

SILVER KNIGHT NEWSLETTER

"Spearheading Membership and Empowering Mentorship
One Brother Knight at A Time."

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State Deputy's Message

Brother Knights,

Greetings!

As we approach the end of our Calendar year, I encourage every brother to finish strong and stay positive. We have some good things that are happening in our State but we must focus on the task at hand. Don't lose sight.

My Mid Year meeting with Supreme in Orlando, Florida was very productive. I brought in some useful information that I can share in this upcoming Mid Year State Meeting.

I would happy to see each council recruiting at least 2 new brothers for this month of December. We need more men out there to do our charity work. Let's save some souls out there.

For GKs and District Deputies, please continue checking on the health status of your councils and districts, respectively.

I congratulate all our District Deputies for submitting 944 forms.

My prayers to those who are traveling to Reno for the Mid Year. God bless our trip. We will be holding our MidYear at Peppermill Resort and Casino this Dec. 3rd.

I am looking forward to working with you all.

God bless.

Meynard Infantado

StateSecretary@NV-KofC.com State Deputy

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Holy Father's

PRAYER INTENTIONS

The Month of: December

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

We pray that volunteer nonprofit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation

Offered in Solidarity with Pope Francis



State Secretary's Message

Brothers Knights,

Our Gala Dinner was a success, and we would like to thank you for all your support.

Our next project could be a bowling tournament as a fundraiser, with beneficiaries/recipients to be determined and named in advance. If there's interest out there, we would first run a tournament in the Las Vegas area and if successful, run a similar one in the Reno area.

Our initial thoughts are a team tournament (4-man team) during the Spring/Summer at either South Point or the Orleans (Las Vegas) using a handicapped system. This event would be open to all– Knights & friends with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams splitting a pot.

Based on the interest, we could run singles & doubles as well.

Please check with your membership and advise if there's an interest and if so, how many members & friends (not only Knights) might be interested in playing in a tournament.

We welcome your thoughts, comments and/or suggestions.

On another note, please use the following address when sending payments to the State Council:

Knights of Columbus Nevada State Council PO Box 81799 Las Vegas, NV 89180

Vivat Jesus!

Al Cuccinelli State Secretary

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State Membership Director's Message

"Gift of Membership"

Worthy Brothers,

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

This is a season of giving. God gave us His Son to be Incarnate within the Virgin Mary. We, in turn, traditionally share gifts with family and friends during the Christmas Season.

We as Brother Knights, can share the "Gift of Membership" all year long. It has become even more of a gift this year with the rollout of the Faith in Action programs. They are firmly rooted in Faith and designed to be shared with entire families. Men who accept your "Gift" will have opportunities to grow in Faith, modeling spirituality and service to their families and friends.

The best gifts are those that are personal and uniquely selected for the recipient. Therefore, we Brother Knights must also personalize our offer of the "Gift of Membership" so it is tailored to the needs and interests of our Prospects. Here is how to do that:

When you meet a Catholic man who is not a Knight, get to know him. Ask about his life, his family, his interests. Try to discover what are some of the activities that he, his family, and his friends like to do. Inquire about each of our Faith in Action categories to get to know him better.

- Faith Find out what kind of prayer and spiritual activities are important to him and his family. Mention some of the Faith programs that your Council organizes and supports and ask if he and his family would like to participate.
- Family What does his family do to have fun and to bond?
 Invite him and his family to some of your Council's Family programs.

Upcoming Nevada Events

12/02 4th Degree Exemplification - Reno 12/03 Mid-Year Meeting 12/10 Advent Journey -Sponsored by St. Thomas More Council 17996 12/15 Simbang Gabi 12/24 01/16 4th Degree Exemplification - Las

December 2022 Readings

Vegas

12/04/22 Second Sunday of Advent

12/11/22 Third Sunday in Advent

12/18/22 Fourth Sunday in Advent

12/25/22

<u>The Nativity of the Lord</u>
(<u>Christmas</u>) Mass during the

<u>Day</u>

- **Community** Discuss some of the Community programs that the Knights have organized and sponsored in your parish. Let your Prospect know that a family that joins in community service together is bonding in a way that strengthens the family along with providing much needed service.
- **Life** Review some of the activities that your Council has done to support life. Be sure to talk about Pro Life activities, Special Olympics or other activities that help people with intellectual disabilities, service to the elderly and all actions that show our support of Life from birth until natural death.

Our "Gift of Membership" will be accepted and cherished if you can find his "Hot Buttons." What is it that motivates him and his family?

The Knights have programs for every important activity that interests him. Good Catholic men will be drawn in by our focus on Faith and Family. Therefore, keep Faith and Family foremost in your conversation at all times.

Please forward this message to the members of your council asking them to assist you and your officers to help build your Council.

Tracy and I pray for you and your family as we wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas, and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

God Bless

David M Ryan, VSM, PSD State Membership Director

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Recruiting

<u>Recruiting</u> must be intentional, it just does not simply happen.

This is the traditional time when new people finish up the "move". Whether they are newly college graduates, or starting new jobs. They start going to their new parishes. Be the parish welcome committee and help them be a part of the local Catholic community. Recruit a new man and his family, and don't forget to transfer members who have relocated, or reactivate someone.

- RGD Ray Lopez

Pray for our District Master



The Most Powerful Healing Prayer by St. Padre Pio

Heavenly Father, I thank You for loving me. I thank You for sending Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to save and to set me free. I trust in Your power and grace that sustain and restore me.

Loving Father, touch me now with Your healing hands, for I believe that Your will is for me to be well in mind, body, soul and spirit. Cover me with the Most Precious Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, from the top of my head to the soles of my feet.

Cast anything that should not be in me. Root out any unhealthy and abnormal cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild and replenish any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection by the power of Jesus' Precious Blood.

Let the fire of Your healing love pass through my entire body to heal and make new any diseased areas so that my body will function the way You created it to function.

Touch also my mind and my emotion, even the deepest recesses of my heart. Saturate my entire being with Your presence, love, joy, and peace and draw me ever closer to You every moment of my life.

And Father, fill me with Your Holy Spirit and empower me to do Your works so that my life will bring glory and honor to Your Holy Name. I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Tom Villardi

Nevada District Master

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Nevada Assemblies

#611 Rt. Rev. Msgr. John J. Lambe

#612 Bishop Manogue

#613 Fr. Caesar John Caviglia

#614 Milo Taber

#2164 Rev. Theodore Van Skee

#2532 Fr. Joseph Bochenski

#2561 Rev. Robert Votta

#2739 Fr. Sauveur Dominic
Tambourin

#2776 Fr. Michael J. McGivney

#2777 Our Lady of Sierra

#2820 Fr. Joseph O'Callahan

#3118 St. Andrews

#3134 Our Lady of Tahoe

#3375 Guardian Angel

#3566 St. Pedro Calungsod

#3643 St. Frances Garces

#3684 Fr. Emile Caponne

#3772 Fr. John Kenny

From the Desk of the Supreme Director December 2022

My Dear Brothers in Christ:

Greetings to you and your family this season of advent, in preparation for the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ!

There is no limit in what we can achieve together as a State- for the growth of the Order as a whole, this year 2022 opened up vast opportunities and flew by swiftly with all its splendor, focusing on every strength for the outcome/ response for the Knights call for action to save lives and change lives in every act of creative courage, and faith in action.

As the old adage goes: "Old ways won't open new doors." Staying in your comfort zone can restrict you, cutting you off from new experiences or from taking a leap toward what you really want.

Now, together with new faces, in the midst of this fraternal year a vital and quick succession in our State has marked the need to meet the membership goals that we have to execute to reach the top as an energized Team with full force, positivity and dynamic synergy.

We look forward to the three-year outlook to strengthen the Order with the Eucharistic programs & projections, as such Adoration, Benediction & Holy Hour can be exemplified on every parish to bring more parishioners and families back to the faith.

My dear Brothers in Christ, let prayers and kindness reign in our hearts and minds in moving forward to carry on the great works of the Knights, into a timeless mission.

From my family to yours, A Merry Christmas!

"May a Christmas star shine into your heart and burn in your spirit bright. May Jesus' peace bless you and bring true joy to you and your loved ones."

Let us prepare our hearts to giving ourselves generously and open our minds to our true calling- giving, sharing and forgiving.

Sing praises to the Lord for He is Good and full of humility.

Vivat Jesus!

Toni Pascua Supreme Director

Oh night, when Christ was born. Oh, Night Divine... Holy Night....Christ was born!



Blessed Michael McGivney, Pray for us!

Message on Keep Christ in Christmas

Please post this ad on social media and where possible, display in parishes or wherever you can post them. If you can, have them put into your parish bulletin and if your council is doing a Keep Christ in Christmas button program, it would be nice to have these blown up and displayed on the days you hand out the buttons.



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Chief of Staff's Message

Brothers,

I thought this story about O Holy Night would certainly be worth passing on. I know I always like it, but this gave a different slant to the song. Hope you enjoy the read.

THE STORY BEHIND THE CAROL

In 1847, a French priest commissioned this beloved song for his parish. Lyricist Placide Cappeau finished his poem, and pleased with his work, he asked Adolphe Charles Adams to compose the music. The song was sung for Christmas Eve mass.

Initially, Cantique de Noel (the song's French name) was widely loved. Later, leaders learned Cappeau was a socialist and Adams a Jew—and the song was banned from services. But the French people loved it so much, they continued to sing it.

Ten years later, John Sullivan Dwight introduced it in America. An abolitionist, he was moved by the third verse. (Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother). Although banned in France, Cantique de Noel became popular with Americans.

On Christmas Eve in 1871, in the midst of fierce fighting between France and Germany during the Franco-Prussian War, an unarmed French soldier jumped out of the trenches, walked onto the battlefield, and started singing the song's first line in French. After singing all three verses, a German solider emerged and started singing a sacred German hymn. Fighting stopped for the next 24 hours in honor of Christmas Day. Temporary peace was initiated by O Holy Night.

Fast forward to 1906. Reginald Fessenden figured out that by combining two frequencies, radio could do more than transmit Morse code. It would be possible to speak! For the first time in history, a human voice was heard on the airwaves; Fessenden read the Christmas story from the book of Luke, then picked up his violin and performed O *Holy Night*.

Vivat Jesus!

Kenneth J Sawyer Chief of Staff

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State Program Director's Message

WHAT MADE MEN AT CHRIST THE KING JOIN THE KNIGHTS

Somebody asked me what makes parishioners join the Knights of Columbus at Christ the King? They all came up with different answers.

- 1) The church has a welcoming atmosphere. When you go to church at Christ the King you will get the feeling that you are welcomed. It is easy to make friends with perfect strangers.
- 2) It is the Priest Fr. Shawn sets the tone in making people feel at home. As parishioners enter the church to attend mass, they are greeted by the members of the Hospitality Ministry and Fr. Shawn. Fr. Shawn is also very supportive of the work of the Knights of Columbus including their fund raising activities such as pancake breakfast, Fish Fry. Doughnuts and coffee are also available in the Community Center after each mass on Sundays. This promotes fellowship and camaraderie.
- 3) The Knights of Columbus' mission of helping the needy and the outcast through the Manna cupboard, Coats for Kids, Tootsie roll drive programs. The Knights collect food donations to the Manna Cupboard. This helps in feeding the homeless and not leaving anybody going to bed hungry. They also prepare sandwiches every Monday to feed the hungry.
- 4) The Council's successful promotion of its programs relating to faith, Family values, helping the community, and enhancing life.
- 5) The Knights of Columbus members are visibly engaged in helping the church and our parish community by raising money to promote its charitable work. Many members of the Knights volunteer in various church ministries: Eucharistic, Liturgical, Hospitality, just to name a few.
- 6) There is a special gathering room known as the Holy Grounds where parishioners can gather after daily mass and have coffee and doughnuts and meet new friends. There is also a place where parishioners can play chess and bingo games.
- 7) The Knights does its role of promoting our religious faith by evangelization, protecting the church from malicious attacks and destruction of its properties from vandals.
- 8) They are grateful to God for all the good graces they have received from Him and They want to give something back to the Community as a sign of their appreciation.
- 9) They want to be a part of the solution and not of the problem. They want to build a better community where God is at the center of their lives, where people have time to say hello to each other, and promote friendship and support to each other.

- 10) They are proud to belong to a Worldwide Organization comprised of 2,000,000 Members working together to create a better world. It has an insurance program Available only to members primarily intended to protect widows and orphans. Much of the profits from the Insurance business are used to help charitable needs from around the world.
- 11) During special occasions, the Grand Knight can ask for the KofC members of the color corp dressed in their special uniform to be present. This shows the Knights' Solidarity, Reverence, Brotherhood and Fraternity.
- 12) Their late Grandfather, father, uncle, brother was a member of the Knights of ColumbusAnd they were impressed at a young age about what they were doing and the Friendships they have developed over the years.

Whatever you reasons are. If you are 18 years of age, and a Catholic please take a good look and join the most dynamic KofC Council in Nevada. Live your dream of becoming a Knight and start putting your faith into action. Registration fee is free until further notice. There is no better time to do it. BLESSED MCGIVNEY.

Al Pena State Program Director

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State Pro-Life Director's Message

Roses for Life





The Ontario Roses for Life program is an effective way to raise money to support pro-life organizations or activities. The Roses for Life program has successfully grown over the past few years with more councils participating in the program than in the recent past. To continue growing the Roses for Life program, the Ontario State Council has redesigned the Rose Lapel. The new Rose has a red and a white Rose. The red rose signifies our opposition to abortion while the white rose is the international symbol opposing euthanasia. We have also provided the option of the Roses for Life Cross with the red and white rose. The cross may be distributed in a similar way as the Rose Lapel or (based on its cost) it may be distributed to the council Knights of Columbus members and their wives. Purchase the Roses for Life for \$45 for every 100 Roses + (\$10 shipping) from the State Office by using Form SO-15. Purchase the Roses for Life Cross Pin (20 or more) for \$2.50 each or (50 or more) for \$2.00 each + (\$10 shipping) from the State Office by using Form SO-15A.

For more information please contact State Life Director, Alex Schadenberg, at lifedirector@ontariokofc.ca or stateoffice@ontariokofc.ca

John E DeBordPro Life State Director

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Knight in the Light

Sir Knight Don Cortez, PGK, FS and State Director of College Councils

Don Cortez was born in Oakland California in June of 1946 and raised in the east bay. Don is the oldest of five siblings and was 17 when his father passed away. His youngest brother was 16 months old and so Don decided to pursue his higher education closer to home while assisting his mom with raising his siblings.

His mother was a devout Catholic and their faith in the church helped Don assist his mom while gaining a degree in Biology from Cal State University at Hayward. After graduation Don began coaching and teaching at a local high school, Moreau Catholic.

He continued his education and in 1974 earned his master's degree in Sports Psychology and Sociology at San Francisco State University. Upon completion Don went to the University of Oregon to coach football.

While coaching he was contacted by the National Office of Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and became a summer camp speaker and counselor for the program.

In 1977 he, his wife and six-month-old daughter moved for him to become the quarterback and running back coach at West Texas AM where they won the Missouri Valley Championship which allowed the opportunity to become the head coach at Panhandle State University in Oklahoma. In his 3rd season as head coach, they played in the national playoffs, so Don was asked to coach at the University at Texas in El Paso.

The proof that success and or failure in college coaching both meant location instability which caused Don and his wife to conclude that after 22 years of coaching and having 4 children born in 3 states they deiced to settle back home in Hayward, CA where he became an investment real estate consultant and founded Goaline Real Estate services.



While consulting with a client in 1985 the client asked that he partner to form the AA Professional answering service which began in late 1985 in Hayward California.

After 14 years of business experiences in California, Don and Shar felt the draw of life in a college sports town when a business opportunity to purchase Tel-Com Inc in Reno Nevada. In 1999 they relocated to Reno, Nevada.

In 2009 Tom Peacock and Steve Evermann sponsored Don to become a Knight at Council 4997 in Reno Nevada. In his 10 years at 4997 he eventually became the Grand Knight and a 4th Degree Knight. When the Knights decided to make Don a State Director of College Councils, he felt it was his calling to continue help young men grow in their faith so in 2019 he became FS for the University of Nevada Council, 16207.

This position became a dream come true for Don. He has enjoyed working with young catholic men and women, with FCA and with this position now with young catholic men through the Knights of Columbus.

The Knights of Columbus has allowed Don to develop a better personal understanding of Catholicism and the impact that is has on the world. This has also allowed him to develop a stronger faith relationship with his children and grandchildren, especially through the many family-based activities supported by the knights.

Submitted By: J. Michael Brady, State Historian

Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive

It started on October 21st with a phone call from Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada. They asked if Ponderosa Council 4928 could make food donations on short notice for their annual Thanksgiving Food Basket program. Later it was learned that they had received a donation of whole turkeys from the Dolan family foundation and modified their initial request to us to just the "fixin's."

By October 24th, Ponderosa Council 4928 had allocated \$500 from its general fund and emailed its membership requesting case orders of food donations itemized by alphabetized surnames. All food donations were consolidated immediately following our Monthly Council Meeting on November 1st. We hammed it up (at the request of Catholic Charities) by including 40 cases of 3@16oz. Royale canned hams. All food donations were delivered the following morning to the St. Vincent's Drop-off Center in Sparks.

Over 1,050 pounds of food fare for holiday baskets delivered as promised within two weeks! Not quite as fast as Santa, but pretty darn good. Chalk one up for FAMILY.



Celebrating the harvest and other blessings of the past year with the needy.

- George A. Minter, GK

Helping Fund Religious Vocation

Our Lady of Wisdom Newman Center is located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno. The Most Rev. Daniel Meuggenborg, Bishop of Reno, is the parish Pastor.

Our Lady of Wisdom is also the home of University of Nevada Council 16207 where on Sunday, October 30th, Grand Knight Timothy J. Watts presented a check in the amount of \$7,000 to Bishop Meuggenborg from proceeds of the 2022 Nevada State Council Seminarian Education Fund Raffle.

In addition, St. John Vianney Council 13842 Trustee SK Thomas M. Gurgui presented a council check in the amount of \$2,400 in support of the Diocese of Reno Seminarians. Both donations were generous, but the need to support our next generation of parish leaders is great. State Advocate SK John D. Long, Esq. led the presentation.



- Don R. Cortez, Director of College Councils

Outreach to Young Pregnant & Parenting Women in Need

Casa de Vida is a private, nonprofit corporation providing support services for pregnant young women. When Supreme released its Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) program last September, their pitch was like a fast ball, belt high, center cut and right in our Council's wheelhouse.

Ponderosa Council 4928 has been supporting Casa de Vida for decades. At our Monthly Council Meetings there is a jar near the Inside Guard's station designated for Casa de Vida donations. Article 6 of our Council's Standing Rules states that "funds collected annually for Casa de Vida will be matched by funds from the Council's general fund (November

2001)." Our Council Life Director pleaded with Council Officers to take advantage of ASAP, ASAP!

On November 2nd, our first presentation of \$500 was made to Whitney Pomi, Executive Director, Casa de Vida. On November 3rd, our completed ASAP rebate application Form 11377 was electronically submitted to Supreme. Some would say, but not us, that if this program were a baseball, its exit velocity off the bat would be over 110mph. That's quick!

Ponderosa Council 4928 is on track to submit a second rebate application by year's end. We encourage all councils to take advantage of this important program to help support the most vulnerable amongst us—the unborn and pregnant young women in need. It's a LIFE program that is a homer every time.



- George A. Minter, GK

First Choice Pregnancy Services 18th Annual Champions for Life Fundraising Banquet

On November 10, a delegation from the Knights of Columbus State Council attended the First Choice Banquet Dinner. This center has saved over 39,000 innocent lives since it opened 18 years ago.



State Deputy Meynard Infantado & Yoli, Supreme Director Toni Pascua & Ditas, Delsa Traver, wife of State Treasurer Chris Traver, DD Gerry Rockwell and family were seated at the State Table.



Aid & Support After Pregnancy

ASAP is a relatively new initiative to help mothers and babies by supporting pregnancy resource centers and maternity homes.

For every \$500 your council or assembly donates to a pregnancy resource center or maternity home (up to \$2,000), the Supreme Council will donate \$100.

History of the Knights of Columbus

From Cardinal Timothy Dolan's Keynote Address - 140th Supreme Convention

"Blessed Michael McGivney believed firmly in the American foundational principle that every person of whatever faith had the right to hold his head high in this republic, to exercise his religion freely and confidently. This led the sons of Michael McGivney to fight religious bigotry here in America, to coordinate the arrival of chaplains to serve our soldiers in World War I, to rise to the defense of our neighbors to the south as the Mexican government persecuted the Church, to oppose totalitarianism of the Nazis and fascists, to stand up for the Church oppressed by communism in Central and Eastern Europe, and to strengthen the Church here at home especially, in service to the poor, the oppressed, the racially segregated."

Family of the Month

This month, Ponderosa Council recognizes Bro. John Bilka and Lady Mary Ann as our Family of the Month for their continuing contribution to the success of our largest fundraiser, the Reno Air Races. Shoulder surgery kept John from waiving a parking lot baton this year, but both he and



Mary Ann were still there to help make this event a success. John is recognized for his planning and set-up knowledge, and for his link to Ponderosa Charities, Inc., the RARA contract holder. Mary Ann is recognized for shuttling volunteers, delivering cool beverages, and even fresh donuts via golf cart to and from the six major parking lots and the Cooler Line hub. Both remain very active at Immaculate Conception parish.

- George Minter, GK

Knights of the Month

As our long-standing Program Chair for the Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities, Bro. Charles Moses stepped down to Co-chair to better mentor others in this important LIFE category initiative. However, it's hard to let go of a program that is both personal and meaningful. He continued to work store-front shifts throughout the weekend to



help make this year's Council program a success. Four local special needs programs, plus the Nevada State Council, will all benefit from his leadership and program commitment. For all that he does, Bro. Chuck is recognized as the Ponderosa Council 4928 Knight of the Month.



Bro. Mark Lane is often associated with programs in support of LIFE category initiatives and the sport of motocross racing. With respect to the former, Mark stepped up to Co-chair the 2022 Campaign for People with Intellectual Disabilities held at the Walmart in Sparks. In addition to staffing and leading volunteer teams at each of the two main entrances over the weekend, his cheerful presence (and probably the free Tootsie Rolls) captivated donors to achieve one of our best donation totals to date. He makes a difference and is worthy of being recognized as the Knight of the Month.

- George Minter, GK

Family of the Month/ Knight of the Month

On Sunday, November 13 I recognize Dan Mayne and his wife Betty for family of the month. They put their faith into action as they offer their volunteer services each Sunday as ushers at the 9:30 mass. Dan also is amazing with his culinary skills whenever we have events and assist in the kitchen and that's why I recognized Dan as knight of the month at the same time



- Leo V Carew III

Diocese of Reno Seminarians

Sean Scherschel Theology I St. John's Seminary

Anthony Rico Mount Angel Seminary

Rene Rodriguez Theology III St. John's Seminary

Diocese of Las Vegas Seminarians

Juanpablo Macias Theology I Mount Angel Seminary

Robert Martinez 2nd Year Pre-Theology Mount Angel Seminary

Simon Tran 2nd Year Theology Saint John's Seminary

Deacon Joseph "AJ" Sales 4th Year Theology Mundelein Seminary

Deacon Jacob Knee Campus Ministry and Teacher Bishop Gorman High School German-Andrés Ramirez 1st Year Theology Saint John's Seminary

Sean-Matthew Flores 2nd Year Pre-Theology Mount Angel Seminary

Michael Williams 3rd Year Theology Mount Angel Seminary

Magnus Igbokwe Pastoral Assignment and Mount Angel Seminary

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Blessed Michael McGivney

Pray for Us

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