



Knights' News

Knights of Columbus • Council # 7773 Paradise, CA • October 2026

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MARY'S ROLE IN GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

By Deacon Ray Helgeson

Why do we, as Catholics, honor Mary the Mother of Jesus? Because God honored her first. It is impossible for us to fathom the depth of the singular role that God the Father has given to the Mother of His Beloved Son. Yet, because of what God has chosen to reveal to us, we can begin to see, with the gift of faith and with help from the gift of reason, what God the Father wished for us to see and know about this Woman.

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter One, gives us the majority of our insight into this Woman chosen by God in His Plan of salvation. I am not going to give commentary on these Gospel passages, please let the passages speak for themselves, there is much depth to be found in them. "In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel *was sent by God.*" The Gospel continues, "*Hail favored one! The Lord is with you.*" Again the Gospel continues, "Do not be afraid *Mary, you have found favor with God.... He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High.*" Recall, these words do not originate with the angel, but with God the Father.

Let us use these passages, and others throughout this Chapter of Luke's Gospel, to be sources of grace for our prayerful meditation. Mary leads us to her Divine Son and helps us on our way. Throughout the life of the Church every saint had a lively devotion to Our Blessed Mother. Remember, the Sacred Scriptures provide God's Divine Revelation revealed to us as believers. Do not approach the truths of our faith as if they were of human origin, put under an intellectual microscope and with endless scrutiny. Without the use of the gift of faith, what they say can seem like nonsense. But with the gift of faith they bring Light and Grace to our minds and our souls on our way to salvation.



The sixth anniversary of the Beautification of the
Blessed Michael McGivney

GRAND KNIGHT'S NOTATIONS

What a month of September:

- A great pancake breakfast on September 6 with new and improved hash browns, excellent kitchen staff, and dedicated service by all of our Brother Knights. Sorry I missed because of family obligations, but DGK Michael shared all the details with me.
- I'm still getting rave reviews about the Chapter Meeting on September 11-12 that we hosted. Shortly after Saturday's lunch, I was approached to host again next year. It looks likely. None of it could have happened without the Knights who helped set up Friday morning, the Knights who went shopping that afternoon then cooked on Saturday, our wives who entertained the wives of those who came from other Northern California councils, our Knights who served breakfast and lunch, and our clean-up crew. Our visitors were impressed by our team work and hospitality.
- Our veteran team exemplified our latest member, Brother Tim Umenhofer, on September 16. Welcome, Brother Tim, to our council. We are blessed to have you as a Brother Knight and blessed to have your experience in dedicated service to the Paradise community.
- Our Pro Life rosary was a hit on September 20 with talented leaders and lots of supporting Brothers in the pews behind the leaders--all in uniform.
- Despite a late notice, six of our Knights attended the televised Beatification of a Brother Knight, Blessed Fulton Sheen. Knights and their wives formed the majority of those attending. Another proud moment for Council 7773.
- To top off September activities, Brother Knights, Dave Porter and Richard Shaver, took on a project in the blazing sun to help a needy parishioner by repairing a porch damaged by fire. Thanks Dave & Richard.

October Highlights:

- October 3 Blood Drive: Thanks to those who will be volunteering time and donating blood to make this the third successful blood drive at STM.

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DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT

October is the month of Mary and dedicated to her Most Holy Rosary. The Rosary is considered a powerful weapon against evil, as well as the perfect prayer to bring peace to the world. Pray the Rosary often and give thanks to the Holy Mother for the loving protection She provides to our families. Be grateful for Her maternal care and for the blessings She brings into our lives each day.

A suggested program for October is, in fact, the *Family Rosary*. As a council, involve your Pastor, set a date, and conduct your own *Family Rosary*. Further information, along with materials for conducting the program, are available from the Supreme Council and can be ordered online by clicking [here](#). Also, please take a few moments to report this and other activities your council participates in by completing the online form available by clicking [here](#).

October also marks the sixth anniversary of the Beautification of the Blessed Michael McGivney. The Beautification Mass took place on October 31, 2020 at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford, Connecticut, the archdiocese where Father Michael J. McGivney was ordained in 1877. Again, I encourage councils to mark this special date with prayer and recognition for our Order's Founder.



October is traditionally a month for membership recruiting as councils schedule membership drives on or around Columbus Day. The Supreme Council continues to offer **free membership** for the first year for those who join online. Prospects simply need to visit kofc.org/joinus or scan the QR image accompanying this article with their smartphone. They should enter the code **BLESSEDMCGIVNEY** when prompted to take advantage of this offer. An online member counts as a new member when they are admitted into your council.

Another program that occurs during the month of October with a long history of charitable service is **the Annual Campaign for People With Intellectual Disabilities** (also known as the "Tootsie Roll" Drive).

(Continued on p. 4)

Calendar of Events**October / November****October:**

Sat 3:	9:00am - 2:00 pm	Blood Drive
Wed. 14:	9:30-10:30 am:	Officers Meeting
Wed 14:	6:30	Catered Dinner Knights and Wives, Awards
Sat. 17:	6:00 - 9:00 pm:	Columbus Day Dinner; auction items
Sun. 18:	10:00 - 10:25 am:	Rosary before Mass
Wed. 21:	6:30 - 9:00 pm:	Rosary, meal, Business meeting

November:

Sun. 1:	11:30 am - 12:15 pm:	Pancake Breakfast
	1:30 - 2:15 pm:	Pancake Breakfast
Tues. 10:		Clean holes for flags
Wed. 11:	7:00 - 8:00 am:	Place flags on Skyway--Veterans Day; Moose Lodge Breakfast
Wed. 11:	After flags and breakfast	Officers Meeting
	4:00 - 5:00 pm:	Take down flags on the Skyway
Sun. 15:	10:00 - 10:25 am:	Rosary before Mass
Wed. 18:	6:30 - 9:00 pm:	Rosary, meal, Business meeting

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS:

Mark Fallon—1 st	Michael Shores—5 th	Gordon Massae—6 th
Fred Schluep—12 th	Richard Stinson—12 th	Christopher Lowman—13 th
Ray Waelbrock—22 nd	Israel Garcia—25 th	Robert Gomez—28 th
Phil Bartek—31 st		

CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

Please continue to pray for those on our prayer list: Greg Wright, Leo Benedetti, Ron Martin, John Thomas, Lani McManus, Richard Reniero, Duncan Barnard, Israel Garcia, Barbara Brown, Gerald and Joy Regalia, Kendell Rensink, Lou Gervais, Frank Ricci, Ron Keyes, Deacon Gary, Raul and Elvia Saavedra, Greg and Kathy DeCristofaro, Frank Nunes, Kathy Keesling, Phil and Helen Kelly, Gordon Massae, Deon Mangan, Jim and Barbara Collins, Rosemary Peterson, and Pope Leo XIV.

Pray for the repose of the souls of Ed Jimenez and Kim Helgeson and their families. Lift up Deacon Ray and Donna Helgeson and the Jimenez families who are grieving for their loved ones. Please remember those who are serving our country in the armed forces in Iran and for those who fell victim to natural disasters. Pray for all the health professionals, and First Responders, and all who are trying to keep us safe. Pray for the U.S., Israel, Ukraine, America, all the innocent victims of war.

Al Potthast is at Sunshine Assisted Living, 1468 Sun Manor, Paradise. (866) 892-7533. Leo Benedetti and Jim Daley are at home. Kathy and I are taking Communion to Jim Daley and Leo Benedetti. Henry Martin is taking communion to Al Potthast. I have sent a get-well card to Deon Mangan. No report on the Garden of Innocence.

For additions, deletions, corrections, please call your Chancellor, Greg DeCristofaro at 873-4132.

KNIGHT HUMOR—IRISH STYLE

An Irish priest is driving down to New York and gets stopped for speeding in Connecticut. The state trooper smells alcohol on the priest's breath and then sees an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car.

He says, "Sir, have you been drinking?"

"Just water," says the priest.

The trooper says, "Then why do I smell wine?"

The priest looks at the bottle and says, "Good Lord! He's done it again!"

DISTRICT DEPUTY REPORT (CON'T)

The official dates for the drive this year are **October 16, 17 and 18, 2026** (although councils are free to schedule and hold fundraisers benefiting people with intellectual disabilities at any time during the Columbian Year). I'm certain one or more organizations in your local community serving people with intellectual disabilities would benefit from your charitable efforts, including Special Olympics and *Feed the Athletes*, ARCs and local work training programs. For further information and resources regarding the *Annual Campaign for People With Intellectual Disabilities*, click [here](#).

As always, thank you for your charity and service!

Dave Abbott, District Deputy 2 - 530-680-0401 -- dabbott79@gmail.com

GRAND KNIGHT'S NOTATIONS (CON'T)

- October 14: You can relax for this one. Please bring your wives to attend a dinner catered by Maria's Restaurant. Just bring yourselves to enjoy time together, review our past year, and congratulate major and minor council award winners. RSVP me if you will attend
- October 17 Columbus Day Dinner: A major addition is the Silent Auction. Please donate a silent auction item to help raise funds for the Intellectually Disabled. The STM women displayed 60 auction items recently to raise a substantial amount to give to charities. I will email you more details.

We have met the challenges of the past and will tackle the difficulties of the future if we remain united in our Faith and Brotherhood. Vivat Jesus,

In His service and Yours, Jim Collins, Grand Knight, Council #7773

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS INSURANCE

Per LIMRA & Life Happens 2025 Insurance Barometer Study, nearly half (47%) of adults say they would have trouble paying living expenses within six months of their primary wage earner's death. While no one wants to think about tragedy striking their family, planning how your family will manage financially is an important piece in caring for those you love. Your decisions today have a direct impact on your family's financial future. I can help you with your life insurance and income replacement needs as you can prepare for the unexpected while also carrying forward a legacy that has been at the heart of the Knights of Columbus since our founding. When Blessed Michael McGivney founded the Knights of Columbus in 1882, he was witnessing firsthand the precarious situation widows and orphans faced when a husband and father died. He sought to create a way to relieve their burdens and care for those in need. Today, we are proud to continue that tradition of guarding what matters most to our brothers —their families and their faith.

Income replacement through life insurance can be a part of that protection. As your financial and family needs and circumstances change over time, I'm here to help by reviewing your coverage to make sure it aligns with your goals and priorities. You should have received, or will be receiving, the annual Financial Protection Survey which gives important insight into your evolving financial needs so we can provide the personalized, faith-based service you deserve.

Our Knights of Columbus mission is straightforward and hasn't changed for more than 140 years — helping Catholic men grow in faith, serve others and financially protect their families. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and your family in support of that mission.

Dave Moeller, Assistant General Sales Manager, Knights of Columbus
(916) 801-3403 License OH61551 dave.moeller@kofc.org

Officers	Name	Phone	Email
Grand Knight	Jim Collins (Barbara)	831-821-9369	jimcollins_95991@yahoo.com
Spiritual Advisor	Fr. Chuck Kelly	530-908-8072	
Dep. Grand Knight	Michael Krzanich (Lara)	408-202-1000	
Chancellor	Greg DeCristofaro (Kathy)	530-588-3790	
Financial Secretary	John Thomas (Jo)	530-680-9791	
Recorder	Matthew Poje (Christine)	530-520-4889	
Warden	Kevin Kriebel (Annette)	530-617-2670	
Treasurer	Mark Fallon (Cathy)	530-872-2143	
1 Year Trustee	Frank Nunes (Nilene)	530-327-4276	
2 Year Trustee	Henry Martin (Ernestine)	530-519-7870	
3 Year Trustee	Gerald Regalia (Joy)	209-484-4263	
Advocate	Greg Kidder (Yvonne)	530-228-6163	
Inside Guard	Richard Shaver (Phyllis)	530-538-6075	
Outside Guard	Andy Martin	530-519-7826	
Council Support			
District Deputy	David Abbott	530-680-0401	
General Agent	Carlos Gutierrez	925-289-0064	
Field Agent	David Moeller	916.898.9314	
Newsletter Editor	Russ Neal (Mary Ann)	530-230-7915	

For the most current information please check our Website:

NEW: <http://kofc-ca-d2.org/council-7773>