



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997

CP&BC Board

2013-2016

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September 9 – Gary Zimak

Profiled by Tom Lang

As we begin our new fall line-up of exciting Catholic speakers, CP&BC's kick-off is the dynamic Gary Zimak flying in all the way from New Jersey for our Friday, September 9th breakfast! In 2008, Gary was working as a project manager when he felt the call to form Following The Truth, an apostolate dedicated to teaching the truths of the Catholic Faith. Initially performing his work for the Lord on a part time basis, a job layoff in 2012 gave him the opportunity to make a bold move. After much prayer, Gary decided to "step out of the boat" and become a FULL TIME Catholic lay evangelist.



Gary is now a frequent speaker and retreat leader at parishes and conferences, has an international radio following, and is recognized as the leading Catholic speaker on the topic of overcoming anxiety. Gary has appeared on several EWTN television programs including Women Of Grace, At Home With Jim And Joy, Bookmark, and The Journey Home.

Gary is the host of The Gary Zimak Show on BlogTalkRadio and a regular guest on Catholic Answers Live, EWTN's The Son Rise Morning Show, Catholic Connection, and numerous other radio programs.

His talk is entitled From Fear To Faith. Are you tired of worrying? After struggling to overcome anxiety for many years, Gary has learned that Jesus Christ is the ultimate answer to winning the battle. In this talk, based on his best-selling books, A Worrier's Guide To The Bible and From Fear To Faith, Gary will share his step-by-step approach for moving from anxiety to peace!

What's Inside?

- Did you miss last month's speaker?
- Book Review
- Business Person of the Month

- September Prayer
- Upcoming Events
- And More

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Speaker Recap

John Abbate

By Norma Williams



For much of his adult life, John Abbate lived by the economic principle of limited resources (scarcity), that there is never enough for all wants. His competitive mantra became “Be the first!” Many fear not getting their money’s worth of the world’s material rewards. This slippery slope can cause irrationality and panic. The focus becomes winning, not living. There is always a cost for such frenzy; for men especially, it is often family and relationships.

A turning point for John was his 2005 visit to Medjugorje where in solitude and prayer he contemplated Jesus’ question “Who do you say that I am?” If we get this question wrong, John insists, it is impossible to confront the purpose of life. As St. Augustine asked, “Are you a citizen of the city of God or of man?”

John discussed how God invites participation in His divine life through self-gift to achieve our highest human purpose, to live a legacy that matters, what he refers to as Christian anthropology. We yearn for freedom, but for what? We often confuse pleasure for happiness.

Christianity has been a missionary church from the beginning, and we must speak the faith in the public square. Pope Francis often emphasizes the gospel message “Be not afraid!”

With a bachelor’s in economics from University of San Diego, MBA in business/finance from Notre Dame, and a masters in Catholic theology from Augustine Institute, John is a real estate developer and franchisee of 23 Central Valley McDonald’s restaurants.



Prayer Research & Submission

By Mary Borges



St. Pio of Pietrelcina
Feast Day is September 23
Patron of All Who Suffer



Prayer to Saint Pio for the Sick

Dear Saint Pio, thank you for offering up your suffering for others. Please pray for all who are sick, especially my family or friends. May God bless and heal them. Amen.

Saint Pio, pray for us.



A Prayer of Saint Pio

Pray, Pray to the Lord with me, because the whole world needs prayer. And every day, when your heart especially feels the loneliness of life, pray. Pray to the Lord, because even God needs our prayers.



St. Dominic

August 8 was the Feast day of St. Dominic and this is significant because this year is the 800th anniversary of the founding of the Dominican Order. He spent one mission preaching in southern France in the Land of Languedoc, the country of Cathars where the Cathar heresy was spreading. The Cathars lived very austere lives. Dominic matched their simplicity of life and austerity, but he preached a different, truer interpretation of the gospel, that all of God’s creation is sacred and holy. This theme is a major thread that runs through Dominican spirituality and preaching even to this day. This insight concerning the goodness of creation and its power to reveal God’s self, continued to influence Dominic’s followers. While reflecting on the revelatory power of creation, Meister Eckhart, a 13th century Dominican author and mystic, said “Every creature is a word of God,” and, “If we could have known God without the created world, God would never have created the universe.”



Upcoming Events

Breakfast Meetings

- October 14
- November 11
- December 9

Interested in sponsoring the newsletter?

Contact Denise Correia
vavi@cns4u.com

Parish Profile -- Father Robert Borges

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Fr. Robert Borges is the youngest of two boys and two girls in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Richard (& Mary) Borges of Tulare. He's not related to CP&BC founding father, Frank Borges.



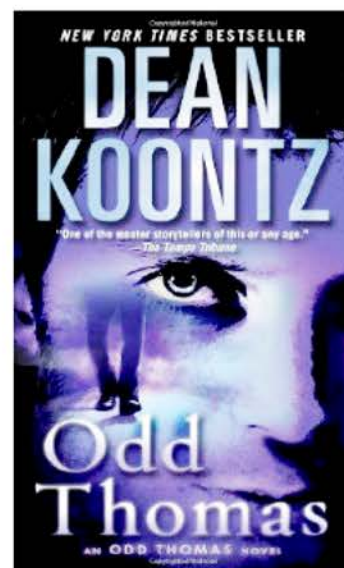
He studied at UC Davis and went on to graduate school at North Carolina State, later teaching agricultural economics at Kansas State University. It was there he found his vocation to be a priest, so he attended seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. He was ordained a priest in this diocese at St. Anthony of Padua, May 22, 2004. He served as a deacon during the summer of 2003 at St. Joseph Church in Los Banos. He became associate pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Clovis in June 2004, was appointed administrator in January 2007, and then pastor in October 2007.

Besides running the parish community, he also supports the parish elementary school and St. Martha's Pantry. He oversaw the completion of the building on site, where food is provided to those in need on Monday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon and on Thursday from 4 to 9 p.m. He also started Dead Theologians Society, a group for college students to study the saints and share fellowship. Fr. Robert is a member of the San Joaquin Memorial High School Board of Directors and the Diocese of Fresno Liturgical Commission, and was recently elected Dean of the Fresno Metro Deanery.

Fr. Robert's hobbies include scuba diving, skiing, jogging, movies and being a spiritual director on pilgrimages. He attended World Youth Day in Cologne and Sydney and led a group to the Holy Land. He collects relics from throughout the world and shares them with the parish and pilgrims. Fr. Robert enjoys macramé rosaries, many times making them while walking his dog or on a trip. We appreciate his support of the Catholic Professional and Business Club.

Book Review

Odd Thomas
by Dean Koontz
2003 Bantam Books, New York
463 pages, paperbound
\$9.99



One of my rare summertime reading indulgences into the genre of pulp fiction is to visit the Odd Thomas series written by Dean Koontz.

Unfortunately I started the series out of sequence but the series is so well written that the character background is very easy to follow, much like C.S. Lewis' Narnia series. Odd Thomas, a 20 year old, was abused as a child, and is working as a fry cook in a Southern California desert town. He has a girlfriend, also abused by her foster parents, and Odd sees dead people, in fact Elvis Presley is a friend of his. He also sees "bodachs," sinister shadow figures who show up before calamities where great loss of life occurs.

Besides his girlfriend and Elvis Presley, Odd has few other friends — one is the Sheriff who is sympathetic to Odd's ability to see the dead who seek out Odd to bring their murderers to justice, so they themselves can move on to whatever unearthly destination they are headed.

These stories are uniquely Catholic rather than the hackneyed paranormal shtick they would appear to be from the background description I just gave you. Reading the first in the series, Odd Thomas helped me to better understand the dynamic relationships between Odd and his girlfriend Stormy, and that understanding improved the overall experience of the other novels. Odd Thomas is the foundation on which the series is built, and it is a fascinating foundation to explore.

I suggest taking a copy on your next foray to the swimming pool or beach. Cotter Religious Goods can probably get you a copy.

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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 Lourdes Sanchez at 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 breakfast cost is \$17 for members and \$22 for non-members. An annual discounted cost of \$120 is available to members that prepay for the year; this is a savings of \$33. Reservations are still required for prepays.

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. More directory advertising information is available at www.cpbcfresno.org. December 31, 2016 is the deadline for ad artwork.

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.

Misson 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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