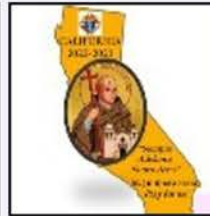




Knights of Columbus

Fair Oaks Council #6066

A Division 5/District 7 Council



DECEMBER

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

2025

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GRAND KNIGHT'S MESSAGE

By GK Gary Rains



Brothers,

Happy New Year!! We are now in Advent, arguably the most anticipated time of the year. As Knights, we strive to be vigilant in the preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ, our Savior. We prepare ourselves with penitential rights as we acknowledge our sins. We seek forgiveness through prayers for healing and mercy, and placing trust in God's will for us. We spend time in Eucharistic Adoration and pray for the strength to continue to live a God-centered life on earth. These are just a few Advent meditations. Our preparation for the true beginning of Christmas on Christmas Day is ultimately in preparation for our imminent meeting with the Son of Man, either in our own death or in the coming of the Lord. What does your preparation for Advent look like? Like in the parable of the wise virgins who had their lamps full of oil, ready to meet the bridegroom? Or like the foolish virgins, who didn't give it a thought and were unprepared and left outside when the bridegroom came?

This past month, we welcomed our newest brother Knight, Anthony Greco. Anthony isn't wasting any time being of service, as he has already volunteered to help us out moving boxes of backpack supplies for the Saint Vincent de Paul ministry on December 3rd. Perhaps stop in a Council meeting and personally welcome our new brother. Or even better, just attend a Council Meeting if you haven't for some time and get caught up a bit. There are also several new members we have welcomed in 2025. A perfect time to practice fraternity.

This past November 11th, our Council once again hosted the Veterans' Day Breakfast in the Parish Center. Thanks to the brothers who volunteered to help prepare the meal and clean up the kitchen – The chef, Brother Tyson Villa, SK, Joe Van Zant, SK, Chris Ward, SK, Pat Wagner, SK, Pat Miles. And of course, a big "Thank you" for your service to all our Veterans of Saint Mel Parish.

On November 15th (at the Northern California KofC Chapter meeting in Marysville) our Council was presented with the Star Council Award for meeting our Supreme Council's goal for new membership last Columbian year. Great job to all! We are a bit behind in reaching our Supreme Council's goal for new members this year. More about membership next month.

We are hosting the Parish Christmas Potluck on December 13th, after the 4:30 Mass. There is no cost to attend the potluck. Everyone in the Parish is invited. Bring the family. Bring

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



your favorite dish. We will be accepting donations of canned goods for the St. Mel Saint Vincent DePaul Society or an unwrapped toy to be donated to the Sheriff's toy drive. There will be Christmas music, singing, and a special treat for the children. We will be having sign-up sheets available after Masses.

We currently have a couple of charity, unity, and fraternity callouts. 1) The St. Mel Saint Vincent DePaul ministry is reaching out to the Knights of Columbus for help on Wednesday, December 3rd, at 7:30 am to move about 80 containers of supplies for their Backpacks Project. The supplies are located at 6518 Oakbrook Drive, Fair Oaks, and are to be delivered to the St. Jude Room at St Mel church. They are asking for 6 or more volunteers and their vehicles (car/SUV/truck) to load up containers and deliver them to the St. Jude Room. It is estimated that the process should take about 2 hours to complete. There is at least one hand truck at the Oakbrook house, but other hand trucks or carts are needed, also. You don't need a hand truck to help. There can't be too many volunteers. If you can take just one load, that is helpful too. The more we have, the less each vehicle must move. Please RSVP to me at origrainer@yahoo.com or call/text me at 916 747-6835. I can give you more details or answer questions. 2) The Citrus Heights HART Winter Sanctuary program (at Holy Family church) is seeking volunteers from St. Mel parishioners to staff three different shifts on January 9th, 10th, and February 11th, to greet the guests, feed them a meal, monitor the guests as they sleep overnight, and serve a continental breakfast in the morning before they leave. There is some training being offered for the evening of Sunday, 11/30, and Tuesday, 12/9. You only need to be at one training evening. For info about the Winter Sanctuary, go to citrusheightshart.org/programs/winter-sanctuary or contact Deacon Dave Lehman at 916-390-7966 or www.fairoakshomes.net.

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

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 many 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(s) and photo(s) in email form, sent to Dominique Hipolito at navigator6066@googlegroups.com or dhpolito2025@gmail.com. It doesn't need to be any special font or text size. Send your article as soon as possible, but no later than 10 days before the next business meeting.

George Perkins, Editor

DECEMBER PLANNING MEETING SCHEDULE

Brothers, please note - our **December Planning Meeting** has been moved to:

WEDNESDAY DEC. 17th, 2025 at 7:00 PM

This was necessary because the St. Mel Penance Service for Christmas is on Thursday, December 11th at 6:30 PM, and the St. Mel School Christmas Pageant is on Thursday, December 18th.

BUSINESS MEETING MEAL VOLUNTEERS

Brothers, here are the volunteers for the next three months to provide the meal at the Business meeting. GK Gary is usually at the Parish Center by 5 pm, along with a couple of volunteers, if you need to use the kitchen. Our goal is to serve at 6 pm to keep things on schedule. Please plan on enough for 20-22 guests/members, and keep your expenses in the \$75 range. If you are unable to do the meal you signed up for, try to switch with someone or contact Chris Ward at 916-834-1772 or Mike Karelius at 916-606-6471. New volunteers are always welcome.

December 4, 2025 Mike Karelius 916-606-6471

January 8, 2026 David Vincent 916-895-9112

February 5, 2026 Pat Miles 916-849-8698

Family of the Month By GK Gary Rains

Congratulations to our November Family of the Month, SK George Perkins and Jamie Perkins. George and Jamie led the kitchen team at the ID Drive Spaghetti Dinner. They literally worked in the kitchen during the entire event. The success of the dinner is attributed to their hard work, and we are lucky to have them on our team. George also serves as a Council Trustee and editor of the Navigator Newsletter. Way to go, George and Jamie!! Thank you so much!



Left: GK Gary Rains presenting the FOM Award. Right: SK George Perkins and Jaime Perkins accepting his FOM Award.

A Reflection on Thanksgiving
By Dustin Stroud



Happy Gobble Day! It's that time of the year for roasted turkeys, stuffing, pies, and everything pumpkin spice. Thanksgiving, going all the way back to the first feast between the pilgrims and the Native Americans, has always been a time to reflect and be thankful for the blessings we have in life. Some, including myself, are thankful for having a new job. Some are thankful for their families and friends. I, as all of us should be, am most definitely thankful for Jesus. I thank God for sending us His only begotten Son to die on the Cross to bring us salvation and redemption. Even though we have one day set aside nationally to be thankful, we Catholics practice our own form of Thanksgiving with every Mass. In fact, the word "Eucharist," which is the Body and Blood of our savior Jesus Christ, means "Thanksgiving" in the Greek language. Every Mass, we receive our Lord in the Eucharist in Thanksgiving.

Personally, I have a lot to be thankful for this year. After a long streak of being unemployed, I finally have a new job in which I will start working soon. I am thankful for where God has put me on my path, I'm thankful for all my friends and Church family, and I am thankful for God loving me so much to give me salvation and adopting me as His son. I am thankful for having Jesus as my Lord, Savior, and Brother. I am thankful for having Mary as my Mother, and I am thankful for having St. Mel as my parish. Also, I am thankful for being a member of the Knights of Columbus and for all the ways I have been active in my parish. So, no pressure, but what are you thankful for this year? Happy Thanksgiving, and God bless all of you

Veteran's Day Mass and Reception

By PGK Chris Ward

On November 11th, Veterans Day, we joined with the Saint Michael the Archangel Military Group, members of the 4th degree Knights Honor Guard, Scout Troop 217, and members of the Parish at St. Mel, in celebrating Veterans of military service. Our morning started with a Rosary for the Nation led by Gail Johnson (whose husband Bob was an Air Force pilot). Then a special Mass was offered by Father Des, assisted by Deacons Dave and Jack. SK John Atilano read the First Reading. After the Prayers of the Faithful, SK Mike McLeod and his wife, Melissa, read all of the names on the Honor Roll of the Living here in our Parish, including two men currently on active duty. Pat Miles followed that up by reading off the Honor Roll of the Deceased.

After the Mass, everyone was invited down to the Parish Center for breakfast put on by our Council and to listen to the guest speakers. Brothers (GK) Gary Rains, (Chancellor) Tyson Villa, (PGK) Joe VanZant, were assisted by Tony Quezada in preparing and serving a meal of eggs, bacon, sausage, tater tots, and muffins for the assembled crowd. Retired Army Major Delores Leon (president of the St. Michael military group) drafted me to be the Master of Ceremonies. Brother Knights Doug Crumley and Don Jones led the Scouts in the posting of the colors, and Senior Patrol Leader Luke Crumley followed with the Pledge of Allegiance. Deacon Dave guided us through the Star Spangled Banner, and Deacon Jack led us in the Blessing before the Meal prayer.

Once everyone was settled and sitting down with breakfast, I had the honor of introducing our Parish Business Manager, brother Bob Mayer, the first of three speakers that morning. Bob's father-in-law, Staff Sergeant Frank Perri (deceased), a member of the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, was profiled by Bob and two of Frank's children (Frank Perri and Monica Peretto). Frank was a member of the 314th Transport Squadron, which carried cargo, personnel (he flew General Patton from England to France regularly), and airborne troops during significant World War II operations. Bob concluded the morning with a short video showing significant moments and newspaper clippings highlighting World War II.

The morning's events were significant and meaningful to many of our parishioners in attendance. All of us Veterans appreciated the thanks we received for our time served in the military. Frank Perri's son, who spoke, let us know how special it was to him to honor his father with his memories of his military history. We encourage all of you to keep all military service members, living or deceased, in your prayers, not only this month, but on a regular basis, for the sacrifices they have made for our country. Please also consider attending these upcoming events - Saturday, January 31st, Celebration of the Four Military Chaplains, Sunday, February 1st, Scout Sunday Country Breakfast, and the Memorial Day service in May.



St. Mel Parish Christmas Potluck
Saturday, December 13th
in the Parish Center
5:30PM to 8:30PM

Join your St. Mel Parish family and the St. Mel Sip n'Supper group for an evening of great food, Christmas carols, a skit, and Santa! Bring the whole family!



Admission is one food dish to share, plus either food for St. Vincent de Paul or a new, unwrapped toy for the Sacramento Sheriffs Toy Project.

Sponsored by the St. Mel Knights of Columbus and

Sip n' Supper group

Folsom CUF Welcomes New Council Member Anthony Greco

By PGK Chris Ward

Every month, there is at least one Welcome Ceremony (CUF) to be found in our District. On Saturday, November 8th, GK Gary, myself, Warden Trevor, and brother Ed Lopes, accompanied the newest member of our Council, Anthony Greco, over to St. John the Baptist in Folsom for the CUF held by Council 6197 and membership director Percy Park. A total of 10 Catholic gentlemen, including Anthony, were initiated into our order. New Knights came from Folsom, Granite Bay, and Carmichael to participate along with brother Anthony. The ceremony was efficient, and the Folsom team was very organized in handling all of the new Knights who attended. We thank brother Percy Park and his CUF team for putting this together, along with District Deputy Pete and District Warden Roy, for helping us add Anthony to 6066. Introduce yourself to our new brother when you see him at our meetings or at Mass and events here at St. Mel.

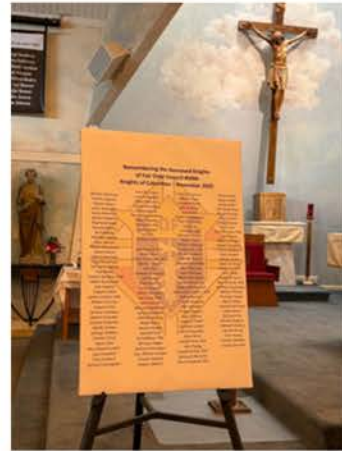
The Photo above includes the "11" candidates, our Council 6197 Degree Team members, brother Pete Lopez DD #7, Father Jibin Jose, brother Will Friesen DD #9, in addition to brother Knights from Councils 4970, Council 6066, Council 9202, and Council 13518. The additional "20" guests are not in this photo. Anthony Greco (Council 6066) is up front, fifth from the left.



Council Memorial Rosary/Mass for Deceased Members

PGK Chris Ward

Every November, our Council's theme for the month is praying for deceased family members and friends. We also hold a special Rosary and Mass for the souls of all of the members of our Council who have passed away since its 1968 inception. Prior to the Rosary, we have brother Knights read the names of all of our deceased members. Brother Joe Van Zant (pictured) was assisted by brother Trevor Harris. Five members of our Council participated in saying the Rosary, each of them completing one decade of the Glorious Mysteries: Dustin Stroud (pictured), Dominique Hipolito, Pat Miles, Chris Juten, and myself prior to the start of the 4:30PM Mass on Saturday, November 8th. Our poster of all the names was displayed on the lower altar step during all Masses that weekend and then moved to the vestibule for display throughout the rest of the month of November. Please add all of our deceased Knights to your prayers, not only in November, but throughout the year. Your prayers could be the ones that help one of your Council members get to heaven. Souls in Purgatory, Saints in Heaven, and the Church on Earth are all members of the Communion of Saints. They will pray for you as well, out of love and charity. Special thanks not only to the brothers who assisted with the names and Rosary on November 8th, but also to all fellow Knights who attended the event and prayed along with us.



2025 Council Award!

Congratulations to Council 6066 for again winning the Star Council Award this year! We have been working hard to meet the goals of our council, and God has blessed us lovingly with these signs that our efforts are paying off.

We hope this serves as encouragement to all of us to continue to be active and to find ways to bring the love of Jesus to men and women of all walks of life.

Good job, everyone, for a year well served!





November 7, 2025

Knights of Columbus #6066
PO Box 1180
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

Dear Gary & Knights,

We are so grateful for your continued support of the Sacramento Life Center this Fall! At the Life Center, we've never been busier—we're now averaging 260 medical appointments each month in 2025, a 30% increase over this time last year.

We are grateful to you, as you have been there for us through our victories and growth, and we are better because of your support. Your in-kind gift of diapers, baby food & clothes for the baby closet helps us to serve mothers that enter our door feeling alone and afraid to receive compassion resources and free medical care. This makes you a partner in touching each person impacted by the Life Center.

We rely 100% on private donations and receive no government funding. We ask that you continue to give generously to help our pregnant mothers have the chance to decide for life. We never know what God has planned for each life he created, but we do know every life is special and sacred.

Thank you for your support and blessings,

In Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marie".

Marie Leatherby
Executive Director

Please consult your tax advisor for guidance on charitable deductions.
Tax ID # 23-7182685

2316 Bell Executive Lane, Sacramento, CA 95825 p 916.451.4357 f 916.313.3515 w saclife.org
Sac Valley Womens Health and Mobile Medical Clinic svwhealth.com

DECEMBER 2025

December Anniversaries

by SK Patrick Wagner , FS

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

Paul & Marti Gohring 12-16-2000
Steven & Mary Denise Kramer 12-16-1971
William & Joyce Savage 12-18-1955
Clifford & Linda Leiker 12-19-2009
John & Rosalie Atilano 12-21-1968
Jose & Tessie Punsalan 12-23-1974
Bill & Alice Quiroz 12-27-1992
Ronald & Frances Sheppard 12-27-1981

SICK AND DISTRESSED LIST AS OF 11/24/2025

Frank and Judy Abi-Nader, Bruce King, Paul Parker, Mel Rose and Jeff Rose, Bernadette Lazo, Mario La Schiazza, Patty MacEgan, Darleen Janson, Chris Guzman, David Abi-Nader, Elizabeth Annett , B. Gruneisen, 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, Martin Baker, Ed Lopes, Daniel Cronk, Maria Mendoza, Courtney Calvitti, Rebecca Johnson

DECEASED LIST AS OF 11/24/2025

Nestor Hipolito, Elaine Flynn, Bob Burman, Robert Richmond, Scott Yesitis, Mary Miles, Kathy Leuschen, Alice Orr, Jim Jensen, Nancy Allison, Meryl Susmilich, George Kolenski, Al Schindler, Chris Ornales, Robert Pineschi, Steve Freitas

December Birthdays

by SK Patrick Wagner, FS

To many More!

Francis J Abi-Nader 12-3
Joseph P Van Zant 12-3
Patrick C Castonguay 12-6
Ronald J Eason 12-13
Brenda Mc Collum 12-14
Paul E Simon 12-14
Nicholas Swetland 12-14
Fernando A Amador 12-15
Jean Disessa 12-17
Vicki Monk 12-17
Brian L Condon 12-17
Eric J Tilson 12-17
Catherine Rozanski 12-19
Mario De LaSchiazza 12-19
Ferryanto Tjhin 12-19
David B Katague 12-20
Antonio Z Luza 12-20
Maria Theresa Corpuz 12-21
Mr Randall Reyes 12-22
Chuck V Hager 12-25
Claude Jones 12-25
Mark L Swink 12-25
Jack D Roland 12-28

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

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Warden

SK Trevor Harris 916-396-5775

Treasurer

SK Pat Miles 916-849-8698

Lecturer

SK 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

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SK Mario La Schiazza 916 -870-8996

Outside Guard

SK Dominique Hipolito 973-666-7998

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SK Tremain Hayhoe 310-621-7650

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SK Trevor Harris 916-396-5775

Faith Director

SK Steven Fitzgerald 916-878-7552

Family Director

SK Gary Rains 916-747-6835

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SK Chris Ward 916-834-1772

Life Director

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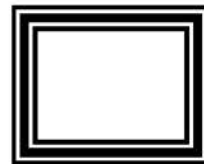
SK Pete Lopez

Insurance & Field Rep.

Br. Martin Baker 916-546-8093

Knights of Columbus

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



IN GOD WE TRUST

December 2025

- 4 (Thursday)- Council Business Meeting 7pm
- 7 (Sunday)- CUF (in Church)
- 13 (Sat.)- St. Mel Christmas Parish Potluck
- 17 (Wednesday)- Council Planning Meeting 7pm
- 25 (Thursday)- Christmas
- 31 (Wednesday)- New Year's Eve

January 2026

- 1 (Thursday)- New Year's Day
- 8 (Thursday)- Council Business Meeting 7pm
- 10th - Fundraising event TBD
- 10/11 (Sat, Sun)- Baby Supply Drive
- TBA- (Sunday)- **Free Throw Contest/Coffee-Donuts (Doheny Hall)**
- 15 (Thursday)- Council Planning Meeting 7pm
- 17 (Saturday)- NorCal Chapter Meeting
- 24 (Saturday)- West Coast Walk for Life SF

COUNCIL #6066 EVENTS CALENDAR



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

