



CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club
Diocese of Fresno

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

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2019-2020

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December 11—Christmas Party with Bill Thornbury

Profiled by Tom Lang

CP&BC's December 11, 2020 member breakfast meeting via Zoom will be our annual Christmas Party!

Please feel free to invite a friend to attend by sharing their email address with us so we may send them our secure meeting ID and password just prior to the meeting.

Bill Thornbury, retired musical director for St. Helen's Catholic School, will return to us with a solo musical treat from his home in Shaver Lake. Spared from the ravages of the Creek Fire, Bill's home stands as a symbol of survival in the midst of a raging inferno. What an inspiration as a tumultuous 2020 draws to a close!

Bill will share his vocal and instrumental talents with a selection of sacred and uplifting renditions of familiar holiday tunes—setting the stage for our celebration of the birth of our Savior.

Also at our virtual party, be prepared to play our Christmas trivia game when you will have a chance to win some generously donated prizes.

CP&BC's charity of choice this Christmas season is Poverello House, which is especially in need of our support at this time of year.

Our party will be via Zoom. Visit cpcbtfresno.org to make your reservations. Current CP&BC Fresno members will be emailed the Zoom meeting ID and password once we receive your RVSP.



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?

- Speaker Recap
- December Prayer
- Upcoming Events
- Book Review
- Business Person of the Month

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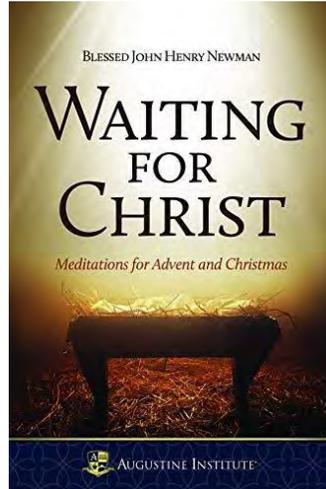
Book Review

By John Kasaian

Waiting For Christ: Meditations for Advent and Christmas

By St. John Henry Newman
Augustine Institute,
Greenwood Village, CO

160 pages, paperback



There are plenty of excellent books to help us prepare for Christmas during the Advent season; however, few authors of these books could list sainthood among their credentials. That alone should be enough to interest readers in “Waiting For Christ.” So I picked up a copy and wasn’t disappointed.

British Cardinals admittedly aren’t on my radar, however a while back Benedict XVII saw a need to visit the UK and canonize John Henry Newman, and that caught my attention. As an introduction to Newman, what could be better than a book of Advent meditations?

These meditations, one for each day of Advent, are interesting, clearly written and easily absorbed. Definitely a notch up from the more common “feel good” meditations which, like those “participation trophies” in kid’s sports leagues, have become so popular these days.

Newman’s meditations invite serious contemplation and are interesting rather than long winded and boring like all too many theological tomes.

It’s good company on cold dark evenings while waiting for Jesus. You can get your own copy at Cotters Religious Goods.



An Advent Prayer

Lord God, we adore you because you have come to us in the past.

You have spoken to us in the Law of Israel.
You have challenged us in the words of the prophets.
You have shown us in Jesus what you are really like.
Lord God, we adore you because you still come to us now.

You come to us through other people and their love and concern for us.

You come to us through men and women who need our help.

You come to us as we worship you with your people.
Lord God, we adore you because you will come to us at the end.

You will be with us at the hour of death.

You will still reign supreme when all human institutions fail.

You will still be God when our history has run its course.

We welcome you, the God who comes.

Come to us now in the power of Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Caryl Micklem, “Contemporary Prayers for Public Worship”

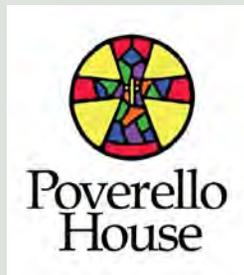
Upcoming Events

- January—no meeting
- February 12, 2021
- March 12, 2021

Interested in sponsoring the newsletter?

Contact Denise Correia
vavi@cns4u.com

Business Person of the Month—Tom Ferdinandi



Tom Ferdinandi, Jr. has been an active board member of Poverello House for 10 years. During that time, Poverello House transformed from a “soup kitchen”

to providing emergency shelter to homeless individuals and families, while offering them services and pathways out of homelessness. Poverello House has grown from 25 employees to a team of 60, offering state-of-the-art programs such as homeless outreach, case management and navigation, a triage center for people experiencing homelessness, social enterprise programs through food services, and a drug rehabilitation program for men. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Poverello House expanded its food programs to assist other non-profits in the area and emergency shelter for homeless families and individuals. Poverello House’s core values come from St Francis of Assisi, who loved all creatures and spread the Gospel to the poor and sick. Poverello House’s mission statement is “Enriching the lives and spirits of all who pass our way.” We are forever grateful for the strong and continuing blessings and support we receive from our community.

Contact us at:

(559) 498-6988 | info@poverellohouse.org | www.poverellohouse.org.

Speaker Recap – Duane R. Roberts, CFA

By Norma Williams



Can a small shareholder have an influence on world issues?

Accumulating money is usually the motivation of an individual who decides to invest and to develop a financial portfolio. Most are probably unaware that one’s values can be reflected by participating in active and ethical ownership. Fewer still are likely aware that papal encyclicals have been written on the topic and that the US Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) has issued guidelines for responsible investing.

This was the subject of the November Zoom presentation with Chartered Financial Analyst Duane R. Roberts. A devout Catholic, Duane has been a manager with Dana Investment Advisors in the Dallas/Fort Worth area since 1999, advising clients while incorporating USCCB guidelines. He serves on investment committees for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Dallas and the Cistercian Abbey and Preparatory School. Currently 50-55 high-quality companies are involved, which has grown steadily in the past five years, offering a wide range of product options.

USCCB Socially Responsible Investing Guidelines include

- Protecting life
- Promoting human dignity
- Reducing arms
- Pursuing economic justice
- Protecting the environment
- Encouraging corporate responsibility

Issues within these categories involve labor, housing, banking, concern for the world’s weak and vulnerable, discrimination, gender concerns, poverty, unemployment, food, relationships with developing nations, and ecology/environment.

Pope Francis’ encyclicals *Laudato Si* (2015) and *Fratelli Tutti* (2020) have spoken to the care of our common global home and the importance of fraternity, social friendship, and universal aspirations – how all aspects are interconnected with moral and ethical consequences.

In our local area, Duane has recommended CP&BC member Timothy Dodd as one who is knowledgeable about socially responsible investment options.

E-mail: timothy.dodd@LPL.com

Pope’s Worldwide Prayer December Intention

For a Life of Prayer

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Thanks to Our Sponsors

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

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CP&BC Membership Dues: Annual dues are \$48 per person and were due June 30, 2020. The deadline for the 2021 Membership Directory is December 31, 2020. For more information contact John Kanaley at 315-243-6597. The 2020 directory is underway.

Reservations: Reservations are required for all breakfast meetings, held at Pardini's, and can be made by calling Denise Correia 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 \$135 is available for members that prepay for the year. Reservations are still required for prepaids.

Membership Directory: For the 2021 Membership directory, ad space starts at \$50. December 15, 2020 is the deadline to reserve ad space for the 2021 Directory. December 31, 2020 is 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. CP&BC also thanks Uhuru Network, LLC for their design and preparation of the newsletter.

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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