**Charity** Unity **Partiotism** Commitment wights of Columbia Church Honor Faith Hope Integrity **Brotherhood** Service

Shining Armor





St Clare Council 12887



Assembly 3136 Roseville





Brothers in Christ, what I am about to share with you may or will turn heads and perhaps upset some of you, but be that as it may. I have been a member of this council going on seven years. During this time I have meet and shared my time with 25% of the members. I know these brothers by name but the rest of you, I recognize your name but cannot put a face to it. Many of you, 75% of you, I have not seen helping the council out since you joined. Council records only show that you joined and went through the degrees and your name is not been on any activity the council has sponsored. It would be helpful if you were to let the council know why that is. Is the council doing something wrong that you don't agree with. Is the council not addressing or helping out in areas you may feel it should. Don't be shy, speak up. In order for the council to grow and meet the needs of our church and community it needs feedback that will improve it's activities and to reach out to those that need our help. So, what is preventing you from getting involved?

The council deserves to know why you chose not to get involved. When members bond together we build the common good, so that things can change and change is so desperately need today in our current environment.

Proverbs 19:17 reminds us, "That whoever is generous .......the Lord will repay him for his deed". Brothers, we are called to be an example of God's love to all those we serve. If you look around you, what do you see? When you look in the mirror who do you see? What you see Brothers, is the gift that God has given you—the gift of life, your wife, children and the material things you have accumulated over time.

We are called "to be servant: lowly, simple, often forgotten. *Shun* marks of respect; don't seek them. Be satisfied with doing your work on behalf of God's Kingdom, whatever it is." By permission; Bishop Baron

God gifted His son Jesus to us so He could be an example of love to be shared for all of us. He gave of Himself to bring us all together into God's kingdom. His gift of life is to be shared by us to help others, those who may be having a difficult time and the church who is struggling to keep God's presence alive in people's lives.

As brother Knights we proclaim the good news that God is present in our lives, that He is near, and engaged with us. God gifted His only son so that we could follow His example. I would like to think that you chose to give your gift of self to help the council address the needs of our parish and community and bring Jesus' presence to others. Furthermore, I would also like to think that

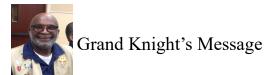
we are one with our Lord and with one another. At council meetings we have an empty chair that is always waiting for you to joins us in prayer and to break bread. Note that all of us come together as one to give thanks to God for, His gift of life, and to share it with those in need, for we are His body in service. When we are actively involved we come together in bringing Christ to others and to ourselves. Brothers who are active don't go to enrich themselves they simply go to give and that is what we are hoping that you will do-share your gift of self, to help the council help others. Get involved! The council's future is on your shoulders. Come join us Into the Breach!

If you feel this article was inappropriate, let me know. Let's have a dialog to discuss what you expected to experience when you joined the Council.

My email is joereina@msn.com.

Being one with the father

=LOVE=SACRIFICE=MANHOOD=
BROTHERHOOD=SERVICE



Brother Knights,

Currently, the council is showing a series of films- Into The Breach- that reflect who we are as men in our church. It documents male behaviors and consequences that lead us away from God and move us towards Satan's claws. It is a reminder of who we should be as Catholic men in modeling behaviors that lead us to God Himself. The series maintains that we all need to step up and patiently take up our God-given role we choose when we joined the council. We are the role models for our children and to other Catholic men in our parish and community. As knights we are the example of sacrificing ourselves in addressing the needs of our family, our church and our community and be there for one another and those we serve. Our active role as knights can be equated as a father in a hidden and humble sort of way, reflects imperfectly but surely the fatherhood of God, who has shown us through His son to serve and to sacrifice to help others. If we don't it for the Glory of God all will be for not. Brothers, we cannot become like Christ, with out understanding, Charity, Unity, Fraternalism and Patriotism, followed by active decisive action.

Our Founder Fr. McGivney called men to stepped into the breach when he called them to address the issues at that time. Today, all of us are being called to step into the breach and embrace our principles. If we do not move forward into the breach the council will not move forward and grow but die.

"Were you called to be a knight or what kind of knight were you called to be?"

Into the Breach, is asking us to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God. (Micah 6:8) We ask all of you to help built our church and to stand Into The Breach before the church and with each other.

One of the four primary virtues of the council is a brotherhood committed to the well being, care and relationship with fellow Brothers-in-Christ. The Council is making some effort in reaching out to brothers who are ill, in need, behind in their dues or are not participating in Council activities. The Council wants to be in touch to its members and is making concerted efforts to reach out to members who have not participated in the Council. These contacts are not intended to harass or be troublesome to our members, but to learn why a member is not participating. Outreach through phone calls and sometimes home visits have been made. Sadly, we have learned that some members have health problems, have moved, are no longer practicing Catholics and others no longer want anything to do with the Knights. One of the most troubling outcomes of our efforts in contacting members is their failure to respond to our requests, failure to return calls and failure on the council's follow through. Oftentimes, we encounter a hostile attitude in our efforts. We learn that some of the members no longer want to be part of the Knights.

The Council asks that if you change your contact information, move, or wish to transfer to another Council, to please let the council know. Some members fail to pay their yearly dues and puts the council in financial bind, as the Council is required to pay dues for all members on the Council Roster to Supreme and the State Council. These precious and limited resources could be used for charity, to help brothers who maybe experiencing financial distress, or funding other important Council activities. If you have not been active, we hope that you will make an effort to become an active member with the Council. Contact the Council and let us know how you are doing. If you have questions or need help, we are here to assist You!

In Christ.

## Good of the Order

To help us pray for our brothers who are sick or in distress, let us recall some passages in the Holy Scriptures. James 5:15: "....the prayer of faith will save the sick and the Lord will raise him up."

In the new testament Jesus, time and time again, showed his compassion on those that needed help and healing. In Proverbs 3:5 we read-"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and not lean on your own understanding." In Daniel 9:18, states: "For we do not present our supplications before you because of our righteous deeds but because of your great mercies".

In Luke 1:37 when the angle comes to tell her she will conceive a son and says: "For with God, nothing will be impossible."

Philippians 4:6-7, says: "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard our hearts and minds through Christ Jesus". Pray that God would miraculously touch our sick friend's bodies and that they will receive healing as well, as for their families, that God's never ending grace will strengthen them each day. Let us ask God to give our sick brothers His strength and to be their comfort during these hard times. James 5:16b reminds us to: "Pray for one another that we may be healed."

Dear Lord, we pray for our sick brothers and friends in our community. "Let us pray, Your merciful kindness be our sick friends comfort." "And what ever things we ask in prayer,... you will recceive." (Matthew 21-22) Father, we ask for healing of our sick brothers' bodies and strength and comfort for their minds and hearts as they face this challenge before them. Help us be a comfort and support to them in any way we can. We stand together as brothers in Christ, believing that we will receive all that we ask in Your name.

Let us pray that we will all be able to gather soon, But in the meantime, pray for each other and let us continue to hope and believe in the goodness of our Lord. (Romans 15:13)

"May the God of hope fill you all with joy and peace in believing, that we may be bound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Finally, I pray for God's blessing on us all. May God continue to bless us, as we work together for the glory of the Lord and the good of our church and neighbors,

Amen.

I would like to express my thanks to Brother Ricco Chess' wife Susan and Brother Deacon Marinko for sharing this piece.

"In God We Trust," Let us pray that our brothers and sister be healed so that they can become an active part of our lives and community.

## PRAY THE ROSARY FOR "LIFE"

You're invited to join our pro-life ministry by praying for an hour in your car while parked near the Planned Parenthood facility located at 729 Sunrise Avenue, Suite 900, Roseville, CA 95661, or in the privacy of your home. It's praying for an end to abortion in a private, personal, discreet, and quiet way. Our PRAY THE ROSARY FOR "LIFE" pamphlet explains the ministry, how to pray the Rosary and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy for the unborn, and includes other prayers and devotions. Please email or phone us for more information and unite with us and thousands of others who abhor the violence and evil of abortion.

Renato and Betty Nicolai praytherosarforlife@myccio,net 1-916-462-6861

Choose a day of the week and an hour from 8AM to 4PM
Then email or phone us and we will send you a Pray the Rosary for "life" pamphlet.



## into The Beach

"And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land..." EZEKIEL 22:30

## A CALL TO BATTLE

As Brother Knights and brother Catholics, we are being called to engage in the battle that is raging around us, the battle that is wounding our children and families, the battle that is distorting the dignity of both women and men. This battle is often hidden, but the battle is real. It is primarily spiritual, but it is progressively killing the remaining Christian ethos in our society and culture, and even in our own homes.

WE are under attack by Satan, as our Lord said it would be (1 Peter 5:8-14). This battle is occurring in the Church herself, and the devastation is all too evident. Since AD 2000, 14 million Catholics have left the faith, parish religious education of children has dropped by 24%, Catholic school attendance has dropped by 19%, infant baptism has dropped by 28%, adult baptism has dropped by 31%, and sacramental Catholic marriages have dropped by 41%

This is a serious breach, a gaping hole in Christ's battle lines. One of the key reasons that the Church is faltering under the attacks of Satan is that many Catholic men have not been willing to get involved and to "step into the breach" – to fill this gap that lies open and vulnerable to further attack. A large number have left the faith, and many who remain "Catholic" practice the faith timidly and are only minimally committed to passing the faith on to their children.

Recent research shows that large numbers of young Catholic men are leaving the faith to become "nones" – men who have no religious affiliation. The growing losses of young Catholic men will have a devastating impact on the Church *and the knights*, in the coming decades, as older men pass away and young men fail to remain and marry in the Church, accelerating the losses that have already occurred. These facts are devastating. As men fall away from the Church, they fall deeper and deeper into sin, breaking their bonds with God and leaving them vulnerable to the fires of Hell. While we know that Christ welcomes back every repentant sinner, the truth is that large numbers of Catholic men *and brother knights* are failing to keep the promises they made at their children's baptisms and *member installations* – promises to bring them to Christ and to raise them in the faith of the Church.

This crisis is evident in the discouragement and disengagement of Catholic men like you and me. In fact, this is precisely why the council is showing Into The Breach in it's lecture programs. We believe this is needed, and it is also the reason for our hope, for God constantly overcomes evil with good. The joy of the Gospel is stronger than the sadness wrought by sin! A throw-away culture cannot withstand the new life and light that constantly radiates from Christ. So I call upon you to open your minds and hearts to Him, the Savior who strengthens you to step into the breach! Join the council as it discusses the impact this is creating in our lives-TODAY.

Text came from Bishop Olmstead of Phoenix, AZ.

We meet in ZOOM-everyday 4th Monday to discuss business and show the series. Join us and join one of our discussion groups.