



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997 Co-Founders Frank and Mary T. Borges

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2021-2022

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June 10 Tim Staples

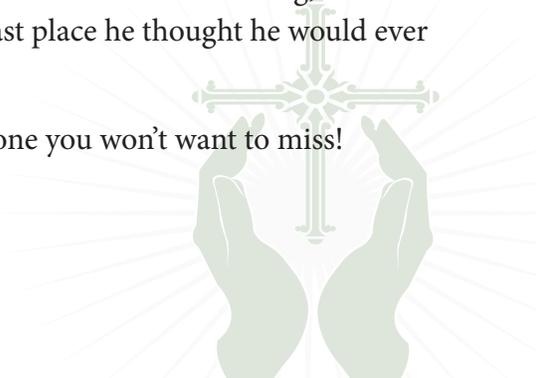
Tim Staples is Director of Apologetics and Evangelization at Catholic Answers, but he was not always Catholic. Tim was raised a Southern Baptist.



Although he fell away from the faith of his childhood, Tim came back to faith in Christ during his late teen years through the witness of Christian televangelists. Soon after, Tim joined the Marine Corps.

During his four-year tour, he became involved in ministry with various Assemblies of God communities. Immediately after his tour of duty, Tim enrolled in Jimmy Swaggart's Bible College and became a youth minister in an Assembly of God community. During his final year in the Marines, however, Tim met a Marine who really knew his faith and challenged Tim to study Catholicism from Catholic and historical sources. That encounter sparked a two-year search for the truth. Tim was determined to prove Catholicism wrong, but he ended up studying his way to the last place he thought he would ever end up: the Catholic Church!

This much sought-after speaker is one you won't want to miss!



What's Inside?

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Pope Francis and his Synod of the Whole Church

By Jim Flanagan

Editor's Note: This Year we have run a series of Quotations from the "Imitation of Christ." See September, October, November, December, and now June.

Now that Easter is past, Jim recommends that we return to Thomas a Kempis' "The Imitation of Christ" and focus on the last four chapters of Book 4 on the Eucharist. By now, you might have acquired your own copy or found your old copy. John sent us three quotations. Here is Number 4.

"Go forward, then, with simple, unflinching faith, and approach the Sacrament in unquestioning adoration. Leave your worries behind and entrust to almighty God whatever is beyond the grasp of your understanding. God never misleads you; a man may well mislead himself when he puts too much faith in his own powers. It is with simple folk that God walks, to the humble that he makes himself known; to the little ones he gives understanding, to the pure of heart he rends the veil of outward appearance. From those who in their arrogance pry into his secrets he hides his grace. Human reason is weak and may be mistaken; there is no making mistakes for true faith."

Synod of the Whole Church

In May, Jim Flanagan wrote about the Synod. This month, Jim sent me a few further thoughts.

"I have been told that this Synod event to check on all the Catholic parishes in the world concerning the progress of their journey to salvation is something no other Pope had done. That does not surprise me because the Pope picked Francis as his name, St. Francis being the one who claimed that Christ told him to rebuild His church, and Pope Francis saying early on that he was going to bring the Church back to Jesus. This is an awesome task, and next year we will see the Pope's review of the submissions sent to him this year from all of the Bishops of all of our Dioceses throughout the world. I know that I was surprised by the many varied responses of our parishioners at Holy Spirit, and I look forward to the Pope's summary of the input from all of our parishes throughout the world, and what will be the Pope's response and actions as a result."

There is still time for you to participate if you did not participate through your parish. Here are a few excerpts from the Diocese of Fresno website:

"The Synod process is still moving forward! Many parishes are still hosting listening sessions, while some are working on their summary to submit to our Synod Committee. Thank you to all who have worked hard to make this Synod a success!"

"The purpose of the Synod is to hear everyone's voice, not only those who go to Mass each Sunday or who were able to attend a session. The due date for individual submissions is also June 1st."

To submit an individual form please visit. <https://form.jotform.com/RoseHernandez/synod-individual-response>



June Prayer St. Thomas More

The Pope's Intention is for families. Did you know there are many patron saints of marriage and families, including saints for good marriage, difficult marriages, second marriages, etc.? St. Thomas More was happily married twice, but he stood up to the notorious Henry VIII who violated the Catholic Church's teaching on marriage.

Lord God, we thank You for giving us St. Thomas More as an example of holiness in family life. Help us to follow his holy example. May we model his love and his devotion to his family, as we live out our own vocations.

St. Thomas, you were a loving and holy husband and father in your personal life. You carried out the duties of your vocation faithfully, even while you pursued a worldly profession. You did not let the demands or stresses of your professional life as the king's high chancellor keep you from being all that a holy spouse and parent should be.

Pray for me, that I may faithfully carry out the duties of my primary vocation every day, no matter what other worldly professions I may work toward in my daily life.

Please also pray for (mention your intention here).

We ask this through Christ Our Lord.



Stay Connected with Prayers!

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, or update your email address contact Sally salauritz@att.net or 559-439-8378. If you have not received an email in the last month, Sally needs your new email address.

Interested in sponsoring
the newsletter?

Contact Denise Correia
vavi@cns4u.com



May Speaker Recap – Father Alex Chavez

By Norma Williams

“I often wondered why God called me to the priesthood so late in life,” stated Father Alex Chavez as he shared information at the May breakfast about the construction of Visalia’s Church of the Good Shepherd, which at 3200 seating capacity will be the largest parish church in North America. (In contrast, Los Angeles’ Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels seats around three thousand.)

Called by Bishop Brennan to lead this large project, Father Alex is well suited for the task, having a degree in civil engineering from Fresno State and having worked eight years for CalTrans. A vision of the late Bishop Steinbock, no one had any idea in the beginning that it would become such a massive project, which would consolidate several parishes and missions in the Visalia area. Groundbreaking was held in October 2019. Incidentally, Visalia was recently listed as the fourth of twenty fastest growing U.S. cities.

Parishioners and visitors will be greeted by a life-size Good Shepherd

statue created by sculptor Sam Pena with six full-size lambs representing the combined churches. Five stories high, it is built like a cruciform mission with a tile roof, in Renaissance style, with three bells representing the Trinity. There are shrines to the Fatima and Guadalupe apparitions and a dome of the evangelists, depicting the cosmos. A 48-foot fresco tableau expresses the heavenly realm with a choir of angels and pictures depicting our own valley. A life-sized Jesus carved in wood by a Spanish studio has a face modeled after the image in the Shroud of Turin. The baptismal font will include a full immersion pool. Artists from around the world have been commissioned to create unique artwork.

Historical records indicate that at one point Visalia may have been considered as an early California mission site, so this is now coming to fruition. Dedication is expected on November 4. The Catholic Professional & Business Club will make a donation to the project, and individuals and groups are encouraged to become participants.

For more information or to make a contribution, go to www.stcharlesvisalia.org.



Business Person of the Month—Ashlee Wolf

Ashlee Wolf has served as the Development Director for Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Fresno for the past five years. Ashlee graduated from Fresno State with a BA in Mass Communication and Journalism.

She spent the first several years of her career focused on marketing and public relations for large scale events before taking a leap of faith and diving into the world of development and fundraising at Catholic Charities.

On her first day, Ashlee saw a mother balancing a baby on her hip in one hand with bag of food in the other. It was then she knew this was where she belonged.

Ashlee was raised in Stockton, California and attended

Annunciation Catholic School and St. Mary’s High School. Her Catholic upbringing and heart for service often led her toward projects that helped those less fortunate. Ashlee can remember trick-or-treating for pennies and nickels instead of candy so that she could donate it to a local nonprofit organization.

Today, Ashlee is responsible for securing more than \$2.5 million annually between private donations and grant funding to continue serving those who visit Catholic Charities asking for help.

Ashlee and her husband, Kent, have a daughter, Jordan (8), and a son, Axl (5). Ashlee is the kindergarten room mom, and Kent can often be found as the kids’ soccer, baseball, or football coach (Ashlee’s just in charge of the snacks). The kids don’t quite understand what mom’s “real” job is, but if you ask them, they’ll tell you “She helps people.”

Upcoming Events

- June 10, 2022
- July and August no meetings
- September 9, 2022

Pope’s Worldwide Prayer

June Intention: For Families

We pray for Christian families around the world; may they embody and experience unconditional love and advance in holiness in their daily lives.

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**CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL
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DIOCESE OF FRESNO**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CP&BC Membership Dues: Annual dues are \$48 per person and are due August 1, 2022. The deadline for the 2023 Membership Directory is December 31, 2022. For more information contact John Kanaley at 315-243-6597 or email membership@cpbcfresno.org.

Reservations: Reservations are required for all breakfast meetings held at Pardini's and can be made by sending an email to reservations@cpbcfresno.org or by calling Denise Correia at 559-434-2722 or by visiting the website www.cpbcfresno.org then click on reservation link. Doors open at 7:00 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 option to attend via ZOOM is available with a requested link and password for members only. An annual discounted cost of \$135 is available to members that prepay for the year. Prepaid members are also requested to make reservations.

Membership Directory: Ad space in the annual 2023 Membership Directory starts at \$50. The deadline for advertising reservations and artwork is December 31, 2022, for the 2023 publication. For more directory information, email directory@cpbcfresno.org or call Denise Correia at 559-434-2722.

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. CP&BC also thanks Uhuru Network, LLC for their design and preparation of the newsletter.

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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