

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

Breakfast with St. Nick

There are so many special days during the year in which our council and Holy Spirit parish come together to provide a memorable and rewarding experience for parishioners and their relatives and guests. One such occasion is Children's Faith Formation's "Breakfast with St. Nicholas," which was held on Sunday, Dec. 10.

It's a time in which "all out" is the best way to describe the combination of preparation and execution performed by the parish staff, under the direction of Deborah Pearson, and the council, led by church activities director Jim Stavinoha. An estimated 400 guests were served a breakfast that featured scrambled eggs, pancakes, bacon, sausage, tortillas, hash brown casserole plus biscuits and gravy. With the request to either bring a new, unwrapped toy or make a financial contribution, more than \$960 was collected — topping last year's total by \$235 — along with about 350 toys. The donations will be presented to the [Better Tomorrows](#) shelters of Dallas County.

The Knights proved they can even go "two-deep" when it comes to providing the individual at the center of the event's activities. Our Leo Mattingly has long been the council's "go-to" St. Nick for years for obvious reasons. Leo was feeling under the weather going into the weekend, and Chris Edwards stepped forward to grab the mitre and patiently listen to each child's Christmas wishes. "Glad to do it," Chris said with a beaming smile from behind a beard that, while not yet in Leo's category, did the trick for each enchanted youngster.

KC math was again on display with a request that went out for "about 10" Knights, resulting in about twice that number reporting to help — many well before the requested starting time of 6:30 a.m. Joining Jim and Chris were Ernest Alvarez Jr., John Espree, Elvis Fajardo, (plus wife Thelma and daughters Ana-Isbel and Vanessa), Tony Gonzalez, Andy Goza, Gerald Jacob, Mario Mejia, Jeff Miller, Agustin Perez (plus wife Flora and daughter Joanna), Jesse Radillo, Jack Ramsden, Allen Reitmeier,

Jim Richardson, Jorge Ruiz, Jim Russell and James Smith.

Jim Russell's wife, Mary, again conducted an entertaining concert from her youth choir that included children of council members. Devin Buschow's youth ministry provided numerous elves that added to the youngsters' enjoyment.

All in all, it was another day to be proud to be a member of Council 8157 and of Holy Spirit parish.

"I'd like to say thank you to the tremendous outpouring of support from the KC's on this event," Deborah said afterward. "It's amazing to see so many men cooking in a kitchen ... lol. This event continues to grow every year and showcases what an outstanding parish community we have. I am truly honored to be a part of it."



About our Council

Council Monthly Meetings

General Meeting every 1st Tuesday 7:30pm
Officer's & Directors every 3rd Tuesday 7:30pm

Postal address and meeting location

1111 W Danieldale Rd. Room 221
Duncanville Tx, 75116 USA
972-298-4971

KC District 86 - Assembly 2799

The council Officers listed below were officially installed for their 2nd term in office on July 8, 2017. Their term runs through June 2018

Grand Knight	Jim Richardson
Deputy Grand Knight	Tom Greco
Chancellor	Jeff Miller
Recording Secretary	Jim Stavinoha
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	La'Don Wright
Inside Guard	Sanka Jayasinghe
Outside Guard	Tony Gonzalez
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Lecturer	Jim Russell
District Deputy	Andy Goza
Chaplain	Fr. Joe Lee
Trustees	Nick Kleinhaus, 3-year Frank Salazar, 2-year Mike Fitzgerald, 1-year

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Football Committee	Jim Richardson
Church Activities	Jim Stavinoha
Community Activities	Dan Murphy
Council Activities	Andy Goza

Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Pat Stepniewski
Pro-Like Activities	Mike Moloughney
Youth Activities	Larry Dumais
	Art Senato

Knights Life Newsletter

Our Newsletter is published quarterly at the end of the following months: March, June, September, and December. 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 will be available at the general meeting.

Newsletter Editor and Publisher Allen Reitmeier

Newsletter & Website Writers
Jeff Miller, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz

Newsletter and Website Photographer
Tony Gonzalez, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Andy Goza

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 stand at the general meeting

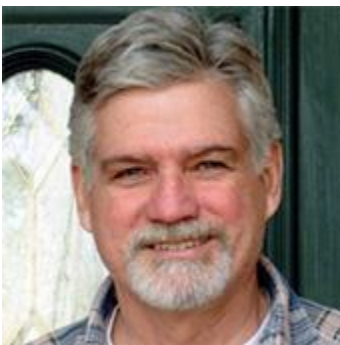
Knight of the Month Oct 2017



Jesse Radillo

If you saw Jesse flipping burgers during the parish's fall festival, you probably didn't recognize him as a man playing with pain. Three broken ribs, to be exact. That happened when he was helping a contractor work on a porch at his Duncanville home and he slipped off a ladder. "It hurts when I sneeze," Jesse reported. The injury has slowed Jesse but hardly stopped him. He joined our council in October 2013 and, in doing so, became a second-generation Knight. His father, Eduardo, was a KC member in the 1950s. Jesse's family moved from Mexico to El Paso when he was about 2 years old. He graduated from El Paso's Bel Air High. That's where he met his wife of 30 years, Teri. Jesse works for Texas Trust Credit Union as a combination facilities coordinator and courier. Teri is a hairdresser. They have one adopted daughter, Mia, who attended UT-Arlington.

Knight of the Month Nov 2017



David Dybala

David is a soft-spoken leader by example in our council, which he has been a member of since 1985. He's one of the "go-to" workers when a Knight Hands project needs to be tackled. David, power drill in hand, is typically one of the first helpers to arrive when it's time to set up the midway for the parish's annual Fall Festival and take it all down a few days later. He joined the Knights in 1980, when he and wife Clara lived in Waco and were parishioners at St. Mary of the Assumption, David was the Grand Knight of Council 1358 there and a member of their degree

team, which he also is for us. Outside of the Knights, David is a member of Holy Spirit's 9:30 choir and is one of the leaders of the parish's ACTS group. David and Clara are from the Houston area and married in 1971, a few months before he graduated from Texas A&M. They have two grown children and four grandchildren.

Knight of the Month Nov 2017



Arthur Rodriguez

Arthur was one of our council's many military veterans who gave back to the cause in volunteering at 8157's annual cookout at the VA hospital on Lancaster Avenue in Dallas on the Friday before Veterans Day. He likewise was among those who reported to Holy Spirit early on a Saturday morning a few weeks earlier to help staff what has become our semi-annual cookout at the St. Joseph Residence home in Oak Cliff. He has quietly gone about his business as a KC member since joining the Order in May 2014 and as a parishioner since joining Holy Spirit in 1975. Arthur's family moved from Kingsville to the Dallas area in the 1950s, and he graduated from Crozier Tech. He spent nearly four years in the U.S. Air Force during the mid-'60s, including deployment to Vietnam. Arthur retired from General Electric's operations at Love Field in 2005. He and wife Olga have been married for about four years. In addition to his council involvement, Arthur volunteers with Holy Spirit's outreach ministry taking Holy Communion to the sick and homebound and has been active in the parish's music ministry.

Parish staff appreciation luncheon – October 2017

About a dozen Knights participated in the council's first appreciation luncheon for Holy Spirit's parish staff on Wednesday, Oct. 24. The luncheon was the brainchild of our director of church activities, Jim Stavinoha. Fr. Joe Lee and Fr. Eugene Okoli and most of the parish staffers were treated to a luncheon of roast beef, chicken, twice-baked potatoes, multiple vegetables, salad (in edible bowls that Jim made), banana pudding and peach cobbler.

Jim Richardson spoke to the luncheon guests and explained the mission of the Knights and detailed many of the impressive accomplishments, of both the Order worldwide and what has been done here at Council 8157 for years.



One of our council's annual practices has been to make donations to the parish, earmarked for the various ministries. That has typically been done in a small meeting involving a couple of parish employees and no more than a handful of 8157 representatives. The establishment of the luncheon made possible the opportunity to present the 2017-18 donation

check in a more public setting, which Jim Richardson did in make the presentation to Fr. Joe.



But there were other presentations to make, by Jim Stavinoha. He told Cindy Meyer, director of community life, that the council would follow up on paying the expenses for the 2017 parish Pentecost picnic, which doubles as

Holy Spirit's anniversary date, by footing the bill again in 2018. Jim then told Deborah Pearson, director of the parish's youth faith formation ministry, that the council would pay the tuition of 100 Vacation Bible School students and would also pay for their VBS t-shirts.

Representing the council in addition to Jim and Jim were Jim Russell, James Smith, Larry Balagna, Jack Ramsden, Andy Goza, Tom Greco, Jeff Miller and Arthur Rodriguez. Also enjoying the meal were Jim Richardson's wife, Denise, Jim Russell's wife, Mary, and his mother, James' wife, Judy, daughter Jamie and granddaughters Caroline and Jonnie Marie, Arthur's wife, Olga. Jim Stavinoha. Jim Russell, James Smith, Jack Ramsden and Larry Balagna were the heavy lifters in preparing the luncheon. The event was extremely well received (Fr. Eugene announced immediately on the serving line that he would return for a second helping) and looks like it will become part of the council's annual calendar.

St. Joseph's Residence cookout – Fall 2017

Service to our Catholic community was on display on Saturday, Oct. 14, when more than a dozen Council 8157 members prepared and served what has become the annual fall luncheon to about 100 residents, relatives and staff members of the [St. Joseph's Residence home](#) in Oak Cliff that's operated by the Diocese of Dallas.

Richard Hohman, the home's assistant director, is a KC member living in Irving. He spoke on behalf of the Sisters who operate the home (and live there) and the almost 50 residents.

"It makes me proud to witness the Knights of Columbus Duncanville council continually bring joy and nourishment to the residents," Richard said. "Year after year, your group offers a fun-filled afternoon by providing a picnic feast for the residents, families and staff at St. Joseph's. It never ceases to amaze me the generosity and kindness the Knights bring not only to us but to many surrounding communities.

"The residents know these Knights and can't wait to see them again and again. The Duncanville council is so well organized and efficient, the food service goes on without a hitch. There is ample food, refreshments and desserts that even the hungriest residents get their fill."

On hand from our council were Grand Knight Jim Richardson, District Deputy Andy Goza, Al and Allen Alonzo, Larry Balagna, Billy Callender, Mike Fitzgerald, Tony Gonzalez, Jeff Miller and wife Frances, Jose Montoya, Efrain Ochoa, Jack Ramsden, Arthur Rodriguez, Frank Salazar, Art Senato and David Ybarra. Jorge Ruiz reported for duty at the parish community center on Saturday and, upon recognizing that the luncheon would be adequately staffed, volunteered elsewhere that day.

The home opened in 1955 and is the only Catholic senior assisted-living center in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The diocese operates the home with the assistance of

the Sisters of the Bethlehemite Order, four of whom live at the home. Sister Carolina Sanchez Botero has been the home's director since 2007, having left her native Colombia for the United States in 1963.



“This isn’t an institution; this is our home,” Sister Carolina said. “We do not want a home that isn’t a happy home.” Our council has been providing a cookout around Mothers’ Day for many years at the home and recently added the fall event to our

calendar. Billy, Efrain, Jack and Jose manned the grill out back to whip up dozens of hamburgers and hot dogs while the others set up the serving line and got the drinks and condiments in readiness. Mike prepared his signature baked beans and cookies at home. The luncheon was served after Father Ben Molina from St. Elizabeth of Hungary celebrated Mass in the home’s chapel and then asked the blessing.

“From all the residents, families, staff and especially the Sisters, we cannot express our appreciation enough to the Duncanville council for everything you do,” Richard added. “A huge thank you to these dedicated men and lady volunteers who give up their valuable time to bring a smile, laughter and a wonderful afternoon to the seniors at St. Joseph’s Residence. This is truly a giving and sharing moment that is a testament of our faith and service to our Lord. God bless you guys.”

VA hospital cookout – November 2017

The irony was unavoidable during the closing minutes of our council’s annual cookout at the Veterans

Administration hospital on Lancaster Avenue in Dallas on Friday, Nov. 10. One of the guests had finished his lunch of a hot dog, hamburger, baked beans, cookie and chips and was heading out of the conference room/dining hall when he turned to one of the KC members and said, “Thank you for your service.” That, of course, is why Council 8157 travels to the hospital each Veterans Day, to thank *them* for their service.

This year’s cookout was held one day before Veterans Day since the actual holiday fell on a Saturday and other events were planned at the hospital. Our council was led by Dan Murphy, director of community activities, and Bill Dover, our regular liaison to the hospital. Joining them were Grand Knight Jim Richardson, Deputy Grand Knight Tom Greco, Andy Goza, Al and Allen Alonzo, Larry Balagna, Dan Keough, Jeff Miller, Jose Montoya, Ed O’Brien, Ken Rarick, Allen Reitmeier, Arthur Rodriguez, Jim Stavinoha and David Ybarra, We were joined by others from Council 12484 from St. Francis of Assisi in Lancaster and Council 7017 from Holy Cross in Dallas. The majority of Knights who helped that day were serving brothers in arms, being veterans themselves.

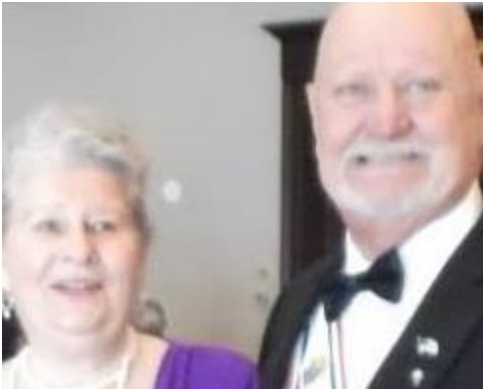
Dan is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and retired as a Navy Commander in 1995.

“I’m very proud to have served in the Navy for 20 years and then instructed in the NJROTC high school program for 17 years,” he said. “All I ask of people is to recognize the sacrifice men and women made to serve our country and to appreciate that this sacrifice is the reason our country continues to enjoy the rights we all have as Americans.

“As far as serving other veterans, I feel we should all help those in stress but especially those vets who are having issues in their daily lives due to their military service. This cookout is our small token of help and show of appreciation.”



Family of the Month Oct 2017



**James
and
Judy
Smith**

It only appears that James and Judy Smith devote all of their free

time to activities related to the Knights of Columbus and other Holy Spirit ministries. James became the council's treasurer in July, adding that to his duties as a member of the baseball and football youth sports concessions operations. Most Saturdays during the fall find him at the football stand before 7 a.m. and working through what's supposed to be two shifts until closing time in the late afternoon. Together, they participate in parish Bible studies and are members of the parish team that prepares funeral luncheons, often on short notice. James joined the council in February 2013, took his Major Degree a year later and later joined the Fourth Degree. The Smiths have been married since 1981, live in Duncanville and are "retired" only in terms of formal vocations. Judy has three sons from a first marriage, and they have two married daughters and 13 grandchildren. Daughter Jamie and granddaughter Caroline often pitch in at the stand and other KC functions. Way back when, James worked on a fishing boat out of Port Aransas. When Hurricane Harvey struck in late August, he was ready to haul the council grill all the way to the coast and whip up burgers and dogs for anyone who wanted one. That's just typical of the Smiths.

Family of the Month Nov 2017



**Jeff and
Frances
Miller**

The Millers have been Holy Spirit parishioners since

early 1988, a few months after Jeff began regularly attending Mass here after taking a job at The Dallas Morning News and scouting out area municipalities. Frances and their four young children followed soon after from their previous home in Jacksonville, Florida. Frances, along with her brother and five sisters, grew up in Jacksonville and attended Catholic schools all the way through high school. Frances and Jeff met at Auburn University — the resident advisor of Jeff's floor in the dorm was dating one of Frances' sisters — and were married in April 1978. Jeff joined the Knights in 1998 at the urging of a fellow DeSoto High band parent, Bill Chalko. Outside of the KC's, Jeff is a "reserve" when the Holy Spirit outreach ministry is looking for a fill-in to help bring Holy Communion to the Catholic patients at Charlton hospital. Frances runs an outpatient surgery center in north Dallas and tries to help when possible. She was able to do so when the council provided a cookout lunch at St. Joseph residence home in Oak Cliff in October

Family of the Month Dec 2017



**Jim and Sharon
Stavinoha**

Married for 48 years, Jim and Sharon met on a blind date that was arranged by one of his fraternity brothers at St. Mary's University in San Antonio. Jim is one of many Knights who initially joined

early in life but went inactive as a busy business and family life took him in other directions. He spent 20 years in the U.S. Army and returned to his native Texas a few years ago from northern Virginia, where part of the next two generations of Stavinohas reside. With more time available, he reactivated in 2014 and has become an officer not only in 8157 but also in the Fourth Degree's local Assembly 2799. As the council's director of church activities, Jim has greatly expanded the position's duties. The Stavinohas live in Cedar Hill, have three grown children and four grandchildren.

Knight Hands helps St. Vincent de Paul

On November 11th, 5 Knights of Council #8157 answered a call for help from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Larry Balagna, Mike Fitzgerald, Ray Rivera, Ken Rarick and I arrived at the home site located at 1014 Randlett St. in Lancaster Tx around 9:00am and removed the broken sections of fascia, soffit, drip edge and shingles and manufactured and installed new pieces right at the site.



The damage to the roof was caused by a fallen tree limb which destroyed about a 20' section of the roof. Larry and Mike were the main wreckers and installers

while I manufactured the pieces and Ray and Ken did all the clean-up and painting at the finish line. As in most of our Knight Hand projects there are hidden problems that are only discovered once the project begins. In the case of this project, a couple rafters had to be re-enforced and we did this work without electricity at the site. Mike also swept off all the debris on the roof caused by; well, we're not exactly sure. In the end all was repaired and painted with about 16 man/hrs. of labor and \$148.09 of material cost. Knight Hands has been operating in the Holy Spirit parish community and surrounding areas for 7 ½ years now and has completed 266 projects to date. Thanks to all who serve those in need.

Dan Murphy will be Director of Knight Hands in the absence of Allen Reitmeier beginning January 15th.

Fall baseball

The fall baseball season ended on October 21st this year. The final tournament (usually the "stamp out hunger tournament) which benefits the Cedar Hill Food Pantry, was cancelled because of lack of teams signing up for the event. Yet there were 163 games played during the fall season.



John Espree, Hector Rubio, Arthur Migala, Steve Castillo, Eric Conner, Tony Almanza, Mike Rumsey, were the heavy hitters for the fall season; but many other Knights contributed as well.. For the baseball committee (Allen Reitmeier, Andy Goza, Greg Warr, James Smith and Mike Rumsey) we thank each Knight that contributed their time and talent to make the fall season a success.



For the entire calendar year, the revenue generated from baseball concessions was far and away the most in the 10 years of operation. 750 little league games were played in Cedar Hill during calendar year 2017, and the Knights of Columbus were there for every one of them. Most of the games were played at Valley Ridge Park; but there was also a number of tournament games played at Dot Thomas. Again thanks to all the Knights who contributed to make this a fantastic year.

The regular 2018 BSB (Best Southwest Baseball) season begins on March 24th with picture day and pitch hit and run on the 25th of March. The Southwest Classic season begin during the week of the 19th of March. This year's World Series event will be played from June 20th through June 24th.

The baseball committee will remain in place for the upcoming season with the exception of Allen Reitmeier who is temporarily moving to Minnesota. Please be as cooperative with the new Director of Baseball as you have been the past 10 years.

Football Summary

This is the second year that the Knights of Columbus participated in operating the concession stand at the football field at Valley Ridge Park in Cedar Hill. The season began in July (imagine that) with adult flag football games. These flag football games became a major contributor to the success of the concession stand. James Smith estimated that the Knights participated in about 48 flag football games during the summer and fall of 2017. Most of the work manning the concession stand came from James Smith, Jim Stavinoha, Peter Perta, Jim Richardson

and Andy Goza. Others helped as well including Jim Russell, Tony Gonzalez, Bill and Cindy Dover, Mario Ramos, Susan and Madison Goza, and Judy Smith. While the flag football season was ongoing (both Saturdays and Sundays), Cedar Hill little league football games were also played. Again James Smith estimated that 12 such games were played during the season. Pretty much the same Knights and helpers manned the concession stand for these games. About 60 football games were played during the summer and fall at Valley Ridge – considerably less than had been originally estimated.

Most of the organizing and preparing and operating the concession was done by committee; consisting of Jim Richardson, Jim Stavinoha, Andy Goza, and James Smith.



Welcome New Knights



**Aaron
Rohmer
October
2017**

Aaron was inducted into the council in October. The Cedar Hill resident didn't take the typical path to joining our ranks. A council member usually identifies a likely candidate while attending Mass or being involved in some sort of service to Holy Spirit Parish. In Aaron's case, he didn't require any prompting, any invitation. He walked up to the front desk in the community center and asked how he could become a Knight. It so happened that one of our members, SK Jim Russell, was also in the lobby of the community center then. Jim and Aaron talked, a Form 100 was filled out, and today Aaron is a Knight. He says he sought to become more involved in his church, to do charitable work. Something in which he isn't putting himself first, which he sees too much of in the world around him. Just a few weeks before joining 8157, Aaron attended one of the parish's ACTS retreats. He's single and is pursuing a career in computer technology. Aaron graduated from Cedar Hill High School after spending his first two secondary-education years at a boarding school in Subiaco, Ark., that's affiliated with a Benedictine monastery. In his spare time, Aaron likes to play the drums – he's hoping to also learn to play guitar – and read a lot.



**Hector
Salazar
Dec 2017**

Reared in a family that loosely worshiped at both Catholic and Baptist churches, Hector as

a young teen was confused and frustrated that he couldn't receive Holy Communion. Hector acted on that desire decades later here at Holy Spirit a few years ago by going

through our RCIA program. It wasn't the first time that he'd focused on a goal and achieved it. Hector started his own company, Big D Audio and Video, nine years ago after relocating his family from Austin to Dallas. He was born in Austin and moved to the Dallas area as a young child and graduated from Nimitz High in Irving. Hector attended nearby North Lake College and then moved to Austin to begin with working career. He and wife Alex have been married since 2010; they met in the Lower Greenville restaurant district and learned their then-21st birthdays were days apart. The Salazars have three daughters – Emily 10, Elise 5 and Selena 1. Hector participated in an ACTS retreat and was encouraged by Knights on the retreat to join the order. That he did last November, and he's also become an ACTS team member himself.

Upcoming Events

January 27th

The annual appreciation is fast approaching. Come join the 5:30 Mass and Corporate Communion on this date and then come to the Community Center for a party. This events is for **all** Knights and their significant other – adults only. There will be adult drinks, lots of food, conversation, prizes, and dancing. There is no charge for this event. Don't forget to RSVP

February 16th

The Lenten fish fries begin. With our expanded menu, there is plenty work for many Knights. Fish fry every Friday until Easter.

February 17th and 18th. The bi-annual blood drive – this time for two days. Will you give the "gift of life"?

To find out the schedule of all events and when you could participate in upcoming Knight events, log onto www.kofc8157.org and all will be made clear