

# Knights Life



## It's been a Busy Time



Each year in the fall the Knights of Columbus are challenged with concurring events. This year was no different in that while the Knights worked many many hours setting up and cooking and tearing down the fall Festival, the Knights were also busy with Cedar Hill Baseball games and Knights Hands also worked a number of projects. Truly the Knights of this council should be proud of all the work and effort our members contribute to the welfare of our parish and the community at large. I, for one, am proud to be a small part of the effort to make our corner of the world a little bit better. I would encourage

you to read the full stories about the recent events by logging onto [www.kofc8157.org](http://www.kofc8157.org) and read the specifics about the recent events as well viewing pictures of the same.



## 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

<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Fr. Uche</b>
<b>Grand Knight</b>	<b>Marc Evans</b>
<b>Deputy Grand Knight</b>	<b>Paul Ryan</b>
<b>Chancellor</b>	<b>Efrain Ochoa</b>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Roberto Nieto</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>James Smith</b>
<b>Warden</b>	<b>Jesse Radillo</b>
<b>Inside Guard</b>	<b>Russell LeRoy</b>
<b>Outside Guard</b>	<b>Joel Lopez</b>
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	<b>Peter Perta</b>
<b>Advocate</b>	<b>Russell Gully</b>
<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Jim Russell</b>
	<b>Mike Fitzgerald</b>
	<b>Dan Murphy</b>

### Service Program Directors

<b>Concessions</b>	<b>James Smith</b>
<b>Church Activities</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Faith</b>	<b>Charles Ruelas</b>
<b>Life</b>	<b>Mike Moloughney</b>
<b>Youth Activities</b>	<b>Mike Moloughney</b>
<b>Knight Hands</b>	<b>Allen Reitmeier</b>
<b>Retention</b>	<b>Paul Ryan</b>
<b>Membership</b>	<b>Jim Kowalski</b>

**Community  
Degree Team  
Sacramental Gifts  
Safe Environment  
Health Activities  
Lecturer**

**Dan Murphy  
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

<b>Website address</b>	kofc8157.org
<b>Website Editor</b>	Allen Reitmeier
<b>Website Admins</b>	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 July. 2025



### Russell LeRoy

Russ LeRoy will be busy this weekend like always doing the Color Guard as he is a 4th degree Knight. You can sometimes see him doing so at events that have the Knights of

Columbus participating

indicating and representing all of the things the Knights stand for. Russ is 78 years old and says he is still very proud to be part of an organization that doesn't have a blemish regarding its interest in society. "It is a bunch of good guys that have their heart in all of what they do", he says. He has been retired now for 3 years from the hard working as well as complicated industry of heavy equipment repair, namely bulldozers, and off-road equipment as well as parts. Russ is passionate about his mark and dedication to the job that he had, which is just about everything, but was a general sales manager within the industry as well. He was at a company called Trek when he did this with all of the know-how that he has. He's married to Therese, and they have three children. They also have 5 grandkids and 3 great grandkids all of whom call him, "Paca."

does the work. He volunteers because he is inspired to help people. Zack has been substitute teaching at Saint Pious X kindergarten class as well as the fourth grade class for the Catholic diocese. He is also trying to finish his doctoral work in organizational leadership. Zack is from Kingsville, TX. but has moved around quite a bit because of his father being a pentecostal minister. He converted to Catholicism over 30 years ago. That is where he attended Blessed Sacrament in 1995 and was in the choir; also where he was married in 1998. They also have attended St. Michael's in Grand Prairie, but have been at Holy Spirit now for about 4 years. He would like to continue volunteering with the diocese as he was also a member of the recent ACTS retreat men's team. He was one of the 18 group members who serviced and put together the retreat itself for the 16 retreatants

## Knight of the Month Sept. 2025



### John Owen

Congratulations to John Owen for receiving the Knight of the Month for September. 2025 He and his wife, Anne, met at Holy Spirit Catholic Church during a marriage ministry class and were married at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma 37

years ago. They have 3 kids, 2 boys and 1 girl. They are Katie, Thomas, and Daniel. Their daughter Katie got married in 2019 at Holy Spirit and both of their boys were married last year. They have one grandchild belonging to their daughter, Katie. John is from Midland, TX and is a retired engineer working for Oncor part time within his retirement status. He has been in the DFW area for over 40 years. He attended college at Texas Tech University earning a degree in Electrical Engineering. He says his job covered a large territory inside Texas as he worked in the transmissions (high voltage) operations department for 44 years ever since it was Dallas Power and Light then TU then TXU and then Oncor. Now that he is retired, John would like to focus more on church activities, spending time with the family, and traveling. One of the things to do is to take a train ride across the country of Canada with his family.

## Knight of the Month Aug. 2025



### Zach Cazares

Congratulations, Zack, on receiving Knight of the Month! Zack has been busy with the Knights of Columbus; being

inspired by Allen Reitmeier to do sink repair, commode installations as well as tree trimming. He says he very much appreciates the recognition, but that is not why he

## Friday Afternoon Treats

When composing this story, I was surprised to find that “free snow cones” have been around since 2017. The brain child of Andy Goza (1965-2019), in conjunction with James Smith and Jim Stavinoha, “free snow cones” started out very simple and quite slow. But over the years the “free snow cone” program’s momentum has escalated and these days, there are usually 30-40 kids brought to the Community Center by their parents, grandparents, or great grandparents, for a tasty treat of either a 12oz. Tiger Blood, Blue Coconut or Green Apple snow cone.



Originally the snow cones were served under the bell tower, but are now dispensed in the cooler shade of the

Community Center. And to my surprise, the crew of Knights and helpers were serving more than just snow cones – lemonade or iced tea along with watermelon slices were also served. So it’s not simple or slow anymore.



James Smith continues to be the most senior Knight in the snow cone business; but he has

been ably assisted over the years by David and Veronica Ybarra, Keith and Mary Archer, and today’s crew of Cappy Wood, Jim and Mary Russell, Jeff Traub, Joe Eubank and Marc Evans. My understanding is that the snow cone crew gets a lot of

repeat customers. It’s more than a snow cone giveaway as well; it is a social event for those receiving snow cones and those serving the treats. The kids and their caretakers linger around and converse with each other and those serving the snow cones. Just a win, win situation, to my way of thinking.



James says he keeps this program going to “give kids something that makes them happy”. Snow cones are served 4

Fridays each summer. There were lots of warm and fuzzy feelings around the Community center this past Friday,



August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for the last Friday snow cone giveaway of the year.

The council is proud and grateful to all who spend time organizing this event and look forward to more snow cones next year. Good job, gang.





## Family of the Month July, 2025



### Jack and Juanita Ramsden

Jack and Juanita Ramsden have been coming to Holy Spirit Catholic Church since

2009 when they converted to being Catholic. They have been married for 32 years and have four kids (Julie, Holly, Mike, and Lisa), seven grandkids and 1 five year old great grandchild. They also have 5 dogs and are dog rescuers. Jack was born and raised in Dallas and Juanita is from northern California, but grew up in Brownwood, TX. Jack has one brother and Juanita is the youngest of 8 kids. Juanita is retired from Aafes and has been since 2008. Aafes paid for her college education which she received from Auburn University in Alabama. Jack went to Stephen F. Austin and UTA and has 4 years of collegiate experience. Jack is retired from owning a small machine shop in Oak Cliff, TX. They live in Duncanville, but had lived in Cedar Hill for a little while. They attend the 7:30am mass on Sunday and volunteer for Community Life and Outreach ministries. They are usually busy with funeral processions and meals on wheels. They attend and volunteer for the Fall Festival. Their goal as Catholics is to help each other get to heaven as well as other parishioners

## Family of the Month Aug. 2025



### Isahi and Melissa Arellano

Isahi says that he thinks they received Family of the Month all because of his

wife and her involvement at Holy Spirit. She has been helping plan for the fall festival, handing out flyers, faith

formation, and the vocation ministry as well as Catholic Daughters of America. They have been coming to Holy Spirit for 2 years and live in Duncanville. Isahi and Melissa were married in Dallas in 2018 and then married at the church 2024 here at Holy Spirit Catholic. They have 2 kids; Danny (4 years), Maya (6 years). Isahi works as the production manager at Positive Marketing - a print shop. Melissa, his wife, is a stay at home Mom. Isahi is involved with the vocation ministry and will be attending his first ACTS retreat in September. He says they became more involved with their Catholic faith after the baptism of their children as they were called by the Holy Spirit to do so in order to grow in their faith. Isahi also says that he was mostly encouraged by his wife to become a Knight

## Family of the Month Sept. 2025



### Kyle and Kelsey Gillespy

Kyle and Kelsey Gillespy have been married now for thirteen years. They have spent ten years at Holy Spirit

Catholic Church. Kelsey is from St. Louis, MO while Kyle is from just down the road in Grand Prairie, TX. They have a family of six children (Marie, Elizabeth, John, Catherine, Philip, and Teresa). They live in Cedar Hill. Kyle was raised Catholic and his wife, Kelsey, was baptized at 21 years and then joined a few years later. Kyle is on the parish advisory council and they, together, helped with youth ministry while Kelsey is a lector. Two of their kids are altar servers, Marie and Elizabeth. He says he volunteers his time outside of the church at any of the kids' sporting seasons for baseball, soccer, basketball as a coach. Kelsey is a full time Mom at home as she home schools her kids. She is also a writer and has published two books in her career. She also attended graduate school at the University of Missouri and in her undergraduate days at Indiana State she received honors of being inducted into the basketball hall of fame. Kyle attended high school at South Grand Prairie High School and went to college at Incarnate Word in San Antonio, TX. He now works as a sales team leader. Kyle says his goal for him and his wife is to simply get to heaven!

## New Members



**Gerardo  
Terron –  
July 2025**

Brother  
Knights,  
give a warm  
welcome to  
our new  
member,  
Gerardo  
Terron, to  
our fraternal

brotherhood Knights of Columbus. Gerardo and his family have lived here in Duncanville for 19 years and been members of Holy Spirit for 14 years. He talks about how he feels that he has been called upon by our Father, God to be part of more church activities and learning more about our Lord Jesus Christ. One day, he was speaking to his wife and told her he would love to be part of a group at church and then later on Adan Luna appeared and asked him to be part of the Knights Of Columbus; he smiled and said he knew that the Lord has sent this respectful and faithful servant to invite him to something that will be changing his life. Gerardo and his wife Mercedalia met in Dallas in 1998. He has a beautiful story about how they met through his father in law. They formed a beautiful family of three: Gerardo Junior, Kimberly, and Jesus. Their children received their holy sacraments at Santa Clara and at Holy Spirit. Gerardo talks about how blessed he feels that back in 2018 as his oldest graduated, he wanted him to be in the medical field; but God had other things planned for them and now his oldest and Gerardo are owners of a paint and body shop in Cedar Hill Texas. Gerardo went to school for small business management here in Dallas and finished high school in Toluca Mexico where he was born and grew up. He says his daily hobby is to wake up and thank the Lord and have a peaceful walk with his wife at the Cedar Ridge preserve park . He said his intention is to help the

community and be more close to God's gifts and learning more about our faith in Jesus Christ. I truly believe he has been directed to the right place and will be a great asset to our council 8157.



**Alejandro  
Garcia  
July 2025**

We welcomed  
new Brother  
Knight  
Alejandro  
Garcia, on  
Sunday, July  
13, 2025.

Alejandro and his wife Catalina Vasquez have been members of Holy Spirit for the past four (4) years. They previously attended mass at St. James Catholic Church for 29 years in Dallas/Oak Cliff. They have resided in their current address in Duncanville for 17 years. Alejandro and Catalina have been married for 38 years and they have three sons ages 37, 26 & 24 yrs. old and a daughter who is 36 yrs. old and 6 grandchildren. Alejandro was born and raised in Xochihuehuetlan, State of Guerrero and attended Primary school there. He served his mandated military service in Mexico City. Alejandro has been employed with Fire United Sprinkler Systems for the past four years in Installations. Alejandro also worked 20 yrs.at a local steak house. Alejandro joined the Knights, to get involved with his fellow parishioners and helping others in any way he can. Alejandro volunteered for 2 years with the Guadalupana group while a member of St. James Catholic Church. Let's welcome Alejandro and introduce yourself next time you see him.



**Juan  
Espinosa**

**Sept. 2025**

Juan has  
been a

lifelong native of Dallas and is a fairly new parishioner of Holy Spirit. Although he was baptized in the Catholic Church as a child, he was not brought up actively in the church. Now he is very proud to be in full communion having gone through the OCIA process early in the year. He received the Blessed Sacrament for the first time and was confirmed on Easter. He has two boys and graduated from Western Governors University with his Bachelor of Science in Business Management. He has worked in both the hospitality and business operations fields, and is currently employed by Deloitte. As a practicing Catholic now, Juan enjoys the community that the church provides and is now focused on giving back and ensuring both of his boys know the faith.



**Gerardo  
Pina  
Sept. 2025**

We  
welcomed  
new Brother  
Knight,  
Gerardo  
Pina, on  
Sunday  
Sept. 14,

2025. Gerardo and his wife, Diana, have been members of Holy Spirit for the past two (2) years. Previously the Pina family attended mass at St. James Catholic Church in Dallas for the 29 years before joining Holy Spirit. They have resided in their current address in Duncanville for 18 years. Gerardo and Diana have been married for 30 years and have two sons, ages 28, and 23 years old. Gerardo was born and raised in Coahuila, Mexico and attended primary school there. Gerardo has been employed with a trucking company for the past fourteen years as a driver. Gerardo got off to a fast start since joining the Knights by helping out at the concession stand and helping at this weekend's Fall Festival with his fellow KC brothers and fellow parishioners. Gerardo hobbies include playing baseball when he was younger and now just watching baseball games. Let's welcome Gerardo and introduce yourself next time you see him.