

Catholic Professional & Business Club of the Fresno Diocese

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2010 NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER - HUGH HEWITT

By JoEllen Strait



CP&BC's 2010/2011 season got off to a fantastic start with Hugh Hewitt speaking at our September breakfast. Hugh is the host of a nationally syndicated radio talk show (heard locally on 940 KYNO), teaches Constitutional Law at Chapman University Law School, and has authored several books. He was born and raised in Ohio and is a graduate of Harvard and the University of Michigan Law School. His wife is Presbyterian, and each weekend he attends Mass on Saturday evenings and the Presbyterian church on Sundays. Hugh has had an interesting journey in the Catholic faith. He is a cradle Catholic, with a Catholic mom and Presbyterian dad, and served as an altar boy (starting out pre-Vatican II). Becoming dismayed in the Church's leadership, he allowed politics to obscure the grace and theology of the church, and in 1992 he left the Catholic Church and became a practicing Presbyterian. However, in 2005, he returned to Catholicism thanks to grace and what he felt was great new leadership. He believes that now we are on the cusp of an historical flowering of the Church.

Hugh's broadcast career began in 1990 in Los Angeles. His show was on Sunday night where he read C.S. Lewis and talked theology; and as he put it, got calls from everyone who was up late – for all the wrong reasons! In 1994, he was contacted by PBS, since they needed a conservative voice due to the change in the political climate of the country. It was at that time that he did *Searching for God in America*. The exposure he got from PBS launched his syndicated career. He realized that every time you talk about faith, you get asked to talk about it even more. The Catholic Church may go through crises and may be defeated, but it will never lose itself.

Right now he feels that there are three unpopular positions in this country that are central to our faith: pro-life; marriage as an institution between a man and a woman; and care for illegal immigrants. The key thing for Catholics to do is to receive the sacraments and pray for our country.

OCTOBER 8 - JENNIFER NAIMO



Plan on joining us at our October breakfast to hear Jennifer Naimo, Broadway and television actress and singer, share a little of what it is like to defend your faith in the midst of the entertainment industry. Jennifer recently performed in the Broadway musical "Jersey Boys" and also has several children's videos including "The Eucharist for Little Children". Please see the insert for more information. Be sure to make your reservations early for our October 8th breakfast!

SPONSORSHIP DINNER WITH HUGH HEWITT

CP&BC would like to thank the following sponsors for making it possible to have Professor Hewitt speak at our September breakfast: Dick Caglia, Electric Motor Shop; Larry A. Holody, Financial Consultant; Mark Cameron, DeMera DeMera Cameron, LLP; Don Cardell, Whitehurst, Sullivan, Burns & Blair Funeral Home; Jim Pardini, Pardini's Catering; Tom Ferdinandi, Me-N-Ed's Pizzerias; John Cribari, Cribari Family Wine; Timothy Jones, Attorney, Sagaser, Jones and Haahesy; Right to Life of Central California; and thank you also to an anonymous donor.



PASTOR PROFILE – REV. CRAIG PLUNKETT

By Don Cardell



Fr. Craig was born in Bakersfield, California and was an only child. Neither of his parents were Catholic or practicing a faith, but at the age of seven his step mother encouraged him in the Catholic Faith. As a young boy he was always on a faith journey. In Junior High, Craig came down with Valley Fever that kept him out of school and almost took his life. During this illness and as a young Altar Boy he always felt blessed to have priests in his life.

He attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Junior High and Garces Memorial Catholic High School in Bakersfield, graduating in 1966. He majored in Agriculture Science at Bakersfield Junior College and received a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science from Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo, in 1971. During school he was active in Varsity Sports and many school activities. After graduation, Fr. Craig worked for a diversified Farming and Livestock operation for one year and then for the next thirty years worked in Agricultural Chemical Sales, covering territories from Bakersfield to Merced.

As a lay person at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, he was involved in neighborhood prayer groups for three years. Then, in 1997, Marty and Angelia Jelacich encouraged him to consider the priesthood. In 2001, Craig entered St. Meinrad School of Theology, a Benedictine School in Indiana. He received his M.A. Degree and Masters of Divinity in 2006, and on May 27, 2006 he was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Fresno. His first assignment was at St. Philip the Apostle in Bakersfield as Associate Pastor under Msgr. Ron Swett where he celebrated 10-12 masses per week. On May 9, 2009, Bishop John T. Steinbock commissioned Fr. Craig to acquire property and build a new church in the east part of Clovis with a seating capacity of 1500.

Father Craig has always loved listening to and reading Sacred Scripture. When asked his favorite scripture he had several and he chose Luke 15:11-32, the story of the Prodigal Son. He has a great love for Sacred Art, Music and Architecture. He often recalls his experience at St. Anthony's retreat in Three Rivers, of what it was like for the Apostles to spend time with Jesus, listening and learning, and sharing the Eucharist. As a priest he feels Blessed to give the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, and sharing the Eucharist.

Fr. Craig enjoys all sports, especially pro and college football, women's softball, March Madness Basketball, the Pro Golf tournaments, and rodeo.

BOOK REVIEW

By John Kasaian

The Creed in Slow Motion By Msgr. Ronald Knox

Christian Classics from Ave Maria Press, Inc.

Notre Dame, IN

Paper, 237 pages, \$14.95



Ronald Knox was ordained an Anglican Priest in 1912 and converted to the Catholic Church in 1917 due in large part to his friendship with G.K. Chesterton. He served as the Catholic Chaplain to Oxford University until assigned the task of translating the Latin Vulgate into English and sent off to a peaceful estate in the English countryside to concentrate on his task. Then the London Blitz commenced and a girl's school, which was evacuated from London, dropped a Blitz of their own, landing on the estate where scholarly Msgr. Knox was laboring upon his painstaking translation of the New Testament. Msgr. Knox served as the school's chaplain and this offering is a collection of his homilies presented to the girls at weekly Mass, and is the best, most entertaining book on The Creed I've had the pleasure to read. Each of the 27 lines in The Creed is presented as a chapter and described in a way that is at the same time penetrating, enlightening, and playful.

For me, *The Creed in Slow Motion* is a delightful adventure in the Catholic core values. When I am not mulling over Msgr. Knox's explanations and marveling at the beauty and righteousness of this Creed, I am swept up in a corner of history, watching from the back of some musty chapel in Aldenham Park as Msgr. Knox explains the bedrock of our Faith to a congregation of uniformed Catholic School girls as Supermarine Spitfires and Hawker Hurricanes speed overhead to engage in mortal combat. Reading *The Creed in Slow Motion* with its references to life on the Home Front (something the school girls could relate to) I think speaks poignantly to Catholics today who are faced with unceasing attacks on Catholic culture.

I got my copy of *The Creed in Slow Motion* at The Holy Child Bookstore on the northwest corner of Bullard and Palm and they can get a copy for you, too!



KNXT October Programming Highlights

- **Bugtime Adventures**
Wednesdays at 3:30 pm
- **Who, What, Where?**
Fridays at 3:30 pm
- **Classic Cinema with Father Ricardo**
Saturdays at 8:00 pm
- **Math On Call**
Weekdays at 4:00 pm

INSTALLATION/COMMISSIONING

Thanks to Father Robert Borges, Pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Clovis, who performed the installation/commissioning of our officers, board members, and ambassadors at the September breakfast.



Installation/Commissioning of Board Members



Installation/Commissioning of Officers for 2010/2011. From left to right: Vice President Jeff Lauritzen, Spiritual Director Msgr. Laserian Byrne, Treasurer Toni Porter, President Pat Ogle

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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

By CP&BC Spiritual Advisor - Msgr. Las Byrne



We are people of Faith – we believe in God. Many of us acknowledge we are a family and gather together at Mass to be fed by His Word and Holy Eucharist. The question is, apart from this time where does God fit into our daily lives? How conscious are we of His presence or do we still confine Him to the Church or look up to Him to find Him? I believe most of us are unprepared or too busy to feel the presence of Christ in our world even if we know He is present in the stranger, the poor, or our neighbor. Jesus ascended back to Heaven, but He did promise and send the Holy Spirit to be with us and guide us. We must continually strengthen our faith through prayer so that we can be constantly aware of His presence in our lives. This is so important to recognize, both in our good times and in our difficult times of suffering, death, the economic problems, etc. May we all grow in faith, wisdom, grace and the love of God.

INSTALLATION/COMMISSIONING OF BOARD MEMBERS

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Installation/Commissioning of Ambassadors

FINAL WORDS

CP&BC Membership Renewal: It's time to renew your membership in the Fresno Catholic Professional & Business Club for the 2010 – 2011 season. The annual dues are \$45.00 per person and the cost of each breakfast is \$12.00 for members. If you wish to pre-pay your breakfast for the full nine meeting months, the cost is \$90.00 (a savings of \$18.00). You can renew using the form included in this month's insert. For more information call Jeff Lauritzen at 559.288.7280.

Prayer Network: CP&BC has reinstated a "prayer network" that will be utilized 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 or 439-8378) to become part of the network or to submit a prayer request.

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

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; 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.

www.cpbcfresno.org

By Visiting Our Local CP&BC Website You Can:

- Obtain updated information
- Make reservations on-line by clicking on "Reservations" and then by clicking on "Make Reservations On-Line"
- Find links to other catholic organizations
- View previous newsletters

CP&BC thanks Rod Silver and Artco for maintaining our website!

FUTURE CP&BC PROGRAMS
Pardini's – Van Ness Blvd. & Shaw – 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.
(Before Breakfast Is Served Enjoy Coffee & Networking)

Friday, October 8 – Jennifer Naimo

Jennifer Naimo has been a Broadway and television actress and singer for over 20 years. One of her recent roles is that of Frankie Valli's wife in the Tony Award Winning Musical *Jersey Boys* on Broadway. Her other Broadway performances include roles in *Les Miserables*, *Grease*, *The Full Monty*, and *Big River*. In addition, she has performed with the late Christopher Reeve, "John Boy" Richard Thomas, Sigourney Weaver, Deborah Gibson, and Blythe Danner. Jennifer has several children's videos, the most recent being *The Eucharist for Little Children*. She has appeared on EWTN's *Life on the Rock* and Ralph Martins *The Choices We Face*. Jennifer lives in Los Angeles where she has worked on several TV shows and also commercials. How she has defended her faith and stood up in the midst of entertainment "giants" is something you won't want to miss.

Future Speaker

November 12 – Mr. Rick Maya, consultant for the Diocese of Sacramento

Meetings Scheduled

2nd Fridays of the month except January, July & August - \$12 for Members / \$15 for Non-Members.
Reservations (434-2722) Deadline is Thursday Noon of Breakfast Week.

Reservations – Several Options!

Deadline is Thursday Noon of Breakfast Week

Phone – 434-2722

E-mail: correiadenise@yahoo.com

Reservations Online – www.cpbcfresno.org

Click on « Reservations » / Can pay with PayPal

Mail Reservations with Payments to: CP&BC

P.O. Box 9454 Fresno, CA 93792

Please note that CP&BC also requests that Pre-Paid Members call each month to confirm their attendance.



Catholic Professional & Business Club

Post Office Box 9454 - Fresno, California, 93792-9454

Diocese of Fresno

Membership Renewal / Application 2010 / 2011

The Catholic Professional & Business Club of Fresno is a membership based organization that traditionally meets on the second Friday of each month excluding January, July & August. Annual membership dues include a monthly newsletter subscription and listing in the Club's Membership Directory of fellow professionals.

CP&BC strives to obtain outstanding speakers in their professional field with a message to encourage and motivate members to live an ethical and exemplary Catholic lifestyle in their business and in their environment.

Renewal (Name only unless there are corrections to last year's information)

New Member

NAME: _____ PARISH: _____

OCCUPATION: _____ COMPANY: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE (Work): _____ (Home): _____ (Cell): _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ I PREFER PAPERLESS CORRESPONDENCE BY EMAIL

- Enclosed is my check for the \$45 annual membership payable to Fresno CPBC ; or
- Enclosed is my Business Card for Advertising in the Annual Directory with my check for \$50
- Enclosed is my check for (9) Pre-paid Breakfasts (save \$2/breakfast) for \$90
- I will pay online using my credit card with Paypal @ www.cpbcfresno.org
- My Company may advertise in the Annual CPBC Directory. Contact: _____
- Please do not publish my Personal Information in the Directory.

**Please Mail this form & your check to: Fresno CP&BC
P.O. Box 9454, Fresno, CA 93792**

For additional information: you may e-mail: membership@cpbcfresno.org
or call Jeff Lauritzen @ 559.288.7280 or visit us online @ www.cpbcfresno.org

"FAITH - ETHICS - AND BUSINESS - NEED NOT BE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE"