



# CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

*Catholic Professional & Business Club  
Diocese of Fresno*

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December 2012

## The Morning After November Speaker Fr. Cedric Pisegna



*God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
The courage to change the things I can,  
And the wisdom to know the difference.*

Prayer can be a very powerful tool. For Fr. Cedric Pisegna, helping people to pray is one of his great passions. The focus of his message to the CP&BC meeting this past month was the power of prayer.

He shared with the group a story about a lady who would openly pray to God for groceries to feed her family. Her neighbor, not being a believer himself, would shout "it's not going to work." The next morning, the woman awoke to find groceries on her porch. As she was thanking God for the gift, her neighbor once again spoke up, proclaiming that it was he, not God, who put the groceries on her porch. Following

the revelation, the woman began to pray, "thank you God for the groceries and having the Devil pay for them."

The story highlighted that prayer than can take all forms and can be answered in many ways. For Fr. Cedric, he loves to pray on airplanes, especially during take-off (don't we all). Fr. Cedric loves to sit in the window seats on airplanes, and it was during one of these flights while he was enjoying the beauty of flying over New York that he began to pray that he could one day preach in New York. Not long after that, his television program began airing on Catholic television stations in New York and Long Island. That was followed up by invitations to speak. Now, New York provides him with lots of benefactors and the station in Brooklyn airs his show two times a day, in prime time.

(A self-confessed Red Sox fan, Fr. Cedric joked that speaking in New York was like preaching in "enemy territory.")

Among the many messages delivered by Fr. Cedric, none were more important than the roll that prayer plays in our lives. Prayer gives us the strength to deal with the hardships and trials of life. The trials of life are God's way of changing us. No one is exempt from these trials, not even God himself. As we pray during these trials, we get stronger and gain trust as we go through the trials. Prayer is all about trust, about including God. Prayer is not about removing things or obstacles. It's the strength to deal with the trials and to grow.

"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope that I have that desire in all I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore, I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

-Thomas Merton



**KNXT Special Presentation**

A special interview with Fr. Cedric Pisegna will be featured on KNXT Ch. 49/38:

**Thursday Dec. 6 @ 8:30 PM**

**Friday Dec. 7 @ 8:00 PM**

## December 14th Meeting - Christmas Party

Join the CP&BC on December 14th as we hold our annual Christmas Party. This year's party will focus on networking, providing everyone with ample time to meet and socialize with fellow Catholic Professionals.

We'll have Christmas music to set the mood as well as gifts and prizes to be given away throughout the morning.



The CP&BC will also be collecting new, unwrapped, gifts for children ages 0-12. The gifts will be distributed by Catholic Charities to local children in need this holiday season. Please remember that toys without batteries are preferred. Cash and check donations will also be accepted.

### Business Person of the Month Michael O'Hare *Safe 2 School, Inc.*



No, November's Business Person of the Month was not Santa Claus (he was booked). The honor this month goes to Michael O'Hare, Executive Director of Safe 2 School, Inc.

The mission of Safe 2 School is to provide adult crossing guards before and after school to locations throughout the Fresno area. He currently oversees 50 volunteers at 33 school sites in the Fresno community.

Prior to Safe 2 School, Michael spent six years with HandsOn Central California, supervising more than 1,200 senior volunteers in over 100 different locations.

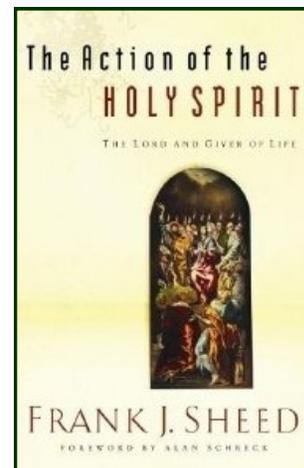
*Want to be our next Business Person of the Month? Simply drop your business card in the fishbowl at the check-in table at the next breakfast meeting.*

## Book Review by John Kasaian

### The Action of The Holy Spirit

By Frank J. Sheed

Of the three persons of the Trinity, The Holy Spirit (or Holy Ghost) is considered by many to be the least understood. The Father, Creator of all things, The Son, both the Redeemer and Savior of souls are well represented in philosophy, art and music but the Holy Spirit is for most of us something of an enigma. We know that the Holy Spirit is important, just as the Transfiguration is important, but what exactly is it?



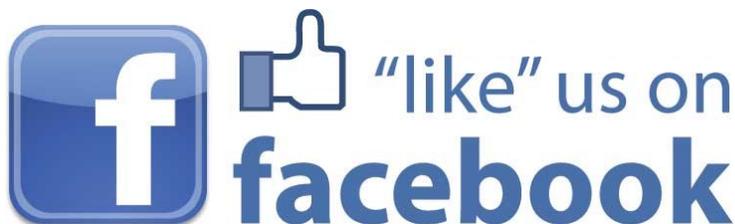
Fortunately we have one of the most esteemed and readable apologists, Frank Sheed, to help us fathom the tremendous gift of the Holy Spirit in this terrific little volume.

There are two parts in this book:

- 1) *Who Is The Spirit?* Which gives us a look at the role of the Holy Spirit along with the Father and the Son, and,
- 2) *The Spirit in Action*, which presents the Holy Spirit as it functions in the world in which we live.

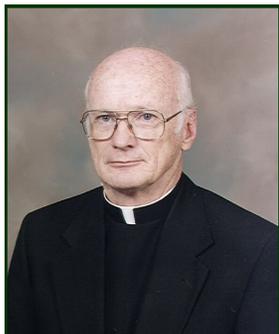
What I found interesting is the vision of the Holy Spirit as a gift. While it is somewhat easy to comprehend the dawning of each new day and the conception of new life as a gift from God the Father, and the salvific Christ and Eucharist as a gift from the Son, the daily presence of the Holy Spirit is something as necessary to us as air to breathe and water to drink and totally unseen with the secular lenses through which we see our world. This is an important little book--- easily read and just as easily understood.

You can pick up a copy at The Holy Child Bookstore on the northwest corner of Bullard and Palm in Fresno.



## Pastor Profile: Fr. Joseph Heffernan By Don Cardell

We are so blessed to have retired clergy that assist our parishes in their Mass schedules. One of these priests is Fr. Joseph Heffernan that you have most likely seen at Holy Spirit or the Shrine of St. Therese celebrating Mass. He has the ability to take the reading for the day's Mass and with his quick wit make it come to life in these current times.



Born in Chicago Illinois, he is one of five children. He spent the next 22 years in Catholic Education, including two years in philosophy and four years in theology at St. John's Camarillo.

He was baptized in 1938 at St. Ann's in Chicago and First Communion was at St. Martin, also in Chicago. He was confirmed at St. Lawrence in Lawrenceburg, Indiana. He was ordained May 1, 1965 at the Shrine of St. Therese by the Most Rev. Aloysius J. Willinger, C.Ss.R., the last Bishop of the Diocese of Monterey- Fresno. His assignments included St. Aloysius in Tulare as Associate (1965-68); St. Ann in Porterville as Assistant (1968-70); he was in Rome (1970-71); St. Francis of Assisi, Bakersfield, as Assistant (1971-75); St. Mary's in Taft as Pastor (1975-77); St. Ann in Ridgecrest as Pastor (1977-79); and St. Joseph's in Los Banos as Pastor (1980-97). It was in Los Banos that under his leadership the new church was built and dedicated on December 15, 1993. He pastored St. Francis in Bakersfield from 1997 to 1999 and served as Pastor at the Holy Rosary in Hilmar from 1999 up until his retirement in 2001.

With his willingness to serve he could not retire completely, so in March of 2001, Fr. Started assisting for the next five years with weekend Masses at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Bakersfield. In 2006, Fr. started assisting at Holy Spirit, The Shrine of St. Therese and at St. Paul Newman Center. He is still currently involved in all three parishes.

We are truly blessed to have Fr. Heffernan here in Fresno assisting with our Masses. If you have not been to one of his Masses and would like to, he says Mass, Monday morning at the Shrine of St. Therese and is on the Mass schedule at Holy Spirit.

## Prayer to Obtain Favors

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold.  
In that hour grant, O my God!  
To hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother.  
Amen.



*Imprimatur*  
Michael Augustine  
Archbishop of New York

## Thanks to our Sponsors

The CP&BC thanks our sponsors for the year:

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If you are interested in sponsoring the newsletter, please contact Nick Strait at [directory@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:directory@cpbcfresno.org)



**CP&BC Membership Renewals Due:** It's time to renew your CPP&BC membership. Annual dues are \$45.00 per person. A membership form is available on our website. For more information call Jeff Lauritzen at 559.288.7280.

**Reservations:** Reservations are required for all breakfast meetings, held at Pardini's, and can be made by calling Denise Correia at 559.434.2722 or by visiting [www.cpbcfresno.org](http://www.cpbcfresno.org). Doors open at 7 a.m. for coffee and networking. The program concludes at 8:30 a.m. New for the 2012-13 year, the cost for each breakfast is \$15 for members and \$20 for guests .

**Membership Directory:** Interested in advertising in next year's directory? Ad space starts at only \$50. Contact Nick Strait at 559.304.8905 or [directory@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:directory@cpbcfresno.org) for more information. The deadline to reserve your space is December 21.

**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.

**Website:** Please be sure to visit [www.cpbcfresno.org](http://www.cpbcfresno.org) for all the latest information about the club. CP&BC thanks Rod Silver and ARTCO for the design and maintenance of the website.

*CP&BC will be collecting new unwrapped toys on Dec. 14 for*



Catholic  
Charities

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