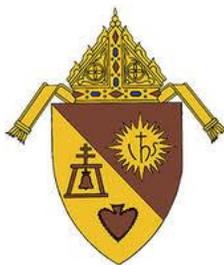


DIOCESE OF SAN BERNADINO



OFFICE OF THE VICAR GENERAL

Oct. 2019

Dear Brother Knights,

Unity requires selflessness and your works over the years are the embodiment of all that is good and hopeful about selfless service. As a result, these works have extended throughout our Golden State of California and often to countries near and far. It is appropriate then that we discuss the importance of unity as one of the 4 Pillars of the Knights of Columbus precisely because time and again, it has proven we are strongest and most effective when we act as one body united in purpose and resolute in our mission.

Speaking to God the Father, Jesus said in John 17, “I ask not only on behalf of these, but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one.” In other words, the unity of the Church is not just for our own sake, it’s also for the world.

This call to extend unity where possible compels the Knights in California working in solidarity with our Bishops and Priests to lead again. At our most recent gathering for the 117th State Convention, our dedicated State Officers introduced a comprehensive Year of Prayer Campaign anchored by the Prayers in the Pew program to help coordinate and harness many of our faith activities while mobilizing the lay faithful to get back to the basics of *Getting to Mass* consistently and on-time and to *Revitalizing our Prayer Lives* personally and across families and communities.

With Mass attendance and prayer at the heart of this effort, I encourage all Chapters and Councils throughout California to fully engage in this statewide commitment. As the select committee sets out to implement this program statewide, may Our Lord Jesus Christ guide and strengthen all of us to keep our eyes fixed on Him, to bless this good work of unity and may our clarion call in honor of Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney ring loud and clear, “Vivat Jesus!”

Sincerely in Our Lord Jesus,

Very Rev. Msgr. Gerard M. Lopez, S.T.L., V.G.
2018-2019
State Chaplain