



Knights of Columbus

Fair Oaks Council #6066

A Division 5/District 7 Council



"Jesus, I Trust in You!" — Always Forward, Never Back

OCTOBER

2025

N
A
V
I
G
A
T
O
R

GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

By GK Gary Rains



Brothers,

This month, I want to share a personal note about loving our enemies. The current book I am reading, titled "Be A Man!" by Father Larry Richards, our latest speaker at the Men's Day of Faith, talks about how we must love our enemies. Interestingly enough, it is the timing of the topic and the current narratives going around our country about using violence against those who have opposing views. The idea itself is radical, yet Jesus commands us to love our enemies and pray for those who persecute us. While meditating on Jesus' command, something awoke in me - anger, resentment, retaliation - directed at those who are responsible for the loss of my son in 2009.

After I supposedly practiced forgiveness of those involved, it is gut-wrenching to relive these feelings and look past the hostility. Holding on to this triangle of resentment, fear, and anger keeps my heart heavy and my soul restless. So, what can I do about this dilemma? First, despite the difficulty, I must pray for God to soften my heart and be open to His grace. I must bring my enemies before God. I pray to be released from the chains of bitterness and for their redemption rather than for their punishment. I am beginning to see that loving my enemies reflects God's nature. After all, Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do". Loving my enemies may be one of the hardest lessons to learn in my life. Yet I can see that the lesson will lead me to rise above my instinctual hostilities and lead me to live in mercy. As a Catholic man, I strive to reflect God's heart and follow in His footsteps. God's love transcends any hatred, and His mercy transforms every heart. So, in prayer, I ask, "Jesus, give me the grace to love my enemies. Teach me to forgive as You forgive. Help me to pray for those who have wounded me and, in loving them, I may grow closer to You." Amen.

Our next fund-raising event is October 25th, when we kick off with our Knights of Columbus featured State program - the **Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities (ID)**. Our Fair Oaks Council participates annually by collecting donations and sponsoring a Dinner after 4:30 P.M. Mass and breakfast after morning Masses the next day. Approximately 7 to 8 million Americans experience intellectual disabilities, and 30 million are impacted by a person with intellectual disabilities. Often overlooked and marginalized, this portion of society often has difficulty communicating and advocating for their needs. They learn and process information more slowly and have difficulty with abstract concepts such as money, time, and interpersonal interactions.

ADORATION CHAPEL SCHEDULE			
Friday Morning 6:00 AM to 7:00 AM			
NAME	PHONE	November	December
John Brennan	916-548-4962	All Fridays	All Fridays
Andy Anderson	916-826-5617	3rd Friday	3rd Friday

Adoration Chapel



It is important that the care, safety, and quality of life for these individuals be assured. It is essential to engage with the public, and methods should be developed to promote and sustain their self-esteem. They should be empowered to be independent and involved in their community. Over the past few years, and again this year, our Council's beneficiaries have been Camp ReCreation and the local Laurel Ruff Transition School. Camp ReCreation, under the patronage of the Diocese of Sacramento and the Knights of Columbus, offers a summer camp and year-round activities that inspire fun, friendship, social interaction, and spiritual growth for participants. The Laurel Ruff Transition School is a partially funded special education school for transition-aged adults (18 to 22 years old) who reside in the San Juan Unified School District. LRTS has Community Transition Programs (CTP) for young adults with disabilities who have completed high school but continue to need transition-focused services. Save the dates! – October 18th and 19th, we will pass the can after Masses; and on October 25th, for Dinner, Dessert Auction, and Talent Show, and on October 26th, for Breakfast. Watch for flyers coming soon! Watch for a callout for volunteers! We need you!

Food for Families Program - Do you know about the Food for Families program? This program has not had much visibility in our Council. No one has reported on the program at our Council meetings, but if you have ever noticed the little blue wagon in the vestibule of the church, you may have seen food items sitting in it from time to time. About once a month, the blue wagon appears in the vestibule with a sign notating the Knights of Columbus are collecting non-perishable food items. Our Saint Mel Saint Vincent de Paul ministry is the beneficiary. The donated food items are placed in the SVdP food closet for distribution to needy families. There is usually an advertisement for "Monthly Food Drive" every third weekend of the month. The ad lists the food items being requested. Each year, we report the pounds of food donated to Supreme. If we meet a certain threshold, we are reimbursed \$500 for our participation. So, keep an eye out for the little blue wagon each month, and you may be able to bring in a donation. Look for more information on the KofC Food for Families program elsewhere in this month's Navigator.

Bulletin Deadlines - For those of us who chair an event or program and want their event or program to be advertised on the Saint Mel bulletin, the deadline for articles or advertisements is 10 days prior to the Sunday publication date. For example, right now, articles/advertisements for October 12th are due to the Parish Office no later than 8 am on October 1st, October 19th bulletin articles are due on October 8th, October 26th bulletin articles are due by October 15th, and so on.

Send your articles to office@stmelchurch.org. Articles must be typed in Word, Century Gothic font size 11. The submission deadlines are on page two, the lower left-hand corner of each St. Mel bulletin. Take a bulletin home each week or subscribe online to stay informed about the deadlines. On occasion, they will be earlier by a day or two during holidays. Finally, it is the responsibility of the event chair or program director to submit articles or advertisements for publication. If you have any questions or need assistance with developing bulletin articles/advertisements, please contact me at origrainer@yahoo.com or (916) 747-6835. (cont. next page)

Other notable October events include our Baby Supply Drive on October 4th and 5th, and our Welcoming Ceremony for new Knights joining the Council on October 5th, following the 10:30 Mass in the Church. October 12th will be the Blood Drive with coffee and donuts in the small hall. You can find more information on these events in other sections of this Navigator.

In Service to One, In Service to All
SK Gary Rains, Grand Knight
916-747-6835
origrainer@yahoo.com

BUSINESS MEETING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

OCTOBER 10/02 - DOMINIQUE HIPOLITO

NOVEMBER 11/06 - MARIO LA SCHIAZZA

DECEMBER 12/04 - MIKE KARELIUS

Remember if you have any difficulties or challenges
Meeting your commitment, contact brother Chris Ward
At 916-834-1772 or brother Mike Karelius at 916-606-6471.

Editor's Note: The Navigator provides us with a way of keeping in touch with one another. We provide articles of the past month's activities, as well as upcoming events. Although most of the articles are written by the Grand Knight, anyone can provide input. Anyone chairing an event or fundraiser should write a brief article and add a photo or two.

All that's necessary is the article and photo in email form, sent to Dominique Hipolito at hipolito.dominique@gmail.com. It doesn't need to be any special font or text size. Send your article as soon as it's ready. It should be sent by the first Sunday night after our business meeting.
George Perkins, Editor

Knights of the Month

By GK Gary Rains

Congratulations to our September Knights of the Month Brothers Dustin Stroud and John Watson. Dustin has been a Council member since May of 2025 just after he received his sacraments at Easter Vigil. He has volunteered at every event we have sponsored this year since joining the Council. Recently Dustin has volunteered to join our Navigator newsletter team and has already researched and written articles featuring KofC programs. He will be a most valued team member as we continue to develop the Navigator into a high quality and informative newsletter. Dustin can always be seen in the front rows at Mass proudly wearing his KofC badge. Besides coming in as a third-degree Knight, he has in his first year participated in three Council events, attended three Council business meetings, and met with our insurance representative. Dustin needs to bring one new member into our Council this year and he will earn the Shining Armor reward. Let's go Dustin!!

John has earned the KOM award for his leadership in chairing this year's annual charity golf tournament. He volunteered to chair the golf tournament last January when we were on the brink of not having a tournament this Columbian year. He took the time to learn about how we manage the tournament, transferred all the past files into electronic storage and developed the tournament website for this year. In the end we didn't end up with as many golfers as we had hoped for but the tournament still netted enough to benefit our beneficiary, St. Mel School, and to meet budgeted amounts for our Council charities. John has already indicated that he is willing to chair the tournament next year. Congratulations Brother John!!



Left: Brother Dustin Stroud accepting his KOM certificate. Right: Brother John Watson accepting his KOM award. Also pictured GK Gary Rains presenting the KOM awards.

Food for Families Program

By Dustin Stroud

Did you know that millions of Americans are struggling to keep food on the table? Did you know that 1 in 6 children in the U.S. does not know where they will get their next meal? Did you know that, for the most part, school lunches are the only meals of the day for millions of children? Did you know that high unemployment rates and rising food prices have left many in our communities unable to provide nutritious meals for their families? Did you know that too many children are going to bed hungry or getting ill? And did you know that you can help make a difference through Food for Families?

The Food for Families program is one way that the Knights of Columbus and our communities are working together to end hunger. Many people in our communities are struggling through hardship and are unable to provide food for their families.

The Knights of Columbus launched the Food for Families program to encourage members and their communities to work together to help those who normally have to go without. Since the program started in 2012, councils have donated millions of dollars and millions of pounds of food to local parish food pantries, soup kitchens, and food banks throughout the United States and Canada.

How you can help all starts at home. You can do something as simple as donating that extra can of beef stew from your pantry, buying extra groceries to donate to your local K of C council, or even donating a little bit of cash from your paycheck. Contact your local Knights of Columbus council to find out more about the needs in your area and how you can help through food donations and/or financial contributions. You can also visit kofc.org/charities for more information about donating.

The goal of Food for Families is to ensure that as few as possible go to bed hungry each night. Please help us bring that goal to fruition with your generous donation. Jesus may have fed many people with five loaves of bread and two fish, but as for us, we need a lot more than that. God bless everyone, and may Christ stir your hearts.

Coats for Kids

By Dustin Stroud

Did you know that many children throughout the United States and Canada go without a coat each winter? Low-income families use their scarce resources to meet the most basic needs and cannot always afford this life-sparing winter necessity. The Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids® Program allows councils across North America the opportunity to put their faith into action and purchase new winter coats at a discount for children in need in their communities. Since its formation in 2009, councils have distributed over a million free coats in the United States and Canada, with an average of thousands being handed out at events every year. The goal of the Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids® program is to ensure that no child in North America goes without a coat during the winter season. Even though so many have been given a coat every year, still more are needed with the ever-growing unemployment rate.

This program's goal is to help kids stay warm in the winter when a child's family does not have the resources to adequately meet this need. A warm coat means a child can attend school, go to after-school programs, have snowball fights with their friends, and do all the things that your average kid does every fall and winter. In a very real sense, a warm winter coat means mobility. The mission of this program is to make this seemingly small part of life a little bit easier for these families.

Coats for Kids is a vital program of the Knights of Columbus that provides the gift of warmth to children in need. By making a charitable donation to the Coats for Kids program, you can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with the Knights of Columbus as we provide warm coats for children less fortunate. Imagine the smiles you will help create by providing a new warm coat! We can't do it alone. Make a difference today in the lives of these children. For more information about how to donate, please visit www.kofc.org/coats.



Knights of Columbus
St. Mel Council 6066
St. Mel Catholic Church
Fair Oaks, CA
Welcome Ceremony for New Knights
for Charity, Unity, and Fraternity

When: Sunday October 5, 2025

Where: St Mel Church, 4745 Pennsylvania Ave, Fair Oaks, CA

Honoree: TBA

Schedule:

10:15 am – Registration at the front entrance of the Church

12:00 pm – Ceremony for New Knights

12:45 pm – Light Refreshments in the St. Jude Room

Dress Code: Collared shirt and slacks for Candidates

This Exemplification is for:

- Catholic Men who want to join the Knights of Columbus
- On-line Members who are joining a local Council
- 1st and 2nd Degree existing Members who want to advance to 3rd Degree

RSVP ASAP to either SK Chris Ward, Membership Director at 916 834-1772, email to wardchrisj@hotmail.com or to DD Pete Lopez at 916 380-1970, email to petelopez@hotmail.com . Please provide the Candidate's name, member # if known, Council #, District #, and phone number and email address.

Sponsoring Council: Please be sure every Candidate has a Sponsor attend the Exemplification with the Candidate. Please provide a Rosary, a K of C Pin, a Membership Card, and any other information you wish to provide to your new Knight. Candidates are encouraged to invite their family and friends to witness the ceremony.

BABY SUPPLY DRIVE

AT ST. MEL
TO SUPPORT

OCT. 4-5



HOW TO HELP

Please donate new,
unopened items such as:

- Diapers (newborn-size 6) & pull-ups
- Baby wipes and diaper cream
- Formula & baby food (unexpired)
- Bottles, pacifiers, bibs, and blankets
- New baby clothing (0-24 months) & k
- Gift cards (Target, Walmart, grocery stores)



DROP-OFF

Bring donations to St. Mel before or after Masses
or to the parish vestibule/parking-lot
collection tables on both days.



For questions, please contact Life Director
Tremain Hayhoe at 310-621-7650.



Baby Supply Drive — Oct. 4-5

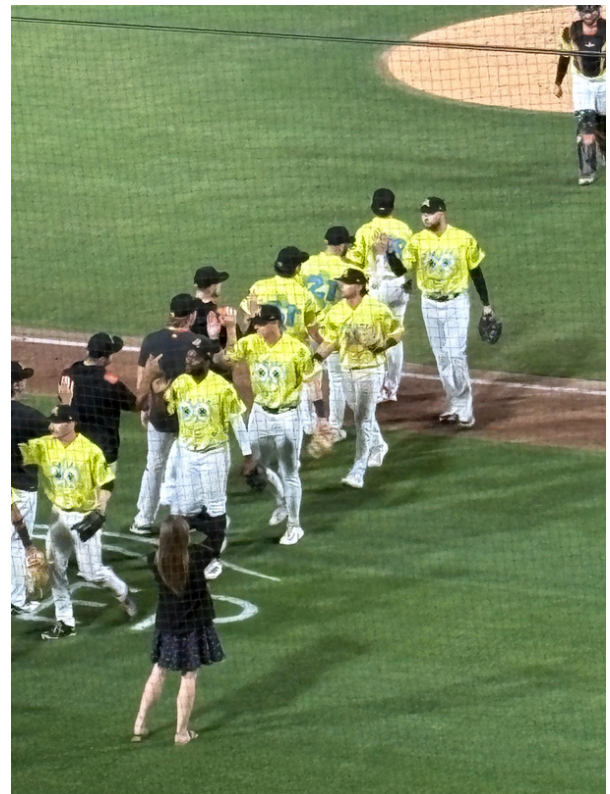
The Knights of Columbus at St. Mel are collecting baby supplies to support the Sacramento Life Center. Please bring diapers, wipes, formula, baby food, new baby clothes, and gift cards to the vestibule or tables before or after Mass the weekend of October 4-5.

Questions? Contact Life Director Tremain Hayhoe at 310-621-7650.

Take Me Out to the Ballgame...or Bikini Bottom?

By PGK Chris Ward

The Sacramento SpongeBobs beat the Round Rock Express (owned by baseball legend Nolan Ryan) 4-2 on Saturday evening, September 20th, as several of our Council members attended the game. Brother David Vincent graciously offered his family suite for the occasion. As we enjoyed the amenities in the suite at Sutter Health Stadium, we got to take in an entertaining game. As the second-to-last game of the River Cats' 2025 season, it was officially SpongeBob night- take a close look at the uniforms in the attached picture. Centerfielder Luis Matos led the SpongeBobs (also known as the RiverCats) with four hits and two RBIs in the game, finishing second in the Pacific Coast League West Division for the second half of the season. They only trailed the Tacoma Rainiers, who finished first. Sliders, hot dogs, and chicken were on hand to take care of our appetites in the suite. We even had a vegetable (pop) corn, for the healthy part of the snacks. Drinks were on the individuals. All in all, we had a great Knights Out evening, concluding with a River Cat win and the Saturday evening fireworks after the game. Thanks again, especially to Brother David, for allowing us to use his family's suite on this occasion.



Scott Whittaker
St. Patrick's Seminary
320 Middlefield Rd.
Menlo Park, CA 94025

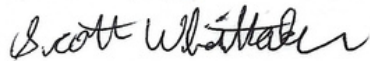
August 19, 2025

Gary Rains, Grand Knight
Knights of Columbus
Fair Oaks Council #6066
P.O. Box 1180
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Dear Gary and Brother Knights,

On Thursday I will begin a new year of seminary as a Third Year Theology student. After four years of seminary it is amazing to think that I have only two years left. I want to thank you for your support since I entered the Diocese of Sacramento. Thank you for your most recent gift of \$1000. I received your gift when I returned from spending the summer in San Antonio studying Spanish. It is a blessing to receive your support as I begin a new academic year. I want to thank also you for the invitation to join all of you for a meeting so that we could catch up and I could meet the new members of the Council. It sounds like you have some great new members. I am sorry I was not able to get together with you this month. I was in the Diocese for a short time and Fr. Mauricio and Fr. Edgardo kept me busy! I am praying for you and your families.

God bless you,



Scott Whittaker
Seminararian for the Diocese of Sacramento

Parish Blood Drive and Breakfast

Sunday, October 12th 8:15AM to 12:15PM

Donations in Vitalant Mobile Unit

In the Parish Center Parking Lot

Coffee and Donuts in the Small Hall Donors should eat before donating and bring ID. Make a reservation to donate by calling Chris Ward at 916-834-1772 or email at wardchrisj@hotmail.com

Only 3% of people who are eligible to donate blood actually do! Vitalant needs your help to maintain regular blood supplies to 36

Hospitals in Northern California.

This event is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus here at St. Mel.

Come, help us meet the challenge- your donation of blood can save

Up to three lives!

OCTOBER 2025

October Anniversaries

by Patrick Wagner , FS

Congratulations to the following couples celebrating their blessed date this month:

Sean and Sara O'Grady 10-03-2009
Ferryanto and Rohjati Tjhin 10-19-1985
Randy and Catherine Rozanski 10-25-1975
Thomas and Claudia Beigel 10-30-2008

October Birthdays

by SK Patrick Wagner, FS

To many More!

Alison Fox	10-01
Rosalie Duenas	10-03
Monica Crumley	10-04
Richard R Welsh	10-04
Ruben De Anda Padilla	10-05
Judy Abi-Nade	10-06
Paul H Gohring	10-06
Henry G Luckie	10-07
Rodd J Tufto	10-07
Gloria Sunquist	10-09
Clifford J Leiker	10-09
Patrick D Povey	10-09
Jesse Hoskins	10-11
William J Savage	10-15
Candice (Candy) Ward	10-20
Clement J Dougherty	10-20
Troy V Olsen	10-20
Manuel Cepeda Duenas Jr	10-21
Denis C Shunta	10-21
Mary Hager	10-26
Daniel L Styer	10-26
Clifford M Ingram	10-29
Robert A Mayer	10-30
Mr Christopher Owen	10-30
Salvatore V Ricca	10-30
Mr Dustin Stroud	10-30
Donald A Wagner	10-31

SICK AND DISTRESSED LIST AS OF 9/24/2025

Loretta Brennan, Rick and Miriam Cervetti, Rick Chang, Joe DiSessa, Pat Wagner (Don's wife), Bill Savage, Frank and Judy Abi-Nader, Bruce King, , aul Parker, Mel Rose and Jeff Rose, Bernadette Lazo, Mario La Schiazza, Patty MacEgan, Darleen Janson, Chris Guzman, David Abi-Nader, Elizabeth Annett, B. Gruneisen, Bill Quiroz, Steve Grass, Tom Kelley, Patrick Quinlan, Michael Holbrook, Nora Stroud, Vic Warmerdam, Barney Brinkman, David Murgia, Sue Van Zant, Brandon Ernst, Bill Wagner, Kyle Ramos, Susie Sallee

DECEASED LIST AS OF 9/24/2025

Phil Povey, Steven Eberenz III, Terry Miles Cheryl Keller, Sally Williams, Tjenderawati Lukman, Jack Simas, Nestor Hipolito Elaine Flynn, Bob Burman, Robert Richmond, Tina Louise Schulten, Scott Yesitis, Mary Miles, Kathy Leuschen, Alice Orr, Jim Jensen, Nancy Allison, Meryl Susmilich, George Kolenski, Al Schindler

MASS CARDS:

Anyone knowing of a fellow brother or his spouse having passed away or ill, please notify Tyson Villa so a Mass Card can be sent. Bro. Tyson can be contacted by phone at 916-213-3767 .

COUNCIL OFFICERS

Grand Knight

SK Gary Rains 916-747-6835

origrainer@yahoo.com

Deputy Grand Knight

SK Tremain Hayhoe 310-621-7650

Chaplain

Fr. Desmond O'Reilly 916-967-1229

Chancellor

Br. Tyson Villa 916-213-3767

Financial Secretary

SK Patrick Wagner 916-995-4281

patrick.wagner@ieee.org

Recorder

Br. David Vincent 916-895-9112

Warden

SK Trevor Harris 916-396-5775

Treasurer

SK Pat Miles 916-849-8698

Lecturer

Br. Chris Juten 916-715-1162

Trustee 1 Year

SK George Perkins 916-844-7033

Trustee 2 Year

SK Chris Ward 916-834-1772

Trustee 3 Year

SK Mike Karelius 916-606-6471

Advocate

SK John Brennan 916-548-4962

Inside Guard

SK Mario La Schiazza 916 -870-8996

Outside Guard

SK Dominique Hipolito 973-666-7998

Program Director

SK Tremain Hayhoe 310-621-7650

Community Director

SK Trevor Harris 916-396-5775

Faith Director

Br. Steven Fitzgerald 916-878-7552

Family Director

SK Gary Rains 916-747-6835

Membership Director

SK Chris Ward 916-834-1772

Life Director

SK Tremain Hayhoe 310-621-7650

Retention Chair

SK Chris Ward 916-834-1772

Fourth Degree

SK John Brennan 916-548-4962

Navigator Publisher

SK Dominique Hipolito 973-666-7998

Navigator Editor

SK George Perkins 916-844-7033

District Deputy

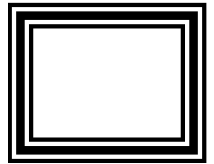
SK Pete Lopez

Insurance & Field Rep.

SK Martin Baker 916-546-8093

Knights of Columbus

Fair Oaks Council #6066
P.O. Box 1180
Fair Oaks, CA 95628



IN GOD WE TRUST

October 2025

- 2- (Thursday)- Council Business Meeting 7pm
- 4/5 (Sat. Sun)- Baby Supply Drive
- 5 - CUF (in Church)
- 12 (Sunday)- Blood Drive/Breakfast (Parish Center/Mobile unit)
- 16 (Thursday) - Council Planning Mtg 7pm
- 18/19 (Sat, Sun) - ID Drive Collection
- 25 (Saturday) - ID Drive Spaghetti Dinner

November 2025

- 1 (Saturday)- All Saints Day; Life Center Gala
 - 1/2nd (Sat, Sun)- Baby Supply Drive
 - 6 (Thursday)- Council Business Meeting 7PM
 - 8/9 (Sat, Sun)- Council Membership Drive
 - 8 (Sat 4:30 PM)- Knights Memorial Mass
 - 15 (Saturday)- NorCal Chapter Meeting
 - 20 (Thursday)- Planning Meeting 7pm
 - 22-30 Keep Christ in Christmas Cards Sale
 - 27 (Thursday)- Thanksgiving Day
-



Please take the time to check out our web site: www.kc6066.org. If you have any changes, suggestions and/or even photos, please send them to our Grand Knight, Gary Rains 916-747-6835



COUNCIL #6066 EVENTS CALENDAR