

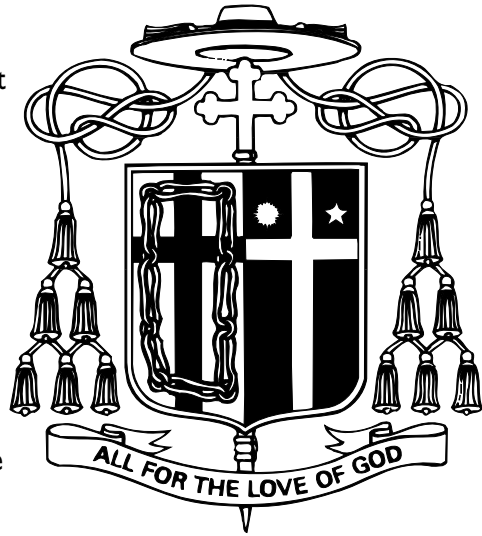


Mission Statement

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 fact that ethics and business need not be mutually exclusive terms.



CPBC of Merced
PMB 450
23 West Alexander Avenue
Merced, California 95348-3404

Catholic Professional Business Club of Merced

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2008

JUNE SPEAKER – JOHN ABBATE

Our last general meeting before we break for the summer will be held on Thursday, **June 19th** at 7:30 a.m. in St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 671 E. Yosemite Avenue, Merced. The date was incorrectly listed in the May newsletter. Tickets are \$12.00 each for the delicious breakfast catered by Fernando's Bistro. Doors open at 7:00 a.m.

John Abbate will be our featured speaker. John is a Merced native and a graduate of Our Lady of Mercy School and Merced High School. He graduated from the University of San Diego with a degree in economics and has an MBA with a concentration in finance from the University of Notre Dame. John and his family own 20 McDonald's Restaurants throughout the central valley. John and his wife Kaaren have three children – Matthew, Kathryn and Andrew.

John will share his personal faith story and how he is trying to bring faith and spirituality into his life's work.. He is currently involved in a number of community projects including Mary's Mantle Maternity Homes, Mercy Hospital, the Dream Program, and Re-Discovering Catholicism.

Try to make a special effort to attend this month. To make reservations, call Raylene Smith at 723-4929.

SUMMER SPIRITUAL READING SUGGESTION

Book: At Sea With God, A Spiritual Guidebook to the Heart and Soul
Author: Margaret Silf
Publisher: Ave Maria Press
Price: \$15.95

British author and retreat director Margaret Silf explores the art of sailing life's waters with this delightful self-guided retreat. Some of the aspects of sailing she uses to explore the spiritual life include: the boat, the cargo, setting sail, navigating uncharted waters, being adrift, and dropping anchor. Her creative use of reflection questions, journal starters, and real-life seafaring terminology enables readers to reflect on their experience with fresh insights. This gentle spiritual guidebook unites ancient spiritual practices with contemporary experience in a compassionate, enlightening manner. Happy reading!

Membership Note

Membership in the Catholic Professional Business Club of Merced is open to all Christians. This organization offers its members and guests the opportunity each month to enjoy a meal and listen to a business professional share how their faith has been a part of their life and accomplishments. CPBC Annual memberships run from January through December of each year, with no monthly meetings in July, August and December.

Regular membership dues are just \$35. Dues can be paid at any monthly meeting or by sending a check to the following:
CPBC
PMB #450
23 West Alexander Avenue
Merced, CA 95348-3404

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CPBC
Board of
Directors

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10TH ANNIVERSARY WESTERN BBQ

Have you bought your tickets yet for our tenth anniversary western BBQ on July 24 at Joseph Gallo Farms in Atwater? Don't put it off another day! We will accept reservations until July 4th. The response so far has been wonderful, with almost 200 tickets already sold. But of course, there's still room for you. The price is right, just \$15.00 per ticket. The 10 meals you have for your annual membership price of \$135.00 may not be used for this event. They are for regular meetings only. You can purchase single tickets or reserve a table for 8. Why don't you considering purchasing a few extra tickets and treating a potential CPBC member? Call Raylene Smith at (209) 723-4929 no later than July 4th to make your reservation.

Who: *Merced CP&BC Members and Guests*

What: *Western BBQ/Live Entertainment*

Where: *Joseph Gallo Farms
10561 W. Highway 140
Atwater, CA*

When: *Thursday, July 24, 2008*

6:30 p.m. – Cocktails

7:30 p.m. – Dinner

Why: *Our 10th Anniversary Celebration*

Cost: *\$15.00 per ticket*

Reserved seating – tables of 8

Dress: *Western, casual*

Reservations accepted until July 4, 2008

THANK YOU FROM THE PRESIDENT

This has been an extra special year to serve as your president. The 10th anniversary year for the Catholic Professional and Business Club was filled with inspiring speakers, anniversary celebrations, new and returning members, and wonderful opportunities for Christian fellowship. Our board meets once a month to help plan the activities for our local club. If you have any comments or suggestions for speakers for the coming year, please let us know. We have tried this year to definitely meet on the third Thursday of each month, sometimes for breakfast and sometimes for luncheon meetings to accommodate the needs of our members. I appreciate the dedication and hard work done by our board members this year. More was asked of them than in previous years and they rose to the challenge. May God bless them for their generosity and willingness to serve as board members. It has been a blessing to work with them.

Thank you to our members for their ongoing support for our programs and activities. It is heartening to see our "regulars" who rarely miss a meeting.

They have made attendance at our meetings and events a priority and have been able to hear some outstanding Catholic speakers and enjoy the gift of Christian fellowship. As our membership continues to grow, hopefully more will be able to attend our meetings on a regular basis.

Thank you to St. Patrick's Parish in Merced, St. Anthony's Parish in Atwater and to the New Bethany Retirement Home in Los Banos for hosting meetings this past year. If your parish would like to host a meeting in the coming year, please let us know. The Merced CP&BC serves all parishes in the Merced Mariposa Deanery.

We will not have regular meetings during the summer months, but will be back in September with Halfrid Nelson from our diocesan TV station, channel 49, as our guest speaker.

Of course, we hope to see you this summer at our Western Barbeque on Thursday, July 24th at Joseph Gallo Farms. This will be our official 10th anniversary celebration.

TIME OUT TO LAUGH

A small boy proudly told his father, "I know what the Bible means!" His father smiled and replied, "What do you mean, you 'know' what the Bible means?" "That's easy, Daddy..." the young boy replied excitedly, "It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth.'"

Somebody has said there are only two kinds of people in the world. There are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord," and there are those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning!"

The priest was preoccupied with thoughts of how he was going to ask the congregation to come up with more money than they were expecting for repairs to the church building. Therefore, he was annoyed to find that the regular organist was sick and a substitute had been brought in at the last minute. The substitute wanted to know what to play. "Here's a copy of the service," he said impatiently. "But, you'll have to think of something to play after I make the announcement about the finances."

During the service, the priest paused and said, "My dear people, we are in great difficulty; the roof repairs cost twice as much as we expected and we need \$4,000 more. Any of you who can pledge \$100 or more, please stand up."

At that moment, the substitute organist played "The Star Spangled Banner". And that is how the substitute became the regular organist!

Deaneries of Fresno

The Diocese of Fresno is divided into five Deaneries or areas within which are comprised the various parishes. Each deanery has an elected dean who represents the bishop in the particular area, presides over deanery meetings and gives input to the bishop regarding the needs of the People of God in the deanery.

MERCED/MARIPOSA DEANERY

Dean: Reverend Harvey Fonseca, V.F.

Atwater
St. Anthony

Chowchilla
St. Columba

Dos Palos
Sacred Heart

Firebaugh
St. Joseph

Gustine
Our Lady of Miracles

Hilmar
Holy Rosary

Le Grand
Our Lady of Lourdes

Livingston
St. Jude Thaddeus

Los Banos
St. Joseph

Mariposa
St. Joseph

Planada
Sacred Heart

Yosemite
Our Lady of the Snows

Merced
OLM / St. Patrick
Sacred Heart