



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Fr. Heslin Council #2557

Chartered December 14, 1924

<https://www.kofcchap6ca.org/2557-2/>



Newsletter for January 2026

Grand Knight's Message – Paul Delgado

Worthy Brothers,

Happy New Year! I hope your holiday season was filled with faith, family, and just enough turkey to require a temporary suspension of your belt's duties.

Reflecting on a Joyous Season

Looking back at December, I want to thank everyone who stepped up and made this first half of our Colombian year memorable for many of us. From our charitable drives to our parish celebrations, we truly embodied the spirit of the season. We didn't just "show up"; we made a tangible difference in the lives of our neighbors. It's that kind of dedication that makes this Council more than just a club, it makes us a brotherhood.

Keeping the Momentum Rolling

We've had an incredible run over the last six months. Since July, our activity levels have been higher than the sugar rush at a Pancake Breakfast. But as we enter the "winter slump" months, the temptation is to hibernate until the fish fry season begins.

Let's fight that urge.

We have significant momentum right now, and January is the perfect time to solidify our goals. We are well on our way to reaching our annual benchmarks, but we can't coast across the finish line.

Focus Areas for January:

- **Membership:** Think of one man in our parish who embodies our values but hasn't joined yet. Invite him to a meeting and show them what being a knight is all about!
- **Upcoming Fundraising:** We have several events on the horizon (check the calendar for specifics!), but time is crunching for our annual breakfast scholarship fundraiser. These aren't just about the money; they are about the mission and giving back to our community.

A Quick Reminder: "New Year's Resolutions" usually last about two weeks. However, "Knights of Columbus Commitments" are built on a slightly more permanent foundation. Let's make sure our dedication to Charity, Unity, and Fraternity outlasts everyone's gym memberships.

Let's make 2026 our strongest year yet. See you at the next meeting!

Vivat Jesus!

Paul C Delgado G.K

Past Grand Knight's Message

As we step into 2026, we can say that we are halfway thru our Columbian Year, and while we have accomplished so much, we need to continue to support our Grand Knight. It's a position that needs constant support from our slate of officers, Past Grand Knights, and our Brother Knights in the council so we can meet the order's obligations, and the council's needs.

Looking ahead in our pipeline, I would like to ask anyone interested in being an officer for next year, to please contact me or Gil or any officer for more information. Remember, this is an opportunity to get involved in the "inner workings" of the council's administration. It's an opportunity to have input in the way the council runs all of its events.

We have gained so much momentum in the recruitment department that we need to continue to schedule initiation ceremonies every month. This is a great problem to have, and it's needed because we need more Brother Knights to become officers. We start with inside and outside guards and move up the latter until you become a Grand Knight.

One aspect that I enjoyed as a Grand Knight is the relationships you build with the Clergy and the Pastor.

Lastly, from everyone at the Newsletter Staff, we wish you and your families, A Happy New Year!!!

Past Grand Knight, Jesse Acevedo

Council News – Jesse Acevedo

Today - Tuesday - January 6th there will be a viewing for long-term member Alphonse Pontes & his wife at Allens Funeral Home. The funeral will be Wednesday morning at Sacred Heart Church, where we plan to have a 4th Degree Honor Guard and a presentation of a bible & chalice. If you can please try to attend the service to bid farewell to a Brother Knight.

Initiation Ceremony on December 7th

Please welcome our new Brother Knights, Kevin Esquivel, Israel Gudino, Alex Serrato, and Matias Romo.



Youth Group and the Knights

We had another successful social event with the Youth Group. We enjoyed hot dogs, salad, and Thursday Night Football in our hall. We informed the Youth

Group about all the events and activities that our council is involved in. Everyone enjoyed the evening.



Christmas Dinner at Fr. Heslin Council Hall

This year we had Christmas Dinner at our hall. We had a great time with our families and friends. A special thanks goes out to our Brother Knight Mario Lara and his family for the delicious food that they prepared. Fr. Pat ended up with our door prize.





Up Coming Events

January 17th – Initiation Ceremony

January 13th 6:30 Vigil for Monsignor McGovern - Stockton

March 1st – Scholarship Setup afternoon in the Cafeteria

March 2nd – Scholarship Breakfast

April 5th – Sacred Heart School Crab Feed (See SHS Office for more info.)

May 2nd – Chicken Drive Thru at our hall parking lot



Please mark your calendar for these events. We need help organizing them, setting up, volunteering for the actual event, and help with the cleanup. Let's make each event as successful as possible!

Council & Assembly Meetings

Rosary will begin at 6:15pm before each monthly meeting at Fr. Heslin Hall.

Council Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 7pm at Fr. Heslin Hall.

Assembly News

Monsignor Alvernaz-Meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7pm at Fr. Heslin Hall. Please contact Faithful Navigator for Dinner Reservations or use the Band App.

Fr. Giles Assembly-Meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at 7pm and Dinner is at 6pm. Please RSVP for dinner.

Chapter Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Sacred Heart School/Pre School-News

Catholic School has been a very valuable experience for our children because it gives them a strong foundation to succeed their high school years. Sacred Heart School has filled that need with many teachers that have many years of experience that are led by the principal, Sara Michelena.

For a tour of the school or any questions in general, Sara Michelena contact information is listed below.

Mrs. Sara Michelena
Principal
Sacred Heart School Turlock
209-634-7787



Columbian Properties Update – Don Grishaw

UPDATES FROM TURLOCK COLUMBIAN PROPERTIES

- Kitchen Remodel Project - Columbian Properties is anxiously awaiting the completion of Task #1 Preliminary Design Drawing. Architect Jim Shaw will be completing this task in the very near future. His work will include the projected cost of the project.
- Brother Joe Ottman has completed updating the fire extinguishers in the building.
- New Printer - Brothers Jesse Acevedo and Alan Julien have installed a new Epson printer for use in the hall. The printer will handle paper up to 11x17 in size. We will be able to make photocopies as well as print materials on site. This will be a huge asset to our council.
- The lighting in the storage area has been upgraded to provide more light, and the cleanup in this room will still continue.



TALENTS/POTENTIAL:

Hello Brother Knights,

Each of us has a unique talent to offer. We each have a potential skill to participate in our own way. We have good speakers, good readers, and excellent tradesman. We have members who cannot attend every meeting for numerous reasons; we have members with physical limitations. Some are tall, some short, some loud, some quiet, some are good with their hands, some are generous with their checkbooks. I believe we have a common goal.

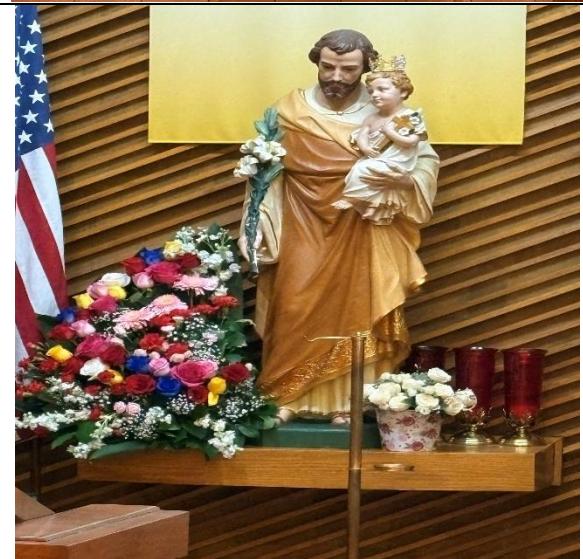
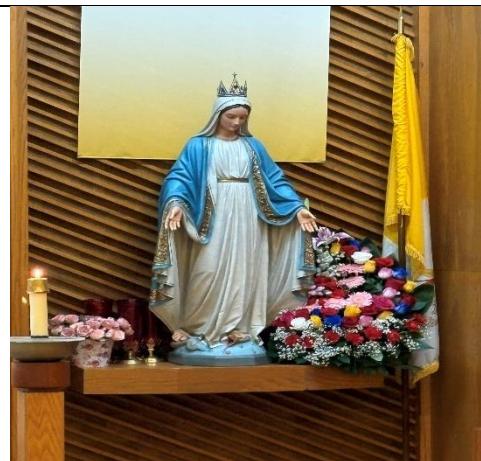
We joined the Knights to help somebody else. We believe in our core values of **“Charity, Unity & Fraternity”**. And that makes us a well-rounded group of motivated individuals with a desire to promote our Catholic Faith. So, keep on stepping up, attend when you can & stay in contact when you cannot attend. YOU are a mighty force for good when you put your mind to achieving a goal. And we never run out of goals to achieve.

Please take a moment and share the reason you joined and what keeps you motivated? Thank you so much.

PGK Gil Esquer

Churches From Around The World – Don Grishaw

My wife Angelica and I recently presented the music for a wedding at St. Francis of Rome in Riverbank. The church is stunning and I just had to share some photos of the interior of the church. Our visit was right after the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. As you can see, the flowers in the image of Our Lady were beautiful. Note also the images of St. Joseph and Our Lady of Fatima. Riverbank is just a short drive from Turlock. Be sure to stop at St. Francis of Rome next time you are in Riverbank.



An Editorial – The Way, We See It – Richard Fantazia

The end is near! Yes, the end is near for the year 2025. Just a few more days and it is history for good ole 2025....or is it bad ole 2025 ? Some of you will miss 2025

because of great experiences and for others it may be a bad year because of illness or setbacks.

The old adage of time waiting for no one is so true as we cannot control one year passing into another and on and on. All we can control is how we feel about the passage of time as we age one day at a time. How we use our time that God has given us is what is important.

“Live for the moment” is a catchy phrase meaning focusing on what is going on in the present rather than dwelling on the past or worrying about the future. I thank God for each and every day whether good or not so good because each and every day is a gift from God. If I wallow in the past or overly worry about the future, I miss out on what’s going on in front of my nose. In other words, I am missing out on the reality of the day.

However, I am at an age where the road in front of my windshield is short compared to the road in my rear-view mirror. I tend to think more about the past than the future. Thinking too much about the future is like speeding on the road in front of your windshield. If you slowed down it would take longer before you run out of road. So, the fact of life is that the legacy that you leave is the road in your rear-view mirror as there is nothing left in front of you.

One experience from the past that I would like to share is a trip that Carol and I took to Nicaragua. Nicaragua is very poor, no middle class just rich or poor. Rather than take a ship sponsored excursion into the rich area, we chose to hire a young man on a bicycle taxi. We asked him to take us to where the average person lives. He took us to where he lived, had us meet his family. His family was all smiles and laughter though he lived on a dirty street with other dwellers. The homes were mud huts, dirt floors. Tin and straw roofs. We saw happiness even in their environment. I bring this up because I volunteered for St. Vincent de Paul for 18 years. The worst needy that I helped were rich compared to that young man and family. I now ask when is enough, enough? When do you cut off people that have no intention of providing for themselves, but demand handouts. That was always a tough decision as there were some great liars and actors.

The Reward of volunteering....seeing people (however small in numbers) prosper after getting help and coming back when they got on their feet with donations for others.

Happy New Year everyone. Embrace our Council

Richard Fantazia

November 2025 Birthdays – Joe Ballas

| Member | Birthday |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Joe A. Sousa Johnson Av. Tlk | 2 nd |
| Duane Gonsalves | 2 nd 41 yrs 09, |
| Chasen Serpa | 4 th |
| Fernando Baltazar | 5 th |
| David Rocha | 9 th 41 yrs ,90 |
| Clarence J Gomes | 10 th 23 yrs '34 |
| Dennis Serpa Jr. | 13 th |
| Frank Mendonca | 15 th 37 yrs '55 |
| Carlos Sandoval | 15 th 1 st yr |
| Greg Gomes | 19 th 51 yrs '57 |
| Louie Arollo | 21 st 25 yrs '42 |
| Justin Serpa | 21 st |
| Michael Ratto | 25 th 32 yrs |
| Dale Ingersoll | 25 th |
| Ben Lucas | 27 th 28 yrs '47 |
| Steven Singh | 30 th 1st yr |
| Manuel L. Moniz | 31 st 43 yrs |
| Rafael Sanchez Jr. | 31 st |

Insurance Agent – Joshua L. Heredia



Knights of Columbus®
Contreras Agency

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Fraternal Insurance Agent
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6715 N. PALM AVE
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Vocations Crucifix Program – Angel Delgadillo



Our Vocations Crucifix program here at Sacred Heart is directed by our very own Brother Knight, Angel Delgadillo, and his wife Lupe Delgadillo. They have been working tirelessly on organizing Masses and seeking out families to take the Crucifixes home to pray each week. He has a Vocations Crucifix for the Knights in our council which my family had the honor of launching by being the first hosts of the Crucifix.

If you and your family are interested in bringing home a Crucifix and praying the rosary for the Vocations, please contact our very own **Brother Knight Angel Delgadillo at (209)484-2948.**

YouTube and Regular TV Sunday Mass Schedule

YouTube - Go to the search box and type in “Sacred Heart Church, Turlock” and hit Enter, and you will see the dates of the Masses as well as images. Just select the Mass you want to see and enjoy Mass with Father Pat or any other of our Sacred Heart priests.

Regular TV Mass Schedule

Local Channel 40KTXL at 5:30am-6:00am
Local Channel 58KQCA at 8:00am-8:30am
DirecTV Channel 370 EWTN at 5:00am-6:10am



Council Officers for 2025-2026 Columbian Year

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| | Grand Knight Paul Delgado (209)495-7837 paulcdelgado@yahoo.com | |
| Deputy Grand Knight Paul Lecioni (209)216-7767 lencmob3@gmail.com | Chaplin Father Rao abbadasarirao@gmail.com | Chancellor Kevin Edwards (209)485-8949 kevin.miami25@gmail.com |
| Advocate Erich Gemperle (209)988-6791 erichgemperle@sbcglobal.net | Recorder Don Grishaw (209)620-0968 dgrishaw@sonic.net | Financial Secretary Joe Ballas (209)404-3578 j.ballas@sbcglobal.net |
| Treasurer Ron Giannone (209)678-4721 rongrun@sbcglobal.net | Warden Alan Julien (209)765-4453 alansprite59@gmail.com | Inside Guard Jorge Sanchez (209)678-1228 jorge@minervashome.com |
| Outside Guard Carlos Sandoval (209) 678-2722 carlos@minervasgallery.com | Lector Manual Lima (209)589-8737 mlima@prodigy.net | 3rd Year Trustee John Borges (209)495-1724 borgesj4500@gmail.com |
| 2nd Year Trustee Richard Fantazia (209)585-5428 cmfcfp@sbcglobal.net | 1st Year Trustee Joe Ottman (209)277-2552 joeottman49@icloud.com | Insurance Agent Joshua L. Heredia (209)860-2069 joshua.heredia@kofc.org |



Newsletter Staff

Your Newsletter Staff consists of Brother Knights; Richard Fantazia, Gil Esquer, Don Grishaw, Angel Delgadillo, and Jesse Acevedo. Our Current Grand Knight's message is done by Jon Borges.

Our primary purpose is to provide our Brother Knights, who cannot attend our meetings, an up-to-date information regarding our council, our assemblies, our chapter, our Sacred Heart Church, and Sacred Heart school.

We encourage any Brother Knight that is interested in contributing to this Newsletter in any way to get in contact with any member of the Staff. As usual, our staff will be delighted to hear any suggestions, comments, or concerns regarding the council's newsletter. Thank you for your support.

Jesse Acevedo



Scan it with your phone and see how easy it is to use!

Comics

Source: Pinterest

Christmas magic is silent.
You don't hear it.
You feel it. you know it.
You believe it.



SORRY
ABOUT THIS!
APPARENTLY, SOMEONE
SENT US THE WRONG
DRUMMER
BOY!



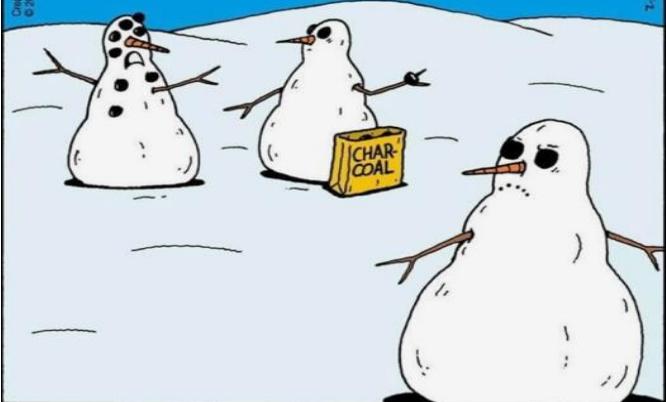
What's this?
Two lumps
of coal?

I Can See!
I Can See!!



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