



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997

CP&BC Board

2015-2017

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October 14 – Kenneth Cramer

Profiled by Tom Lang

The Latin phrase Ad Astra Per Aspera (to the stars through adversity) perfectly explains Kenneth Cramer's dedication to helping Catholics work through life's struggles and transitions in order to discover God's abiding presence and unfathomable love. Abused as a child, Kenn sank into drug addiction and a life of sin, ultimately facing a life-or-death decision. Following a profound experience of God's grace, he worked his way out of despondency and discovered the truth that he is deeply loved by our Father in heaven. In 2015, he and his wife Laura answered a call to serve as missionaries on the Ft.



Belknap Indian Reservation in north central Montana, where he continues to help others become aware of that same Love in their lives.

Kenn holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Northern Colorado. Two years after college, Kenn discerned a call to the priesthood and spent one year at St. John Vianney Seminary in Denver, CO. After his time at seminary, he completed a master's degree in counseling psychology from Regis Jesuit University and founded a Catholic psychotherapy practice called St. Raphael Counseling, which he led for seven years. He is currently working on his second master's degree in theology through the Augustine Institute. He is also in diaconate formation for the Diocese of Great Falls-Billings, with an expected ordination in 2018.

Kenn has been speaking publicly since 2006, beginning in parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Denver. Most notably, he was featured on the EWTN program "The Journey Home" and in the video series "One Billion Stories."

What's Inside?

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

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Speaker Recap

Gary Zimak

By Norma Williams

“Anxiety can be a blessing – when it brings us closer to the Lord,” stated Gary Zimak in his talk From Fear to Faith.

A self-acknowledged hypochondriac, who suffered many panic attacks beginning in his 20s, Gary is a leading Catholic speaker on overcoming anxiety.

A cradle but longtime “lukewarm” Catholic, in 2008 he founded the apostolate Following the Truth. After a job layoff in 2012, following 30 years as a computer programmer/project manager, he made the bold move to become a full time lay evangelist. Just because we receive Him in Holy Communion doesn’t mean we really know Jesus, Gary says.

The author of five books including A Worrier’s Guide to the Bible, he often conducts parish missions and retreats, has been a guest on numerous TV programs, and hosts the Gary Zimak show on BlogTalkRadio.

Gary outlines a five step plan for moving from anxiety to peace:
 Prepare – do what you can to alleviate fear and anxiety
 Present – if we live too much in the past or future, we miss today
 Pray – talk to God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit
 Participate – take advantage of what the Church has to offer
 Prize – focus on heaven that awaits us

Gary cites scripture and saints who have spoken on fear and anxiety including Saints Paul, Faustina, Teresa of Calcutta, and Francis de Sales.

Don’t be afraid to be afraid, Gary asserts; what matters is how we respond. And never hesitate to ask for help.

Website: FollowingTheTruth.com



L to R: Board members with speaker Gary Zimak, Marianne Collins King, Gary Zimak, President Jeff Lauritzen, RosaMaria Henry

Prayer Research & Submission By Mary Borges



**St. Thérèse of Lisieux,
Patroness of the Diocese of
Fresno
Feast Day is October 1**



St. Thérèse is most commonly represented with roses and a crucifix in her arms; this photo of her reminds us she is a modern day saint. She is the patron saint for the missions and of florists.



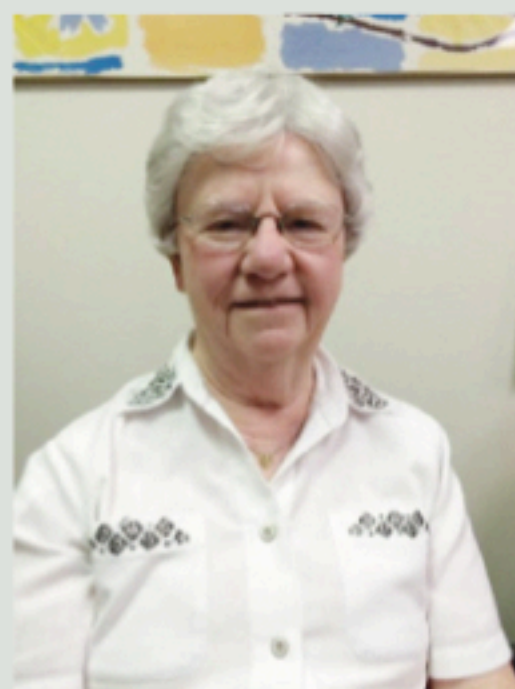
O Little Therese of the Child Jesus,
please pick for me a rose
from the heavenly gardens and
send it to me as a message of love.

O Little Flower of Jesus, ask God to grant the favors
I now place with confidence in your hands.
(mention in silence here)

St. Therese, help me to always believe as you did in
God’s great love for me, so that I might imitate your
“Little Way” each day.

Business Person of the Month: Sister Mary Clennon, CSC

Sister Mary Clennon, CSC, a Sister of the Holy Cross, is an Illinois native, the third child in a family of six — three of whom are religious. As a nurse she served in Indiana and California before responding to a Congregational request for sister-nurses to join Catholic Relief Services during the influx of Cambodian refugees into Thailand. The three-month commitment turned into 16 years in various emergency situations including Lebanon, Ethiopia, El Salvador, and the Philippines. After serving in the Eurasia Region in the New York office of CRS for 6 years, she joined the Catholic Near East Welfare Association and later resumed her nursing career in home health on the lower East Side of Manhattan. That role terminated with a call to be the Director of Nursing at a diocesan long-term care facility in Marrero, LA. Her present role at the Holy Cross Clinic and Holy Cross Center for Women where low-income families and homeless individuals are in need of assistance is one of her favorites.



Upcoming Events

Breakfast Meetings

- November 11
- December 9
- January No meeting

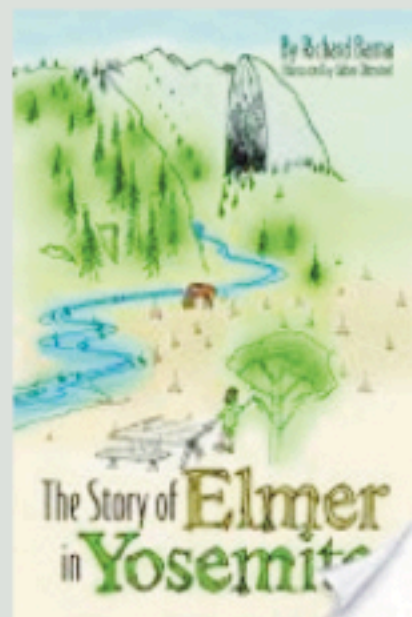
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vavi@cns4u.com

Book Review

By John Kasaian

The Story of Elmer in Yosemite
by Richard Barna, illustrated by
Alden Olmstead
Published by Lulu.com
2015, 24 pages paper bound



Before air conditioning, there were swamp coolers, which don't work very well above 100 degrees in a Fresno August. In 1926, my Grandfather bought a Buick so he could take his family to Camp 16 on the banks of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley. He commuted from Fresno so his family could enjoy the coolness of the mountains. Elderly family members and children camped with Grandmother, with several families from Fresno occupying adjoining campsites. I spent 2-3 weeks every summer in Yosemite Valley until JFK was assassinated, which was the same year we moved into a house with air conditioning.

So what does this have to do with a children's book? It was a big deal, no, a duty, to stand on the banks of the Merced River after sundown, but before the famous "fire fall" and yell "ELMER."

Now, the story I heard was that Elmer was a summer resident who tended to guests in need, especially those needing medical help, and whose memory is revered to this very day by calling "ELMER."

I also heard that rangers gave the name Elmer to a popular garbage-scavenging bear that visited the campgrounds at night, and that campers shouted "ELMER" to scare the creature out of their campsites.

That's not the Elmer in this book however. The Elmer in the book is a boy who became lost after following a deer just before nightfall. His worried family started calling his name and other campers, wanting to help, did the same until Elmer finally heard them and found his way back to his family in the darkness. The love shown by the worried parents and the lost boy Elmer is poignant.

If you have a youngster to read to, this is a great little book, and if your child or grandchild has ever been to Yosemite and looked with big eyes at the waterfalls, towering cliffs, and the wildlife along the Merced River, then so much the better, especially this year during the 100th Anniversary of our National Park System.

And if on your next visit to see God's beauty at dusk, you have the urge to call out "ELLLLLMMMMMMMMERRRRR!" blame it on the book!

Register to vote or you have no choice

The final Election Day is Tuesday, November 8. If eligible, we, as the faithful community of believers in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Fresno, MUST vote. I underscore MUST although it is certainly one's "right" to choose not to vote. But this "right" does not necessarily make it right. Voting is a privilege graciously bestowed on us by God.

According to the California Secretary of State's website "Report of Registration by County as of January 5, 2016" most counties in our diocese are among those in California having the lowest percentage of voter registrations. Five counties in the lowest quadrant of "Registered to Vote Percentage" are in our diocese with Tulare (58th) and Merced (57th) counties being the bottom two. Upon further research and taking into account the voter registration rates (number registered vs. number eligible) in each of our eight diocesan counties, here are those percentages:

Voter Registration Rates by County:

- 51.63% TULARE Ranked #58 of 58 Counties
- 55.89% MERCED Ranked #57 of 58
- 60.18% KINGS Ranked #52 of 58
- 60.56% MADERA Ranked #51 of 58
- 65.41% KERN Ranked #44 of 58
- 68.29% INYO Ranked #37 of 58
- 69.24% MARIPOSA Ranked #31 of 58
- 72.43% FRESNO Ranked #16 of 58

There will be state propositions (initiatives) on the ballot that may have the support and recommendations of our California Catholic bishops. We are, as faithful Catholics, called to "faithful citizenship" nationwide by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and statewide by the California Catholic Conference of Bishops. For Catholic information on "FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP" please see "Issues and Action" at www.usccb.org and "TEACHING" at www.cacatholic.org. Also view the Diocese of Fresno website at www.dioceseoffresno.org.

Vote, and the choice is yours. Don't vote, and the choice is someone else's.

The above excerpt is from an article published on the Diocese of Fresno website and was written by Paul Mentlewski, paul@dioceseoffresno.org.

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DIOCESE OF FRESNO**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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 prepaids.

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.

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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