

CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL NETWORK

Catholic Professional & Business Club Diocese of Fresno

Established: 1997

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OCTOBER SPEAKER - Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers



Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers is a powerful and passionate evangelist and preacher whose no-nonsense, hands-on approach to living the Catholic faith will challenge and inspire you! Deacon Harold will speak to CP&BC Fresno on Catholic Families: The Model for a Culture of Love & Life.

Heisthe Founder and Director of Dynamic Deacon, a Christian evangelization and apologetics organization dedicated to the dissemination and promotion of Catholic

values, principles, and teaching in complete faithfulness and total submission to Holy Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the Magisterium. The goal of his apostolate is to bring as many people as possible to a deeper love of Christ and the Gospel by sharing the truth of the Catholic faith in love.

As one of the most sought after speakers in the Church today, Deacon Harold is active in giving lectures, retreats, and seminars in parishes, workshops, and at numerous conferences across the nation and around the world. He has appeared in The Catholic World Report and The National Catholic Register, and on many national and international radio programs, including Catholic Answers Live, Catholic Connection, Kresta in the Afternoon, and Catholic Bookmarks. He is the author of The Mass in Sacred Scripture and is a frequent Eternal Word Television Network contributor.

Deacon Burke-Sivers holds a Bachelor's degree in Economics and Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame, and a Master's degree in Theological Studies from the University of Dallas. Deacon Harold is a Benedictine Oblate of Mt. Angel Abbey, an associate member of the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars, a member of the Confraternity of Catholic Clergy, and a consultation team member for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops National Directory for Catechesis.

Most importantly, Deacon Harold is married to his wife Colleen and they have four beautiful children.

What's Inside?

Jess Saldana

- Did you miss last month's speaker?
- Book Review "The Well and The Shallows"
- Who's the Business Person of the Month?
- October Prayer
- Events to look forward to!
- & More

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Speaker Recap - Katherine Andes

KATHY@ANDESANDASSOCIATES.COM

Dan DeMatte kicked off our year with an energetic and inspiring talk. Dan is the former star of the A&E Documentary "God or the Girl" about four young men discerning vocations to the priesthood.

Dan decided to choose God "through the girl," as he fondly says and is today a busy father of four young children. He also runs a Catholic summer youth camp in Ohio. Each summer he has 2,000 campers and besides all the fun things that campers do, he teaches them that their Catholic faith is an "adventure."

He counseled our Catholic Professionals club that as business leaders we are to bring "Christ to the workplace" and that it is a great mission.

He also struck a theme that has often occurred to me. He spoke of the dangers of isolating ourselves with too many comforts. We get too involved with our television shows, our social events, our gadgets and toys. That time could be better spent in prayer or spreading the faith.

Give up "Dancing with the Stars" to pray a rosary? That is challenging.

He reminded us, "When we share the gospel with others, we're not bringing people a burden, we're bringing them freedom. Jesus Christ brings freedom. We need to be convicted of that to truly evangelize. We need a revolution of holiness."

He shared an evangelization story about his wife. "My wife has a degree in Theology, but she knew we were going to have children soon after our marriage so she took a job as a waitress. She determined to see Christ in all of her customers. One day she was working a table with two older men ... they were about 40." At this, the meeting room erupted into laughter and our speaker turned red.

After collecting himself and assuring us he didn't think we were old, he continued his story. "The man asked my wife what was the source of her joy, insisting she answer his question ... she was able to share her faith in God. The man admitted that he had been a Catholic and left the faith. He asked my wife what he should do and she counseled him to go to Confession."

Yes, no matter our job, we can all bring our faith to the workplace. One thing I thought particularly helpful was a reminder that people we encounter at work (or anywhere) have a deep longing to be "seen." Dan said, "Take time to recognize the dignity of others," and he added, "Stand up for the person being degraded."

Dan wrapped up his talk with advice to daily look at a crucifix and say, "Lord I want to enter into that brokenness. You have given to me, allow me to give as you did."

Dan is the author of Holiness Revolution, which can be purchased on his website www.holinessrevolution.com.

Business Person of the Month



Fredy Thibanda

First off, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Catholic Church for bringing God and education to my country. My grandfather was trained by the church to be one of the first instructors. He then made sure to teach his children the importance of putting God first and the value of education, which has been passed on to my generation.

We need to live a sacrificial life and give ourselves for others. This is why we have started a non-profit organization (United for the Future) with one of the objectives to help, assist, and support youngsters here in the U.S. to first realize how blessed they are to be in this country and have all these opportunities available to them as opposed to living in third world countries like Democratic Republic of the Congo where young people are willing to leave everything they know and ever loved to go to other countries in the pursuit of better opportunities. On the other hand, we have also started a low budget clinic in one of the poor neighborhood of DRC to provide basic health care and teach preventive measures to the victims of war and poverty.

Upcoming Events

Breakfast Meetings

Save the Dates!

- October 11th
- November 8th
- December 13th
- February 14th

Contact us for more info!
(559)434-2722
Reservations@cpbcfresno.org

Book Review By John Kasaian

The Well and the Shallows By GK Chesterton 203 pages, paperbound Ignatius Press, San Francisco \$14.95

In 1935, under the gathering clouds of WW2, GKC published this prophetic collection of essays. Just as Chesterton was a witness to the world turned upside down by the rise of Modernity and the loss of common sense, in The Well and The Shallows he predicts the horrors that would soon befall society with uncommon accuracy. It is not our usual jovial Chesterton!

Like any collection of essays by GKC, there is plenty to consider, served up in bite sized portions with enough spice to slow the reader down and think about it. With typical Chesterton delight, spirituality and religion is dealt with not as a diversion, but as the crux of reality.

Of the essays, all of which are certainly worth reading, *Mary* and the Convert portrays the *Blessed Virgin* in a most interesting light, contrasting the Catholic view against the Protestant.

If the Catholic Church were to be a portrait, an exacting portrait of lines and colors, it would necessarily be a portrait of the *Blessed Virgin*. As I write this review, we've just celebrated the *Assumption* and the notion of the Church being represented by the *Blessed Virgin* is indeed worth contemplating.

In A Century of Emancipation Chesterton deals with Philosophy.

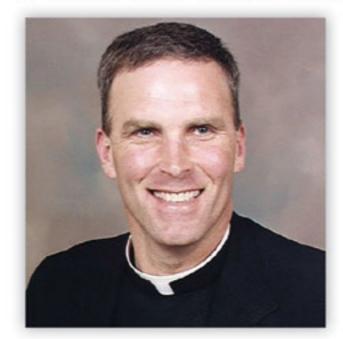
"... Thomistic Philosophy is the Philosophy of common sense, as compared with the paradoxes of Kant and Hegel and the Pragmatists. The Roman religion will be, in the exact sense, the only Rationalistic religion. The other religions will not be Rationalist, but Relativist; declaring that the reason is itself

relative and unreliable; declaring that being is only becoming or that all time is only a time of transition..."

Prophetic!

The Well and the Shallows is excellent reading and Cotters Religious Goods can fix you up with your own copy!

Pastor/Parish Profile



Fr. Eric Swearingen

Profiled by Don Wettstead, Parish Ambassador

Fr. Eric Swearingen was born on August 8, 1961 in Visalia, California. He was one of three children. He has an older brother, Craig and a younger sister, Stephanie. He was baptized

in 1961 at St. Anne Catholic Church in Riverdale.

Fr. Eric's early education included attendance at Riverdale Kindergarten, Mary Immaculate Queen, Lemoore, George McCann and Redwood High School in Visalia.

In 1968, at the age of seven, Fr. Eric had his First Communion at St. Peter Catholic Church in Lemoore. In second grade he started to think of going into the priesthood. His calling was cultivated by family, friends, parish priests and the religious sisters. He also received much encouragement from the protestant members of his family. He was confirmed in 1978 at St. Mary's in Visalia.

After high school, Fr. Eric, attended St. John's Seminary College, Camarillo, CA from 1979-1983. From 1983 to 1987 he attended Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. In his seventh year in seminary he was called to the diaconate. During seminary he held positions such as communion bread baker, kitchen food line-server with pot and pan duty, and student body president.

On May 23, 1987, he was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Joseph Madera at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church. After his ordination Fr. Eric went on to serve at Our Lady of Guadalupe, Bakersfield; Our Lady of Victory, Fresno; St. Alphonsus, Fresno; St. Jude, Easton; St. Helen, Fresno; St. Peter, Lemoore; and he is currently at Holy Spirit Catholic Church, Fresno and Shaver Lake Station.

Fr. Eric's interests include ministry with the circus and Air National Guard. In his free time he enjoys racquetball, traveling, and he is a parrot enthusiast.

Prayer For The Sick

If you are interested in sponsoring the newsletter, send us an email: directory@cpbcfresno.org

Father, your Son accepted our sufferings to teach us the virtue of patience in human illness. Hear the prayers we offer for our sick brothers and sisters. May all who suffer pain, illness or disease realize that they are chosen to be saints, and know that they are joined to Christ in his suffering for the salvation of the world, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

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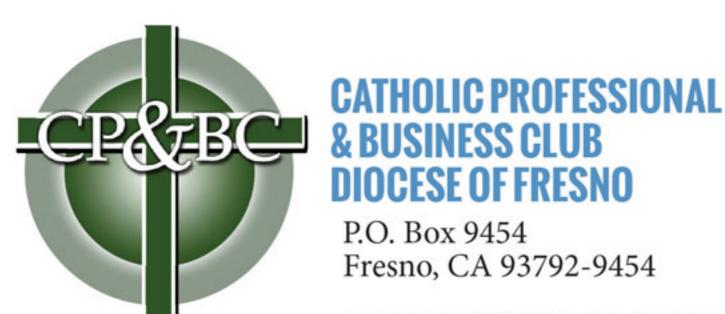
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CP&BC Membership Renewals Due: It's time to renew your CP&BC membership for the 2013-14 year. Annual dues are \$45.00 per person. A membership application form is available on our website at www. cpbcfresno.org. For more information contact Denise Correia at 559.999.9153 or Katherine Andes at 559.309.2940.

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 concludes at 8:30 a.m. The cost for each breakfast is \$15 for members and \$20 for guests.

Membership Directory: It's time to start planning for the 2014 Membership Directory! Ad space starts at only \$50. Contact Denise Correia at directory@cpbcfresno.org for more information. Deadline for ads in the January 2014 publication is December 1, 2013.

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 the club. CP&BC thanks Rod Silver of ARTCO 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.