program. The first meeting will be on January 16 at 7:00 PM in Room 2 of the ODS Parish Social Hall.

The Supreme Council continues to push online membership as a means for eligible Catholic men to join and learn more about the Knights and free online membership has been extended through June 30, 2024. By entering the code "Blessed McGivney" in the online membership application at [kofc.org/joinus](https://kofc.org/joinus), prospective candidates can join for free for the first year. **Online members count as new members when they are accepted into your council and participate in the Combined Exemplification of "Charity, Unity, and Fraternity" will Share the gift of membership this Advent season by asking a qualified Catholic man**



**to become a "Knight Before Christmas."**

The end of December also marks the halfway point in the Columbian Year when several forms and reports come due, including the "Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity" and "Semi-Annual Council Audit Report." Both can be found on the District 2 website at [kofc-ca-d2.org](https://kofc-ca-d2.org). It is equally important for those council officers required to do so to complete Supreme's Praesidium Armatus Safe Environment training. This is an

online course that can be accessed on the Supreme website at [kofc.org/safe](http://kofc.org/safe). Those required to take the training (the council Grand Knight, Program Director, Family Director, and Community Director) should choose the “Green” button and follow the instructions provided. Those who wish to take the training voluntarily may do so by clicking on the “Blue” button.

I am so proud of who you are and all that you do! Thank you for your charity and service! Have a happy and healthy new year!

May God bless,

Dave Abbott  
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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE: Brother Knights,  
We seem to say it ever year: “It’s almost Christmas, where has the year gone?” As we look back and measure the passing of the seasons, from one holiday to the next, we see how our lives have changed with Christmas and the end of the year marking a milestone for most of us. This Christmas season especially gives us pause to thank God for sending his only begotten Son to redeem us and it is also a time to reflect on all the gifts we have received from him. God’s gift to us inspires the gift-giving so many of us enjoy at Christmastime. And, as brother Knights, gift-giving in the form of charity and providing for others is the foundation of who we are.

Looking back on 2023, I am proud and humbled at all the selfless members of the Order who gave gifts to help others. We are certainly

“Knights of Charity”, and we prove this every day with the many brother Knights who give of themselves, of their time, their talent, or their treasure, to help those less fortunate and those in need.

We should be proud of our generosity through the proceeds of our insurance programs that funded over \$154 Million last year alone. During these trying times, Knights of Charity provided disaster relief, helped those and their families who were homebound, purchased many more ultrasound machines that have been placed into service to save unborn children, and our mission of charity provided support for Ukraine Relief, as well as in the Middle East and Africa where Christian communities face persecution. And the Knights of Charity helped provide coats for thousands of kids who will now stay warm this winter.

All these important initiatives help many others, but we must not forget about our own families and loved ones... and I am not talking about gifts that you will put under the tree. This holiday season as we think of giving and receiving, when we think of all the good gifts we have been given and all we are able to give, make sure you give your family the gift of peace of mind. Secure in the knowledge that whatever challenges they may face, you have provided them with financial security. So, as we prepare to celebrate Christmas, let us be thankful for all the graces God has showered on us, especially the gift of his Son, our Savior! As Isaiah 9:5 says: “For a child is born to us, a son is given to us; upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.” *New American Bible (Revised Edition)*

Have a joyous Christmas and a blessed New Year! May God Bless you and your family and keep you all healthy and safe in 2024!

Dave Moeller, FICF, MBA  
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE SIR KNIGHTS:

John Viegas	12-05	Jose Nunez	12-06
George Waters	12-15	Michael Johnson	12-17
Thomas Cunningham Jr.	12-22	Kieran O'Leary	12-31

Please remember to wish these individuals a Happy Birthday if you happen to see them. It is a pleasant thing to do!



**COLOR GUARD COMMANDER:**

No report this month! If there is a Color Guard activity, you should see a report here.



Faithful Friar	Fr. Martin J. Ramat	(530) 343-4248	odsparish.org
Faithful Navigator	Steve Mormann (Carolyn)	(530)895-8549	smormann67@comcast.net
Faithful Captain	Peter Costa	(530)345-8728	pelco67@gmail.com
Faithful Pilot	Mike Gainok	(530)343-8454	mgainok@aol.com
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Faithful Scribe	Jonathan Revolinsky	(530) 957-2881	revolin05@gmail.com
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## JOHN DONOHUE ASSEMBLY 0067

Chico, California ~~2023~~-2024 Columbian Year

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