



# St. Anthony's Council Newsletter

Newsletter for members of St. Anthony's Council #10693 Manteca, California

Chartered August 13, 1991



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## From the Desk of the Grand Knight Gilbert Maldonado

I would like to wish my Brother Knights and your families a very Merry and Blessed Christmas.

There are a number' events planned over the next two months. These are, the Council's Breakfast with Santa on December 21st., and our Annual Past Grand Knights Dinner on January 20th honoring immediate PGK Robert Garcia. This will be in lieu of our January 2026 General meeting.

I look forward to see you at our Past Grand Knight dinner on January 20th

Vivat Jesus!  
Gilbert Maldonado  
Grand Knight 209 740-0687

## Financial Secretary Message

Dear Brother Knights,

I will be mailing out 2026 Dues Statement the first of January. Annual Council Dues are \$36.00 plus a voluntary assessment for the Council's Seminarian Fund. Your prompt payment would be greatly appreciated

Electronic payment is now available. PayPal at [KofcManteca@comcast.net](mailto:KofcManteca@comcast.net). Indicate Council Dues in remarks.

Mark Lilly, Financial Secretary  
[mflilly@comcast.net](mailto:mflilly@comcast.net)

## Program Director's Column

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### Upcoming Events

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**Council's Annual Christmas Party** will be on Saturday, December 13th at 6:00pm in the School Cafeteria

**Breakfast with Santa** will be on Sunday, December 21st from 7:00am to 12:30pm in the School Cafeteria

**Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Family Rosary** will be on Sunday, December 28th at 3:00pm in the Church.

**Past Grand Knights Dinner Breakfast** will be held on Tuesday, January 20 at 7:00pm in the School Cafeteria

#### Funeral Services – Altar Servers

Ongoing – Call Brother John Perez (610-9349) if you can volunteer to be an Altar Server.

### Breakfast with Santa

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The Council is hosting our annual Breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 21st. This breakfast is our annual fundraiser for People with Intellectual Disabilities. Specially a local organization Vally C.A.P.S. We will be looking for Brothers to volunteer to help. We will be serving after the 7am, 8:45am and 10:45 masses. If you can volunteer for a couple of hours, it would be appreciated. Please contact Brother Chuck Nowak Sr. at 209 221-3655.

## Membership Director Column

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I am currently arranging with the Parish a Recruitment Drive after the weekend Masses; I have no firm date but an email will be sent our once a date is finalized. I will be in need of volunteers to help. This will be a good time if you know of a Catholic gentleman who would make a good Knight why not ask him to join our Council. Have him complete a Form 100 and give to any Council Officer. Please contact me if you need Form 100s. Your ongoing assistance is needed to recruit new members. There are a lot of new faces in the parish, so if you know a Catholic Gentlemen that would make a good Knight of Columbus all you need to do is ask.

Fraternally,  
Jimmy Christensen, Membership Director  
209 639-4247

## Council Directors

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The Council is looking for Brothers that might be interested in the following Council Directors. Faith Director, Life Director, and Vocations Director. If interested contact DGK Robert Young at 209 275-9313

### Passing of a Brother Knight

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We are sad to report the passing of Brother Knight Vern Mendes on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Brother Vern transferred to our Council in April 2007 and was a Knight for 22 years. He served in various Council Officer positions mainly as Council Advocate. He also was served as District Deputy and as San Joaquin Chapter President.

We ask for your prayers for his soul and comforting prayers of his wife Maria and the Mendes family.



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## **Next Sunday Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Family Rosary**

The next monthly Sunday Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Family Rosary will be on December 28th at 3:00pm in the Church.

## Pray for the Following Brother Knights and Immediate Family Members

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Pray for the Following Brother Knights and Immediate Family Members

Francisco Carreno, Dino Cunial, Ed Damasco, Gilbert Diaz, Joe Dolan, Marion Elliott, Nat Garcia, Arturo Gallegos, John Gilmore, Joe Gomes, Don Grabowski, Matney Guillory, Gilbert Maldonado, David Marshall, Tony Ollivier, Joe Pellegrino, Tony Reyes, Frank Risso, Michael Reilly, Robert Reinig, Sr., Warren Rogers, Bobby Ross, Renso Valdez, and James Vickers, Randall Young

Sharon Cunial, Cora Doria, Jean Damasco, Carla Dickerson, Maria Jackson, Mary Ann Kackley, Monieca Medina, Paula Thomson and Mari Valdez

Special Prayer Notices:

Prayer for the soul of Vern Mendes. Healing prayers for Joe Dolan, Nat Garcia, David Marshall, Robert Reinig, Sr., Bobby Ross, Francisco Carreno, John Gilmore, Gilbert Diaz, Matney Guillory, Vern Mendes, Frank Risso, Warren Rogers, Randall Young, Carla Dickerson, Cora Doria, Monieca Medina, Paula Thomson, Mari Valdez, Terry Giomi Jr. son of Brother Terry Giomi, Stephanie Smith, daughter Brother Steve DeBum, Tiffny Laplume, granddaughter of Brother Ron Laplume, Nickolas Solorzano, sone\ of Brother Jose Solorzano, Erika Ramos Cousin of GK Gilbert Maldonado, Josh Valdez son of Brother Renso Valdez

Also please remember all the persons that we have been asked to pray for, especially all those that were mentioned at our last meeting and parishioners listed in our Parish Bulletin.

**Editor's Note:** If you want to add, delete or change anyone in this column, please write me a note and give it to me at our meetings or e-mail me at [mflilly@comcast.net](mailto:mflilly@comcast.net).

## Would you like to receive this Newsletter Electronically

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Brothers if you are receiving a hard copy of this Newsletter and would like to receive it electronically, please email me at [mflilly@comcast.net](mailto:mflilly@comcast.net) and in the subject line put "Still wish Council Newsletter Electronically". Please list your name in the body of the email. Bu receiving it electronically you will save the cost of mailing it and save the Council approximately \$20.00 per year.

Mark Lilly, Editor

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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Members Birthdays for December:

Xavier Berger, PGK Jimmy Christensen, GK Gilbert Maldonado, Steve Perez, Robert Halbourg, Ted Acoba, Daniel Hargus, Johathan Sianex, Ryan Matthews, Rudolfo Reyes Jr., Robert Buckley, Dan Cunial, Nat Garcia and Frank Vigna

Members Wives Birthdays for December:

Helen Noghi, Olivia Ollivier, Norma Lopez, Lucy Garcia, Sharon Cunial, Marilyn Penko, Ashley Wright, Diane Lehman, Jennifer Yeszin, Susan Rogers and Matilda Marshall

Members and their wives that are celebrating Wedding Anniversaries in December:

PGK Robert and Lucy Garcia, Joe and Kathy Dolan, Rolan and Helen Noghli, James and Vicki Bennett, Manuel and Christine Pires, Richard and Maureen Bishop, Jose and Maria Solorsano, Mike and Barbara Donnelly and Steve and Carol Perez

If you have not seen your wife's birthday or your anniversary that means we do not know the dates. Please contact our Editor Mark Lilly at [mflilly@comcast.net](mailto:mflilly@comcast.net) with the dates so he can enter them in the Council database

## Council Family and Knights of the Month

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Knight of the month for October: Chuck Nowack, Sr. Brother Chuck was in charge of the barbecue booth at the Harvest Festival. Brother Chuck put in well over 72 hours straight to head that up. Thanks to Brother Chuck, the booth was very popular and raised quite a bit of money for the parish.



Knight of the month for November: Kevin Young, Brother Kevin was in charge of the Veterans Day breakfast. If you attended, you know it was a huge success. Brother Kevin did an outstanding job.



Family of the month for November: Janet and Vincent Lopez. Janet is a Eucharistic Minister, Sacristan, and leads the rosary before the 8:45 mass. Vincent is an Usher, Altar Server, Bell Ringer, and stands at the altar during communion making sure everyone takes the host properly.

If you have a nominee for either Knight or Family of the Month please forward your nomination with a brief explanation. Note: Family of the Month does not have to be a Knight it can be a family of the parish. Send you nomination to [stevepicanco@yahoo.com](mailto:stevepicanco@yahoo.com).

Steve Picanco  
Family Director



## State Chaplain's Message

***“For us men and for our salvation he [Jesus] came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.” (Nicene Creed, 325 AD)***

Worthy Brothers Knights and Fellow Chaplains,

These words, which we proclaim every Sunday at Holy Mass, form the basis of the Christmas feast we are now preparing for as we enter this Advent season. I would like to share a few thoughts on this amazing statement of our Faith.

The Paschal Mystery of Jesus’ passion, death and resurrection are the very center of our Faith. God so loves us that he willingly assumed the punishment of death that rightly belongs to us because of our sins. Yet, before the Just One laid down His life for the unjust, He showed us the lengths to which He is willing to go to draw us to Himself.

The mystery of the Incarnation and Birth of Jesus is the proclamation of God’s desire to be near us. Jesus gave up the glory that was His in the Divine Presence of the Trinity to take on the lowliness of our human flesh! He became a baby: needy, dependent, vulnerable and weak so that he might be like us in all things but sin. As a baby, he drew the lowly and the mighty to him; the seekers and the suffering; the fearful and the repentant! With the exception of Herod, no one fears a baby! On the contrary, we are drawn to him: to hold him, protect him, to love him!

In His humanity, Jesus makes God accessible to us. Though we can never possess God fully, we can approach Him with all our weakness, imperfection and unworthiness. He wants us to come to Him and allow Him to show us the depth of His love. It is this baby who with his human body, will touch the sick, expel the demons, comfort the hopeless and challenge the self-righteous. It is with this human body that he will offer the ONLY sacrifice that has the power to conquer sin and destroy the power of death. It is in this body that He carries our humanity to heaven, opening up the assurance that we too, in our own glorified bodies, will one day share in the everlasting glory of the Trinity! And all this because ***“...he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.”***

And then, that we might experience His closeness in this life and be prepared to welcome Him when he comes in glory, He left us the gift of His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Eucharist. In Holy Communion we caress Mary’s Baby Boy and are healed and redeemed by the God who took flesh in her womb!

I invite you to ponder this wonderous mystery in these days of Advent. In so doing, we prepare not only to celebrate worthily Jesus’ first coming, but also to be prepared for His coming again in Glory. Meditating on the God who made Himself present to us in the humanity of Jesus, might we not also be able to better recognize Him in the flesh of our brothers and sisters in need?

Blessed Advent and a Joyous Christmas to All!

Vivat Jesu!

Fr. Dan

**Council Officers**  
**2025– 2026 Columbian Year**

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**Grand Knight**

Gilbert Maldonado 209 740-0687  
E-mail: maldonado20950@yahoo.com

**Chaplain**

Father Ramakoti Sakani 209 823-7197

**Deputy Grand Knight**

Robert Young 209 275-9313

**Financial Secretary**

Mark Lilly 209 483-3358  
mflilly@comcast.net

**Chancellor**

Jimmy Christensen 209 639-4247

**Recorder**

Renso Valdez 562 883-3999

**Treasurer**

Mel Picanco 209 629-8051

**Advocate**

Jim Baca 209 482-2154

**Warden**

Kevin Young 209 275-5172

**Inside Guard**

Chuck Nowak Jr. 209 823-7405

**Outside Guard**

Imani Mcalister 209 899-2782

**Trustees**

Vince Lopez 209 825-7595  
Tony Ollivier. 209 923-7105  
Robert Garcia 209-328-8163

**K of C Insurance Field Agent**

Julius Suero 209 609-9799  
Email: Julius.suero@kofc.org

**K of C Insurance General Agent**

Pablo J. Contreras, MBA FIC  
Office: 559 270-1765  
Cell: 559 307-3080  
Email: pablo.contreras@kofc.org

**California State Deputy**

Ken Rose  
E-Mail state.deputy@californiaknights.org

**District Deputy – District 57**

Jeff Rhodes 909 841-8159

**Council Directors**  
**2025 – 2026 Columbian Year**

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**Program Director**

Robert Young 209 275-9313

**Faith Director**

Unassigned

**Community Director**

Darrel Dickerson 510 481-6896

**Family Director**

Steve Picanco 530 844-7015  
Email: stevepicanco@yahoo.com

**Life Director**

Unassigned

**Membership Director**

Jimmy Christensen 209 639-4247

**Retention Chairman**

Jimmy Christensen 209 639-4247

**Vocations Director**

Unassigned

**Attendance Raffle Results**

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Membership Raffle: Raffle is worth \$120.00 and members must be present to win.

**Request for Prayers E-Mails**

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Brothers, as you are aware the Council upon receipt prayer requests to all the Council members. To ensure that these are processed and sent out in a timely matter, please forward all requests to me at mflilly@comcast.net. Please do not use kofcmanteca@comcast.net for I do not monitor this address. Thank You. Mark Lilly, E-mail Coordinator.

December 2025

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ST. ANTHONY'S COUNCIL – MANTECA COUNCIL #10693  
CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL DISTRICT #57 – STATE MEMBERSHIP DIVISION 5

ST. ANTHONY'S COUNCIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

| DECEMBER 2025 |   | JANUARY 2026 |   | FEBRUARY 2026 |   |
|---------------|---|--------------|---|---------------|---|
| 13th          | Annual Christmas Party<br>6:00pm – School Cafeteras       | 6th          | Planning Meeting<br>7:00pm – School Cafeteria                 | 3rd           | Planning Meeting<br>7:00pm – School Cafeteria |
| 18th          | General Meeting has been<br>cancelled.                    | 20th         | Annual Past Grand Knights<br>Dinner 7:00pm – School Cafeteras | 17th          | General Meeting<br>7:00pm – School Cafeteria  |
| 21st          | Breakfast with Santa<br>7am to 12:30pm – School Cafeteria |              |   |               |   |

Brothers – Have you given any thought to start receiving this newsletter electronically via e-mail? The newsletter is sent out in pdf format that can be read by Adobe Reader program. Each member that receives an electronic version saves the Council an annual savings of \$16.00 in publishing and mailing costs. If you wish to receive this newsletter electronically sent an e-mail to [mflilly@comcast.net](mailto:mflilly@comcast.net) with “Would like the Council Newsletter” in the subject line. Please include your name in the e-mail,

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**P.O. Box 807**  
**Manteca, California 95336**  
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In Solidarity  
with our  
Bishops and  
Priests

**December Council General Meeting has been cancelled.**