



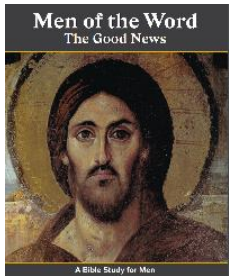
San Joaquin Chapter 6 November 2023 Newsletter



Worthy Brothers,

November is the month to be thankful and acknowledge God's blessings for all that he does in our lives and our families. The Knights of Columbus has two very important charities that we advocate at this time of the year. We have "Coats for Kids" especial now as our temperatures have really dropped considerably as we head into our winter months just around the corner. Please reach out to [Dave Roberts](#) our "Coats for Kids" chairman for his help and check out the program [here](#), one of our Featured Programs. Our second program is that of "[Food for Families](#)" and very timely as Thanksgiving is just a few weeks off. Please know that for every \$500 or 1,000 pounds of food donated, the Supreme Council will refund \$100 back to the council – up to a maximum of \$500 per council per fraternal year.

<https://www.kofc.org/en/who-we-are/our-faith/men-of-the-word.html>



The COR (Latin for heart) religious formation program continues to mature and take shape with more and more materials becoming available through the Supreme Council. "Men of the Word" is a new twelve-part bible study program which can be ordered in its entirety at a cost of approximately \$15.00 per person (in quantities of ten or more). It includes a full curriculum for monthly meetings, ranging from Creation to the Acts of the Apostles, with important training on Lectio Divina and key discussion points. For further information on "Men of the Word"

**** Our Nov. Chapter Meeting will be at St. Mary's of the Annunciation, Stockton on Nov. 9 ****

We were very successful with our Oct. 1, "[Feed the Athletes](#)" event and applaud all the Brother Knights that supported us within the following Councils: 3604, 4784, 8709, and 14247.

Seminarian Fund raiser and Parade of GKs. For the last several years we typically were able to contribute about \$35K to help fund the cost of our Seminarian education. Our Chairman, SK Richard Fantazia, with many titles to his name including that of our PCP of 2014/2015, came up with a new approach where we sold raffle tickets that would share the income with the parish and councils. Our Bishop, the Most Reverend Myron Cotta whole hardily support our new approach and send out a letter to the Pastor of each parish. Many councils chimed in and supported this effort with many of them donation their winnings to the Seminarian fund. We raised over \$85K. Just imagine how much more we could have contributed if ALL councils participated. This was a great job and success for the first time out the gate. PCP and Event Chair, we are proud of you and the outstanding job that you have done.

Our upcoming CUF Exemplifications are published on our [Chapter website](#) so that all councils are aware of the dates, times, and locations taking place within our Chapter area. I know for a fact that there are more than 1 of you that have upcoming CUF Exemplifications. Please take the time to add it on to our [CUF Exemplification Schedule](#). We encourage all GKs to post their [upcoming CUFs](#) . All Councils are encouraged to form their own Exemplification teams. Please know that we are here to help, BUT you must reach out and let us know what you need. Just FYI: Our Chapter has a by-lingual Exemplification team and would be happy to assist where and when needed and be happy to help in training your own CUF team.

At our last Chapter meeting this year, we had 35 attendees hosted by our Fr. Juan Crespi Council 4784, at St. Luke's in Stockton under the direction of their GK Eric M. Bechtel. Thanks to Council 4784's GK Eric and all his council members that have stepped up to make us welcomed and provide us with a delish dinner. Our Sept. meeting minutes were sent out on Tue, Sep 19, at 7:12AM.

Chapter VP Gil Esquer reported:

Thank you Worthy Brothers,

We currently have 73 RSVP's from the Chapter for the Seminarian Dinner. We are not sure if we are being joined by any state dignitaries?

We sold 72 tickets to Father Heslin Knights, families & friends. Total headcount as of yesterday (Monday -10/17/23) was 145. We don't have an exact count on total raffle tickets sold, but I understand at least 3 councils sold their allotted 1000 plus tickets.

Chapter VP Gil Esquer reported - Continued:

A few challenges to note for next year:

Several councils and/or parishes chose not to participate this year. Some folks think it was not worth the effort, I disagree. Even if we only count the 3 councils/parishes that sold their 1000 tickets, that converts to an extra \$21,000.00 going to the Seminarian Education fund, this should be separate from the funds collected by the Parade of GK's. This means those three parishes will collect an extra \$2,000.00 each.

This also means the incentive to sell tickets generated some cash prizes for certain individuals from each of these Councils. So, even though the project started late and the communication was bottlenecked I personally feel "YES" it was worth it. And next year will be better. I thank each and every one of you for all the effort & support you showed in promoting this worthwhile endeavor.

Thank you Worthy Brothers. Gil - the G man

Seminarian Event Chairman Richard Fantazia:

To date: \$44,831.00 has been collected from the Parade of Grand Knights. This is a record amount and has been turned in to the bishop. To all the councils that contributed, job well done! We didn't have the names of councils that were present and contributed and will do a better job in doing so in the future. To help make this happen GK's will need to check in prior to the parade so that we can quickly tally the amounts contributed.

Our Raffle brought in \$40,414 after expenses bringing in a grand total of \$85,414.00. There were 3 councils that sold their 1000 tickets with two of these exceeding 1000 tickets and one small council that sold the equivalent of 500 which was quite an achievement. 15 councils participated, just over half of our active councils and some of the other councils and/or Pastors that out right refused and the others we were unable to contact or had no interest.

We had 149 paid people for dinner. We need 250 in the future to pay for the \$2500 payouts. Luckily this year some winners donated back their winnings.

Communication is an issue and we need to improve our communications to get the word out to our pastors, church officers, and councils which will enable us to reach those untapped resources that will make a difference. We know that we need to improve our communications and we invite you to pitch in and give us a hand and please send in your suggestions as we are all in this together.

So...let's get ready for next year. The Bishop's Seminarian Education Fund Dinner is confirmed for Wednesday

September 4, 2024. Again, we are at the mercy of the Bishop's calendar.

THANKS to all councils that stepped up to hosted one of our Chapter meetings. To all Councils that have not yet stepped up we ask that you please step up and host one of our upcoming Chapter meetings. My personal goal is to have a different council host 1 meeting every 2.5 years and if every one of our Councils did, then we would get to know and learn from each other, learn about our Chapter and all that we do in your support. Full details can be found on the following link: [Chapter Meeting Schedule](#). If your Council doesn't have the capacity to hold one of our Chapter meetings, please reach out to a neighboring Council and co-host one meeting. If your Council doesn't have the capacity to hold one of our Chapter meetings, please reach out to a neighboring Council and co-host one. All the Councils that have hosted a Chapter meeting have reported that the experience has been overwhelmingly positive and were happy to participate, meeting our officers, learning what and how our Chapter helps to make a difference. I have been told several times that they were unaware of all that is going on. So, please step and select a month and host/co-host one of our upcoming Chapter meetings. Let's keep the momentum going and be all that we can be. Remember UNITY, that is the magic that makes it work.

Please note that our **Nov. 9, 2023** will be the last meeting of this year. We will be meeting at St. Mary's of the Annunciation in Stockton.

We need councils to step-up to host our meeting beginning with our **Jan. 11, 2024** meeting.

Run to God, Not from Him.

When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they tried to hide from God, and they sewed some fig leaves together hoping to hide their nakedness (see Genesis 3:7). I seem to be very impacted lately by remembering that we never have to run from God, we never need to hide, and we can be totally honest with Him about everything. In fact, instead of running away, He invites us to do the opposite and run to Him! He promises to never reject anyone who comes to Him, no matter their condition.

If you feel guilty about something or have failed miserably, run to God as fast as you can and get a hug from Him. He will forgive, restore, and set you right again. God is the only one who can help us in our times of discouragement, failure, and fear, so it is foolish to run away from the only help we can depend on. Even if you are a little angry with God because of disappointments in your life, run to Him anyway. Tell Him how you feel and ask for His help.

Jesus is able to understand us because He was tempted, tested, and tried. He shared the feeling of our weaknesses and infirmities, and yet He never sinned (see Hebrews 4:15). Jesus knows exactly how you and I feel, and we have an open invitation to come into His presence anytime. We can come just as we are!

"Father, I am so grateful for Your love and acceptance. It is wonderful to know that You will never reject me. I need You! Help me to always run to You and never to run away. Amen."

Important: We need and rely on each Council to submit 2 reports monthly: "Council Report and Sick & Deceased Report". These are due no later than 2 days before that month's meeting and are to be sent to the Chapter Secretary, Pete Simoncini (momdadsimoncini@gmail.com) with CC: to the current CP (loug@kofcchap6.ca.org). These reports help us to help you and published within our minutes along with each council's attendance

Note: Each Council's GK or his representative are encouraged to attend our Chapter Meetings and get important information and updates to bring back to your Councils. The next Chapter meeting will be on November 9, 2023 - at St. Mary's of the Annunciation in Stockton. Details are published on our [Website Homepage](#). Social time at 6:00 pm and dinner around 6:30 pm. According to our current By-Laws, each Council's GK and 1 additional member needs to attend or have an alternate at each of our meetings. Meetings begins at 7:00 pm. We urge you to keep your DD informed and send him copies of your [Council's Report](#) and the [Sick and Deceased Report](#). Remember, we need each other and must continue to unite as we evolve and move forward.

With your continued focus on "What we can DO" your help and support will enable us to achieve greater success but more importantly we will learn and grow together to be "All that we can be" as we serve our Parishes, Priests, Parishioners, and Communities. So let's "Be All that We Can Be and Let's Make it Happen". If you need help, please reach out anytime and let me or one of our Chapter officers know. We promise to help or find the resources needed. If you find something that is out of date, needs to be added, changed, or has something missing, please let me know. We welcome and encourage your feedback.

A special thanks to all the Assemblies within our jurisdiction that have come together to make a real difference. Our Bishop is delighted to have our Honor Guards out in numbers supporting his heavy schedule. I am proud to be a Knight, and proud of each of you for your ongoing support and help. May God continue to Guide, Protect, Inspire, and keep you and your families safe and healthy.

Remember our Second Degree - "UNITY" as together we can do so much more.

Remember to take the time and check our [Chapter Homepage](#), your [District's Homepage](#), and your local [Assembly's](#) home pages as there you will find the most current information.

Together **WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE** and I am proud of each of you. Let us continue to UNITE and evolve to "**Make it Happen and be all that we can be**".

Reminder: This is an interactive newsletter where you can simply click on any of the content in **BLUE** that is **underlined** and it will open that content for you. It's all magic.

Blessed Fr. McGivney, Pray of US.

Our Chapter Officers and I wish you and each of your families a very happy and Blessed Thanksgiving.

May God bless you and your families, keep you safe, and healthy.



Sincerely Yours in Christ

Lou Gervais, SJC CP, D-59, DW-56

P.S. Thanks for those of you that took the time to submit your articles.

Please know Worthy Officers and Brothers that this is OUR Chapter Newsletter and very few of you have taken the time to submit articles. Question for all: **What would you like to see and read about within our Chapter area?**

I invite you to submit articles and reaching out to each of you asking for your feedback on submitting articles that we will feature like celebrations or say a background about the chronology of your Council's origin, date charted, history, etc. Tell us about the movers and shakers within your Councils or let us know what you would like.

Just FYI: I wanted to publish in this Newsletter the list of ideas that you have about what you would like to see and read about in our Chapter Newsletter. Well, I am sorry to report my inability to do so as not a single idea surfaced. Please send me your ideas. CP: [Lou Gervais](#)