



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997

CP&BC Board

2013-2016

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April 8th Speaker – Jay Fagnano

Profiled by Tom Lang

Our April 8, 2016 speaker is Jay Fagnano. On July 27th, 2014, Jay and his wife Mary lost their only child, Nick, to a freak lightning strike at Venice Beach, California. Nick was an extraordinary young man and was only a few weeks away from starting as a transfer student to his dream college, USC. Nick was a young man of deep faith and conviction, and he touched many lives in his short time on earth.



As Jay likes to say, “We could have gone home and closed the door.” However, Mary and Jay chose to move forward with their lives and honor their son by forming the Thrive in Joy Nick Fagnano Foundation. The foundation’s mission statement is “Encouraging and rewarding character through education and recreation” and is focused on working with children both home and abroad. Jay and Mary will soon be making their sixth trip to the Dominican Republic, where they work with a school in the most depressed neighborhood in Santo Domingo as well as an orphanage that currently takes care of over 40 children, 17 of whom are HIV Positive.

This is more than a story of a child’s loss and the charity work that comes from it. Jay will also speak about his own faith journey as he learned so much and continues to learn so much from Nick since he’s gone to be with his Heavenly Father. Jay and Mary live in Los Angeles and invite you to join them on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic. They guarantee it’s a trip you’ll never forget.

What’s Inside?

- Did you miss last month’s speaker?
- Book Review
- Business Person of the Month
- April Prayer
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- And More

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Speaker Recap

Mike Koelzer

By Pauline Smoke



Mike and his son, Lance.

During his first five years as a pharmacist, Mike Koelzer never questioned the ethics of selling birth control pills at the pharmacy he co-owned with his father. Then a cousin told him that birth control pills can cause abortions. A review of the “mechanism of action” information included in a package of oral contraceptives confirmed that the pills could “prevent implantation” of fertilized eggs—they were abortifacients.

Koelzer is a cradle Catholic who spent a year in the seminary before discerning his vocation as a husband, father, and pharmacist. He immediately recognized the moral dilemma posed by contraceptives, but thoroughly researched both scientific sources and Church teachings before confronting his father/mentor about the issue. To Mike’s grave disappointment, while claiming that he lacked the “time, energy, and desire” to debate with his son, the elder Koelzer produced a 100-point list of disagreements.

After temporarily succumbing to the temptation not to defy his dad, Mike eventually realized that it was wrong to use the “evil” of selling contraceptives to bring about the “good” of a stable, prosperous life. As Rich Mullins’ song “Hard to Get” says, “I can’t see how You’re leading me unless You’ve led me here, Where I’m lost enough to let myself be led.”

In February 2002—after an advance warning to customers—the Kay Pharmacy became one of only four drug stores in the US refusing to carry “The Pill.” Despite losing some customers, it remains a profitable business. You can follow Mike’s continued efforts at www.ProLifePharmacy.com

Prayer Research & Submission By Mary Borges



“Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy.”

I fly to Your Mercy, Compassionate God, Who alone are good. Although my misery is great and my offenses are many, I trust in Your Mercy because You are the God of Mercy, and it has never been heard of in all ages, nor do Heaven or Earth remember, that a soul trusting in Your Mercy has been disappointed.

(State your intentions)

Jesus, Friend of a lonely heart, You are my haven.
You are my peace.
You are my salvation.
You are my serenity in moments of struggle and amidst an ocean of doubts.

Amen

Divine Mercy Sunday is celebrated on the Octave after Easter Sunday. Search online for the nine-day Novena prayers to say during this Holy Year of Mercy.

**HELP
WANTED**

columinist

Pauline Smoke, who writes our Speaker Recap column each month is moving out of the area, and we are looking for a replacement. The purpose of her column is to capture the essence of the speaker’s presentation as a further reflection to those who attended and to provide insight to those who did not attend. If you would like to write the column and receive your own byline, please contact newsletter editor, Karen Bosch Cobb at 559-217-1896. The position is available immediately.

Upcoming Events

Breakfast Meetings

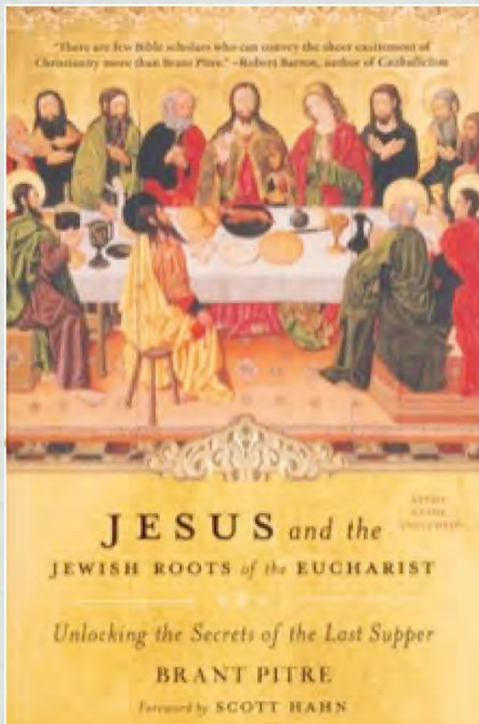
- May 13
- June 10
- No meetings in June & July

Interested in sponsoring the newsletter?

Contact Denise Correia
vavi@cns4u.com

Book Review by John Kasaian

Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist
By Brant Pitre
Doubleday,
New York 2011
228 pages hardbound,
\$21.99



Catholics see the pre-figuring of the New Testament in the Old Testament, and coming to grips with the prose and imagery has kept Theologians in line for centuries. Dr. Pitre investigates The Last Supper, and the Eucharist through the eyes of a first century Jew and takes his readers on an unforgettable voyage through the Bible. This isn't quite like Rabbi Misener's contribution to Pope Benedict's first volume of Jesus of Nazareth, which explained the Jewish sensibilities at the time of Christ, but rather an exploration into the ties between the Old Testament prophecies and the graphic New Testament imagery surrounding the Eucharist. Dr. Pitre has an engaging style of writing, which is a delight to read. He takes the time to explain the meanings behind the Ancient Greek and Hebrew words and the thoughts of the Church Fathers as well as in light of such resources as The Dead Sea Scrolls, The Works of Josephus (a 1st century Jewish Historian), The Mishnah (a collection of rabbinic oral Histories from 50 BC to 200 AD), The Targums (ancient Jewish translations of the Bible from Hebrew to Aramaic circa 587BC), The Babylonian Talmud, and The Midrashim (ancient Jewish Biblical Commentaries). It changed the way I thought about the Eucharist, the Passover, and the Last Supper by presenting the subject with far more vibrancy and imagery.

You can get your own copy at Cotter's Religious Goods in Fresno.



Business Person of the Month Liza Apper



Liza Apper is a Catholic Worker and Pastoral Counselor. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Theology summa cum laude from Creighton University and a Master's in Pastoral Studies from Loyola University New Orleans.

Liza began her Catholic Worker vocation in the summer of 1970, volunteering with the newly founded Los Angeles Catholic Worker. On July 27, 1997 Liza and her husband, Bryan, founded the St. Benedict Catholic Worker (SBCW) in Fresno. For almost 20 years, the SBCW has served those in need with a soup line on the porch of Fresno County Jail; an emergency food pantry; weekly food distributions; facilitation of a "Grief Education and Support Group;" and, pastoral counseling.

Bishop John Steinbock, a friend and supporter of the St. Benedict Catholic Worker, wrote words of encouragement for what he called the "ministry of presence" of the SBCW, saying, "Blessings to you and Bryan and thank you for all you do for God's most beloved."

Our Business Person of the Month is a member of the Catholic Worker Movement, founded by Dorothy Day. She is a "Servant of God," the first step in formally recognizing her as a saint. Dorothy said "The biggest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution that has to start with each one of us." To learn more about Dorothy Day and the Movement visit www.catholicworker.org. To volunteer your time or to participate in the Fresno community contact St. Benedict Catholic Worker www.sbcw.org.



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**CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL
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DIOCESE OF FRESNO**

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CP&BC Membership Dues: Annual dues are \$45 per person. A membership application form is available on our website at www.cpbcfresno.org. The deadline is December 31, 2016 to be included in the directory. For more information contact John Kanaley at [315-243-6597](tel:315-243-6597).

Reservations: Reservations are required for all breakfast meetings, held at Pardini's, and can be made by calling Denise Correia at [559.434.2722](tel:559.434.2722) or by visiting www.cpbcfresno.org then click on the reservation link. Doors open at 7 a.m. for coffee and networking. The program starts at 7:20 a.m. and concludes at 8:30 a.m. The cost for each breakfast is \$15 for members and \$20 for guests.

Membership Directory: Ad space starts at \$50. Contact Al Aguila at directory@cpbcfresno.org for more information. December 15, 2016 is the deadline to reserve ad space. December 31, 2016 is the deadline for ad artwork. It is too late for the 2016 directory, but it is not too early to think about the 2017 directory.

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 or [559.439.8378](tel:559.439.8378)) to become part of the network or to submit a prayer request.

Website: Please be sure to visit www.cpbcfresno.org for all the latest information about our club. CP&BC thanks J. Colin Petersen of J - I.T. Outsource for the design and maintenance of the website.

Mission Statement:

As Catholic professional and business men and women, we are called to live our Christian ethics not only on Sundays, but throughout our daily lives at home and at work.

Our goal in the Catholic Professional & Business Club shall be to incorporate and uphold our beliefs in every aspect of our daily lives, and to gather to share with others who seek a more ethical business environment.

Each of us shall strive to achieve a commingling of our ethical obligations and our professional obligations in demonstration of the fact that ethics and business need not be mutually exclusive terms.

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