

## October Speaker Recap: Catholicism and Islam With Tom Carroll



*"The plan of salvation also includes those who acknowledge the Creator, in the first place amongst whom are the Muslims; these profess to hold the faith of Abraham, and together with us they adore the one, merciful God, mankind's judge on the last day."*

– *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Religion has been one of the main constants throughout history. Religion has been the foundation for countless wars over the years, never more evident than in today's world. As Catholics, it's important to understand how religion is affecting our world, specifically Islam, and how we need to "look behind the curtain." Tom Carroll, who joined us as our featured speaker this past month, is the one to help us take that look.

Growing up in Visalia, Tom was raised Protestant. His interest in the Middle East developed on a junior high field trip which exposed him to the culture and food of the region. This interest eventually led him to the Clandestine Service of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA). He spent many years undercover, living in the Middle East, becoming a specialist in Islam and Middle Eastern affairs.

He spent six years living in Turkey, as he put it "surrounded by history." It was then, while living in Istanbul that he and his wife converted to Catholicism. Turkey itself is filled with remnants of the ancient church, of which Catholicism is based upon. The conversion to Catholicism for him and his wife was "very natural."

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## Carroll: Con't from Page 1

As a religion, Islam traces back nearly 1400 years, to around 500 AD. Central to the Islamic religion is the Quran, which they believe to be the word of God, given verbatim through the angel Gabriel from God to Muhammad. As the Middle East itself is filled with Christian artifacts, closer examination of the Quran shows that many of the verses held true by Muslims trace their roots back to Christian stories.



While many of the stories within the Quran share lineage with Christian stories, it's their interpretation that creates the divide between the religions. For the more intellectual Christians, it's believed that God revealed his mysteries, his nature, that rests in the knowledge of the Holy Trinity. Muslims, on the other hand, believe that God revealed information about his will to Muhammad; the Quran is too simple to contain any great philosophical ideas, containing only references to "God's will."


While the popular media of today's society has drawn very distinct lines in the sand to create division between Catholicism and Islam, Mr. Carroll showed that once you cross that line, and look behind the curtain, there are a lot more similarities between the two than are commonly believed.



**Mark Your Calendars!**

**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting  
February 10, 2012 @Pardini's**

**Attendance will be limited to prepaid reservations only  
\$15 Members / \$20 Non-Members**




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**WELCOME**

If you are Catholic or have an interest in the Catholic faith and desire to be a member of the local Catholic community, then you are invited to become a member of the Catholic Professional & Business Club of Fresno. At our breakfast meeting, CP&BC offers to provide you with a variety of information and resources to help you get started. We will be happy to answer your questions and help you get started. We look forward to seeing you at our breakfast meeting. They will be the last meeting you attend each month.

Please download and complete the application and mail it to the following address:

**Catholic Professional & Business Club of Fresno**  
PO Box 1414  
Fresno, CA 93716-1414

You can include your payment with your application, or submit your payment via PayPal after filling out our online application using the link below. There are two membership options. Both for your current membership month include all our resources, starting with your breakfast meeting the minute prior and by pre-booking your dinner/meal prior or call for your annual membership fees you pay for each breakfast you attend.

Click here to get started!

## Have You Checked Out

# www.cpbcfresno.org

From the convenience of your own home or office:

- ⇒ Obtain updated information
- ⇒ Make reservations on-line for breakfast meetings
- ⇒ Renew membership
- ⇒ View previous newsletters
- ⇒ Find links to other catholic organizations

*CP&BC thanks Rod Silver and ARTCO for the design and maintaining our website*

## A Prayer For Souls

Pardon all sinners, O Lord, by Thy infinite love and lead them to the way of Thy justice. Protect them and theirs in the face of the onslaught of evil. Redeem all who have done evil, and may God's mercy be upon them.

My God, Thou art my God and my all! My Jesus, Mercy! Jesus Christ King of Mercy, I trust in Thee! Jesus, Mary, Joseph, I love you. Save Souls!

## November Speaker Preview: Mike McGarvin



Mike McGarvin was born in Pasadena, California, where he attended Pasadena City College, studying graphic arts and management. He married Mary in 1970. They have two children, Clare and the late Michael Jr., and one grandchild, Tyler.

In 1966, while living in San Francisco, Mike met Father Simon Scanlon, a Franciscan priest. Overwhelmed by Father Simon's humility and kindness toward the "street people" in the Tenderloin District where the priest lived and worked, Mike decided to follow in his footsteps. He joined the Catholic Church in 1966 and studied for one year to become a Secular Franciscan, dedicating himself to the teaching and ways of Saint Francis of Assisi.

Upon coming to Fresno, he began working as a newspaper photoengraver, and would often see needy people on the streets near his workplace. He founded the Saint Vincent de Paul Society of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, and was president for three years. During this time, he started distributing sandwiches to the poor and homeless, which was the beginning of Fresno's Poverello House. In 1992, Mike retired from the newspaper to work full-time at Poverello House.

For more information, please visit: [www.poverellohouse.org](http://www.poverellohouse.org)



Celebrating our

# 25th Anniversary

## Catholic Television

Streaming LIVE on the Internet at: [www.KNXT.tv](http://www.KNXT.tv)

November Programming Highlights



**Currents**  
Every Weekday at 6:30 pm

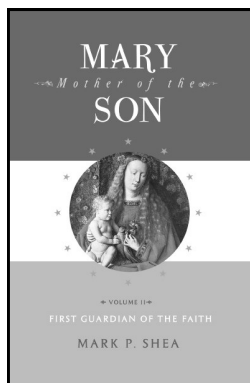
This half-hour news show features stories of people of faith from the U.S. to around the world. With exclusive interviews and features, *Currents* creates a unique insight for viewers and strengthens them in their faith.

**The Sunday Mass** from St. Anne's Chapel  
Sundays 7:30 am and 5:00 pm

**The Sunday Mass in Spanish**  
Sundays 12:00 pm

**The Sunday Mass in Portuguese**  
Sundays 7:30 pm

## Book Review by John Kasaian Mary, Mother Of The Son, Volume II By Mark P. Shea



Here we have the second volume in Mark Shea’s trilogy on the Blessed Virgin. The first volume you may remember, deals with Modern Myths and Ancient Truths or rather the “spins” which protestant theologians have devised to subvert the importance of Mary in Salvation History and refuting them through the writings of the early fathers of the church on Marian devotion.

In volume 2, Shea treats the Church’s four essential teaching on the Blessed Virgin, what they are and what they are not. As a former evangelical, Shea brings

incredible enthusiasm to the subject of Mary which is practically unknown in evangelical circles, much like a person excited about discovering a treasure they didn’t know existed. I think that is what makes this trilogy very special---through the eyes of Mark Shea, Catholics can see a treasure which the Church has guarded for two thousand years---the devotions of the mantilla’d ladies with rosary beads takes on a new fervor.

Just as Mary guarded her infant within her, she stands guard next to her son even now.

This is an important book which no home should be without. Shea’s writing is easily read and light hearted. He speaks to contemporary readers

You can get your copy at The Holy Child, on the Northwest corner of Palm and Bullard in Fresno.


## Business Person of the Month: Jonathan Keller



Jonathan Keller was the October Business Person of the Month. Jonathan is the Executive Director of the Right to Life of Central California, a post he’s held since 2008. Currently, the organization is participating in the *40 Days of Life* campaign, which is designed to raise awareness, save lives, bring healing, and lead our nation to repentance for the sin of abortion through 40 days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil and community outreach.

Jonathan was also grateful for the wonderful relationship that Right to Life has with the Diocese of Fresno, and especially for the help and support they’ve received from Rev. Msgr. Myron J. Cotta. On December 2, Right to Life will host its 23<sup>rd</sup> annual Christmas Dinner and Auction titled “Let it Shine.” For more information on the event, visit [www.rtlcc.org](http://www.rtlcc.org).

You could be our next Business Person of the Month by placing your business card in the fishbowl at the check-in table.



**CP&BC is holding a food drive at the November breakfast meeting. Bring canned goods or other non-perishable food items on November 11 to benefit the Poverello House**

## Name the Newsletter Contest



The official newsletter of the CP&BC is searching for a new name to help commemorate the 15th Anniversary of the club. And we're looking to the club's membership to help.

Visit [www.cpbcfresno.org/contest.shtml](http://www.cpbcfresno.org/contest.shtml) to enter your idea.



**CP&BC Membership:** CP&BC's annual dues are \$45.00 per person and the cost of each breakfast is \$12.00 for members. A membership form is included in this month's insert. For more information call Jeff Lauritzen at 559.288.7280.

**Membership Directory:** Advertising space is currently being sold for the CP&BC's 15th Annual Membership Directory. Don't miss your opportunity to have your company seen by nearly 400 Catholic professionals. Ad space starts at only \$50 and is filling fast. Contact Nick Strait at 559.304.8905 or [directory@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:directory@cpbcfresno.org) for more information.

**Prayer Network:** CP&BC has a "prayer network" to be used for member prayer needs for themselves or loved ones. We have members already signed-up to pray for special needs submitted; however, anyone else is invited to also become part of the prayer network. Sally Lauritzen is the point person to whom requests can be made, and once they are received she will email or phone the network. Contact Sally ([salauritz@att.net](mailto:salauritz@att.net) or 559.439.8378) to become part of the network or to submit a prayer request.

**Thanks to our Sponsors:** The CP&BC thanks our sponsors for the year: Big De Farms & Cattle/Dan Souza; DiBuduo & DeFendis Insurance; Dowling, Aaron & Keeler, Inc., Attorneys at Law; Electric Motor Shop; Frank A. Borges & Associates; Gary McKeighan Insurance; Jay Chapel/Wayne Gomes; Milano Restaurant; Pardini's Catering & Banquets; QUALI-T-RUCK Services, Inc; Sheridan & Dorothy Loyd; Sierra West Warehouse and Logistics, LP; TCM investments; Jeff & Lisa Negrete; McCaffrey Homes; and, Whitehurst Sullivan Burns & Blair Funeral Home/Don Cardell.

**Please consider becoming a sponsor now** to help pay the cost of printing and mailing nine issues to nearly 400 Catholics. If your interest and budget will allow we would appreciate a donation of up to \$200 since this helps defray the cost of one issue. Please contact Pat Ogle at 559.278.6134 to become a sponsor.



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