

# Knights Life



[www.kofc8157.org](http://www.kofc8157.org)

*Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,*

## Knights Hands Serves DFW Regnum Christi



In one of the most ambitious projects to date, Knight Hands helped the Consecrated Women of DFW Regnum Christi with various home maintenance projects inside and outside of their residence near Dallas Love Field Airport. An elegant but aging large 1970's-style mansion occupying a couple of acres of land is home to fourteen resident women who lead a Consecrated life in Regnum Christi (Kingdom of Christ). As a Catholic Movement, Regnum Christi has five great loves: Christ, the Church, the Pope, the Blessed Virgin Mary, and souls. For the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi, "...Charity is the interior force that shapes our

promises of poverty, chastity and obedience in service to Christ and to others."

The women are responsible for the upkeep of the property but with their limited resources they must often rely upon the help and generosity of the occasional volunteers like our own brother Knight Jose Montoya and other community friends, in order to get by as best they can. But as the projects mounted up, Jose brought it to the attention of Knight Hands director Allen Reitmeier and it wasn't long before our Council approved the project.

All the preparations were done way ahead of time, by Allen and Jose, who had purchased all the materials and supplies including the new appliances – 2 new cooktops and a dishwasher as well all other materials and tools required to do the job. The project was planned to be completed in one day starting at 8:30 AM and ending about 4 PM. When the caravan of pickup trucks and one van arrived at the job site the Knights quickly set about their tasks in teams of two or more.

**Rod Kinard** and **Dan Murphy** took on the main building's second story balcony repairs, which included floor and railing repairs as well as a fresh coat of paint.

**David Dybala** and **Art Rodriguez** installed new door sweeps and thresholds; adjusted front door. David checked out the sprinkler system; painted balcony.

**Jose Montoya** and **Arthur Migala** installed the two new cook tops, and caulked the shower.

**Ray Rivera** and **Jack Ramsden** installed the new dishwasher, installed shears on the chapel doors and secured, and painted the balcony rails on the office building.



**Cris Valdez** repaired (made it look like new) an interior ceiling hole and painted kitchen cabinet doors.

**Hector Rubio** wired the two new cooktops, installed a motion detector at the garage and with **Art Rodriguez** installed new light ballasts in the cottage.

**John Espree** and **Jorge Ruiz** built custom window screens for three large windows on the main building, cleaned the rear second story wall of the building and swept the leaves off the low pitch patio roof. They



repaired the woodpecker holes on the wood shingle siding of the two-story office building.



The Director of Knight Hands, **Allen Reitmeier**, summarized the project this way: “Knight Hands worked about 95 hours to complete this project. The total cost of materials was \$1,716.80 – way below our original estimate of \$2,020.00.

Many thanks to all who participated. We received raves from the Consecrated Women on a job well done. For sure, the time and money spent on this project was well spent

# About your Council 8157

## Council Monthly Meetings

**General Meeting** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7:30pm  
**Officer's & Directors** Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7:30pm

### Postal address and meeting location

Knights of Columbus  
1111 W. Danieldale Rd Room #221  
Duncanville, Tx. 75137 USA  
(972) 298-4971

**KC District 86 – Assembly 2799**

## Council 8157 Officers

The Council Officer's listed below were officially installed for their first term in office on July 14, 2016. Their term runs through June 2017.

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

## Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Baseball Committee	Allen Reitmeier
Football Committee	James Smith
Church Activities	Jim Stavinoha
Community Activities	Dan Murphy
Council Activities	Andy Goza
Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Pat Stepniewski

Knight Hands  
Pro-Like Activities  
Youth Activities

Allen Reitmeier  
Mike Moloughney  
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, Jim Kowalski, Jorge Ruiz

**Newsletter and Website Photographer**

Tony Gonzalez, Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Andy Goza

## Council Website

<b>Website address</b>	kofc8157.org
<b>Website Editor</b>	Jorge Ruiz
<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:** [admin@kofc8157.org](mailto: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 2016**



### **Bob Motta**

Bob has been typically busy lately, from manning the cooking post in the back of the baseball concession stand

every Saturday this fall to helping with the set-up and breakdown of the parish's fall festival. Bob and D'Lana have been married for 24 years and have lived in DeSoto for 14. His father emigrated from Italy as a teenager. Bob grew up in Teaneck, N.J., and graduated from the University of Findlay in Ohio. He's finishing his eighth year with The Hershey Company, planning to retire at the end of October. He'll join D'Lana, who recently retired after owning a local clothing shop. His grown daughter, Katie, lives in Plano with a 2 1/2-year-old daughter, Bennett. "I'm so grateful for joining the Knights," Bob said. "It's made me a better person." And we're better for knowing you, Bob. In December, Bob and D'Lana moved to their retirement home in Florida.

## **Knight of the Month Nov 2016**



### **John Espree**

John captains our "leadoff shift" at the Valley Ridge baseball concession stand on Saturdays throughout both the spring and fall seasons.

He joined our council in March 2012, taking advantage of our "Knight in a Day" program to take the first three degrees in one fell swoop. He's a sound man for 8157's degree team, is a regular during Lenten fish fries, is

among those who frequently contribute to Knight Hands and reports with power drill in hand when it's time to assemble and disassemble the infrastructure for the parish fall festival's rummage sale in the gym. John serves as a hospitality minister for the Saturday 5:30 Mass. He's from the small Louisiana town of Mamou ("Cajun Music Capital of the World") and came to Texas when he was 18. Wife Bonnie is from El Paso by way of Austin. John is in his 28th year with MHC Kenworth Trucking and consistently earns the title of "Top Gun" salesman. The Espree family includes three grown children and 9-year-old grandson Jeremiah. Bonnie's parish activities include the Catholic Daughters of the Americas and serving as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist and lector.

## **Knight of the Month Dec 2016**



### **Jim Ouimet**

First, let's clarify the French pronunciation of Jim's last name (WE-may). Jim was part of the foundation of our new efforts operating the concession stand for the Cedar Hill football

association this past fall. Jim came early and stayed late just about every week, diligently working in the "fry division" located back behind the stand. "It was a really good crew," Jim said. "I enjoyed it." Jim has been with the council since May 2013 and took his major degree about a year later. He graduated from West Texas A&M, spent four years in the Air Force and retired just last May. His most recent position was as an advisor for economics and development for American Energy Partners in Oklahoma City. Jim had signed on to work up there for a year — it turned into 15 months — so he maintained his KC membership here. He and wife Lou will celebrate their 25th anniversary in July. Jim has a grown daughter, a stepdaughter and four grandchildren. They've lived in Red Oak for almost 15 years and have been parishioners for six years.

# Baseball After 9 Years



Since the beginning of little league baseball at Valley Ridge Park in the spring of 2008, the Knights of Columbus of this council have been manning the concession stands in Cedar Hill – mainly at Valley Ridge Park. We have, however, also worked at Dot Thomas Park, the Community Center Park and Parkerville Park as well. So as the 9th year of little league baseball concluded this past Sunday October 23rd, we should all step back and say “thank you” to all the Knights who have worked these games over the years. Do you remember B. J. Tucker and Chris Kubin who stated this whole thing? Do you remember when Ross Musso taught everyone how to make a proper Nacho? Or when Nick Kleinhaus was a Saturday captain? Or when Tim Weinrich made his special BBQ sauce? Or when Martin Swatek cooked brisket? Or when Ed O’Brien opened every Saturday morning for a number of years with his two sidekicks Bob Foster and Frank Hernandez? Or when David Briggs made everybody laugh anytime he worked at the concession stand? Or the tournament in 2009 when the high temperature for the day was 33 degrees? I bet Jim Kowalski and Dick Bates remember. And how about the week day Captains over the years? Or John Espree who has opened every Saturday for the past three years? Or Eric Conner and Steve Castillo and Steve Zehnder and Russell Gully and Mike Rumsey who have worked countless Saturday afternoons. I’m pretty sure everyone remembers their particular experience at any World Series when the line never seemed to end and it was so hot you just wanted to quit?

But I’m sure you also remember the little ones who came to the counter with a quarter and ordered a freezer pop or a pickle pop or 4 pieces of gum and the joy on their faces when they received their prize. Our mission at the concession stand, in conjunction with the Cedar Hill Baseball Association, is to create a family atmosphere at the games. Many will say that our prices are too low; and while that may be true nothing can replace the smiles we

receive from folks, especially the little ones, as they receive value for their money. Larry Balagna sums up this attitude best when he tells a young customer “the price is a smile”. Over the years the concession stands have generated a tremendous amount of revenue -revenue that has been put to good use in the community, in the state, and around the world. The Knights of Columbus of Council #8157 should be proud of all the good they have done in the world. More specifically, whenever a Knight works one hour at a baseball concession stand, they generate about \$20 in bankable revenue for the Council. So the next time you work think not about the time you have to spend there but all the good that comes from your effort.

Our current agreement with the Cedar Hill Baseball Association runs through the 2017 little league baseball season and the president of the CHBA, Clint Farrell, has assured me that the Association wants us to be their concessionaire for years to come. With the help of the baseball committee and all the Knights of this council we can, for sure, continue to provide quality food with friendly service with reasonable prices. If you haven’t been a participant in this worthwhile endeavor and wish to be in the future, just contact Allen Reitmeier at [alreitmeier@gmail.com](mailto:alreitmeier@gmail.com) or call at 214-850-3602.

The 2017 spring baseball season begins the first week of April and the 2017 annual Class A little league World Series is the last weekend in June; and in between there are about 250 regular season games – either Best Southwest Baseball or Southwest Classic. Last year we attended a total of 608 games – that’s both spring and fall seasons; so there should be a time for everyone to participate. See you all at the ballpark and thanks for all you do.



## Family of the Month Oct 2016



**Sanka and  
Thilini  
Jayasinghe**

Sanka has been a member of council for less than three months, and we already know he can wield a mean spatula

when preparing burgers at the football concession stand. Sanka [pronounced SON-ka] and his family moved to Cedar Hill about a year ago. He and Thilini have been married eight years. They have two children, son Sasen (6) and daughter Sanara (4). Sanka is a supervisor at the LafargeHolcim cement plant warehouse in Midlothian. He was invited to join the council by Bob Motta, this month's Knight of the Month. Sanka is from Sri Lanka, where he earned a university degree in mathematics. He and his family came to the United States in 2012 after he'd applied for a national green-card lottery for about 15 years. They initially moved to Long Island. When the company that he worked for relocated to Ohio, he was no longer interested in living in a cold climate. Next stop, Texas. That has worked out well for Council 8157.

## Family of the Month Nov 2016



**James  
and Judy  
Smith**

James signed on as one of the charter members of our new football concessions

committee this fall, and he was supported in grand style by Judy, daughter Jaimie Emerson and Jaimie's daughter, Caroline. James reported to the stand every Saturday before sunrise to begin setting up the frying area outside behind the stand, for the preparation of fries, burgers, dogs, hot links and sausage on a stick – and stayed for the balance of the day, straight through the second shift.

That was after being part of the weekly "procurement crew" that wheeled flatbeds through Sam's Club buying inventory and supplies. Judy helped behind the scenes to keep the stand ship-shape between Saturdays. Jamie and Caroline probably learned more about BBQ sandwiches and Big Red drinks than they ever imagined. James joined the council in February 2013, took his major degree a year later and ascended to the Fourth Degree in September 2015. He's our Inside Guard during the current fraternal year. James (a native Texan) and Judy (Ohioan) were married in 1981 and live in Duncanville; Jamie and Caroline are four houses down the street. The Smiths are retired and devote much of their time to Holy Spirit. They served as Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist to the sick and homebound until mobility issues became problematic. They attend the parish's Little Rock scripture study.

## Family of the Month Dec 2016



**Jose and  
Isabel  
Montoya**

Much of the Montoya family was involved in an extensive project recently undertaken by a contingent of Knight Hands volunteers. It involved almost 100 man hours of work for repairs, restoration and appliance replacement at the home the Consecrated Women of Regnum Christi of Dallas. That's located in Irving in connection with The Highlands School. That's where the Montoyas come in. Isabel teaches English literature and speech there. Zara, the youngest of the four Montoya girls, is a sophomore at the school. Jose is recently retired from his dual careers working for the federal government and in the Naval reserves. Retired is a relative term for Jose given his level of activity with multiple workshops near their Midlothian home and his hobby of car restoration? Jose spearheaded Allen Reitmeier's Knight Hands group for a makeover of the ladies' group home in early November. The Montoyas' other girls are Zelda, Zephra and Zoie (she attends Stephen F. Austin State University.) Jose is a graduate of El Paso High and has been a Knight since 1997. They've been Holy Spirit parishioners for about four years and will celebrate their anniversary on Dec. 16.

## Inspiration in the First Degree

On Tuesday evening October 25, 2016 our Degree Team performed another inspiring ceremony and welcomed into the order ten new Knights. Three other councils brought their candidates in from Dallas and Grand Prairie while our own Council 8157 welcomed one new Knight, Leonardo Estrada from Holy Spirit Parish. Despite the crowded room conditions we had to deal with as a result of the larger room being occupied this evening, the ceremony went off flawlessly and the team once again delivered a professional and inspiring performance that is sure to live long in the memories of all of the attendees, especially the candidates themselves. As a special surprise to all, Father Eugene visited us this evening and delivered a moving motivational message to all the new Knights. Thank you Father Eugene for your support of the Knights.



This evening happened to be “movie night” at the seminary and while the Knights cooked dinner, some of the young men entertained themselves by throwing the Frisbee around, while others were busy setting up the outdoor screen and sound system for the showing of “The Princess Bride”. It was a very relaxed social atmosphere on the spacious outdoor patio area and the seminarians are always so appreciative and polite of our service that many came up and thanked us personally for being there for them.

The Knights cooked burgers and hot dogs and served approximately 80 people. In attendance were Andy Goza, Arthur Rodriguez, Eric Conner, Ray Rivera, Grand Knight Jim Richardson, Larry Balagna, Billy Callender and Jorge Ruiz. Special thanks must go to Eric Conner for providing his business van for transporting the equipment and supplies from the Football Concession stand at Valley Ridge Park in Cedar Hill. And not just that but Eric Conner, Ray Rivera and GK Jim Richardson also worked double duty, having worked nearly two full shifts at the football concession before working at the Seminary cookout. Thank you gentlemen!



## Appreciating Our Seminarians

Our council’s support and appreciation of our young men of faith who choose the path to the priesthood was demonstrated on Saturday, October 8th, 2016 with the annual cookout for the Holy Trinity Seminary in Dallas. Our council also provides two enrolled seminarians with an annual scholarship as part of our support for the vocations.

## Our 2016 Cookout at Dallas' VA hospital

The council contingent that provided lunch on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the VA hospital on South Lancaster Road included a half-dozen of our own veterans (our "host," community activities director Dan Murphy; our annual "sponsor" of this event, Bill Dover; Jim Stavinoha; La'Don Wright; Arthur Rodriguez; Tom Greco) plus some 8157 families (James Smith, daughter Jaimie and granddaughter Caroline; La'Don's sons La'Don Jr. and Donovan; Gerald Jacob's wife Toni and granddaughter Tatiana; Jeff Miller and wife Frances) Others who volunteered were Billy Callender, Andy Goza, Nick Kleinhaus and Jim Richardson. Mike Fitzgerald made the beans and cookies.

About 50 in-patients of the hospital were served a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs with all the fixin's, baked beans, cookies, chips and drinks. Many of the recipients were quick to express their appreciation while walking through the serving line. For many of those who had little or nothing to say – other than "yes, I'd like some beans" – there was a look in their eyes that effectively conveyed thanks.

And we thanked them in return. This activity is scheduled annually in conjunction with Veterans Day. It falls a few weeks before Thanksgiving, and we express our deep appreciation to those who have served our country.



## Breakfast with St. Nicholas



The annual Christmas celebration for which the Knights provide the culinary manpower for the parish's Children's Faith Formation held on Sunday morning, Dec. 11, was another example of how math works for Council 8157. The call went out for "about 10" volunteers to work the

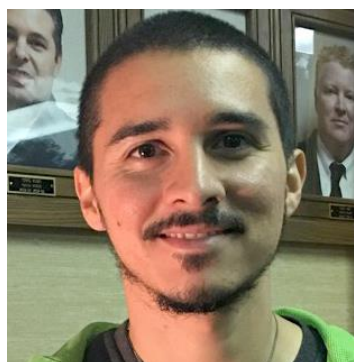
event, with two hours of preparation preceding the serving hours of 8:30-11:30. There were almost 10 Knights already at work by 6:30, which prompted one brother who arrived at 6:25 to ask, "Were we supposed to come at 6?" More than 30 Knights and family members cooked a wide ranging breakfast of scrambled eggs, pancakes, hash browns, biscuits, casserole, bacon and fruit cups for 317 guests.

And, of course, St. Nicholas himself is a council member. Leo Mattingly is a treasure for our council and our parish. The breakfast is just one of multiple area functions in which Leo's Santa-like white beard makes him a magnet for children at this time of the year





## Welcome New Knights



### Leonardo Estrada – October 2016

Almost immediately after moving to our area just over 4 years ago, Leonardo and Amparo Estrada joined Holy Spirit Catholic Church and became active members of our parish. Leonardo has been a Lector and both he and wife Amparo have participated in Adult Faith Formation Groups. They recently hosted the girls that came for the St. Faustina play. The couple met at the University of Texas at El Paso while getting their undergraduate degrees where Leonardo tutored math and physics and became her physics tutor. The pair started dating and got married shortly after finishing their degrees. They have been married for over 6 years and have 3 children, Eliseo is 4 years old, Tobias is 1.5 years old, and the new baby is due March 30th, 2017.

Leonardo was born and raised in Mexico and moved to El Paso after completing high school. He has been working as a Graduate Research Assistant at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center since the summer of 2010 when he was accepted into their PhD Immunology program.

He has been invited to join the Knights by several of our council leaders in the past and finally accepted Andy Goza's invitation during a fish fry. "I wanted to join since I was first invited by Tom Greco but I had to take care of another commitment I had taken before I could commit and join" said Leonardo, "and the reason I joined is because I love to serve and help" he added. The couple's next step after graduation is to continue into a postdoctoral fellowship at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN. We're glad to have them with us now.

The roll call of Knights who participated at the breakfast under the direction of our Director of Church Activities, Jim Stavinoha: James Smith (and daughter Jaimie and granddaughter Carolina), Allen Reitmeier, Lou Lemons, Andy Goza (and daughter Madison), Jeff Miller, Jim Richardson, Tom Greco, Jeff Traub, Jim Ouimet, Jose Montoya, Dan Keough, Jim Russell (wife Mary directed the children's choir once again), Victor Zaragoza Jr., Sanka Jayasinghe, Larry Balagna, Jorge Ruiz, Ken Rarick, Jose Perales, Ray Rivera, Augustin Perez Sr. (and daughter Joanna), Jesse Radillo, La'Don Wright, Dan Murphy, Cris Valdez, Dan Kurtenbach and Ernest Alvarez Jr.

Deborah Pearson, Lisa Estrada and their elves had the parish gym decorated in the spirit of the season and collected the about 275 toys that will be provided to [Brighter Tomorrows](#), one of Dallas County's largest women's shelters, along with \$730 in donations. Devyn Buschow's youth group provided a live Nativity scene.



## Clark Fajardo – November 2016

Clark is single and lives in Cedar Hill. He works as a nurse tech at Methodist

Dallas Hospital and is scheduled to graduate from El Centro’s nursing program next May. He’s studying mightily now for three fall semester final exams. The first half of his final spring semester will consist of 96 hours of clinical service — sort of like a medical residence, with hands-on experience. Clark is a Eucharist Minister of Holy Communion along with his older brother, Sean. He typically attends the Sunday evening youth Mass. He’s a graduate of Cedar Hill’s collegiate high school. Clark used to volunteer with Holy Spirit’s Faith Formation pre-K program. He says free time isn’t in frequent supply while he’s in nursing school and what time he has he likes to spend hanging out with family and friends.



## Tim Miller – Nov 2016

Tim is dealing with an autumn in which his favorite

teams — Notre Dame and the Mavericks — haven’t fared well. He lives in Grand Prairie with his wife of 14 years, Sherry, and their three children — son Braden (10) and daughters McKinley (7) and Sydney (just short of 1 year old). Tim also works in Grand Prairie, as a finance manager at Lockheed Martin. Tim is originally from Corsicana, where he graduated from St. John High. He then earned a finance degree from UT-Arlington. The Millers usually attend the Saturday evening Mass.

## Special Announcements

Ash Wednesday is March 1<sup>st</sup>, so perhaps you could schedule some time to participate in the Lenten fish fry held each Friday starting about 3:30 pm in the Community Center kitchen. The first fish fry in March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

There will be an enormous soccer tournament in late March in which we will need lots of Knights to work two concessions stands at Valley Ridge Park — perhaps you could help?

For a full schedule of upcoming Knights events log onto [www.kofc8157.org](http://www.kofc8157.org) for all the details