



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997 Co-Founders Frank and Mary Borges

CP&BC Board

2017-2019

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February 8 — Jim Cruise

Profiled by Tom Lang

Our Friday, February 8th, breakfast speaker is Jim Cruise—the Spoon Man!

Jim is flying in to Fresno from Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is married with five kids and a mortgage and has been supporting his family for 20 years by playing the spoons. If that is not a testimony to Jesus Christ, then he doesn't know what is.

Jim is a renowned Catholic Evangelist, comedian, keynote speaker, and author. He is a graduate of Aquinas College in Grand Rapids.

Jim's burning desire is to share his Catholic faith with adults, teens, and families around the country. Every performance contains audience participation, music, comedy, and a spoonful of Catholic doctrine.

He has a totally clean act—he never uses dirty silverware.

His performances have brought him all over the country, and his corporate clients have included GM, Ford, Chrysler, IBM, Steelcase, and Herman Miller. He has also performed for former U.S. President Gerald R. Ford and Mikhail Gorbachev.

You will not want to miss this seasoned performer and man of spirit and faith who really connects with his audiences. Learn how it doesn't matter how strange or unusual your gift or talent may be—it can make a difference in people's lives and bring glory to God!



Become Part of Our Prayer Network Today!

Prayers when you and your loved ones need them the most! It's amazing, simply join the CP&BC Prayer Network, call or email your requests, and our network will pray for you.

To join, contact [Sally salauritz@att.net](mailto:Sally.salauritz@att.net) or 559-439-8378

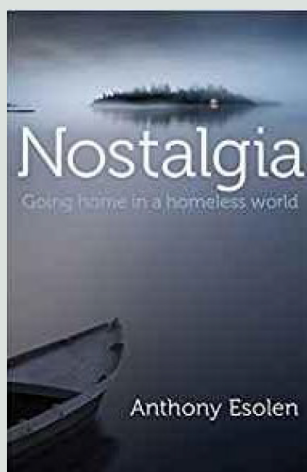
What's Inside?

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Book Review

By John Kasaian

Nostalgia: Going Home in a Homeless World
by Anthony Esolen
236 pages hardbound
Regenery Publishing,
Washington DC, 2018

There's a newly published (2018) thought provoking book which explores the subject of nostalgia from an intriguing philosophical perspective. With the bright, technology driven society we inhabit, why do we put such great importance on the past? Or rather avoid placing any importance on the past? This is the classic Battle Royal between Faith and Secularism compounded by the issue that for the most part, modern man tends to idealize a past that never existed in much the same way some churchgoers desire the "smells and bells" but reject the fasting and confessions.

Like Burger King, we want things our way. Esolen doesn't use Burger King as an example, but Edward Arlington Robinson's poem "Miniver Cheevy."

Esolen also draws on Odysseus, the works of Shakespeare, Dante, Waugh, O'Conner, Peguy, Pieper, Belloc, and numerous other heavy hitters to get his points across, and those points are rather sobering to contemplate. The value of this excellent scholarship is that the reader doesn't have to invest a great deal of time in order to gain a pithy education from these impressive thinkers. The book is fast-paced and interesting—like a really good pie it makes me want another slice before putting it away for the evening.

Esolen scrapes away the toxic sentimentality that burdens the human heart, revealing the pilgrim's longing for home.

Visit Cotter's Religious Goods to get your own copy.

The Formation of our Future Priests

Fr. Dan Avila – Director of Vocations

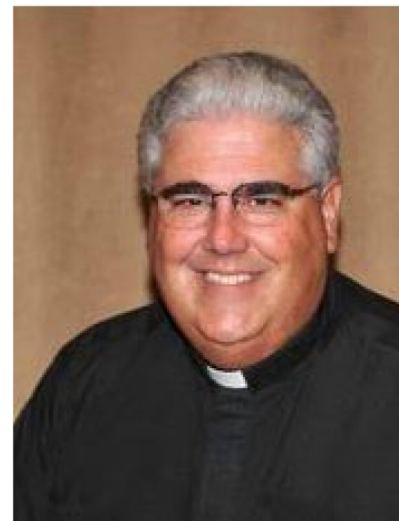
We asked Fr. Dan to write about vocations. This is the first of a two-part article.

This has been a very difficult few months for the Church; and by church I do not mean only the hierarchy but every level of the Body of Christ. The ongoing revelations of wrong-doing have given rise to skepticism, doubt, anger, and hurt among God's People. One question on people's minds is, "How could the Church allow such men to ever become priests?"

When we try to answer this question, we have to consider how priests are formed. What exactly goes on in seminaries? I would like to share with you the process that a man undergoes in being formed for the priesthood in today's seminary. I say "today's seminary" because the process of formation has been undergoing reform since the 1990s. It is important to remember that most of the cases of abuse we have been hearing about occurred prior to the 1980s. A lot has changed in how we prepare men to be priests.

Before entering the seminary, a candidate goes through a process of discerning over a period of time that can last a year or more. As part of this discernment the candidate must undergo a thorough screening which will include a medical exam; a complete psychological evaluation; a background check through the Department of Justice and the FBI; and participate fully in the Safe Environment training required of all clergy and employees of the Diocese.

Upon entering the seminary the seminarian will participate in a program of formation (between five to nine years) that focuses on four main dimensions of his life. We will look more closely at these dimensions in our March article.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer February Intention:

Young People and the Example of Mary

That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

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Speaker Recap Annual Christmas Party

By Norma Williams

The December Christmas breakfast again featured the choir from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School in Clovis. Approximately 30 students sang holiday and religious songs under the direction of Melita Mudri-Zubacz, a professional singer specializing in church music in which she has earned a master's degree. She and her husband, Rev. Dr. Greg Zubacz, are members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and both teach at Fresno Pacific University. A handout described the varied K-8 musical classes and choirs at OLPH and offered members an opportunity to help raise \$25,000 to support and improve those programs.



Melita Mudri-Zubacz, OLPH Choir Director, with the Our Lady of Perpetual Help students

Members placed donations of coats, gloves, and hats under the tree to benefit Holy Cross Center for Women.

Vice President Tom Lang distributed door prizes donated by various community businesses including Cuppa Joy, Habit Burger, In & Out Burger, Cold Stone Creamery, Yahoo's, Butterfish, Target, Starbucks, and Regal Cinemas. He was assisted by CP&BCs own "Santa" Michael O'Hare.

President John Gerardi recognized Pardini staff members and presented them with thank you gifts for their faithful service all year.

Bishop Ochoa was in attendance and wished everyone a blessed Christmas. He submitted his mandatory resignation effective April 2018; the Pope decides when he will accept it. Bishop will be attending an important meeting in Chicago in January, addressing abuse problems in the church.

Spiritual Director Father Craig Plunkett asked attendees to remember to focus on Jesus at Christmas, to reflect on the past year and the love and joy which only Christ can bring.



Prayer Research and Submission By Mary Borges



S Blandina Segale
Sister of Charity of Cincinnati, b Mary 23, 1850,
d February 23, 1941

O God, whose sweet name "Gesu" (Jesus) was the first word to roll off the innocent lips of your servant, Maria Rosa Segale, hear our prayer.

The word Jesus rolled off her lips for ninety-one years as she built schools, hospitals, and social institutions, welcoming all and introducing them to your love and hope.

She cared for the immigrant, the innocent children, and the guilty outlaw; always recognizing the dignity of the human being.

We beg you that Sr. Blandina Segale now be counted among the Saints of Holy Mother Church and that our hearts be open to always praise your name as your servant Maria Rosa Segale did unto her last breath.

May we do as she on her deathbed; whisper "Gesu," smile, and die in you.



Nick and Mark Ostdiek

Business Persons of the Month

Nick and Mark are brothers and business partners of J.D. Ostdiek Insurance Services, Inc. They were born and raised in Fresno, in a Catholic home in a family of eight children. They are alumni of St. Anthony of Padua and San Joaquin Memorial High School. Nick was the first to follow in his father's footsteps: after graduating from Fresno State with

a degree in Business Administration, he worked with John Hancock Financial Network for 13 years. Mark soon followed also joining John Hancock. Both earned accolades as Conference Qualifiers for outstanding sales achievement and national recognition in an industry benchmark publication.

Today, they operate J.D. Ostdiek Insurance, Inc., an insurance and financial service agency predicated upon establishing relationships with clients and the philosophy of treating others how they would want to be treated, aka—The Golden Rule. Between the two of them, they have over 35 years of experience in the industry

Like their father J.D. Ostdiek, both brothers' number one motivation in life is their relationship and faith in God. They also believe in giving back to their community by supporting non-profit organizations such as Transitions Children's Services, Padrinos Guild for Valley Children's Healthcare, the Greater Kiwanis of Madera, as well as their local parishes.

In their free time, each enjoys time with his family, and both brothers are passionate about golfing with friends. Nick also bakes a mean chocolate chip cookie.

Upcoming Events

- March 8—Breakfast Meeting
- April 12—Breakfast Meeting
- May 10—Breakfast Meeting

Interested in sponsoring
the newsletter?

Contact Denise Correia
vavi@cns4u.com



**CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL
& BUSINESS CLUB
DIOCESE OF FRESNO**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CP&BC Membership Dues: Annual dues are \$45 per person and are due June 30, 2019. The deadline was December 31, 2018 to be included in the upcoming directory. For more information contact John Kanaley at 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. December 15, 2018 was the deadline to reserve ad space. December 31, 2018 was the deadline for ad artwork. More directory advertising is available at www.cpbcfresno.org

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) 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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