



# CATHOLIC BREAKFAST CLUB

Catholic Professional & Business Club  
Diocese of Fresno

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

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2024-2025

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## November 8th

### Jessica Echeverry

Our Friday, November 8, 2024 speaker is Jessica Echeverry.

Jess is a wife, mother, Catholic social teaching advocate and homelessness chip changer – attend our Breakfast to learn more about this. She leads SOFESA, a relationship-centered organization that has served homeless children and their parents for more than 24 years. SOFESA found that there is a huge gap between the housed and the unhoused populations in a local community and that homelessness is not something to be SOLVED, but something to be HEALED. SOFESA believes that in order to heal the BIG problem of homelessness, we need to think and act SMALL.

Drawing on her personal lived experience, Jess is an award-winning thought-leader on the subject of homelessness and speaks in both secular and religious national forums advancing the truths of human dignity. She has been featured on ABC, EWTN, Relevant Radio, National Catholic Register, and Catholic Answers among others. She converted to the Catholic faith in 2008.

Her husband is a Permanent Deacon for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. Together Deacon Charlie & Jess have five children - two teenage boys still at home, two young adults out in the world, and one lovely soul in Heaven. Jess is the Founder and Executive Director of SOFESA, a 501c(3) non-profit ministry that has been accompanying Southern California homeless families since 1999. Deacon Charlie and Jess have appeared on The Journey Home with Marcus Grodi which aired internationally in February 2021.

Jess has previously appeared on multiple episodes of EWTN's The Catholic View for Women, Women of Grace, and BEK TV's Ladies of Another View; radio interviews with Spirit Radio, Guadalupe Radio, Son Rise Morning Show, Incorrupto Radio, and Relevant Radio

She has had the opportunity to share her testimony at various events throughout the country including the Walk for Life Orange County and twice at the Los Angeles OneLife LA. Jess was the inaugural recipient of the OneLife LA Service Award (2020). She has been featured on podcasts including Catholic Answers, Hope Stories, Mamas in Spirit, Homeschooling Saints, Vida Initiative, and Living the CALL. She has also participated in the After the Abortion Photography Series by Angela Forker.

Inspired by the good things God has wrought in her life, Jess has published her first book, “Dazzled: Finding the Key to Perfect Forgiveness,” detailing her life experiences in a way that lifts up and enlightens others who are searching for ways to heal.

**The November Meeting Quiz will be on John, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, & 18. Be prepared!**

The breakfast cost is \$25 for members and their guests and \$30 for non-members. We accept cash or check at the door. From our website <https://www.cpbcfresno.org/register.shtml> you may use a credit card. An option to attend via ZOOM is available with a requested link and password for members only.

### CP&BC needs your help.

- We need parish ambassadors for these parishes: Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Our Lady of the Sierra, Our Lady of Victory, Sacred Heart, Shrine of St. Therese, St. Alphonsus, St. Anthony Claret, St. Helen, St. Joachim, St. Joseph, St. Lucy, St. Mary, St. Patrick, St. Brigid, Immaculate Heart of Mary, and St. Ann. Please contact Tim Dodd. If one of these is your parish so that he can explain your easy duties.

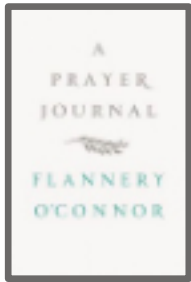
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## Like / Follow Us





A Prayer Journal

By Flannery O'Connor

Farrar, Straus, Giroux, New York 2015

66 pages, hardbound

By John Kasaian

From an autobiographical perspective, Flannery O'Connor's "Prayer Journal," written in one of those little cardboard covered black and white notebooks we used to write essay test answers in at Junior College, is a treasure.

Written between 1946 and 1947 during her first year away at the

University of Iowa, Flannery was not yet 21 and thrust into a very different social order than in the small Georgia town where she grew up. Exposed to all the temptations and freedoms going away to college provide, she wrestled with her ambition to be a writer, and not just a writer, but a holy writer. She desired to write stories for others to read, but through kismet left us this collection of humble prayers she no doubt expected to be private and unpublished.

In the introduction by O'Connor scholar W.A. Sessions, we learn of several events that O'Connor underwent during that period in her life, such as losing her father to Lupus as well as her own first attack of the disease which would eventually take her life nineteen years later.

This is a poignant book, a glimpse into a literary genius' coming of age.

## October Member of the Month – Reverend Bill Lucido



Fr. Bill Lucido was born in Quantico, VA, and grew up in San Diego.

Bill was married to his beautiful wife Betsy in 1964. They had four daughters. He graduated from Fresno State College with a bachelor's degree in mathematics in 1970. Bill earned his pilot's wing from the United States Air Force and spent 30 years in the California Air National Guard logging over seven thousand flying hours. He served for 11 years as Director of Development and Director of Communication for the Diocese of Fresno. Bill was ordained a deacon by Cardinal Roger Mahony on January 15, 2011. Bill and his family were members of St. Paul Catholic Newman Center since 1970. Bill, Betsy, and their four daughters welcomed 32 unwed mothers into their home over the years. He was a founding member of the CP&BC Board and is an Emeritus member of the current Board.

Betsy died on January 12, 2019, and on August 17, 2024, Bishop Joseph Brennan ordained Bill to the presbyterate. He is currently assigned to Holy Spirit Parish in Fresno.

## Diocesan Event Corner



We encourage you to sign up for the Diocese of Fresno weekly newsletter, which is published every Monday morning. <https://dioceseoffresno.org/newsletter>

**Sunday, October 20, 2024, 7:30 AM - 7:00 PM**

Couples Retreat

[www.dioceseoffresno.org/events](http://www.dioceseoffresno.org/events)

**Friday, November 1, 2024**

Young Adult Retreat (Spanish)

Location: Santa Teresita Youth Conference Center, Three Rivers

**Friday, November 1, 2024, 6:00 PM**

Priesthood Discernment Group Meeting

Location: Zoom

If your parish or Catholic organization is hosting an event open to all the Diocese of Fresno, we ask for you to notify us no less than six weeks before the event. We will gladly post this in our newsletter mailed to all CP&BC members. Contact Karen Bosch Cobb, [karen.boschcobb@icloud.com](mailto:karen.boschcobb@icloud.com).

## PRAYER NETWORK



We pray to God daily in thanksgiving. Often our prayers are one of supplication for our loved ones or for ourselves. Jesus tells us:

"For where two or three are gathered together in my NAME, there am I in the midst of them."

Please send your prayer requests to:

Lucina Myers, [lucinamyers1@gmail.com](mailto:lucinamyers1@gmail.com) or call 559-824-9160.

**Interested in sponsoring  
the newsletter?**

**Contact Denise Correia**

[yavi@cns4u.com](mailto:yavi@cns4u.com)



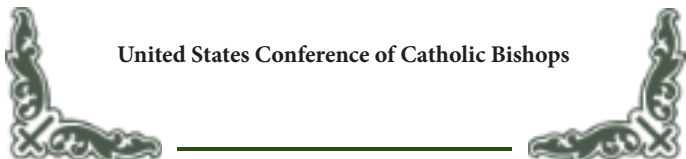
## November Prayer

### A Prayer for Veterans Day

Lord God, Almighty Father,  
 Creator of mankind and Author of peace,  
 as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the  
 liberty we possess,  
 we ask You to bless the members of our armed  
 forces.

Give them courage, hope and strength.  
 May they ever experience your firm support,  
 gentle love, and compassionate healing.  
 Be their power and protector, leading them from  
 darkness to light.  
 To You be all glory, honor and praise, now and  
 forever. Amen.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



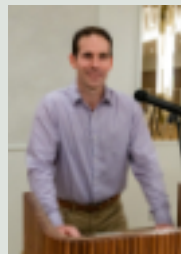
## Speaker Sponsorships

CP&BC is looking for businesses, organizations, and individuals who will provide a full or partial sponsorship for our monthly speakers. Many of our speakers require a stipend, travel expenses (auto, flight, hotel). Sponsorships are available for \$250, \$500, \$1,000. If you are interested, please contact Tom Lang, tlang@aquariusaquarium.org. Your name and/or your firm's name will be listed in the newsletter as a part of the speaker announcement and mentioned at our breakfast meeting at which the speaker speaks. A minimum of six weeks is required for acknowledgement in the newsletter. Thank you for supporting our Club!

## Upcoming Events

- November 8, Pardini's
- December 13, Pardini's
- January no meeting

## October Speaker Recap



## ANTHONY BRANNAN

By Norma Williams

Allow the Spirit to change you to who you want to be, picturing scenarios of how that can turn out, then living in the moment of the best scenario. So stated Anthony Brannan, October's breakfast speaker, who described how his faith intersected with family, sports, acting, and producing.

As a youth in New Jersey, Anthony and his Italian mother talked a lot about meditation and vision. He began meditating when he was five years old. A core concept was the power of vision in all aspects of life as a way to deal with challenges.

From a family of football players going back generations, Anthony was a three-sport high school athlete who was pursued by and turned down scholarship offers from many Division 1-A and Ivy League schools, though not Notre Dame. However, he became a walk-on player under Coach Lou Holz who led his players in pregame relaxation, meditation, and visioning. Holz told his team, "Gentlemen, remember who you're playing for: Our Lady on the Golden Dome (BVM atop Notre Dame's main building) and Our Lord." This was an example of how spirituality was found nearly everywhere on campus or at university events. Anthony played for the "Fighting Irish" for five seasons (1996-2000) which included three bowl games. He earned his college degree in American Studies and Computer Applications.

Post-football, Anthony spent nine years in Hollywood as an actor, writer and producer. He and his wife own Designerland, a multi-media company. "As lines separating media blur, there is need for clarity of message to reach an intended audience with content," he says. In 2019 he co-produced "Unplanned," the story of Abby Johnson who switched from pro-choice to pro-life based on what she observed as a Planned Parenthood clinic director. Other projects include "Summer's Promise" and "Glimpse."

"Every play and every player counts – whether in sports or other aspects of life," Anthony believes.

## The Pope's Monthly Intentions

### November 2024 - For anyone who has lost a child



We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit.

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

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## CATHOLIC PROFESSIONAL & BUSINESS CLUB DIOCESE OF FRESNO

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**CP&BC Membership Dues:** Annual dues are \$55 per person and are due August 31, 2024. The deadline for the 2025 Membership Directory is December 31, 2024. For more information contact Denise Correia at 559-999-9153 or email [membership@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:membership@cpbcfresno.org).

**Reservations:** Reservations are required for all breakfast meetings held at Pardini's or Hotel Piccadilly's and can be made by sending an email to [reservations@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:reservations@cpbcfresno.org) or by calling Denise Correia at 559-434-2722 or by visiting the website [www.cpbcfresno.org](http://www.cpbcfresno.org) then click on reservation link. Doors open at 7:00 a.m. for coffee and networking. The program starts at 7:15 a.m. and concludes at 8:30 a.m. The breakfast cost is \$25 for members and their guests and \$30 for non-members. We accept cash or check at the door. From our website <https://www.cpbcfresno.org/register.shtml> you may use a credit card. An option to attend via ZOOM is available with a requested link and password for members only. An annual discounted cost of \$175 (\$50 savings) is available to members that prepay annual breakfast. Prepaid members are also requested to make reservations.

**Membership Directory:** Ad space in the annual 2025 Membership Directory starts at \$60. The deadline for advertising reservations and artwork is December 31, 2024. For more directory information, email Cheryl Sarkisian at [directory@cpbcfresno.org](mailto:directory@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. Lucina Myers is the point person to whom requests can be made, and once they are received she will email or phone the network. Contact Lucina ([lucinamyers1@gmail.com](mailto:lucinamyers1@gmail.com) or 559-824-9160) to become part of the network or to submit a prayer request.

**Website:** Please be sure to visit [www.cpbcfresno.org](http://www.cpbcfresno.org) for all the latest information about our club. CP&BC thanks Christopher Erk of TrevNet for the design and maintenance of the website. CP&BC also thanks Rodarte Productions 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.

## Publisher:

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