

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

Lenten Fish Fries - 2023



For the 6 Fridays of Lent in 2023, Knights of Columbus put their hands and hearts together to cook and serve fish, coleslaw/salad, french fries, hush puppies, fish tacos, and drinks to about 1,400 guests in the Community Center Gymnasium.

61 Knights or friends of Knights worked to make this happen. Everyone had a role to play and did so with open hearts. Some worked every week, some a few times. Some worked long hours, others less time

All in all a huge undertaking headed up by James Smith. A special shout out to Dan Murphy who bought and inventoried most of the raw materials need for the fish fries. A special “thank you” also goes out to Mike Fitzgerald who made like a million cookies which were sold by the Catholic Daughters. And let’s not forget Alex Sabo and his relentless effort to support pro-life by selling raffle tickets.

This effort was for the church community; this was not an undertaking to earn money. To bring folks in our parish community to come together and share a meal was our objective and about 1,400 people took advantage of this opportunity. So a salute to those who contributed in some way to the success of the Lenten fish fries of 2023.

Gonzalo Aillon, Keith Archer, Mary Archer, Ben Burns, Tim Burns, Billy Calender, Martin Calaco, Fred Ciarochi, Michael Clark, Gilbert Compos, Eric Conner, Joe Cuellar, David Dybala, John Espree, Al Evans, Marc Evans, Cindy Florentes, Eduardo Florentes, Mike Fitzgerald, Gamaliel Hernandez, Joe Hernandez, Russell Gully, Doug Karpan, Dan Keough, Rod Kinard, Russell LeRoy, Hector Lopez, Adan Luna, Ben Luna, Jeff Miller, Jose Montoya, Dan Murphy, Robert Nieto, Efrain Ochoa, John Owen, Jim Ouimet, Peter Perta, Ramon Presas, Jesse Radillo, Jose Luis Ramirez, Jack Ramsden, Steve Reid, Allen Reitmeier, Antonio Rodriguez, Jim Russell, Hector Rubio, Jorge Ruiz, Frank Salazar, Otto Santiago, James Smith, Rolando Sobalvarro, Jeff Traub, Cesar Villareal, Issy Via, Riley Via, Greg Warr, Cappie Wood, David Ybarra, Robby Zablan, Steve Zehnder, and Jesse Zuniga.



Visit our website (www.kofc8157.org) for more stories and pictures.

Thanks Everyone

About our 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 86 - Assembly 2799

The council Officers listed below were officially elected for their 1st term in office on June 7, 2022. Their term runs through June 2023

Chaplain	Fr. Steve
Grand Knight	Jim Russell
Deputy Grand Knight	Mike Fitzgerald
Chancellor	Paul Ryan
Recording Secretary	Ramon Presas
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	Efrain Ochoa
Inside Guard	Steve Reid
Outside Guard	Russell LeRoy
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Trustees	Tom Greco
	David Dybala
	Dan Schneider

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	James Smith
Church Activities	Open
Family	Open
Faith	Al Evans
Life	Mike Moloughney
Youth Activities	Mike Moloughney
Knight Hands	David Dybala
Retention	Paul Ryan

Membership	Jim Kowalski
Council Activities	Open
Disaster Preparedness	Open
Degree Team	Tom Greco
Sacramental Gifts	Keith Archer
Safe Environment	Russell LeRoy
Health Activities	Robert Nieto
Lecturer	Open

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
Jeff Miller, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz

Newsletter and Website Photographer
Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Leon Cornute, Arthur Rodriguez.

Council Website

Website address kofc8157.org
Website Editor Jorge Ruiz
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: admin@kofc8157.org

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 Jan 2023



**Mario
Tiambeng**

Mario is a third degree Knight. He and his wife Rebecca live in Duncanville. Mario is a long time catechist is the Youth Faith Formation

program. He also anchors the Funeral Ministry for the parish. During other bits of his free time, Mario serves as Extraordinary Minister of Communion, serves at Lectors at nearly all daily Masses, coordinates many of the daily Masses and officiates Communion services when a priest is not available to say Mass. Watch out for Mario's dry and quick wit!. Maybe join him for a cup of coffee after weekday Mass and see how you can get involved in one of his ministries. Mario's plate is so full of church activities that he says "I just don't have enough spare time to help with Knights of Columbus activities". Looking at all the work he does it's easy to agree with that.

Knight of the Month Mar 2023



David Ybarra

Knight of the Month Feb 2023



**Jose Luis
Ramariz**

Castle Building by Knight Hands



The finished product looks like a castle but in fact it is a playground set for youngsters. Knight Hands got involved when Rachel Cromwell-Reetz (Holy Spirit Youth Ministry Coordinator) contacted David Dybala (Director of Knight Hands) asking if Knight Hands could assemble the playground for her grandkids whose parents are Tiffany and Patrick Bryant. David said “sure”, and so on Thursday morning February 9, 2023, David Dybala, Dan Murphy, Allen Reitmeier, David Ybarra, Jesse Radillo, Jose Montoya, and Larry Balagna arrived at 6108 Hedgeapple Court in Arlington to tackle this project. At first blush this job appears relatively simple. But in reality it was extremely complicated. First off there were 491 pieces of lumber that had to be assembled in the proper order. There were numerous bags of bolts, nuts and screws of various sizes and lengths that had to be used in the proper

location as well. There were 48 pages of instructions on how to do this bad boy – Whew!!



After leveling a spot in the back yard, Jose Montoya and Dan Murphy, David Ybarra and Jesse Radillo started with the platform construction while David Dybala, Allen Reitmeier, and Larry Balagna started assembling the round turret.



As time went on we developed into a rhythm where Jose Montoya would study the drawing, announce the pieces to use and the required fasteners, and the rest of us would then locate them and install those pieces in the proper order and place. This was complicated by the fact that these 491 wood pieces were randomly packed in 5 large boxes – so each piece had to be searched out and identified by very difficult markings. Slowly and steadily as the day wore on, the playground set came into shape and by the end of day #1, the basic components had been installed. Those components were the playground platform, the ladder,

the various decks, the turret, the slide, and the rock climbing wall. We started at 8:30am and knocked off work about 5:30pm – so a pretty full day. We snacked on pigs-in-blanket and bearclaw pastry along with water, soft drinks, and Gatorade. Coffee was provided by Tiffany. We – David Dybala, Larry Balagna, Dan Murphy, Allen Reitmeier, and Jesse Radillo – completed the work on Friday February 10th. Again we started about 8:30am and the days’ work consisted mainly of installing the various roofs on the playground, as well as assembling a miniature picnic table. This day Dan Murphy determined which piece went where and the rest of us installed them.

There were also many final details that had to be completed before we could say the job was done. By 12:30pm the job was complete. In total Knight Hands contributed approximately 80 man hours of volunteer hours. If you have ever assembled a piece of IKEA furniture; this was just like it times a thousand. Thanks men – you did well.



Have you heard about environmental walls?

Me neither. So it was an interesting request by Kristine Kurrasch – Holy Spirit’s Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry when she asked Knight Hands to build 5 of the walls. These walls will be used as background when Kristine is teaching classes. She also wanted these “on the cheap” and, in fact suggested we use discarded pallet wood. She also asked that they be on wheels so that they could be easily moved around from place to place.



Knight Hands seldom walk away from a challenge; so we proceeded to procure wood from discarded fencing in the neighborhood. Dan Murphy and Allen Reitmeier disassembled these fence sections and after much sawing and resurfacing, this discarded fencing turned into what you see above. The mill work and construction was done in the workshop (garage) of Allen Reitmeier with the majority of the work done by Allen; but was assisted on two afternoon by Jose Montoya. Kristine and the church seemed quite pleased with the final product, particularly the cost of each wall (about \$32). The only thing Knight Hands purchased were the casters, a box of lag screws and a couple 2 x 4’s. Knight Hands’ contribution to this project was approximately 34 hours of labor – time well spent.

Family of the Month Jan 2023



**Reynaldo and
Elsa Estrellas**

Reynaldo is a third degree Knight. He lives in the parish along with his wife Elsa. You will see Reynaldo's

characteristic smile as he is serving as a Hospitality Minister during weekday Mass. You will also see Elsa as Sunday 9am Mass, usually sitting in the choir section and periodically serving as Cantor – what a beautiful voice. For sure, you can see Reynaldo serve as Eucharistic Minister during the 9am Mass every Sunday. Together they make a wonderful pair serving their parish community. Reynaldo and Elsa have also been spotted working at the concession in Cedar Hill. Ask them about the many pilgrimages they've taken with Fr. Eugene.

Family of the Month Mar 2023



**David and
Clara
Dybala**

Family of the Month Feb 2023



**Russell
and
Therese
LeRoy**

Play Ball

The umpire's cry of "Play Ball" could be heard on Saturday midday on March 18, 2023 at Valley Ridge Park in Cedar Hill as the Little League Baseball season began. While there are less scheduled league games than in pre-pandemic years, there is still plenty of work to be done to generate funds for our council. The baseball concession stand is still the primary source of income for our council. James Smith, Director of Concessions, noted that there will be tournaments from time to time during the spring baseball season; in fact, as this article is being written the first of these tournaments is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday April 15 -16th. James also asks that when you are called upon by Miguel Hernandez to work a shift at the ballpark, that you respond as quickly as you can with either a yeah or a nay so that Miguel can properly schedule workers for these games. The baseball committee appreciates all those who give of their time and talent to properly serve food and drink to our many baseball customers.



New Knights



Fred Ciarochi – 2022

Our Brother Fred Ciarochi, M.D. was born and raised in Uniontown, in the coal country of western

Pennsylvania. After graduating from St John Roman Catholic high school, he attended St. Vincent College and then on to the University of Pittsburgh Medical School and service at Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh. After his first year at St. Vincent's he met Sandi, a young lady who was attending Seaton Hill College. Their first date was on her birthday.

Doctor Fred trained as an Internal Medicine Resident at what is now the UPMC Mercy hospital and did his post-doctoral fellowship at Pitt (UPMC Presbyterian). He volunteered for the US Navy and served as a Lieutenant Commander at the US Naval Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas.

The growing Ciarochi family so enjoyed their tour in Corpus Christi that when Dr. Fred learned that Methodist Hospital in Dallas was opening a second hospital and a diabetes unit they moved, setting up a new home in Duncanville, arriving on July 4, 1976. His previous pastor knew that Fr. Robert Sykora was starting a new catholic church in Duncanville and on their first Sunday they set out to find it. They had an address but there was no church building at 1111 Daniieldale Road. Instead, they discovered a group of people gathered under some trees east of what is now the church parking lot. It was the first mass on the church property.

He and Sandi have three children. All three are graduates of Duncanville High School and were active in Holy Spirit programs and activities. Brother Fred's Knights career started at an early age. While in high school he joined Colombian Squires Council 1275 in Union City, PA. Membership in the adult Knights had to take a back seat to his career in medicine but he had the examples of his father and father in law who were both 4th degree knights. Retirement and a desire to contribute more to the parish and to the community led Brother Fred to join our council.