

**BISHOP MANOGUE: HELMSMAN**

November 2006

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Totus Tuus Ego Sum: ("I am completely Yours")**Our Lady of Charity, Pray for Us.****VOLUME: 08 • NUMBER 11***All personal information included in this bulletin such as addresses, etc. are for the sole use of members of Bishop Manogue Assembly #50, Knights of Columbus and their spouses. Any other use is prohibited without the specific consent of the individuals and Bishop Manogue Assembly!*

"Helmsman"

News-Letter

Assembly #50

Editor's Note:

To all the members of Assembly 50, as you read this third issue of the Helmsman we start into November of this Columbian year with our Assembly's Memorial Mass at St John Vianney Parish Church, to be held on November 19th at the 10:00 am mass."

November is the our Church's traditional month for remembering our love ones and deceased brethren who have passed away, especially those who have gone to their new life with God recently within the past year.

I noted last month that we presented a new US flag to Our Lady of Presentation School, which did take place, and there are pictures enclosed, which were taken with my camera, that are present in this issue for your viewing. Our Color Corps and flag presentation committee also presented another flag to the Holy Cross Parish School in West Sacramento, later that same month. Both flags, I later learned, were replacements for flags originally presented by our Assembly, to both those schools, years ago. The oldest original presentation to these schools of the 2 U.S. flags recently presented occurred 14 years ago.

Two other notes regarding these flags, I was personally contacted by the Catholic Herald to help write an article on the Presentation School flag for the Herald and why the 4th Degree does this presentation. Hopefully that article will come to pass and others will read about this patriotic Catholic presentation. Finally, these flags represent our Country, and what it stands for, and in the month of November, we celebrate Veterans Day as a remembrance of those who are, and have faithfully served our Country under the banner of those same U.S. flags

Note to all Sir Knights of this Assembly:

Our Assembly business meetings are held every 4th Monday of the month except December 06 and May 07 at 953 Hall across from the Newman Center near Sacramento State University. Please look at tentative calendar in this issue for event dates for this Assembly for this Columbian year. Also, please

try to make a concerted effort to attend these meetings, if possible, as this is main venue for members to make input on what this Assembly accomplishes as fraternal activities & service activities for our parishes. These meetings also allow members to get actively involved in the activities, social events and direction this assembly will undertake in the future. Please remember that your member participation is what will make this assembly strong, continue to grow and evolve with new fresh ideas on how best to serve our parishes.

Next two Assembly meetings will be on the following dates: Monday November 27th 2006 and January 22nd 2007 at 953 Hall.

Next Officer meeting will be held on December 4th, 2006, hosted by Faithful Comptroller: S. K. Charles Clark. No Business Meeting in December.

[Officer's Meetings are typically held each 1st occurring Monday of the month.]



Faithful Navigator's Log:

Sir Knights & Ladies,

By the time you receive the Helmsman, VETERANS DAY will have come and gone. Let's not forget our Veterans throughout the year. Also keep our active soldiers in your prayers.

Don't forget to accompany our Assembly at the Memorial Mass, in remembrance of our past Sir Knights. This year will be held November 19th, at St. John Vianney/Rancho Cordova. Following will be a breakfast fundraiser, by Council # 5322.

With the time and weather changing, signs that the Holiday Season is around the corner, Our Assembly Christmas Dinner is scheduled for December 16th @ 953 Hall.

As an effort to keep "Christ in Christmas" and fundraiser for the "Bishop Gallegos House", contact SK Charlie Clark for a Nativity car magnet, noting "Keep Christ in Christmas".

Please come to our Assembly Business meetings to share with us any of your Council activities and we will provide support & prayers if possible for your event's success.

SK Brian Danzel attended our most recent Officer's meeting as a reminder to start the Wheelchair Foundation donations. Please show your support to this international charity. \$75.00 buys a new wheelchair that is matched by the Wheelchair Foundation. Donations will be collected at the Assembly Christmas party.

The Exemplification of the Fourth Degree is scheduled for April 14, 2007. Now is the time to start recruiting for new 4th degree members.

God Bless you & your families.

Your brother in Christ,

SK Pedro Venegas,
Faithful Navigator

There will be no Faithful Friar's message included in this issue of the Helmsman.

Assembly Members celebrating anniversaries, below:
NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

| Names of anniversary celebrants: | Date: |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| SK JOSE R AND CONCHA GARCIA | 11/01 |
| SK WILLIAM R AND LILLIAN MEEHAN | 11/05 |
| SK MARVIN J AND MARLO MAHER | 11/10 |
| SK ROBERT J AND CATHY BERGMANN | 11/13 |
| SK MIGUEL A. AND HILDA FERNANDEZ | 11/14 |
| SK ERIK R AND JOANN NOOREN | 11/19 |
| SK RODOLFO AND BEATRICE CLARKE | 11/20 |
| SK JOE L AND SARA RODRIGUEZ | 11/22 |
| SK ALAN T AND NANCY ZINGELMAN | 11/22 |
| SK MELVIN L AND DOROTHY PICANCO | 11/23 |
| SK JOHN J AND NANCY WENINGER | 11/25 |
| SK STEVEN J AND BETTY FUSICK | 11/26 |
| SK JAMES R AND JOAN O'BRIEN | 11/28 |
| SK JAMES H AND MARIFE MICHAELSON | 11/30 |
| SK CARL G AND CATHY PONCIANO | 11/30 |

| Names of anniversary celebrants: | Date: |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| SK ADOLPH AND GLORIA CRESCENZO | 12/02 |
| SK FERNANDO AND MODESTA DE LEON | 12/06 |
| SK HECTOR AND ALICE REINALDO | 12/07 |
| SK MILTON AND MARY DAMORE | 12/10 |
| SK VICTORIO AND MELBA JUAN | 12/12 |
| SK JOHN AND ELVA WALLACE | 12/16 |
| SK PETE AND ELIZABETH NARLOCH | 12/17 |
| SK ALAN AND MARY LYNN CORDANO | 12/19 |
| SK STANLEY AND CHRISTINE BROWN | 12/21 |
| SK PETE AND LOURDES CABANERO | 12/21 |
| SK DALE AND CYNTHIA EDWARDS | 12/24 |
| SK KENNEDY AND ALMA RAMIREZ | 12/26 |
| SK JAMES AND JANE MC ARDLE | 12/28 |
| SK WILLIAM AND MYRTLE BENJAMIN | 12/29 |
| SK THOMAS AND ANNA RITCHEY | 12/30 |

Assembly Chalice Director's notes:



Bishop Manogue Chalice Committee Chairman **S.K. Glenn Williams P. F. N.**, wishes to inform everyone that we have on hand 1 Chalice completed, with four names of our deceased Sir Knights, to be presented to a Priest or Vocational Appointee (R.S.V.P.). Sir Knights knowing anyone who might be need of a chalice may call the undersigned for further information at: (916) 361-1561 or they may email me at:

17HgjWilliams2@juno.com

Assembly Members celebrating Birthdays, below:

| Birthdate | Name of member: | Birthdate | Name of member: |
|------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 11-04-1922 | S. K. FRANK HEMMEN PFN | 12/01 | S. K. ROBERT H SMITH JR. |
| 11-06-1932 | S. K. MELVIN PICANCO PFN | 12/01 | S. K. MILTON A DAMORE P.F.N. |
| 11-07-1927 | S. K. JAMES CANTU | 12/03 | S. K. FRANK N. BEVILLE |
| 11-07-1946 | S. K. GROVER SANDY III | 12/03 | S. K. CARLTON H. HEPELL |
| 11-07-1956 | S. K. THOMAS HARRIS | 12/10 | S. K. ROBERT E. JENKINS P.F.N. |
| 11-08-1940 | S. K. EUGENE GOBBO | 12/10 | S. K. DANIEL E. REGELBRUGGE |
| 11-09-1936 | S. K. JAMES O'BRIEN | 12/12 | S. K. GABRIEL S. SEPULVEDA |
| 11-09-1936 | S. K. WALTER SCHAUB | 12/13 | S. K. THOMAS A TAVARES |
| 11-10-1953 | FR. AMBROSE UGWUEGBU | 12/22 | S. K. MARK J. BARROS |
| 11-11-1947 | S. K. RICHARD MONTOYA | 12/24 | S. K. JAMES C. SCHMERBAUCH |
| 11-12-1934 | S. K. FRANK GIANATTASIO | 12/24 | S. K. NICHOLAS H. DOIRON |
| 11-16-1941 | S. K. JOHN REGELBRUGGE | 12/25 | S. K. CHRISTIAN O. OKOYE |
| 11-17-1921 | S. K. RODOLFO CLARKE | 12/26 | S. K. ADOLPH T. DE CRESCENZO |
| 11-19-1948 | S. K. PONCIANO MARQUEZ | 12/27 | S. K. JOSEPH HAMEN |
| 11-23-1942 | S. K. DENIS CALVO | 12/27 | S. K. NORBERT E. OWENS |
| 11-23-1960 | S. K. ROBERT BRAGG | 12/27 | S. K. PATRICK J. ORELLI |
| 11-24-1943 | S. K. ALAN CORDANO | 12/28 | S. K. ALVIN DUMONT |
| 11-24-1960 | S. K. KENNEDY RAMIREZ | | |
| 11-27-1933 | S. K. WALTER KINNEY | | |
| 11-27-1945 | S. K. ROSS JOHNSON | | |
| 11-28-1927 | S. K. RICHARD AIELLO | | |
| 11-28-1935 | S. K. HECTOR REINALDO | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Spouses of Assembly Members celebrating Birthdays, below:

| Spouse's Name: | D.O.B.: | Spouse's Name: | D.O.B.: |
|---------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
| MRS. ANGELA GIANATTASIO | 11/06 | MRS. ETHELYN RIVARD | 12/02 |
| MRS. RONDA KEENEY | 11/07 | MRS. JEAN EHLMAN | 12/03 |
| MRS. ANN MARIE MELCHIORRE | 11/11 | MRS. JOSEPHINE AIELLO | 12/04 |
| MRS. DENISE FISHER | 11/11 | MRS. MARLO MAHER | 12/08 |
| MRS. MARIFE MICHAELSON | 11/13 | MRS. E. OMNES | 12/09 |
| MRS. SANDY JOHNSON | 11/14 | MRS. ELVIRA AMAYA | 12/10 |
| MRS. ELVA WALLACE | 11/17 | MRS. GINA MC BRIDE | 12/12 |
| MRS. LUCY CANTU | 11/18 | MRS. MYRTLE BENJAMIN | 12/12 |
| MRS. KATHLEEN RUCH | 11/20 | MRS. MELBA JUAN | 12/16 |
| MRS. ADORA NOLASCO | 11/21 | MRS. GLORIA DE CRESCENZO | 12/20 |
| MRS. ROBIN ROSITANI | 11/21 | MRS. MARY ANN DUMONT | 12/25 |
| MRS. CECILIA LABRADO | 11/22 | MRS. OLGA DUGAN | 12/27 |
| MRS. CATHERINE GARRISON | 11/22 | MRS. JANICE HANSEN | 12/29 |
| MRS. FRANCES RIVERS | 11/22 | | |
| MRS. ANNA RITCHEY | 11/23 | | |
| MRS. LILLIAN MEEHAN | 11/27 | | |
| MRS. MARIA TAFOYA | 11/30 | | |

HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS TO ALL THE CELEBRANTS LISTED FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER !!!

Members who are Sick, Distressed, Infirm or Deceased, Report:

Current list of immediate members of the Assembly who are sick, in distress, or recently deceased:

S. K. Monsignor Patrick Nolan: re-diagnosed with cancer now resting at his home. Monsignor has been a member of this assembly since 1962 and is still an active pro-life advocate. He has been a Knight since 1951 and was the recipient last year of the Northern California ecclesiastical district Father Juan Perez award. Please keep Monsignor in your prayers.

Aurora Wallin: Wife of P.F.N. Loren Wallin is currently undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer. Please keep Aurora in your prayers.

*** Assembly members!** Please notify the Current Inner Sentinel of any members, or immediate family of members, who have become sick, are in distress, or have passed on to their eternal reward so that the Assembly may be made aware of the current condition of these individuals and the appropriate actions, in these regards, can be put in force by our Sentinel, membership and our order.

Assembly Color Corps Commander's notes:

This month is the annual Bishop Manogue Memorial Mass scheduled Sunday, November 19, 2006, at the 10:00 AM mass at St. John Vianney in Rancho Cordova. All Color Corps members are invited to participate in this annual special mass in memory of the assembly's deceased Sir Knights. All participants need to be there by 9:30 AM so we can make preparations and line up for the start of the mass. Please note that there will be changes in the Color Corps routine during this mass. I will review the changes at 9:45 AM that morning.

Next, I want to thank the Color Corps members who were at the assembly's Columbus Day and Color Corps recognition dinner. SK Frank Donagher and his helpers put on a wonderful dinner for the Sir Knights who were there on October 9, 2006.

Finally, Color Corps drill team practices will begin in January (if enough members are interested to participate) for the Color Corps competition. All interested Color Corps members are invited to weekly Wednesday night practices. Any questions, please contact myself via email (18Hmlanger@iwon.com) or by telephone at 916-348-3343. Take care...

Michael Langer
Color Corps Commander



| 2006-07 ASSE. #50 OFFICER CONTACT INFORMATION: | | |
|--|--|--|
| F. N. | S. K. PEDRO VENEGAS 528 4 TH ST, WEST SACRAMENTO, 95605-2604 | (916)374-8424 pvenegas12@yahoo.com |
| F. F. | S. K. REV. MICHAEL O'HALLORAN 2181 TIBER RIVER DR. RANCHO CORDOVA, 95670-2816 | (916) 631-0545 opoh80@sbcglobal.net |
| F. A. | S. K. FRANK DONAGHER P. F. N. 947 ROADS END PL SACRAMENTO, 95827-3236 | (916) 361-7032 fdonagher@compuserve.com |
| F. C. | S. K. JOHN COX 3985 TAHOE ST WEST SACRAMENTO, 95691-5453 | (916) 371-3669 Kacox8@charter.net |
| F. P. | S. K. MARK MONTEMAYOR 1020 ANNA ST WEST SACRAMENTO, 95605-2207 | (916) 371-6117 montmark@pacbell.net |
| F. Cp. | S. K. CHARLES CLARK P.F.N., P.C.P. 11151 PIT RIVER CT RANCHO CORDOVA, 95670-2919 | (916) 638-2501 chclark@cwnet.com |
| F. S. | S. K. LARRY ROSITANI 1080 CASTEC DR SACRAMENTO, 95864-2874 | (916) 486-4377 rositani@pacbell.net |
| F. Pur. | S. K. FLOYD WELLS P. F. N. 2776 HONEYSUCKLE WY SACRAMENTO, 95826-3150 | (916) 383-8767 fewells@pacbell.net |
| F. I. S. | S. K. MICHAEL BRADY 1640 ORINDA PLACE WEST SACRAMENTO, 95691-5170 | (916) 284-9882 michael.brady@cshqa.com |
| F. O. S. | S.K. TERRY CORCORAN 4246 WESTPORTER DR SACRAMENTO, 95826*5445 | (916) 369-0271 uncle_tbone9260@yahoo.com |
| F. T. 3 | S. K. GLENN WILLIAMS P.F.N. 3442 JUPITER DR SACRAMENTO, 95827-2967 | (916)361-1561 gjWilliams2@juno.com |
| F. T. 2 | S. K. LOREN WALLIN P. F. N. 7520 STEARMAN WY CITRUS HEIGHTS, 95621-1824 | (916) 723-2970 lorenmark@hotmail.com |
| F. T. 1 | S.K. BILL HANCOCK 1205 NORFORK ST WEST SACRAMENTO 95691-3719 | (916) 372-6673 HKnight9469@att.net |
| F. Adv. | S. K. MILTON DAMORE P. F. N. 1260 CASTEC DR SACRAMENTO, 95864-2852 | (916) 482-5618 marydam@earthlink.net |
| C. C. C | S. K. MICHAEL LANGER 3556 CABALLERO LN ANTELOPE, 95846-2364 | (916) 348-3343 milanger@iwon.com |



(TENTATIVE): ASSEMBLY 50 EVENT CALENDAR:

| Date / Function | Time: | Chair / Location |
|--|--|--|
| 09/11/06 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30p.m. | S. K. LANGER S. I. CAMPION CTR. |
| 09/25/06 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 10/02/06 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30p.m. | S. K. LOREN WALLIN |
| 10/09/06 COL. DAY/CC DINNER (S) (TUX OR SUIT FOR MEMBERS) | 6:30 p.m. Cocktails 7:00 Din. | S. K. FRANK DONAGHER 953 HALL |
| NOT HELD IN 2006 ADMIRAL'S BALL (S) (T) | 6:30 p.m. Dinner | MASTER / F.A. |
| 10/23/06 REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 11/06/06 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30p.m. | S.K. M. MONTEMAYOR |
| 11/19/06 MEMORIAL MASS (S) | Mass 10 AM Brunch after | F. N. ST JOHN VIANNEY CHURCH RC |
| 11/27/06 REG. BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 12/04/06 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30p.m. | S. K. CHARLES CLARK |
| 12/16 CHRISTMAS DINNER/PARTY | 6:30p.m Cocktails 7:00 p.m. Din. | In. & Outer. Sentinels 953 Hall |
| NO BUSINESS MEETING IN DECEMBER! | N/A | 12/06 NO BUS. MEETING |
| 01/08/07 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30 p.m. | S. K. F. DONAGHER |
| 01/XX/07 P.F.N. DINNER (S) TUX/SUIT FOR MEMBERS. | 6:30p.m.Cocktails 7:00 p.m. Din | S.K. JOHN COX T.B.A. |
| 01/22/07 R.B.M./ RIGHT TO LIFE MASS | 7:30 p.m. | FN / F FRIAR 953 HALL |
| 4 th Deg Exemp. (S) Tux for others | 10:00 a.m. Reg Noon Exemp | W. PROVINCE PETALUMA OR ROHNERT PARK |
| 02/05/07 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30 p.m. | S.K. BILL HANCOCK |
| 02/10/07 VALENTINE/LADY'S NIGHT(S) | 6:30p.m Cocktails 7:00 Din. | S.K. FLOYD WELLS 953 HALL |
| 02/26/07 REG. BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30 p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 03/05/07 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30 p.m. | S.K. JOHN COX |
| 03/12/07 NEW MEMB. OREINT. (S) (T) | 7:30 p.m. | S.K. F. DONAGHER 953 HALL |
| 03/26/07 REG. BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30 p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 04/02/07 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30 p.m. | S.K. P. VENEGAS 953 HALL |
| 4 th Deg Exemp. (S) Tux for others | 10:00 a.m. Regist. Noon Exemp. | SK C CLARK/J COX D TREE HOTELSAC |
| 04/23/07 REG. BUSINESS MEETING (T) | 7:30 p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 05/07/07 OFFICER'S MEETING (S) | 7:30 p.m. | S.K. G WILLIAMS 953 HALL |
| 05/14/07 NEW MEMBERS DINNER (T) (S) | 6:30p.m Cocktails 7:00 p.m. Din | S.K. F DONAGHER 953 HALL |
| NO BUSINESS MEETING IN MAY! | N/A | 05/06 NO BUS. MEETING |
| 06/04/07 R.B.M / OFFICER ELECTION (T) | 7:30 p.m. | FN 953 HALL |
| 06/TBA/07 PLAN MTG F YRS 06/07 & BBQ (S) | 1:00 p.m. | S.K. JOHN COX T.B.D. |
| 06/25/07 REG BUS MTG / FN DINNER | 7:00 p.m. DINNER 7:30 p.m. RBM | FN 953 HALL |

RBM=Regular Business Meeting On dates where there is a RBM and another event such as FN Dinner, Right to Life Mass, etc, the std meeting will be abbreviated. Officer's may be required to show early for a "quick pay the bills" meeting.

FN= Faithful Navigator (S) Ladies are Invited (T) Tuxedo for Officers
Note: Honor Guards for Confirmations and other Color Corps will be announced at regular Business meeting, email communication and published in the bulletin when & if possible. To obtain maximum Corps representation the C.C.C. will make every effort to provide as much advance notice as possible to Corps members.

**Upcoming 4TH & 3rd Degree Council events & info:**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE AND DISTRIBUTION

My brothers in Christ,

I was informed late last night that we have a new council at the Devine Mercy Parish in Sacramento. Council 14158 was established under the leadership of District Deputy #9 Ed Peluso, the Northern Ca. Chapter Membership Team lead by Jerry Fong and Jim Currlin, and strong leaderships from the Krolak Agency's staff and Northern Ca. Chapter President Dave Abbott.

This is the second new council for the Northern Ca. Chapter this year and they have also reactivated two councils, 9799, Our Lady of Guadalupe, (a Spanish council), and Council 8424 of Sacramento, lead by District Deputy 11, Jack Willoughby.

The Ca. State Council extends its most profound gratitude to these gentlemen for their excellent work. We currently have four new councils and three reactivations within this Columbian Year.

Faith, Charity and Growth, now is the hour of the Knights of Columbus.

With fraternal regards and prayerful best wishes,

I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

California State Deputy: Emilio B. Moure

Totus Tuus Ego Sum

EXEMPLIFICATION OF THE SECOND & THIRD DEGREE

**DISTRICT 8
DISTRICT DEPUTY, FRANK DONAGHER
&
ARDEN-CARMICHAEL COUNCIL 4970
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**

**Will Proudly Host an Exemplification of the 2nd
& 3rd Degrees**

**(Honorees: 2nd Degree: Monsignor Patrick
Nolan - 3rd Degree: Bishop William Weigand)**

When: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 2006

**Where: St. JOHN the Evangelist Parish
(5751 Locust Av, Carmichael, CA 95608)**

AGENDA:

Registration for 2nd & 3rd Degree - 10:00 AM
Exemplification of 2nd Degree - 11:00 AM
Hot Lunch (no Dinner on agenda) - 12:00 PM
Registration Closes for 3rd Degree - 1:00 PM
Exemplification of 3rd Degree - 1:30 PM
No-Host Bar/**Finger Food/Snacks** - 4:30 PM

Notes

There will not be a special mass at St. John the Evangelist Parish for the degree.

However there is a 5:00 PM mass which may be more convenient than going the next day.

There is **no** scheduled Ladies Program.

Total Cost per Candidate (includes lunch and snacks) - \$16.00

Non-Candidates/Guests (Lunch and Snacks) - \$10.00

Lunch will be Steak sandwiches with salad choices & other items.

The dress code for these degrees will be **strictly enforced**.

Dress code is collared sport shirt and slacks minimum. No

Bleu Jeans, shorts or tee shirts will be allowed to participate in the exemplification ceremony.

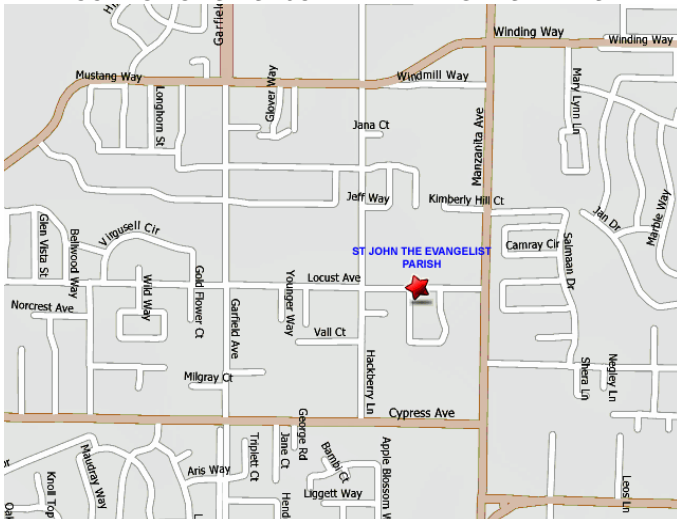
For Reservations, (By FEBRUARY 7th), or additional information

Frank Donagher, P.G.K. – DD #8 (916) 361-7032
fdonagher@compuserve.com

Larry Rositani, PGK - Membership Director Council 4970, (916) 486-4377
or

Eugene Gobbo, PGK, FDD, Council 4970 – (916) 283-5223
gene@gobbo.org

LOCATION OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH



The Importance of the Family Rosary

This article is taken from the booklet "Our Glorious Faith and How To Lose It" written by **Fr. Hugh Thwaites, S.J.** It contains different stories of how we can lose our faith but this paper will deal only with the Holy Rosary. **Fr. Thwaites'** words on this subject are as follows:

Without delay now, I want to talk about my theme. It seems to me that a principal cause of the loss of faith is the dropping off in the practice of the family rosary.

In Austria, after World War II, there was a complete collapse of vocations. One year, apparently, no one at all entered the seminaries. So the bishops held a synod, to find out how it could be that this had happened. The conclusion they reached was that the war had so disrupted family life that the centuries-old practice of the rosary in the home had stopped, and had just

not started up again. This is my experience, too; when the rosary goes, the faith soon collapses.

I remember someone telling me of a friend of his, a great Catholic, the pillar of the parish, whose children had all lapsed, one after the other. They had all fallen away from the sacraments and from attending Mass. So I said to him, "I wouldn't mind betting that your friend had been brought up to recite the family rosary when he was a boy, and that his children haven't." The next time I saw him, he said that this was indeed true. His friend had recited the family rosary at home when he was a boy, and when he had got married and started his own family they all said the rosary. But then, one evening when they were about to start the rosary, one of the children switched on the television, and that was that. The custom of the family rosary was dropped, and in due course they gave up the practice of the faith.

After this life, that one unrebuked action will be seen to have affected the eternity of many people. God sent His Mother to Fatima to tell us that we had to say the rosary every day. There were no other prayers She asked us to say. Accordingly, we should do what She asked.

A layman I met once who did not say his rosary told me that he read the breviary every day. That is fine. It is what priests have to do. It is the prayer of the Church. So in a way it is better than the rosary. But it is not what Our Lady asked for. She asked for the rosary. If a mother sends her child to the shop for a bottle of milk, and he comes back instead with ice cream, is she pleased? In a way, ice cream is better than milk, but it is not what she asked for.

In that most holy home at Nazareth, do you think that Our Lady had to ask for anything twice? If we want in any way to be like Jesus, we must do what His Mother asks. If we do not, can we expect things to go right? We cannot with impunity disobey the Mother of God. She knows better than we the dangers of this spiritual warfare. She sees more clearly than we do the dangers that beset us. She warns us: You must say your rosary every day.

If the garage mechanic warns you that your car needs repairing or else it will break down, surely you would heed that warning. If the gas gauge warns you that you need more gas, do you do nothing about it? And if Our Lady comes to Fatima and tells us, not just once but six times, that we must say the rosary every day, do we disregard that warning? If we do, we have only ourselves to blame when we find that our children have lapsed from the faith. I know that Fatima is only a private revelation, but nevertheless the Church has endorsed it, and that makes it rash for us to disregard it. If the Church informs us that Our Lady really did come to Fatima and tell us these things, then we must hearken to her words. It really seems to me that those Catholics who do not take Fatima seriously and say the rosary every day in their homes, are very akin to the Jews who laughed at Jeremiah. If God sends us His prophets and we do not take them seriously – well, we have the whole of the Old Testament to tell us what happens as a result. But at Fatima, God sent us, not His prophets, but His Immaculate Mother.

So I think that the abandonment of the family rosary is a main reason why so many Catholics have lost the faith. It seems to me that the Church of the future is going to consist solely of those families who have been faithful to the rosary. But there will be vast numbers of people whose families used to be Catholic.

In my work of going round visiting homes I have seen this conclusion borne out time and again. Homes can be transformed by starting the recitation of the daily rosary. I remember a woman telling me that she could not thank me enough for having nagged her into starting it; it had united her family as never before. And I remember another home where I called. There was a strange tension there: the children were silent and the wife seemed withdrawn, but the husband was willing to start the family rosary. When I called back again a couple of months later, the atmosphere was quite different. The children were chatty and the wife was friendly, and the husband walked down the road with me afterwards and said how amazing it was that the home was so much happier.

One reason, I think, why the daily rosary makes for a happy home, is this. From what some possessed people have said, and from what some of the saints have said, it seems certain that demons fear the rosary. It makes their hair stand on end, so to speak. Holy water certainly drives them out, but they come back again. The daily rosary drives them out and keeps them out. It is rather like living in an old house where there are mice everywhere. The only way to get rid of them is to bring cats. If you get a couple of cats, after a week or two there simply will not be any more mice. Mice fear the very smell of cats. And in a home where the rosary is said every day, after a time the demons realize they are impotent in front of Our Lady, and go elsewhere.

This must be one reason why, as they say, "the family that prays together stays together." In that home, utterly free of evil spirits, there is an atmosphere one does not find outside. In a demon-infested city like London, where I live, such a home is an oasis of God's grace, and people find a comfort and peace there which they enjoy greatly. We human beings are not meant to live in the company of demons, but with God and with the angels and saints in heaven.

So, as I see it, in this effort we are making to keep the faith and pass it on, the practice of the rosary is absolutely indispensable. Whatever else a person may do, even though they go to Mass every day, they still need to say the rosary in their home. It is the medicine our Mother has told us to take, to keep our faith strong and healthy.