

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

THE LIGHT THAT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS



“...the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death, light has risen.”

(Isaiah 9.1-6)

In this year of unparalleled tragedy, natural and man-made, many look at the future with “fear and trembling”. Society has become polarized with regards to political parties,

policing, the family, race relations and basic points of view regarding issues like abortion, euthanasia, immigration, environment, etc. Today there are differences on what is even considered right and wrong. What we thought was settled truth just a few decades ago is now considered “hate speech.”

It would take many books to deal with the spider web of connections that these issues bring forth. But Satan gives one order to all his acolytes: sever mankind’s relationship with God! Sever them from truth, virtue and justice! Sever them from Love.!

God’s message is just the opposite. Jesus tells us that each act of mercy we show to our brothers and sisters or do not show, we show or do not show to Him. Therefore, the heart of the Christian way, charity, faith and mercy is based on love of God and love of our fellow man. We will be judged on love for God and man by Love, i.e. by God Himself.

The world says: let us oppress the poor, the weak and kill the most innocent. Let force and might make right. Let deceit and violence, intolerance, hatred be our weapons. Let us crush the Christian since they do not strike back in kind and are weak and do not avenge themselves. What are the so called “social revolutions”, the doctrines of which clothed themselves with name “social” but are in actual fact violent anti-social devolutions which inevitably degenerate into atheistic absolute dictatorships. They neither want nor practice the “no justice no peace” they preach.

We are not cowards. But our Lord Jesus, comes for the pure of heart, the humble, the meek for the lovers of justice, of mercy, of peace, for those who weep and for those who prefer spiritual rewards over worldly ones and that those who were blind may see: “The Way, the Truth and the Life” (Jn.14:6)

We are part of the Sheepfold who follow the Good Shepherd and not run away from Him as we do from the wolves in shepherd’s clothing who call us to the road to perdition and destruction. He calls us to be humble in victory, faithful in times of trial, and grateful and persevering in overcoming affliction.

There is but one God and his teaching is tried and true throughout the two thousand year history of Christianity. However, many still do not know Him or know Him poorly. If we all knew Him the way we should, we would all be like brothers and sisters to one another and there would be no abuse of power, no hatred, no slander, no revenge, no lust, no theft, no homicides, adulteries and falsehood. The enemy of the human race, Satan, who rebelled against God and works tirelessly to bring mankind to destruction and wants us to lose hope in the love and joy of life and thereby cause the ruin of countless souls. Today, as never before, he tries to destroy the faith of each man and woman to love and be loved. This demonic work takes many forms but primarily is concerned with corrupting personal morality and through this portal tries to break down societal and political cohesiveness and ultimately destroy civil authority itself, to be replaced first by anarchy and later, inevitably, by absolute dictatorship. "...you will become like God" (Gen.3:5)

After setting the fires of disbelief; Darwinism, Marxism, and Freudism, in the 19th century, the "smoke of Satan" now permeates every facet of society seeking the ruin and destruction of souls. "Woe to those who call evil good and good evil" (John the Baptist)

Much of this evil propaganda is directed at the young through the music of false impossible promises and calls on them to reject any limits to their "freedom" where anything and everything is permitted regarding pleasure and enjoyment. A loss of God and an awareness of the existence of sin is the result. The battle for our souls is now taking place at warp speed. We must fight any tendency to weaken our conscience and closing our hearts which leads to pride, lack of mercy, and forgiveness and doing anything for the sake of money, power and sex.

"For a monumental struggle against the powers of darkness pervades the whole of man. The battle was joined from the very origins of the world and will continue until the last day, as the Lord has attested".

(Matt.24:13,13:24-43)

Caught in this conflict, man is obliged to wrestle constantly if he is to cling to what is good, nor can he achieve his own integrity without great efforts and the help of God's grace. (Guadium et Spes) "Vatican II".

The Resurrection of Christ is our greatest reason for hope in this life and in the life to come. The love of God and the love of neighbor is the summation and completion of all the commandments. The God of Love that will judge us will be the same love that we have practiced or have not practiced towards others.

Let us live full of hope, then, because we know God will wipe away all the tears of the elect.

"...for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, I was in prison and you came and visited me...."

(Matt.25:31-46)

As Knights of Columbus our principle tenet is charity. Not simply alms giving but charity in the total sense of the word. God is Love and Love is Charity first and foremost. All the attributes of God originate from charity. Can it be possible that he who has no charity has God? Can one accept God but not charity? There is one charity only and it embraces both God and our fellow man. It is not possible to have only one half of it; one for the Creator, without having the other half: that for our neighbor. We fight for the best conditions, both political and social, that we can hope for knowing full well that a perfect earthly society is impossible. Racism, economic inequality and all social ills are but the long outworking of man's rejection of Divine Revelation in favor of a godless humanism that is utterly devoid of the supernatural essence of man-the 'we want to live by bread alone crowd'! We prefer the "Bread of Life".

We must pray constantly against the destructive influences let loose on our communities and country. In our prayers we must call upon the peace of God, the love of God, the wisdom of God and the protection of the Lord. Even towards our enemies our voices are tempered with the wisdom, grace forgiveness and empathy we call our weapons. We are called to pray and ask God to help us prevent the riots, violence, disorder, destruction and mayhem that offer no solutions to the problems we face. The true answer to these issues is found in the words of the living God, Jesus Christ.

Wendell Jeanpierre, Lecturer
KofC Council 8157

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 1nd term in office on July 7, 2020. Their term runs through June 2021

Chaplain	Fr. Steve
Grand Knight	Jorge Ruiz
Deputy Grand Knight	Eric Conner
Chancellor	Jim Russell
Recording Secretary	Mike Fitzgerald
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	John Espree
Inside Guard	Efrain Ochoa
Outside Guard	Steve Reid
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Trustees	Tom Greco Jim Richardson Allen Reitmeier

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	Allen Reitmeier
Church Activities	James Smith
Community	Dan Murphy
Family	David Dybala
Faith	Al Evans
Life	Mike Moloughney
Youth Activities	Mike Moloughney
Knight Hands	Allen Reitmeier

Retention	Allen Reitmeier
Membership	Jim Kowalski
Council Activities	Jorge Ruiz
Disaster Preparedness	Wendell Jeanpierre
Degree Team	Tom Greco
Sacramental Gifts	Keith Archer
Safe Environment	Jorge Ruiz
Health Activities	Lou Lemons

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

Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Leon Cornute

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 Hands

On September 12th, 2020, 9 Knights of Columbus met at 1553 Windsor Dr. in Glenn Heights to help a person in need. A large (and I mean large) tree had fallen in Anita Contreras' back yard, and she had no means of getting rid of it – not to mention the mess the fallen tree had created. Hector Rubio brought this ladies situation to the attention of Knight Hands and so today David Dybala, Mike Fitzgerald, Eric Conner, Billy Callender, Jack Ramsden, Steve Zehnder, Rod Kinard, Efrain Ochoa and myself tackled the job of cutting this large tree into short pieces to be disposed of by the City of Glenn Heights.



First thing we did (actually Mike Fitzgerald and Steve Zehnder) was mow the grass in the front and back yard to prevent us from tripping and stumbling. Soon after 8 o'clock 4 chainsaws went to work nipping away at the fallen tree. While 4 guys were cutting the rest of us were busy hauling and piling the trimming at the edge of the street.

The tree was a hackberry and it was not rotten – it was very hard to cut. Chains had to be sharpened and changed from time to time. Of course, if the job had been easy, Knight Hands would probably not have been summoned. The most important issue was

safety. The tree had broken off about 5 feet above the ground and we were never absolutely sure which way the tree would fall the rest of the way to the ground once we started hacking away. These guys (David, Rod, Mike, Jack, and Efrain) knew what they were doing and eventually they had the whole thing lying on the ground with no injuries.





Eric and Steve were the main truck drivers and limb unloaders and I don't know how many loads they hauled to the street but it was a bunch. The really great part was everybody pitched in and did what they could to get the job done – lots of sweat soaked shirt I'll tell you. I thought I had brought way more drinks than were necessary; but when we finished around 11:45am all the drinks were gone. Sure am glad it wasn't extremely hot. Then we cleaned up the mess the tree had made – a bunch of sticks and leaves and other rubbish and bagged it all up and took it to the street as well.



The best part of this whole deal was the way everybody helped as a team to get this job done. In total this job took about 36 man hours and that still gave us enough time to visit and talk and socialize as best we could while staying apart. I am proud to have served with this group of men who find it in their hearts to help those in need. Thanks guys.

Knight of the Month July 2020



Fr. Joe Lee

In May 1991, the final new episode of the hit TV series “Dallas” appeared. Nolan Ryan threw his seventh and last no-hitter. And Joe Lee was ordained as a priest. We at Holy Spirit had the pleasure

of knowing Father Joe in three spiritual roles – as a seminarian, as parochial vicar for three years and, beginning in July 2009, as our pastor. Related to Council 8157, he also served as our Chaplain, having joined the Knights of Columbus in January 2009. He was born in South Korea in 1958, moved with his family to the Detroit area in 1970, graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 1982 and found work in Dallas. Working for a management company, he recalled a promise that he made to God as a 7-year-old and turned to the priesthood, entering Holy Trinity Seminary in Irving. His time with us technically ended this past summer after Bishop Edward Burns granted Father Joe a medical leave, ending his time as Holy Spirit’s pastor. But he’ll never leave us in spirit.

Knight of the Month Aug 2020



Efrain Ochoa

Even during recent months when the pandemic has changed many aspects of parish and council life, Efrain Ochoa has managed to remain busy on behalf of the Knights

of Columbus with his right hand filled with either a spatula or a power tool. Efrain was part of our

cooking groups that visited St. Joseph’s residence home in Oak Cliff over Mother’s Day weekend and prepared cookout lunches for the Duncanville Police Department. He also pitched in during multiple Knight Hands projects in our community. Efrain joined the council in November 1999 and took his major degrees two months later. He and wife Lisa recently celebrated their silver anniversary. They have two sons: Carlos, 24, graduated from Texas A&M two years ago and Nicholas, 21, is scheduled to graduate from Texas Tech next May. The Ochoas live in Ovilla.

Knight of the Month Sept 2020



David Dybala

It’s said that singing in church is like praying twice. With that, David was able to continue to enjoy the experience of cantoring for Holy

Spirit parishioners during the recent spring and summer months even when no parishioners were present for Masses held in the parish’s Upper Room. “Certainly you feel it more when you have a congregation that’s joining in,” David said, “but I do it because it’s spiritually uplifting.” David had been a member of Holy Spirit’s 10:30 a.m. Sunday choir for years. He recently took on the duties as the council’s director of family activities and has also been instrumental in organizing KC members to oversee the hospitality ministry after Holy Spirit Masses were reopened to congregants. All that on top of his frequent involvement in Knight Hands and other council activities. A Texas A&M grad, he joined the KC’s in 1980 while in Waco and served as Grand Knight there. David and Clara, his wife of 49 years, came to our area in 1985, have two grown children, four grandchildren and live in Dallas.

Knight Hospitality Ministers



Thanks in large part to the efforts of our council's **Family Director David Dybala**, the knights have stepped up to help the church reopen by serving as **Hospitality**

Ministers. When called to the challenge, David Dybala, our **September Knight of the Month**, did not hesitate and immediately began organizing and recruiting knights for the roles. As of today we can proudly announce that out of the 36 total volunteers there are **31 knights** on the list to serve in this crucial role during our church's efforts to reopen with limited services in this time of restricted social distancing.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church is currently using an online software package by Rotunda Software called **Ministry Scheduler Pro** to help automate the scheduling process, with brother knight **Deacon Paul Wood** as our main contact. There are currently four weekly mass services scheduled, one on Saturday evening at 5:30 PM and three on Sunday starting with 9 AM, 12 Noon-Spanish and 5:00 PM. We still need more help and if you wish to volunteer, please **send Deacon Paul an email** so he can give you access to register into the system.

Thank you: Keith Archer, John Balasa, Billy Callender, David Dybala, Mike Fitzgerald, Russell Gully, Gamaliel Hernandez, Wendell Jeanpierre, Doug Karpan, Dan Keough, Rod Kinard, Chris Kubin, Carlos Limones, Jeff Miller, Mike Moloughney, Roberto Nieto, Peter Perta, Ramon Presas, Jack Ramsden, Ken Rarick, Allen Reitmeier, Raymond Rivera, John Rizo, Jorge Ruiz, James Russell, James Smith, Rolando Sobalvarro, Mario Tiambeng, Robert Tovar, La'Don Wright, and David Ybaarra

Virtual Hike for Life Texas

The risk of Covid-19 exposure will not allow us to gather or hike together this year, however we can still raise funds together for the ministries we support. (See list below)



Our Hike for Life this year will be virtual – from September 19th through October 24th. Our Hike site will be open for you to assist our Dallas area Pro Life Ministries by signing up and

collecting donations. Our Life Director Mike Moloughney has created a team hiker page for our KofC Council 8157. This is our call to serve in defense of Life. If every member of our council were to donate just \$10 each, we would easily exceed our goal of \$2,000. Please go to our council website (www.kofc8157.org) and click on Virtual Hike for Life Texas and then click on the big red button to help support Mike Moloughney and our unborn brothers and sisters

Supported Ministries

- Birth Choice Pregnancy Resource Center- \$30,000
- White Rose Pregnancy Resource Center – \$30,000
- Mater Filius Maternity Home – \$7500
- In My Shoes Maternity Home – \$7500
- Bella House Maternity Home – \$7500
- Catholic Pro Life Community – \$7500
- Guadalupe Radio Network – \$1500

Family of the Month July 2020



Ben and Tim Burns

Through the years we've had the privilege of watching fathers and sons come through degree ceremonies together. Such was the case when Ben and Tim Burns joined the

council in March 2013 and then took their major degrees three years later. Tim was born with Down syndrome, and Ben was particularly pleased that their joining the Knights together allowed Tim to expand his opportunities to interact with parishioners. Ben and Marilyn met while attending the University of North Texas and have been married for 29 years. They joined Holy Spirit 14 years ago after moving over from Arlington. Ben works in Irving for New York Air Brake, which builds equipment for trains. Marilyn works with the DeSoto ISD Soaring Eagles program, where Tim, now 28, is an associate. She was previously the librarian at the Notre Dame School of Dallas when Tim was there. Ben is the scoutmaster for Troop 263, a special needs troop, through which Tim became an Eagle Scout last spring.

Family of the Month Aug 2020



John and Mary Anne Rizo

The Rizos joined Holy Spirit in 1986, just making a move following a two-year stay in Fort Worth upon their arrival in Texas. They're both

from Missouri, John from the Kansas City side ("Go Royals!") and Mary Anne from the St. Louis side ("Go Cardinals!") They met while attending Rockhurst College, a Jesuit institution in Kansas City

that's now known as Rockhurst University. John is a lawyer with an office in Dallas and joined the Knights in March 1987, inducted during the same ceremony as Russell Gully. The Rizos live in Duncanville and have five grown children (Carol, Alicia, John Jr., Matthew and Diana) and two grandchildren (John Jr.'s John Michael and Raymond). They're very active in the parish; you probably saw Mary Anne as one of the regular lectors over the summer when Holy Spirit's Masses were virtual only. They frequently teach classes at the parish with plans to resume the class on Mary that was interrupted in March, and John now often serves as a hospitality minister and a lector. In John's spare time, he likes to dabble as a ham radio operator.

Family of the Month Sept 2020



Deacon Al and Jackie Evans

As much as the current pandemic has affected the rituals and faith practices for Holy Spirit parishioners in recent months,

consider what it has meant to those on the sanctuary altar. For Deacon Al, many aspects come to mind. For one, the presiding deacon no longer extends an invitation for attendees to extend a sign of Christ's peace to those around them. He also misses being able to take Holy Communion to the homebound and others who can't attend Mass. "It's imposed a sense of spiritual isolation on some people," Deacon Al noted. And with the limited congregational seating, he has found it more difficult to get a read on how his homilies have been received. Deacon Al has been a deacon since June 2002 and a member of the Knights of Columbus since 1971. Al and Jackie were married in May 1985 and came to our parish in the early 1990s. "Let me make clear," Deacon Al emphasized, "it's always a complete joy and privilege to stand beside Father and assist him at the altar."