



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Archbishop Edward J. Hana Assembly 61, Santa Rosa, CA

**FOURTH
DEGREE**

Patriotic degree of the Order



January 2019

Faithful Navigator's Message

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Greetings my fellow Sir Knights. I hope this finds you well, and I hope you had a blessed Advent season, and a restful and very Merry Christmas with family, friends and dear loved ones. I also hope that you have a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

Our next business meeting will be on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at the Palms Grill in Petaluma. Please bring cash as the restaurant will only take one payment for a party of our size, and plan on socializing and eating dinner and maybe having a drink with your fellow Sir Knights from 7-8; the business meeting will begin at 8. I hope to see as many of you there as possible; especially our officers, since we will be finalizing our plans for the Exemplification and for the welcome dinner. Bring your Rosaries.

Palms Grill
100 S McDowell Blvd
Petaluma, CA 94954
<http://www.palmsgrill.com>

By now, you should have received your membership dues notice for Assembly 61. Please ensure prompt payment. As you are aware, we do not have fund raising activities like Councils do, and dues are one of our sole sources of revenue for our Assembly (the welcome dinner being the other). If this poses a financial hardship for you, please contact me immediately so that we can make proper arrangements.

Once again, I highly encourage all of you to consider joining the Color Corps. For further information, contact Color Corps Commander, SK Art Rios. I also encourage you to wear your name badge and other items that identify you as Knights of Columbus when you attend Mass and at all church functions. We need to be the "faces" of our esteemed Order to all members of our respective parishes. After all, we are all recruiters for the Knights and have to be readily identifiable as such.

As I said before, if any of you ever need anything or want to talk to me, my “door is always open” – my cell phone number is 707-364-6006 (text capable) and my email address is marchionemark@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from each and every one of you soon.

Vivat Jesus!!



Mark Marchione

Faithful Navigator, Assembly 61

Dear Brother Knight:

There have been times in our country's past when uninformed or prejudiced people questioned whether Catholics could be good citizens or honest public servants. That's why Father McGivney chose the name "Columbus" for our Order — because the discoverer was the Catholic figure from American history most admired and accepted at the time. In fact, from our founding in 1882, until the election of Brother Knight John F. Kennedy in 1960, many still held that Catholics were unfit for public office. Throughout that time, the Knights of Columbus worked to counter such prejudice.

Sadly, it seems that in some quarters, this prejudice remains.ⁱ First, in 2017 a Notre Dame law professor was deemed unfit for a federal judgeship by a United States Senator who feared that "the dogma lives loudly within you." Now, two more senators have questioned a Brother Knight's fitness for the federal bench precisely because our Order holds firm to the Church's teachings on the sanctity of life and marriage.

Such attacks on the basis of our Catholic faith are hardly new. The Knights of Columbus was formed amid a period of anti-Catholic bigotry. We stood against that then, and we do so now. We have spoken out against persecution around the world for nearly a century. At the same time, here at home we stood against the Ku Klux Klan, including its attempts to ban Catholic education, and we published books on the black and Jewish contributions to American history decades before the Civil Rights movement. More recently, we stood with the Little Sisters of the Poor in their fight for religious liberty and have worked with both the Obama and Trump administrations — and both sides of the aisle in Congress — to help Christians, Yazidis and Shi'a Muslims targeted for genocide by ISIS.

From our very beginning, the Knights of Columbus has been an organization adhering to the teachings of the Catholic Church. As with the Church, our primary motivation in everything is Christ's great commandment, that we love God completely and our neighbor as ourselves.

As the Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church explains, "Jesus Christ reveals to us that 'God is love' and He teaches us that 'the fundamental law of human perfection, and consequently of the transformation of the world, is the new commandment of love.'"ⁱⁱ

This love impels us to our great charitable endeavors on behalf of those in need. From inner cities in the United States to refugee camps in the Middle East our Order's donations over the last decade — more

than one billion dollars and hundreds of millions of hours in volunteer work — are the result of this faith.

These works of charity have practical impacts that transform lives as we help people here at home and around the world. Our charity helped typhoon victims in the Philippines rebuild their lives and livelihoods; it brought prosthetics and rehabilitation to thousands of Haitian youth after the earthquake there; it puts coats on poor, cold children in some of our country's most impoverished neighborhoods each winter; it gives wheelchairs to those who otherwise could not afford them in countries like Vietnam and Mexico; and it provides education, housing and medical care to AIDS orphans in Africa.

This love also motivates us to stand with the Church on the important issues of life and marriage, precisely because the Church's teaching reflects and is based on that love. We stand with our Church because we believe that what our faith teaches is consistent with reason, is timeless and transcends the changing sentiments of any particular time or place.

We do not stand alone.

In his first message to our international convention, Pope Francis asked "each Knight, and every Council, to bear witness to the authentic nature of marriage and the family, the sanctity and inviolable dignity of human life, and the beauty and truth of human sexuality."

And our positions on life are not new. My two predecessors as supreme knight spoke out forcefully to defend the rights of the unborn. In 1973, Supreme Knight John McDevitt wrote that *Roe v. Wade* was "a mortal blow to all who consider human life sacred." He urged the Order to "to initiate or increase efforts to offset the harmful effects of this lamentable decision."

My immediate predecessor, Virgil Dechant, said in 1977: "With some 1.2 million unborn babies being killed by abortion each year in the United States alone, we are confronted with an outrage against human life paralleled only by the ravages of a bloody war."

Simply put, our positions are now, and have always been, Catholic positions.

We must remember that Article VI of the U. S. Constitution forbids a religious test for public office, and the First Amendment guarantees our free exercise of religion, freedom of association and freedom of speech. Any suggestion that the Order's adherence to the beliefs of the Catholic Church makes a Brother Knight unfit for public office blatantly violates those constitutional guarantees.

Let us continue to express our love of God and neighbor by helping those in need and by standing with our Church, regardless of the popularity of doing so. Let us remember that our "Christian witness is to be considered a fundamental obligation."iii

Let us also remember that, from our founding, we have embodied the truth that a good Catholic is a good citizen who shows civility and dignity even in the face of prejudice.

May the inspiration of our founder prompt us to greater confidence in that love and encourage us to even greater works of charity.

Fraternally,

Carl A. Anderson

i See the excellent historical study by historian Philip Jenkins, *The New Anti-Catholicism: The Last Acceptable Prejudice*, (Oxford University Press, 2003).

ii Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, (Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2005), no. 54.

iii *Ibid.*, no. 570.

Social Baldrics

Faithful Navigator SK Mark Marchione still has Social Baldrics with 2 adjustable garters on back & 1 at front available for \$15. If you are interested, let Mark know.



Upcoming 4th Degree Exemplifications

- February 2, 2019, Doubletree Hotel, Rohnert Park
- April 27, 2019, Doubletree Hotel, Sacramento
- June 2019, Morgan Hill, place to be advised.

Save the Date



February

9, 2019

Admiral Ball

Sponsored by San Pedro Calungsod Assembly

*Mater Dolorosa Parish Hall
307 Willow Ave., South San Francisco, Ca.*

6:00 pm

Attire: Tux with Social baldric

Let us also retire the Chapeau and Cape at this event

Invitation to follow

Contact:

*SK Edd I. Palomar 650 255 0955
SK John W. Dooley, FN 650 267 0080
SK Bradley M. Roxas 415 517 9518*

Assembly 61 Officers

Faithful Navigator -- SK Mark Marchione

Faithful Captain -- SK Dave Dibble

Faithful Comptroller -- SK Brad Nicholls

Faithful Friar -- SK Fr Raul Lemus

Faithful Admiral -- SK Peter Fanucchi

Faithful Purser - SK Rich Sievers

Faithful Pilot -- SK Craig Archer

Faithful Scribe -- SK Rob Dibble

Inner Sentinel -- SK Dan Ramos

Outer Sentinel -- SK Jonathan Warner

One Year Trustee -- SK Tom McGaw

Two Year Trustee -- SK Jim Merriman

Three Year Trustee -- SK Bob Nickel

Color Corps Commander -- SK Art Rios