

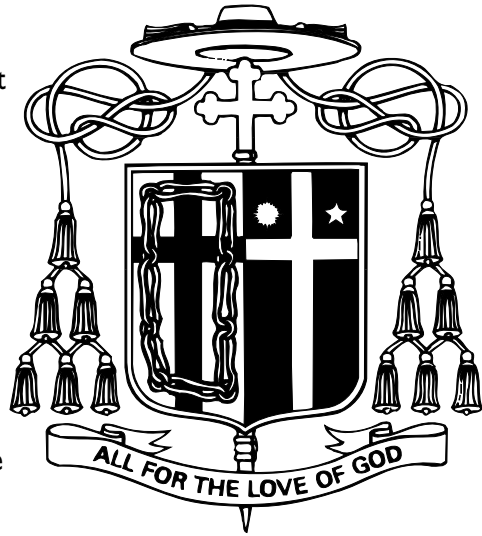


Mission Statement

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.



Catholic Professional Business Club of Merced

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2008

HALFRID NELSON – NOVEMBER SPEAKER

At our November 20th breakfast meeting held at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Merced, our guest speaker will be Halfrid Nelson, Development Director for our diocesan TV Station, KNXT Channel 49. Doors open at 7:00 a.m. The buffet breakfast, catered by Fernando's Bistro, will be served at 7:30 a.m. Tickets are \$12.00 each and reservations are strongly encouraged. Call Raylene Smith at 723-4929 no later than November 17th to make your reservation.

Halfrid Nelson was born in North Dakota into a Norwegian immigrant family. Her name Halfrid is Norwegian for "Peaceful Heroine". Her family moved to California when she was an infant and she grew up in the San Fernando Valley. She attended Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa. Halfrid began her teaching career in Spain at a private college. She moved from Spain to Berlin, Germany where she was employed as an adult education director for the Chaplain's Division of the U. S. Armed Forces, Europe. She met her husband while in Berlin, where he was serving in the Air Force. They were married in Berlin, where their daughter was born. They eventually returned to CA where their two sons were born.

Halfrid has traversed a varied and exciting career path. She worked as an educational consultant while her children were in their formative years. She was involved in social causes and neighborhood projects in Santa Ana, and was a member of the school board. She even owned and operated a restaurant in San Juan Capistrano for four years.

At our breakfast meeting, Halfrid will share her greatest challenge, when her eldest son was diagnosed with leukemia and subsequently died during a bone marrow transplant. She moved to Arcata, CA where her son had lived for the last ten years of his life and began a new life for herself, working in the non profit sector, where she has remained for the past 18 years. This commitment to working in the non profit sector eventually led Halfrid to our diocese and the position she presently holds with Channel 49.

If you're a regular viewer of KNXT, Channel 49, you'll recognize Halfrid instantly. She's the enthusiastic dynamo behind the Pledge nights, working with all of the volunteer groups who man the phone lines to encourage support for Channel 49. The Merced CP&BC took part on October 9th. A special thanks to our board members who traveled to Fresno for the evening to help out.

Make a special effort to join us for breakfast on November 20th. You won't be disappointed. This faith filled lady's personal story will make your day!

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 #183

731 E. Yosemite Avenue

Suite B

Merced, CA 95340

Merced CP&BC Board of Directors

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OCTOBER LUNCHEON A SUCCESS

What a wonderful turnout for our October 16th luncheon meeting! Rev. Msgr. Myron Cotta, Vicar General for the Diocese of Fresno, was our guest speaker and more than 60 members and guests came to listen to his inspiring message, to renew friendships, and to share in a delicious meal prepared by Fernando's Bistro. Members and guests came from Merced, Le Grand, Los Banos, Gustine, and Dos Palos. It was terrific to see so many parishes from our Merced-Mariposa deanery represented. Thanks to everyone for the warm welcome for Msgr. Cotta from the Merced CP&BC.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

- November 20 CPBC Breakfast meeting, St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 671 E. Yosemite Avenue, Merced, 7:30 a.m.
Speaker: Halfrid Nelson, Development Director for KNXT, Channel 49
- December 4 CPBC Board Meeting, Priests' Dining Room, St. Patrick's Parish Hall, Merced, 7:30 a.m.
- December No general meeting this month

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We are happy to announce that we now have a total of 88 paid members in the Merced Catholic Professional & Business Club for 2008. Our new membership year begins in January. We do not have a general membership meeting in December. Instead of the monthly newsletter in December, we will send out our membership renewal letter and application. Thank you so much for being a vital part of our organization this past year.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been an extraordinary year to have served as President of the Merced CP&BC. 2008 marked the 10th anniversary of our local group. To recognize this remarkable achievement, a celebration was certainly in order. Our founding President, Mike Gallo joined his wife Lori in inviting us to Joseph Gallo Farms in Atwater for a festive western BBQ in July. We could not have asked for a more beautiful setting, including the sunset which served as a backdrop for the delightful music provided by the Old Time Fiddlers. That evening we even offered our first ever member directory. Almost 300 people enjoyed the evening with us, including Bishop Steinbock, the founding President of the National CP&BC and his wife, CP&BC members from Fresno, as well as Merced CP&BC members and guests. By all accounts, it was a great celebration.

We have honored the clergy and religious who serve the parishes in our deanery. We have celebrated the 80th anniversary of one of the parish schools in our deanery, Our Lady of Mercy School in Merced. We have had a great variety of speakers, including Former U.S. Ambassador Phillip Sanchez and Kathleen Stefani from Hinds Hospice. We traveled to St. Anthony's in Atwater for a breakfast meeting and heard Deacon Kelly Canelo share his amazing faith journey. We traveled to the New Bethany Retirement Home for the February luncheon and their wonderful hospitality.

Our board members have been asked to go above and beyond their normal duties this year and they have responded graciously. Some board members helped with a Pledge Night for Channel 49. Others have worked hard to offer a variety of speakers for our meetings. Board member Fernando Palomino has consistently provided delicious meals for our meetings. He has a

special talent for anticipating correctly the number of people who will actually attend and plans accordingly so that all have plenty. What a gift!

We hope we have served you well and have offered the types of meetings and speakers that are meaningful for you. It has been my privilege to have served as President for the past two years. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers. Won't it be wonderful when we get together to celebrate our 20th anniversary!

SPIRITUAL READING SUGGESTIONS

Title: **The Truth About Trouble, How Hard Times Can Draw You Closer to God**

Author: Michael Scanlon, T.O.R. with Jim Manney

Publisher: Servant Books

Price: \$11.99

There's only one good thing about trouble — it may be the best thing that ever happened to you. The authors show how the trials of life can lead to greater maturity and intimacy with God in key areas. Some of these areas include: discerning God's will in your life, discovering an unshakable inner peace, knowing what's important, releasing the power of gratitude in your life, and making real change possible.

Title: **God Loves You and There's Nothing You Can Do About It**

Author: David Mangan

Publisher: Servant Books

Price: \$12.99

God's love comes through the Holy Spirit, but many people are confused about the role and work of this third person of the Trinity. Author David Mangan's experience of the Sacrament of Confirmation is typical: "I figured that God knew what He was doing, and the Bishop knew what he was doing, but I wasn't sure that I knew what I was doing."

Blending lively anecdotes, personal testimony and humor, the author shows readers how to turn to God in expectant faith and open themselves up to the "dynamite" of the Holy Spirit.

INTERESTING BIBLICAL INSIGHTS

Who was the most successful businessman in the Bible?
Noah. He floated stock while everybody else was liquidated.

Did you know that the first automobile was in Genesis?
God drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden of Eden in a Fury.

The first baseball game is also in the Book of Genesis. You know, it starts out..."In the Big Inning..."

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