

# Knights Life



## In Memoriam



We will miss Roy Cormier for his soft and easy going way of talking to everyone he met. He will be, for sure, be remembered by his brothers in the Knight of Columbus as a hardworking, dedicated Knight; one who was always ready with his heart and hand to help others. Even in these later years he could be seen keeping up with the younger guys. Roy was born in Church Point La. in 1933, which made him 91 when he passed away on May 29, 2025. He has a high school diploma from Sunset High School in Sunset La. an

undergraduate degree from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and an MBA from the University of Colorado. Right after graduating from college, he joined the Air Force and 30 years later he retired a full Colonel. During those thirty years, he flew 8 different aircrafts, had tours at many US bases and the Philippines and Germany, met and married Frances Mary deFreitas (in Georgetown, British Guiana) and raised a family of three sons (James, Philip, and Brian) and daughter Alissa, and assisted in raising their 7 grandchildren. Roy and Frances were married for 63 years. After retiring from the Air Force Roy owned and operated multiple Lawn Doctor Franchises for many years. Roy and Frances joined the Holy Spirit parish in 1990. Roy then joined the Knights in 2014 and took his major degrees in 2015.

Roy was raised on a farm in Cajun country and carried the experience forward as a dedicated gardener. He never missed an opportunity to tell how much rain he got. He was an avid fisherman, and DIY'er and a prominent member of the Rotary Club of Lancaster, and the Garden Club of Ovilla. And he was an active and respected member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Rest in Peace, Roy

## **Knight of the Year – 2024-2025 Fraternal Year**



Five very worthy Knights were presented to the council as candidates for the honor of being selected as Knight of the Year for fraternal year 2024-2025. After two rounds of voting, Adan Luna was selected as Knight of the Year. Although Adan has only been a Knight since June of 2021, he has been a busy man. You can find him at nearly every Knight function. He is particularly noticeable at the fish fries where he and his wife, Norma, prepare the special sauce for fish taco, and prepare and serve the tacos. He's also been seen at St. Joseph's cook-outs and at the concession stand where he schools his youngest son, Max, on the value of giving back to the community by volunteering. He attends the monthly meetings regularly and was Warden of the council in the past. But what has really gotten Knights attention is his ability to recruit new members. Adan is a salesperson and he uses that skill to demonstrate the value of

being a Knight to those he comes in contact with. He has, in fact, been the sponsor of 26 new members. The council obtained the prestigious award of Star Council this past fraternal year, and that would not have been possible without the effort of Adan and his relentless effort to recruit new members. In addition to all his work with the Knights of Columbus, he is also involved with Holy Spirit Catholic church. For example; he is a lector, a hospitality Minister, a member of the ACTS team and both he and Norma are members of the Guadalupano Society.



Despite all these activities he still finds time to support his family of 5 children as a salesperson for the Power Energy Company. Adan is originally from Durango, Mexico, but moved to the United States in 1998. He and Norma have been married for 14 years and live in Cedar Hill. Adan is an efflorescent person and his ready smile welcomes everyone he meets – perhaps that's how he recruits so many new members. Adan likes to cook, exercise and do carpentry work. Anyone who has been in the backyard of his and Norma's home can readily see his handiwork. Although he had a health issue this past year, he has soldiered on and continues to be a positive force in our council. The Knight of the Year is a well-deserved honor – Congratulation, Adan.

## About Your Council

### Council Monthly Meetings

General Meeting every 1st Tuesday 7:00pm

Officer's & Directors every 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm

### Postal address and meeting location

1111 W Danieldale Rd. Dining Room

Duncanville Tx, 75116 USA

972-298-4971

### KC District 109 - Assembly 2799

The council Officers are officially elected for a one year term each June. Their term in office follows the fraternal year, from July 1 through June the following year

**Chaplain**

**Grand Knight**

**Deputy Grand Knight**

**Chancellor**

**Recording Secretary**

**Treasurer**

**Warden**

**Inside Guard**

**Outside Guard**

**Financial Secretary**

**Advocate**

**Trustees**

**Fr. Uche**

**Marc Evans**

**Paul Ryan**

**Efrain Ochoa**

**Roberto Nieto**

**James Smith**

**Jesse Radillo**

**Russell LeRoy**

**Joel Lopez**

**Peter Perta**

**Russell Gully**

**Jim Russell**

**Mike Fitzgerald**

**Dan Murphy**

### Service Program Directors

**Concessions**

**Church Activities**

**Family**

**Faith**

**Life**

**Youth Activities**

**Knight Hands**

**Retention**

**Membership**

**Community**

**James Smith**

**David Ybarra**

**Open**

**Charles Ruelas**

**Mike Moloughney**

**Mike Moloughney**

**Allen Reitmeier**

**Paul Ryan**

**Jim Kowalski**

**Dan Murphy**

**Degree Team**

**Sacramental Gifts**

**Safe Environment**

**Health Activities**

**Lecturer**

**Tom Greco**

**Open**

**Russell LeRoy**

**Robert Nieto**

**Joel Lopez**

### Knights Life Newsletter

Our Newsletter is published quarterly. The Newsletter is delivered electronically to your email address and is posted on our website. If you would like to receive a paper copy, they are available at the general meeting.

**Newsletter Editor and Publisher** Allen Reitmeier

### Newsletter & Website Writers

Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Robby Zablan, Dan Murphy, Efrain Ochoa, Joel Lopez, Paul Ryan

### Newsletter and Website Photographer

Allen Reitmeier, Leon Cornute, Arthur Rodriguez, Jorge Ruiz

### Council Website

**Website address**

kofc8157.org

**Website Editor**

Allen Reitmeier

**Website Admins**

Jorge Ruiz

### Email Communications

Emails are sent to our members on a regular basis. Make sure you add the email address below to your contact list so our emails do not go to you junk/span folder.

**Email address** sglmreid@swbell.net

### Membership Rosters

A full membership roster is available in paper form to all Knights in good standing at the general meeting



## **Knight of the Month Apr. 2025**



**Allen  
Reitmeier**

Allen joined the Knights in November of 2007 and has been on the go ever since. It didn't take him long to initiate Knight Hands (2010) and about the same time

he started up the Awareness Committee which eventually turned into the current website and email and SMS communication. Along the way (2008) he took on the responsibility of directing the concession stands in Cedar Hill and is still is a big part of that today. He took his 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> degree exemplifications in 2008 and became a 4<sup>th</sup> degree Knight in 2022 and is currently a member of the 4<sup>th</sup> degree Honor Guard. He often says "I'm just a poor old country farm boy"; and that may be true since he was raised on a farm in central Minnesota where he graduated from St. Cloud University and where he met and married his wife of 56 years. But his accomplishments from early on including his time as a commissioned officer and rising high in the business world tells a different. Story. He and Linda – who he refers to as his "sweetie" – have been blessed with four children and 12 grandchildren and since they are scattered around the country, they often travel to visit with them and celebrate their athletic and academic achievements. He's been a busy dude and his wife always says "he never does anything half way".

## **Knight of the Month May. 2025**

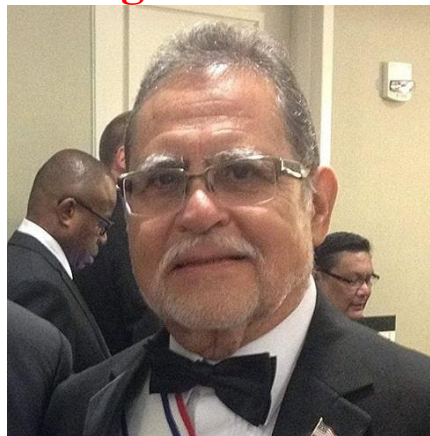


**Robert  
Tovar**

Robert Tovar works for NFI Transportation Company which is out of the state of New Jersey. It has been around for 95-96 years. He first started as a driver and then he

began to train drivers. He and his wife, Victoria, have been coming to Holy Spirit since 2013. They have two kids, Robert and Victoria, who are 22 and 20 years old. Robert was born in Mexico and lived in Baja or La Paz on the California peninsula, he moved to Dallas at 16 years old and graduated from North Dallas High School. His wife, Vickie is from Sanger, TX. His parents live with them and are in their 80's. They live in Duncanville on Rolling Ridge. He also has 3 older sisters. Robert has been involved in ACTS and faith formation. He had joined the choir for about 6 months and mentioned Nel Mancenido as a very good singer. He attends the 9am Mass on Sunday. He likes to barbecue, ride motorcycles, and work on cars. Tom Greco is who recruited Robert to the Knights and he has been influenced by John Owen. He became a Knight in 2014. His goal is to make sure that his kids find their way. It helps him to know that being close to God and going to church are part of their faith because without it you might be lost.

## **Knight of the Month June. 2025**



**Arthur  
Rodriguez**

Arthur Rodriguez has received Knight of the Month a number of times since joining the Knights in 2014. He was recruited

by Tom Greco. He will turn 80 this year on August 15. He was born in Laredo, Tx. His parents are from Mexico. He married June 22nd, 2014. His wife is Olga Martha Rodriguez. Arthur served in the Air Force during Vietnam and was in aircraft maintenance, hauling cargo and munitions, stationed on Travis Air Base, CA. He also worked for GE. He did not go to college, but has always loved mechanical and electrical engineering. He graduated from NR Crozier Tech High School in downtown Dallas. Arthur has no kids and is divorced and is in his 2nd marriage. He was born Catholic and has been an EM at Charlton Methodist for 10 years. He would like to keep working and participating in the choir as he has been a member at Holy Spirit Catholic for 51 years.

## Concession Stand was Busy

There were 280 games your council worked at during the spring 2025 little league baseball season at Valley Ridge Park in Cedar Hill. While there were some league games, the vast majority of games were played during tournaments scheduled at Valley Ridge Park by Tim Campbell – owner and operator of Tournaments-R-Us. While the vast majority of Tim Campbell's tournament games are scheduled and played at the Star Fields in Euless, often times we have the overflow games at Valley Ridge.



*Peter Perta, Jim Ouimet, and Mike Fitzgerald*

These tournament games can become quite intense as oftentimes games are played on multiple fields at the



*James Smith*

same time. For those of you have worked during these tournaments, you know I what I'm talking about.

Thanks to the efforts of many of our current Knights, you generated about \$149 sales dollar for each game played.



*John Owen, Mike Fitzgerald, and Robert Nieto*

You grilled and sold about 5 cheeseburgers/hamburgers per games played as well as about 11 drink (Powerade or soft drink) per game. You also cooked cases and cases of French fries, assembled hundreds and hundreds of nacho and Frito pies and crushed ice for at least 500 snow cones. Add all the side dishes, like chicken nuggets and chicken parties and chips and candy, and pickle pops, and you can see why it takes about 4.5 man hours of work per game played. You'll probably agree that the spring 2025 little league season was quite an undertaking for this council. Doing the math, you can readily see that for each hour a Knight worked at the concession stand generated about \$33 in sales. And that is why it was so important and so impressive that so many Knights worked at these games from March 15<sup>th</sup> through June 15<sup>th</sup>. The baseball committee consisting of James Smith, Greg Warr, Miguel Hernandez, and Allen Reitmeier wish to thank all the Knights for your continued dedication to providing funding for this council. The fall baseball season will begin the last weekend in August.



## The Latest Knight Hands Projects

During the last quarter (Apr –June, 2025), Knight Hands completed 13 projects which bring the total completed job since it's inception to 547.



The projects consisted of transportation services (Peter Perta), changing out 2 sets of leaking faucet (Zach Cazares and Ray Rivera), installing a ramp and hand rails (Dan Murphy, David Ybarra, and Ray Rivera), removing a pool cover (Dan Murphy and Jack Ramsden), temporary loan of medical equipment (Allen Reitmeier), tree trimming (Dan Murphy, Mike Fitzgerald, Efrain Ochoa, John Owen, Zach Cazares), repairing a car (Danny Kendall), repairing falling cabinets (David Dybala), installing a washing machine (Ray Rivera).



Replacing and repairing two fences (Joel Lopez, Rod Kinard, Jesse Radillo, Manuel Urias, Mario Luna, Ray Rivera, Hector Rubio, John Owen, Efrain Ochoa, and Larry Balagna), and prepping a home for resale (John Owen, Moises Martinez and his nephew Oswaldo, John Espree, Phil Holifield, and Zach Cazares). Knight Hands worked about 85 man hours to do this work and spent about \$815.00 in materials.



As the Director of Knight hands, I had the honor and privilege to be part of all these projects in some form or fashion. As you look over the different names of those Knights who worked on these projects, you can readily see that Knight Hands is a team effort. The “neat” part of these projects is we have fun doing them and, for sure, are gratified to help those in need. I am proud of all those you have helped this past quarter and look forward to working with many more in the future.



## Family of the Month Apr. 2025



**Jesse and  
Leticia  
Zuniga**

Jesse is married to Leticia and they are the Zuniga's. They have three

children, Christian, Anaki, and Alexa. Jesse is a building engineer for Westdale Asset Management and has been for 17 years. Leticia has worked for the Dallas Central Appraisal office for 28 years. They have been married for 30 years as they were married in Mexico by Father Juan Gonzales. They both attended Sunset High School in Dallas and moved to Duncanville in 1997. They have been members of Holy Spirit for 18 years. Their goal as Catholics is to serve the Lord as best as they can as they do faith formation with their daughters. Jesse is a third degree Knight.

## Family of the Month May. 2025



**Rod and  
Lynn  
Kinard**

Rod Kinard was not born a Catholic, but became a Catholic because of his wife, Lynn, as he was born a

Baptist. He became a Catholic at Holy Spirit Catholic Church in the late 1980's. He and his wife, Lynn, have 5 children. Rod is from Abilene, TX, graduated from Oklahoma State University, and is

now an Environmental Manager at Oncore. He is also a hospitality minister (captain actually) at the 5pm mass on Sunday and his wife, Lynn, is a Eucharistic Minister at the same mass. Rod and Lynn spend much of their free time shepherding or babysitting their grandchildren. Rod's goal as a Catholic is to "live a good life."

## Family of the Month June. 2025



**Mike and  
Susan  
Fitzgerald**

It comes as no surprise that Mike and Susan Fitzgerald

were selected as the Family of the Month for June 2025. They both worked tirelessly during Mike's tenure as Grand Knight from June 2023 until June 2025. During those two years Mike cooked brisket for a number of events; he baked cookies at each fish fry event, and doubtlessly worked many hours preparing for the various meeting required of a Grand Knight. Mike joined the Knights in 1999 and has held the office of Treasurer for many years and Chancellor and Deputy Grand Knight as well. Mike was selected as the Knight of the Year in 2011. Susan is one of the founding members of the Catholic Daughters of America. In spite of their busy schedule, they are always smiling and in a happy disposition. Maybe their children and grandchildren have something to do with that huh? Mike and Susan were married in Minnesota 1990 and have three grown children and 13 grandchildren. Mike formerly worked for Alliance Insurance and Susan was a librarian in DeSoto. Both are now retired and have lived in Ovilla since 1986.

## It Was a Special Evening

To the 70+ Knights and their mates, the evening began around 5pm as they gathered for the Saturday evening Mass. The sense of togetherness and fraternity was obvious to any observer. After Mass, everyone gathered in the dining room for conversation and greeting and then the Officer Induction ceremony began. Fr. Uche, as the council's Chaplain, offered opening prayers and the ceremony was turned over to the District Deputy, Keban Alexander. The affair was quite formal with the new Officers fashionably dressed. Each new Officer received his commission by the District Deputy and then was presented with the corresponding medal signifying the office he was entrusted with. Oftentimes the medal was presented by the wife of the recipient. The aura of solemnity and formality made the whole ceremony very dignified. The new Officer's are:

|                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Chaplain -            | Fr. Uche         |
| Grand Knight -        | Marc Evans       |
| Deputy Grand Knight - | Paul Ryan        |
| Chancellor -          | Efrain Ochoa     |
| Recorder -            | Dr. Robert Nieto |
| Treasurer -           | James Smith      |
| Advocate -            | Russell Gull     |
| Warden -              | Jesse Radillo    |
| Inside Guard -        | Russell LeRoy    |
| Outside Guard -       | Joel Lopez       |
| Trustees -            | Mike Fitzgerald  |
|                       | Dan Murphy       |
|                       | Jim Russell      |

At the conclusion of the induction ceremony and a short break, this year's scholarship winners were introduced – and they were: Cooper Brady – grandson of Jim and Mary Russell. Maura Ryan – daughter of Paul and Coleen Ryan. Our very own Juan Hernandez. And lastly, Jeremiah Navarro – grandson of John and Bonnie Espree.

Following these ceremonies, dinner was ready to be served by the Catholic Daughters of America. Mike Fitzgerald, as usual, provide the main course of two choices of brisket plus pulled pork and James Smith provided the side dishes of mashed potatoes, rolls, chips and beans along with mummy cake (either chocolate or white).



Check out more details at [www.kofc8157.org](http://www.kofc8157.org)



## Final Fish Fry of 2025

The Lenten fish fries were concluded on Friday April 11, 2025. Attendance for the event was excellent, by all accounts. It was estimated (pretty accurately by Dan Murphy) that attendance was just over 1,500 folks who enjoyed a meal of two large pieces of catfish, French fries, hush puppies, salad or coleslaw, pickles, Jalapeno's and drinks. Folks were also able to convert their fish into fish tacos, if they so desired.



In order to serve these 1500 people, approximately 32 – 39 Knights pitched in each of the 6 Lenten Friday fish fries to prepare and serve the food and drinks. On the last fish fry on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 33 Knights worked and 6 wives and friends of the council participated as well. In no particular order they were: **James Smith, Jeff Traub, Steve Reid, Jorge Ruiz, Dan Murphy, Larry Balagna, Arthur Rodriguez, Doug Karpan, Marc Evans, John Owen, Jim Kowalski, Jim Ouimet, Efrain Ochoa, Mike Fitzgerald, Frank Salazar, Robert Tovar, Jorge Echeveste, Jorge Caraveo, Jesse Radillo, Russell, LeRoy, Pat Stepniewski, Lou Lemon, Rolando Sobalvarro, Greg Warr, Peter Perta, Antonio Razo, Russell Gully, Adan Luna, Tony Gonzalez, Jesse medina, Drew Carlson, Joel Lopez, and Jack Ramsden.** We certainly appreciate the help of **Norma Luna, Linda Reid, Judy Smith, Flor Echeveste, Holly Paterson, and Kitty Tovar.**

While there were other Knights that helped during the previous fish fries this year, many of the names were the same for all 6 events. It is indeed a tribute to the dedicated members of this council of the Knights of Columbus. For sure, there will be a repeat performance next year about the same time as we all prepare for the Easter Day. Thank you one and all.



## New Members



### Ricardo Santos

We welcomed new Brother Knight, Ricardo Santos, on Sunday, April 06, 2025. Ricardo and his wife, Emma, have been members of Holy Spirit for the past eight months. They previously attended Mass at Nuestra Senora Del Pilar Catholic Church for 10 years in Dallas. They have resided in their current address in Duncanville for one year and previously lived in Dallas for 10 years. Ricardo and Emma have been married for 10 years and been together for 20 years. They have two sons ages 20 and 19 years old and three daughters ages 11, 8 and 3. Ricardo was born in Toluca, Mexico and attended primary school there. Ricardo works in the construction industry as a carpenter for the past 8 years. Ricardo's hobbies include playing soccer and taking long walks along the beach with his children. Let's welcome Ricardo and introduce yourself next time you see him. Welcome aboard, Ricardo

### Randy Lampa



Not only is Randy a fine Catholic gentleman, he is the husband to Geraldine, and father of two, Leo (20) and Lanina (18). To make a living, Randy works as an equipment operator for Oncor. He and the family have lived in Duncanville and have been parishioners of Holy Spirit since 2008. On the side he likes to play golf and has a boat, which unfortunately,

sits mostly in their driveway. He's a proud member of the Filipino Catholic community, an Air Force veteran, and is very much looking forward to lending a hand at our council. Please welcome him.



### Philip Holifield

Philip (Phil) was born at Ft. Stewart, Georgia; but moved around a good bit because his father was a military man. He continued this trend of moving around after graduating from Cameron University in Lawton Oklahoma because he spent his working career at AAFES. In fact he retired from the home office here in Dallas after 31 years of service as Vice-president of store operations. He retired at the ripe old age of 52. His time with AAFES enabled him to travel around the world to various locations including Iraq during the war period. During one of his travels in 1987 (in Germany) he convinced Hazel to married him – the ceremony took place in Wales. Together they have raised 4 children and have been blessed with 8 grandchildren. They have lived in Cedar Hill for the past 7 years and followed Fr Uche from St. Elizabeth Catholic Church to Holy Spirit. Phil is active in the church as an altar server during daily Mass as well as a Hospitality Minister on Sundays. He also participates in the Rosary before the daily Mass. Golfing is one of his pastime activities; but his and Hazel's biggest past time activity is traveling. They have visited many, many countries already with plans to visit many more. When asked why he joined the Knights of Columbus he said, "John Espree handed me an application and I thought that was a message from the Lord – time to do it". Phil has already worked at the baseball concession stand and is willing he help where ever needed. Welcome aboard





## **Venancio Salina**

Please give  
Venancio  
Salinas a warm  
welcome to our  
Knights of  
Columbus

Council. Venancio and his family became members of Holy Spirit Parish when they moved from Nuestra Señora De Pilar located in Oak Cliff Texas where they were members for many years. It was where their daughters received their holy sacraments. Venancio and his wife Maria Guadalupe Salinas were married in San Luis Potosí México in the City of Ciudad Valles and came to Duncanville Texas, in 2003 and formed their family of 4 daughters – Samantha 13 years old, Evelyn 18 years old, Brenda 22 years old, and Stephanie 23 years old. Their 3 older girls are all graduated from high school and 2 have been in college and one fixing to go for the year of 2025/26 as Evelyn just graduated out of Duncanville High School. Both Venancio and wife Maria Guadalupe have been happily married for 25 years. Venancio works in the construction industry as a machine operator and mentioned that if there's a machine with diesel, he can operate it. So if there are any projects that come along using construction machinery, he sure can help. He wants to give a special thanks to Adan Luna for talking to him and convincing him to join the Knights of Columbus where he knows he'll fit right in our fraternal brotherhood. On his days off, he loves to spend time outside making sure all his trees and bushes are looking in top shape along with his garden and other landscape as that is his relaxing time with family involved. Again welcome our new brother Venancio.