



Knights of Columbus
**FOURTH
DEGREE**
Patriotic degree of the Order.

The Navigator

Junipero Serra Assembly 0044

October 2019

Siempre Adalento (Always Forward) Fr Serra's Motto

CALENDAR

October Dinner Meeting	21 Oct
Nov Officers Meeting	04 Nov
Nov Dinner Meeting	18 Nov

October's Dinner Meeting

On **MONDAY 21 OCTOBER**, we will have our July dinner meeting beginning with a "SOCIAL HOUR" at 6:30 PM and a **DINNER** will be served a little after 7:00 PM.

BIRTHDAYS for October

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

Thomas E Puerling	03 October
Dcn. Nicholas P. Curran	08 Oct
Joseph W Duwel	09 October
Francisco Cabrera	10 October
John C. Kirk	11 October
Robert A. Montgomery	12 October
Kenneth K. Kuether	13 October
Raphael S. Cardenas	22 October
Ralph J Wengler	25 October
John Bravo	28 October

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A NOTE OF APPRECIATION FROM FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR REGARDING THE BLUE MASS AND DINNER

Attendees gathered at St Raphael Church for 6P Mass on 16 September. There were 8 Sir Knights posted as honor guards at church entrances to welcome guests, service personnel and others. The mass was celebrated by pastor Msgr Jon Majarucon with Fr. Rajan Sengol, Msgr Ludovic DeClippel and a police chaplain concelebrating. Msgr Majarucon expressed in his homily appreciation for those responders, recalling his own experiences as a chaplain years ago with the Los Angeles PD. Mark Wietstock, a KC member from Council 1684, provided the Music for the Mass. Approximately 100 persons were in attendance.

After the mass, all attendees were invited to the parish hall to participate in happy hour. A dinner followed. It was prepared by the Assembly 44 cooking crew (Jim Bradbury and company plus many non-KC volunteers for set up, serving, and other tasks). SK Richard Scholl acted as MC for the dinner. Msgr Majarucon led the grace before the meal.

The Assembly is especially grateful to Sheriff Lieutenant Ugo Arnoldi for helping to organize this event with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department. About a dozen staff members from the Sheriff Department attended, including their leader, Sheriff Bill Brown along with his spouse.

The evening revolved around expressing our appreciation as well as the community at-large, to all the first responders the police, firefighters, EMTs, and the sheriffs as well as the military who are out there protecting us 24/7, giving of their all to serve us.

The high point of the evening came from a presentation by retired Sgt. Mike McGrew of the Santa Barbara Police Department, disabled from active duty after 31 years of service. He still functions as a Chaplain in the police department. He provides solace to citizens and first responders who are dealing with disasters, accidents, crimes and other unfortunate events that confront and burden these people. Sgt. Mike has written a book, **A Higher Call to Duty**, which describes many of these situations and offers ways to deal with them, particularly from a Christ-centered spiritual perspective. Sgt. Mike offered copies of the book to attendee, especially first responders. The book is truly inspirational.

In total, this was a memorable night and appreciated by all, as a further demonstration of the issues so many people face, such as PTSD by our military veterans and first responders while under mental and physical duress as well as the problems we all face in our everyday lives. We in Assembly 44 express our thanks to all the service people who came to share this Blue Mass and dinner with us.



KEEP in YOUR PRAYERS

Bro. John Kestel 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.

THANK-YOU FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

St Raphael, St Joseph, and the Old Mission Conferences would like to thank you in whatever way you made the Friend of the Poor Walk a huge success. A final tabulation and distribution have not been made. The walk made \$19,195. Approximately, the disbursement will be \$13,000 to St Raphael, \$5,000 to St Joseph and \$1,000 for Old Mission.

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

CHAPTER FIVE SPIRITUAL COMBAT, VIGILANCE AND DISCERNMENT **DISCERNMENT**

166. How can we know if something comes from the Holy Spirit or if it stems from the spirit of the world or the spirit of the devil? The only way is through discernment, which calls for something more than intelligence or common sense. It is a gift, which we must implore. If we ask with confidence that the Holy Spirit grant us this gift, and then seek to develop it through prayer, reflection, reading and good counsel, then surely we will grow in this spiritual endowment.

AN URGENT NEED

167. The gift of discernment has become all the more necessary today, since contemporary life offers immense possibilities for action and distraction, and the world presents all of them as valid and good. All of us, but especially the young, are immersed in a culture of zapping. We can navigate simultaneously on two or more screens and interact at the same time with two or three virtual scenarios. Without the wisdom of discernment, we can easily become prey to every passing trend.

168. This is all the more important when some novelty presents itself in our lives. Then we have to decide whether it is new wine brought by God or an illusion created by the spirit of this world or the spirit of the devil. At other times, the opposite can happen, when the forces of evil induce us not to change, to leave things as they are, to opt for a rigid resistance to change. Yet that would be to block the working of the Spirit. We are free, with the freedom of Christ. Still, he asks us to examine what is within our desires, anxieties, fears and questions and what takes place all around us "*the signs of the times*" and thus to recognize the paths that lead to complete freedom. "*Test everything; hold fast to what is good*" (1 Thess 5:21).

ALWAYS IN THE LIGHT OF THE LORD

169. Discernment is necessary not only at extraordinary times, when we need to resolve grave problems and make crucial decisions. It is a means of spiritual combat for helping us to follow the Lord more faithfully. We need it at all times, to help us recognize God's timetable, lest we fail to heed the promptings of his grace and disregard his invitation to grow. Often discernment is exercised in small and apparently irrelevant things, since greatness of spirit is manifested in simple everyday realities. The tomb of Saint Ignatius of Loyola bears this thought-provoking inscription. *Non coerceri a maximo, conteneri tamen a minimo divinum est* ("Not to be confined by the greatest, yet to be contained within the smallest, is truly divine.") It involves striving untrammelled for all that is great,



better and more beautiful, while at the same time being concerned for the little things, for each day's responsibilities and commitments. For this reason, I ask all Christians not to omit, in dialogue with the Lord, a sincere daily "*examination of conscience*". Discernment also enables us to recognize the concrete means that the Lord provides in his mysterious and loving plan, to make us move beyond mere good intentions.

A SUPERNATURAL GIFT

170. Certainly, spiritual discernment does not exclude existential, psychological, sociological or moral insights drawn from the human sciences. At the same time, it transcends them. Nor are the Church's sound norms sufficient. We should always remember that discernment is a grace. Even though it includes reason and prudence, it goes beyond them, for it seeks a glimpse of that unique and mysterious plan that God has for each of us, which takes shape amid so many varied situations and limitations. It involves more than my temporal well-being, my satisfaction at having accomplished something useful, or even my desire for peace of mind. It has to do with the meaning of my life before the Father who knows and loves me, with the real purpose of my life, which nobody knows better than he. Ultimately, discernment leads to the wellspring of undying life: to know the Father, the only true God, and the one whom he has sent, Jesus Christ (cf. *Jn* 17:3). It requires no special abilities, nor is it only for the more intelligent or better educated. The Father readily reveals himself to the lowly (cf. *Mt* 11:25).

171. The Lord speaks to us in a variety of ways, at work, through others and at every moment. Yet we simply cannot do without the silence of prolonged prayer, which enables us better to perceive God's language, to interpret the real meaning of the inspirations we believe we have received, to calm our anxieties and to see the whole of our existence afresh in his own light. In this way, we allow the birth of a new synthesis that springs from a life inspired by the Spirit.

SPEAK, LORD

172. Nonetheless, it is possible that, even in prayer itself, we could refuse to let ourselves be confronted by the freedom of the Spirit, who acts as he wills. We must remember that prayerful discernment must be born of a readiness to listen: to the Lord and to others, and to reality itself, which always challenges us in new ways. Only if we are prepared to listen, do we have the freedom to set aside our own partial or insufficient ideas, our usual habits and ways of seeing things. In this way, we become truly open to accepting a call that can shatter our security, but lead us to a better life. It is not enough that everything be calm and peaceful. God may be offering us something more, but in our comfortable inadvertence, we do not recognize it.

173. Naturally, this attitude of listening entails obedience to the Gospel as the ultimate standard, but also to the Magisterium that guards it, as we seek to find in the treasury of the Church whatever is most fruitful for the "*today*" of salvation. It is not a matter of applying rules or repeating what was done in the past, since the same solutions are not valid in all circumstances and what was useful in one context may not prove so in another. The discernment of spirits liberates us from rigidity, which has no place before the perennial "*today*" of the risen Lord. The Spirit alone can penetrate what is obscure and hidden in every situation, and grasp its every nuance, so that the newness of the Gospel can emerge in another light.

THE LOGIC OF GIFT AND OF THE CROSS

174. An essential condition for progress in discernment is a growing understanding of God's patience and his timetable, which are never our own. God does not pour down fire upon those who are unfaithful (cf. *Lk* 9:54), or allow the zealous to uproot the tares growing among the wheat (cf. *Mt* 13:29). Generosity too is demanded, for "*it is more blessed to give than to receive*" (*Acts* 20:35). Discernment is not about discovering what more we can get out of this life, but about recognizing how we can better accomplish the mission entrusted to us at our baptism. This entails a readiness to make sacrifices, even to sacrificing everything. For happiness is a paradox. We experience it most when we accept the mysterious logic that is not of this world: "*This is our logic*", says Saint Bonaventure pointing to the cross. Once we enter into this dynamic, we will not let our consciences be numbed and we will open ourselves generously to discernment.

175. When, in God's presence, we examine our life's journey, no areas can be off limits. In all aspects of life, we can continue to grow and offer something greater to God, even in those areas we find most difficult. We need, though, to ask the Holy Spirit to liberate us and to expel the fear that makes us ban him from certain parts of our lives. God asks everything of us, yet he also gives everything to us. He does not want to enter our lives to cripple or diminish them, but to bring them to fulfilment. Discernment, then, is not a solipsistic self-analysis or a form of egotistical introspection, but an authentic process of leaving ourselves behind in order to approach the mystery of God, who helps us to carry out the mission to which he has called us, for the good of our brothers and sisters.

176. I would like these reflections to be crowned by Mary, because she lived the Beatitudes of Jesus as none other. She is that woman who rejoiced in the presence of God, who treasured everything in her heart, and who let herself be pierced by the sword. Mary is the saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She teaches us the way of holiness and she walks ever at our side. She does not let us remain fallen and at times she takes us into her arms without judging us. Our converse with her consoles, frees and sanctifies us. Mary our Mother does not need a flood of words. She does not need us to tell her what is happening in our lives. All we need do is whisper, time and time again: "*Hail Mary...*"

177. It is my hope that these pages will prove helpful by enabling the whole Church to devote herself anew to promoting the desire for holiness. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us a fervent longing to be saints for God's greater glory, and let us encourage one another in this effort. In this way, we will share a happiness that the world will not be able to take from us.

Given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, on 19 March, the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, in the year 2018, the sixth of my Pontificate.

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



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One Nation, Under God