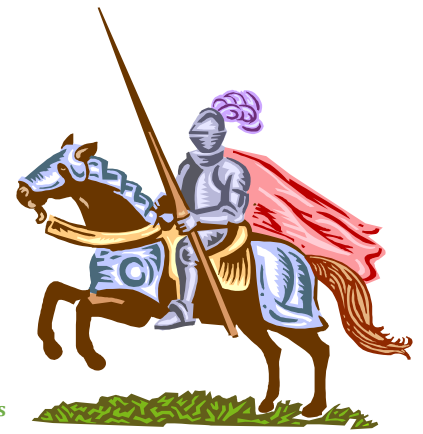


# THE Paladin



Knights of Columbus Arden/Carmichael Council 4970 District 9 – Division 4  
Serving Our Lady of the Assumption, St. Ignatius of Loyola, and St. John the Evangelist Parishes



MAY 2025

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## Rest in Peace, Pope Francis

*By Frank Consulo, Grand Knight*



Pope Francis, Bishop of Rome and the successor of St. Peter, has died at the age of 88. He left an indelible mark on the hearts of people throughout the world.

Pope Francis was the 266 Pope. Known for being the people's pope, his life was a challenge to be the best he could be as a Pope for the people of the world, as all would be watching his moves throughout his time as Pope. I, as a Catholic man, have looked at our Pope to see how he handles the Church's issues. We all see him in different lights. I see Jesus in him for his love and kindness to all. For example, as part of the Holy Thursday liturgy, he went to a prison to wash the feet of 12 women and kissed their feet. The gesture emphasizes his vocation of service and humility. The Pope performed the ritual from his wheelchair due to his condition.

His life touched me in looking at his adventures in life to become the first Jesuit pope. This was a significant appointment because of the sometimes-tense relations between the Society of Jesus and the Holy See. He was the first pope from the Americas and the first from the Southern Hemisphere. Many media outlets reported him as being the first non-European pope.

In his Sunday homily on April 27, 2025, Father Tom Lucas, Pastor of St. Ignatius, described meeting with Pope Francis in a private audience. On November 3, 2013, he met Pope Francis with a group of twenty Jesuit priests and staff. He said it was a beautiful and joyful experience that was scheduled for 15 minutes but lasted 45 minutes. They were all so happy that he was so humble. Father Tom describes Pope Francis as wearing frayed clothes with a sliver cross from his days Buenos Aires, Argentina. One of the group members asked for a blessing for her daughter, watching the Pope as they all could feel the passion he had for the daughter's blessing.

Pope Francis asked the group to take back a message with them. He gave them five reminders of what it means to be Church today.

- We need to actively witness our faith. Words are fine but we need to witness through our lived and living actions to the saving power of Christ in this broken world.
- We need to be near to those in need, including the poor. We cannot give witness to Christ in the abstract, but only in direct and living contact with others, especially in our care of the poor and nearness to the afflicted.
- Christ is incarnate in the world through our deeds more than our words. Christ's life and reality are transmitted in us and through us, made flesh again at the altar truly, but also and equally in our witness and in our loving respect and embrace of all of God's children.
- The Church is a field hospital, not a spa or retreat. The Church is a place of healing for those most hurting, most excluded, most in need.
- We help those in need because we know God's infinite mercy and compassion for us. God's mercy is the key to everything—it gives meaning to our lives and makes it possible to do the impossible in continuing God's work of the incarnation.

Pope Francis expanded our minds and hearts to care for all of God's creation, including the environment and migrants.

In his final public appearance on Easter Sunday, just one day before his passing, Francis offered a blessing to the world—one last gesture of his enduring commitment to peace, justice, and compassion. "May the hope of the Risen Christ carry us through every shadow, and may Love, not fear, shape the world we built together."

We look at Pope Francis in different ways, and his pontificate and legacy mean different things for us. For me, I have an empty feeling losing him as he was a great, compassion leader for our Catholic church. He will be missed. I will try to be more compassion with my Knights in the future. I urge all of you to read something about Pope Francis that brings you compassion to be a better person.

God Bless, Pope Francis. And let's pray for the Holy Spirit to guide the election of our new pope!

**Editor's note: For your prayer and meditation time, I offer Ashokan Farewell (with thanks to PGK Peter Kilkenny for telling me about this beautiful music):**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2kZASM8OX7s>

## Check Out Our Website for the Latest Updates and Contact Information

You don't need to wait for the Paladin to get updates on Council 4970 activities. Our website, [www.kofc4970.com](http://www.kofc4970.com) is now regularly updated with the latest information.

Also, need to contact one of the officers? Find their contact information here: <https://kofc4970.com/officers>

## Trustee Recommendations for Council Officers 2025-2026

*By the Trustees.*

Here are the Trustees' nominees for Council officers for the 2025-26 Columbian year. Other nominations will be accepted at the June Business meeting. Elections for new officers also will occur at the June Business meeting. Please pray for the nominees.

**Grand Knight:** Frank Consulo  
**Financial Secretary:** Tom Kuzmich (appointed by Supreme)  
**Deputy Grand Knight:** Kevin Hall  
**Chancellor:** Hahn Dahn  
**Recorder:** Bill Bedfort  
**Treasurer:** Steve Millner  
**Advocate:** Todd Wilson  
**Warden:** Peter Kilkenny  
**Inside Guard:** Allen Leach  
**Outside Guard:** Luis Puicon  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee:** Steve Hall  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Trustee:** Tim Spinelli (by advancement)  
**1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee:** Josh Figueroa (by advancement)  
**Chaplain:** (Appointed by the In-Coming Grand Knight)  
**Lecturer:** (Appointed by the In-Coming Grand Knight)

### PRAYER LIST

Please remember these intentions in your prayers:

**All children lost to abortion  
 All unborn children and their mothers**

**All Caregivers of the sick  
 Deceased of Council 4970**

**Rick Di Regolo (dec)  
 Georgia Royal (dec)  
 Carolyn "Susie" Fonteyn (dec)  
 Anthony Praxel (dec)  
 Kenneth Scribner (dec)  
 Danielle Corcoran (dec)  
 Ben Dougherty (dec)  
 Fr. Art Wehr, SJ (dec)  
 John Heiman (dec)  
 Gerald Marenich (dec)  
 David Schwartz (dec)  
 Joe Kievernagel (dec)  
 Pope Francis (dec)  
 Lee Akers (dec)  
 The Wehr Family  
 Fred Garrison  
 Bob Akers  
 Joan Cotton  
 Shannon Langer  
 Michael Langer  
 Gwenn Wilson  
 Fr. Tom Bland  
 Parishioners of SI, SJE, and  
 OLA Parishes**

**To report illness or death  
 contact the Grand Knight**

## Council 4970 Leads SJE Stations of the Cross

By Joe Romanazzi, PGK

Council 4970 Brother Knights led a large group of parishioners in praying the *Stations of the Cross* immediately following the celebration of the April 4, 2025 5:30 p.m. Mass at SJE Church. Our participation in the *Stations* was coordinated by Brother Ken Macdonald. Grand Knight Frank Consulo coordinated the soup and salad segment of the event.



***Stations of the Cross*** at SJE April 4, 2025. Row 1-Bros. Len Zerilli, Tony Carvelli, Rainer Urbach, Gene Gobbo, Aaron Stroh, Kevin Hall and Joe Romanazzi. Row 2- Bros. Tim Spinelli, Peter Kilkenny, Bill Swars, and Allen Leech. Row 3- Bros. Deacon Jack Wilson, Hahn Dinh, and Ken Macdonald. Not shown is Grand Knight Frank Consulo who “Stationed Himself” at St. James Hall to coordinate the soup and salad dinner that followed at the conclusion of the *Stations*.

# Lady Knight Florence Lee Akers Passes Away

By Joe Romanazzi, PGK



Lady Knight Florence Lee Akers, known as Lee to all, passed away on March 8, 2025, at the age of 86. Lee was the wife of our Brother Knight, Robert (Bob) Akers. They were married for 66 years at the time of her passing. Lee's services were held on April 9, 2025 at St. John the Evangelist (SJE) Church in Carmichael. The praying of the *Holy Rosary* preceded the Mass of Christian Burial which was celebrated by SJE Pastor Fr. Chandra Sekhar Potnuru, MSFS and former Pastor Fr. Bernardin Mugabo. They were joined at the altar by Deacons Jack Wilson and Keith Johnson. Several dozen Knights and Lady Knights were among the numerous relatives, friends and SJE parishioners who attended the service and the reception that followed in the Tralee Center. Interment was at Mount Vernon Memorial Park & Mortuary in Fair Oaks, CA. May our dear Lady Knight Lee find eternal rest in the embrace of the Lord forever and ever, Amen.



Homily



Consecration



Committal Readings



Incensing the Cremains



Flowers for Our Lady

## Godspeed, Fr. Dominic Savio Potnuru, MSFS

By Joe Romanazzi, PGK



St. John the Evangelist (SJE) Church’s Pastor and our Brother Knight, Fr. Dominic Savio Potnuru, MSFS, resigned his position effective April 30, 2025. Father Dominic plans to continue his doctoral studies (Ph.D.) after spending a short time in India visiting his family. Upon returning, Father plans to reside in a rectory in the Diocese as a priest-in-residence while he completes his academic and clinical formation. Father Dominic, a licensed therapist in Marriage and Family Therapy, said, *“In time, I plan to begin a psycho-spiritual institute in India that will blend the healing truths of psychology with the timeless light of faith.”*

SJE Parishioners, including Council 4970 Knights and Lady Knights, gathered after the 10:00 morning Mass on Divine Mercy Sunday to say good-bye and good luck at a luncheon held in the Parish’s Tralee Center. Council 4970 Grand Knight/Chef Frank Consulo and his helpers prepared and served the food.

Father Dominic of the Missionaries of St. Francis de Sales (MSFS) arrived to serve as Pastor of the SJE Parish Community in July 2023. Shortly after his arrival in Carmichael, Fr. Dominic transferred his K of C membership to our Council 4970. He attended meetings and participated in events as his time allowed. His presence at SJE was felt in every aspect of parish life. Council 4970 bids our Brother Fr. Dominic a fond farewell **and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.**

Let us always give thanks to God for the precious gift of the priesthood and to priests like Father Dominic Savio Potnuru, MSFS who tirelessly spread Christ’s message.



## **JOE'S CAFÉ...Stop by for a tasty bit!**

By Joe Romanazzi, Past Grand Knight

### **Safety Is The Name Of The Game**



Council 4970 Warbler, PGK Peter Kilkenny, recently wandered into Joe's Café for a double hot fudge sundae topped with whip cream, nuts, a whole maraschino cherry and a chocolate wafer cookie. Upon seeing Brother Peter and because it was past the busy lunch period, Chef Luigi came out of the kitchen to chat for a while. Noticing a server almost slip on a small water spill on the floor, Brother Peter told our intrepid Chef Luigi about a song he wrote about safety in the workplace years ago when he was gainfully employed by a large utility company providing consumers with natural gas and electricity. Peter explained he wrote a four-verse song titled, *Safety Is The Name Of The Game*. He sang the song while at the same time strumming his guitar. His performance at the energy facility was so well-received by management that he was invited to perform his song at other company plants. Then as what normally happens, enthusiasm waned, the house lights dimmed and the road trips ended. Alas, Peter returned to his daily job duties. Seeing a guitar on a bench in the kitchen and never missing an opportunity to perform, Brother Peter asked Chef Luigi if he would like to hear the song. Considering the offer for a couple of seconds Chef Luigi said sure. He figured he had nothing to lose because you don't get a stomach ache from green apples somebody else ate. Peter was handed the guitar and out of his mouth came the following tune:

***Chorus (CH): Safety is the name of the game for each and everyone it's the same to keep from getting burned, cut, bruised, crippled or lame. Safety is the name of the game.***

***Verse 1. The first thing on the job you should see is what is unsafe for you and me. We all want to do the job right but keeping safety first is first in sight. (CH)***

***Verse 2. Safety is the first priority to see where the hazards might be. Point them out to others on your crew. Remove the ones that you can do. (CH)***

***Verse 3. Safety is a personal issue attitude. Stay focused the whole day through. Not only at your own job site. But everywhere else both day and night. (CH)***

***Verse 4. Safety is the name of the game for each and everyone it's the same. So to keep from getting any of the blame. Stay on the team and in the game. Safety is the name of the game. (CH)***

At the conclusion of the command performance, a delighted Chef Luigi invited Brother Peter to return and sing his safety song for his employees at their next staff meeting. Just as important to Peter, his double hot fudge sundae was comped and he received a \$50 gift card for Joe's Café. He took a menu home to study for his next visit.

My Brothers, we have a lot of talented members in our council. Brother Peter Kilkenny is but one of them. The truth is that all of us possess a diversity of *Gifts of the Spirit*. God is the fountain of the various gifts granted to our Brother Knights (and Lady Knights too). He is also the model of how diversity may be coupled with unity to build up and make our council even stronger. Please volunteer for our council events and put your God-given talents to work for the people we serve in the Arden-Carmichael community.

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## Ladies Luncheon

*By Jean Gobbo*

Our April Ladies Luncheon at Estelle’s Cafe was well attended and received.

Our May luncheon will be held at Bella Bru Cafe, 5038 Fair Oaks Blvd located in the Five Points Shopping Center, near the “triangle” intersection of Arden Way, Walnut Ave and Fair Oaks Blvd. The date is May 15 at 1 p.m. Looking forward to seeing you all there!



Any questions you can call either Glenda Macdonald at 916-524-8933 or myself, Jean Gobbo, at 916-261-8674. No guarantee we will have the answers but will give it a good try!

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## Brothers Gobbo, Hall, Befort, Dougherty, and Consulo Answering the Call at a Recent Veterans Stand Down

