

FINAL WORDS

PRE-PAID CP&BC MEMBERS REQUESTED TO RSVP: It would be appreciated and requested that those members who have pre-paid their breakfast through June 2009 would still send an email (lorikrueger@comcast.net) or call by the Thursday prior to the Friday breakfast (434-2722) to confirm each month they will be attending. Since CP&BC is charged for each reservation made, it is helpful and fiscally prudent to have an accurate count of those planning to attend. Those making reservations and not attending will be held responsible for the cost of the breakfast. Thank you for your cooperation and follow-up on making reservations.

THANKS TO SPONSORS: The CP&BC thanks our sponsors for the year: Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Mgt. Services; 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; Me-N-Ed's Pizzerias; Mike & Marybeth Hogan; Pardini's Catering & Banquets; QUALI-T-RUCK Services, Inc; Sheridan & Dorothy Loyd; Sierra West Warehouse, Inc; Tom McGowan/Automated Office Systems; 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 244-5609 to become a sponsor.



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Catholic Professional & Business Club of the Fresno Diocese

Volume 12 Number 5

Newsletter

Feb 2009

December Speaker Sings For Her Breakfast

By JoEllen Strait



Jennifer Naimo-Morales, actress, singer, and Broadway performer was our very entertaining speaker for the December breakfast. The fourth of five children of a loud Italian Catholic Family, Jennifer grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Her interest in music began at an early age when she first kept rhythm by bumping her head on her crib – and later transferred the practice to a rocking chair! The first song she sang was “Immaculate Mary”.

Jennifer attended a Catholic grade school where she did imitations of Karen Carpenter, Helen Reddy, and Barbara Streisand (her favorite). Singing was her way of winning friends. She said that at one point her parents attended a Charismatic prayer meeting, and chose to follow the Lord instead of money. From then on every choice was centered on prayer. She attended Catholic high school and was a cross country and long distance runner. It was during this time that she was inspired by her coach who was a paraplegic, and taught her the term “gut-bust”, which means there is always something more in you.

After high school, she attended New York University where she was the only undergraduate in their three-year conservatory program. New York City was a culture shock in many ways and no one thought she would survive. Jennifer did though, and learned that the choices a person makes now will affect the rest of eternity. She stayed firm, and everyone knew she was Catholic.

Jennifer’s first job was in Williamstown, Massachusetts, followed by a four-month job in Israel, and then she eventually ended up on Broadway. Most recently she played in the hit musical “Jersey Boys”. Throughout her career she feels the Lord has been her biggest agent. He always gives her quality jobs and puts Catholics or Christians near her. She carries a statue of her favorite saint, St. Therese, everywhere she goes, and always finds a church wherever she is. Her career has also presented her with many interesting challenges to deal with such as womanizing men, avoiding questionable language in her scripts, and reaching out to fallen Catholics.

Recently she has made videos for little children on the Rosary and the Eucharist, and also has done sing-alongs and prayers. Jennifer ended by singing a beautiful version of “What Child Is This”.

Personal Perspective by William Whitehurst

Many years ago Monsignor Francis Singleton invited his good friend Monsignor Fulton Sheen to speak at the annual Red Mass at St. John’s Cathedral. St. John’s was packed with lawyers, judges and legislators from the San Joaquin Valley. At the time, the diocese had numerous Priests who were known for their speaking ability...Monsignor Singleton, Monsignor Dowling, Monsignor Culleton, Monsignor Keenan, among others.

Monsignor Sheen, colorfully garbed, was very dramatic and charismatic, as was Monsignor Singleton. In Monsignor Sheen’s Red Mass homily he mentioned that occasionally he was interrupted by hecklers and then he shared this story.

From the pulpit on this occasion he was preaching about Jonah and the whale when a bellicose voice broke out from the audience, “How could Jonah live in the whale without oxygen?” Monsignor reflected that he was taken aback for a moment but then responded, “I don’t know but when I get to heaven, I’ll ask him.”

The heckler shot back, “What if Jonah didn’t get to heaven?”

Monsignor Sheen quickly replied, “Well then, you ask him!”

Has the day of great oratory left the Church? Is it a lost art??

BUSINESS PROFILE:



The very first lay speaker of the CP&BC, Phillip Sanchez, returned in December as our Business Person-of-the-Month. He is a former American Ambassador to the Republic of Honduras and the Republic of Columbia. He is currently a Board Member for the University of Bridgeport (Connecticut), the High School of the Pacific (Hawaii) and is President of the Educational Foundation of the Americas (Mexico City). Ambassador Sanchez is very pleased to be Catholic and always prays to thank God. He has always taken

his faith with him wherever he’s gone and feels the best way that God will smile on us is if we smile on each other!

Editor’s Note: You could be our Business Profile for a future edition by placing your business card in the fishbowl at the check-in table.

49er Highlights - Catholic Television *Changing Lives*

By Laurie Patterson



Are You Ready For The Digital Television Transition...Quick Facts:

Who's Affected? Viewers with older antenna television sets that are not hooked up to a cable, satellite, or a pay TV service will need to upgrade by February 17.

Web Site? For more information about the digital television transition you can go to www.dtvanswers.com

Phone Number? You may also call 1-888-DTV-2009 for more information about the DTV Transition and coupon program.

Converter Box? You can apply for a \$40 coupon that can be used toward the purchase of a converter box at www.dtv2009.gov

For More Information Call (559)488-7440 or Visit www.knxt.tv

KNXT is uniquely capable in providing inspirational, educational, and wholesome programming to viewers from Merced to Bakersfield. Share in the spirit of giving that we provide to our viewers everyday by giving back to the station and programs that you love. Remember that we always have need for volunteers and underwriters. Again, thank you for all of your support. Call (559) 488-7454.

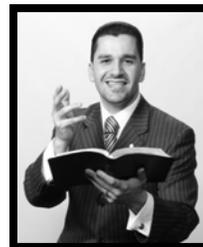
BUZZARDS, BATS, BUMBLEBEES, & PEOPLE

BUZZARDS: If you put a buzzard in a pen that is 6 feet by 8 feet and is entirely open at the top, the bird will be an absolute prisoner. A buzzard always begins a flight with a run of 10 to 12 feet. Without space to run, it will not even attempt to fly. **BATS:** The ordinary bat, a remarkably nimble creature in the air, cannot take off from a level place. If it is placed on the floor or flat ground, all it can do is shuffle about helplessly.

BUMBLEBEES: A bumblebee, if dropped into an open tumbler, will be there until it dies.. It never sees the means of escape at the top, but persists in trying to find some way out through the sides near the bottom. **PEOPLE:** We are like the buzzard, the bat, and the bumblebee. We struggle about with all our problems and frustrations never realizing that **all we have to do is LOOK UP.** Jesus said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life and no one comes to God except through me!"* (John 14:6) Please do not be one of the ones Jesus referred to when He said, *"Some refuse to come to me and receive life."* (John 5:40)

LOOK UP NOW! *"Jesus stands at the door and knocks. Open the door and receive Him and become God's child, as you were meant to be."* (Rev. 3:20 & John 1:12)

December 12th – Héctor Antonio



Join the CP&BC on February 13th when Héctor Antonio Molina, Jr., a dynamic and much sought after lay Catholic speaker and Evangelist, shares his life of ministering for 25 years the Gospel and teachings of the Catholic faith throughout the United States, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. See the insert for more background on our next CP&BC speaker and how his ministry has earned him the label of "International Evangelist". Be sure to make your reservations now for our "lucky" Friday the 13th and pre-Valentine February breakfast!

Pastor Profile

By Ambassador Jess Saldana



Fr. Salvador Gonzalez, Jr.
Director of Vocations
and Pastor of St. Helen Parish in Fresno
4870 E. Belmont...255-3871
Email: office.sthelens@sbcglobal.net

Weekend Masses: Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
& 12:00 noon (Spanish)
Weekday Masses: 8:00 a.m. in Chapel

Fr. Sal was born in Los Angeles, CA, in 1970. In 1980 the entire family uprooted and moved to Mexico where he completed his high school education. In 1988, he returned to the United States and in 1991 began his studies to the priesthood in the Diocese of Fresno at St. John Vianney house of formation.

In 1996, he graduated with a B.A. Degree in Theology and a minor in Psychology from St. John's Seminary College and in 2001 graduated with a M. Div. from Mt. Angel Seminary. Later that summer he was ordained to the priesthood for the Diocese of Fresno.

He is currently serving the people of God in the Diocese of Fresno simultaneously as Director of Vocations and Pastor of Fresno's St. Helen's Church, having previously served as Parochial Vicar of St. John's Cathedral, Administrator of Kingsburg's Holy Family Church, and Pastor of Firebaugh's St. Joseph's Church.

Book Review

By John Kasaian

Ever Ancient Ever New

By Rev. John Corapi, SOLT, STD

126 pages

Santa Cruz Media, Inc. Whitefish, MT

If you haven't met Fr. Corapi, I recommend it! Fr. Corapi is found on EWTN and KNXT, Catholic Radio and at various conferences throughout the country. As apologetic speakers go, his style is earthy and orthodox, much like listening to a favorite uncle recounting a wonderful adventure. His presentation is very much a part of what makes his talks so cool, but that also presents a problem if, like I, you drive a 1994 mint green ex-forestry dept. 4x4 Chevy with no CD or tape player.

While Fr. Corapi is well published in audio formats, I could only find one book authored by him, Ever Ancient Ever New a collection of twenty two articles. It is a little book, quite hard to find but it is a trophy well worth the hunt. Each article covers a contemporary issue on diverse subjects---everything from Divine Revelation to the role of Laity in the Church, Mary the Mother of the New Evangelization to the Last Judgment and Purgatory, Angels and Demons to Matrimony and the passing of Pope John Paul the Great. Such a broad range of subjects are covered that afterwards I got the feeling that I had read a super abridged edition of the Catechism. In 126 pages, no less!

Hey, if you're short on time for reading about your faith, this is probably the biggest bang for the buck you'll come across. Like I said it is a difficult book to find. If you are fortunate enough to find a copy (and The Holy Child Bookstore on the Northwest corner of Bullard and Palm, in Fresno, might be able to track a copy down for you) and you can bear to part with it after you've read it, you might consider donating it to your parish library. Or better yet buy two copies and keep one in the truck.

"Food for Thought"

By CPBC Spiritual Advisor Msgr. Las Byrne

In the course of our human existence we have faced good times and bad. As committed Christians we have come to learn that God's ways are not always our ways, and that our prayers will be answered, not always in the ways we expect, but in the way that He sees best for us. We do know He hears our sincere prayers.

We happen to be living at a time in our history where our FAITH is being tested, our HOPE is challenged and our LOVE so necessary. Hence it is imperative for us to renew these virtues every day. The present economic situation may cause us to question some of our Faith values--especially if we have tried to live as Jesus taught us; and this in turn may lead some to lose *HOPE* and in turn our *LOVE* is weakened.

These remarks will not solve the burden of the loss of jobs, even our homes, the high medical bill, etc. but hopefully will help us understand what Jesus told us that being a good Christian will involve having to carry our own Cross--it will certainly help us to be thankful for the many blessings that have come our way and that we have taken for granted for years. It may aid us in trying to understand what went wrong to bring about some of these problems -- and the point I would mention here is that *GREED* and an inordinate desire for all things of this life did send many in the wrong direction. We can't apply the same brush to all situations, nor do we judge.

We have to deal with the problems that exist and we must insist that these be justice for all and that the poor and downtrodden are handled fairly and that we who have been given much will share with our needy neighbors. Government and society must work for Social Justice if we are to begin to build a just and ordered society.

Pray the Good Lord to strengthen our Faith, Hope & Love --and we thank the Lord for all the goodness we have experienced in recent days; locally with the building of a home in a short time -- and nationally with the saving of all the passengers in the plane that crashed in New York. We know the possibilities are there when we do the right thing BECAUSE it is the RIGHT THING.

VISIT www.cpbcfresno.org FOR UPDATED INFORMATION
AND TO MAKE RESERVATIONS ON-LINE
BY CLICKING ON "RESERVATIONS"
AND THEN BY CLICKING ON "MAKE RESERVATIONS ON-LINE"