

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,

The Waco Avenue House

sheathing had to be remove; plus that wall had to be reframed to accommodate a new door.



When Devyn Buschow asked if Knight Hands could help with the painting of a house in Dallas, we said "sure". Little did we know the extent of repairs that would have to be done before painting could begin. David Dybala and I and Devyn looked at the home in early September of 2019 and decided we would take on this project. The homeowner, Reba Loftis, had been cited some time ago for "construction not meeting standards" and was against the deadline to have the home repaired. The city of Dallas did grant her an extension of time to make the repairs; so on October 1st, ten brave Knights undertook the repairs needed to get the home ready to paint. Old sheathing had to be removed and after adding studding reattached properly. Only then could new lap siding be installed. On the east side of the house again



Jorge Ruiz and Mike Fitzgerald replaced the bottom 4 rows of siding on the north side of the home and power washed the house where needed and did other small repairs. David Dybala, Phil Holifield, and

James Smith installed the new rear door (This lady had no rear door to her home at all - certainly a code violation). There were numerous difficulties in framing and installing the rear door; David's experience as an engineer came in handy.

Once the old sheathing was remove, studs added where need and sheathing reinstalled properly, installing the new lap siding went fairly quickly. Although we delayed this job hoping for cooler weather - that was not the case. Everyone was soaking wet doing this project.



Hats off to David Dybala, Jose Montoya, Larry Balagna, Jack Ramsden, Ray Rivera, James Smith, Phil Holifield, Mike Fitzgerald, and Jorge Ruiz for an absolutely tremendous job. I was proud to be a part of this team to get this house ready to paint.



On October 5th, David Dybala and Jack Ramsden were on site as the Youth Group of Holy Spirit Catholic Church lead by Devyn Buschow painted the entire house and it looks great. What a worthwhile project. Knight Hands spent 67 man hours on this project with a cost of about \$900.00 in materials



What a difference Knight Hands and the Youth of Holy Spirit Catholic Church made in the life of Reba Loftis. She thanked us all many time and prayed that all who worked on the home and their families would be blessed. We were all blessed just by being able to do the job.

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 2, 2019. Their term runs through June 2020

Grand Knight	Tom Greco
Deputy Grand Knight	Jorge Ruiz
Chancellor	Eric Conner
Recording Secretary	Mike Fitzgerald
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	Doug Maddox
Inside Guard	John Espree
Outside Guard	
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Chaplin	Fr. Joe Lee
Trustees	Chris Kubin, 3-year Jim Richardson, 2-year Chris Edwards, 1-year

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	Allen Reitmeier
Church Activities	James Smith
Community Activities	Dan Murphy
Family Activities	Jeff Miller
Health Activities	Lou Lemons
Pro-Like Activities	Mike Moloughney

Youth Activities	Mike Moloughney
Knight Hands	Allen Reitmeier
Retention	Jorge Ruiz
Membership	Open
Council Activities	Open

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,

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 Jul 2019



Jay Trapp

Jay has declined to be interviewed for this honor. Know that we respect his right to privacy

difference for the parish, an opportunity to do something in which we can instill parish pride. That's why I thought it was important that we name the facility. When we put (the mural) up, when we stepped back, it was as if the room was transformed. Everyone ... there was devout silence. It hit me then; this is The Upper Room."

Knight of the Month Sep 2019

Knight of the Month Aug 2019



David Dybala

David, a Knight since 1980 and a member of our council since 1985, supervised the renovation of

the parish dining hall into what's now called The Upper Room. He not only put his Texas A&M engineering skills to good use yet again but also acquired the mural (from Istanbul, Turkey) that now graces the room's south wall above the door leading into the kitchen. Here are David's eloquent words describing the work and its results: "The thing that struck me was, remember the stories about Francis of Assisi hearing the calling and the Lord asking, 'Rebuild my church.'? The story was he started stone by stone building and then realized that he was being called to do even greater things. But the importance of building the physical church is always there, and I think everyone (many brother Knights were involved) answered that call. This is a real opportunity to make a



Hector Rubio

Hector has proved to be a versatile brother Knight since joining our council in January 2016

at the invitation of Jorge Ruiz. He's a regular participant in Knight Hands and particularly enjoyed when those who were involved in this year's City of Duncanville PIP project were treated to a dinner that was attended by top city officials. "I felt like I was swimming with the big fish," Hector said. He's also greatly involved in our youth sports concessions operations. Hector's preferred assignments are either working the "fry corner" at Valley Ridge or being part of a two-person crew at Dot Thomas. He took his major degrees in April 2017. Hector graduated from Thomas Jefferson High in Dallas and worked as an electrician before retiring a few years ago. He and wife Cynthia have lived in Duncanville since 1992 and have three grown children (Nina lives in San Marcos, Monica and Michael in Waco). He finds helping with the Knights "very rewarding," and we couldn't agree with him more.

Breakfast for Catechists

On Sunday September 15, 2019 the Knights of Council 8157 assisted in helping to keep the tradition going at Holy Spirit, that of showing gratitude for our Catechists with a full pancake breakfast. Upon learning from the Children's Faith Formation Coordinator the breakfast might not happen this year due to a lack of church funds, our Church Director James Smith immediately offered our council to host the entire breakfast in full. As Charity is our first principle in the Knights of Columbus our Grand Knight Tom Greco was more than happy to oblige when asked to do so. James Smith led the team early that Sunday morning as they prepared pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, fresh fruit, orange juice, coffee, etc.



The pancake cooking station was again expertly handled by our Inside Guard and pancake ol' pro John Espree, who was kind enough to take time to conduct a pancake clinic for newbie, our own DGK Jorge Ruiz.



The scrambled eggs, bacon and sausages were again masterfully prepared by our amazing concessions director Allen Reitmeier; and he was assisted by kitchen hall of famers Ken Rarick and John Balasa.



On behalf of Council 8157 we offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to our Catechists for dedicating their time to teach the principles of our faith to both the children and adults of our community.

Family of the Month Jul 2019



**Russell and
Patricia
Gully**

Russell joined the Knights and our council in March 1987, a few months

after the newlyweds moved to DeSoto. They met in Austin, where Russell was attending the University of Texas. Russell served as our Grand Knight 1994-96 and since then has for many years been 8157's Advocate – and even was the State Advocate for two years. The Gullys have three grown daughters and two granddaughters. Monica and husband Paul Chartier welcomed Lily in June to join 5-year-old Rosemary to their home in Pflugerville, north of Austin. Teresa recently earned her master's in biostatistics from Boston University and is living in Madison, Wisconsin. Rachel will be a junior at UT this fall majoring in business after spending the summer studying in Edinburgh, Scotland. Russell recently completed his 35th year with the Dallas law firm Thompson and Knight. Just can't get away from the Knights.

Family of the Month Aug 2019



**Allen and
Linda
Reitmeier**

The Reitmeiers are a kinetic couple

seemingly always involved in an activity related to their strong faith life. They grew up in small Minnesota towns that fed into Albany High, where Allen won multiple wrestling championships. They were married in 1969 and came to north Texas in 1983. Business took them elsewhere, and they returned in 1993, living in Duncanville ever since. Allen assumed leadership of our concession efforts

from the late Ross Musso and instituted the Knights Hands program that has received national recognition and is being copied elsewhere. Linda is a past member of the parish staff and still often helps out when the need arises. ("She's an angel," Allen said.) The Reitmeiers have grown children and grandchildren living in Alabama, Baltimore, Lubbock and Nashville. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in July in the Smoky Mountains with their children, grandchildren and siblings. joined the Knights in 2007, soon after

Family of the Month Sep 2019



**Steve
and
Denise
Zehnder**

The Zehnders certainly aren't unique among council families for having four grandchildren, but theirs arrived all at once. When Steve refers to "the quads," he isn't talking about his legs. Rylin, Sydney, Harper and Mason are now 7 years old. In the early going, daughter Amber and husband George Shawver (who also grew up at Holy Spirit) asked at Christmastime not for toys but for baby-sitting shifts at their home in Keller in Tarrant County. And what a joy it has been for the entire family. (Must have been quite a trip for them all to Disney World in early September.) Their younger daughter, Courtney, and husband Matt Kohnson, live in North Richland Hills. Steve and Denise each grew up in Oak Cliff, attending rival high schools (Kimball and Carter) and now live in Cedar Hill. They met when Steve parked cars at the Japanese Steak House in Dallas and Denise came by along with the girl friend of Steve's roommate. They've been married 42 years and have been at Holy Spirit for 38. Steve is a longtime member of the parish music ministry and joined our council in October 1995 at the invitation of fellow choir member David Dybala and took his major degrees in February 1997. Steve is recently retired from teaching, and Denise works at Pediatrics Southwest near Charlton.

Football and Baseball Concessions

The Youth Football Cedar Hill league football season started on August 31 and will conclude on October 19 (barring a playoff tournament). This league plays either 4 or 8 games every Saturday starting at 9:00am and are completed about 4:00pm. The youth teams are 6, 8, 10, and 12 years old. Some of the teams come from as far away as Waco. In addition to these league games each Saturday we have had two tournaments – one by FlagfootballX and one by RiseupflagfootballX. On Sunday afternoons from 3:00pm until about 7:00pm we serve concessions for the Red Oak adult football league (usually 7 games). The traffic for the league games has been way beyond our expectations while the traffic for the tournament games has been less.



Thirty Knights or family members/friends have worked at the football concession stand through October 5th, 2019. A special thanks to Peter Perta and Eric Conner who each worked one shift every Saturday. Without the work of the following 30 folks we could not have operated the concession stand. They are: Larry Balagna, Sheila Balagna, Mario Ramos, Lou Lemons, Pay Presas, Smatha Presas, Jeff Miller, Joe Miller, James Smith, Jennifer Conner, Paul Ryan, Jim Kurowski, Gerry Jacob, Russell Gully, Pat Stepniewski, Tony Gonzalez, Tony's girlfriend, Francisco Benal, Doug Maddox, Victor Zaragoza, Sanka Jaysinghe, Trevor Edwards,

Agustin Perez, Agustin Perez Jr., Joseph Perez, Flora Perez, and Jesse Stacy Thanks so much

Fall little league baseball kicked off on September 7th and will conclude on October 19th. As always we were flooded with customers from the baseball fans



at these little league games. Best Southwest Baseball (BSB) has games every Saturday starting at 9:00am and concluding about 4:00pm. Southwest Classic Baseball has games most every Thursday night and concluded their season on October 10th. As has been the case for the past 6 season, John Espree anchors the Saturday morning shift. The second shift just fell into place when Knights arrived.



Many Knights and friends worked at the baseball concession stand as well – most of the time games were being played at baseball and football at the same time. Those who worked were: James Smith, John Espree, Jay Trapp, Miguel Hernandez, Ken Rarick, Jan Araki, Arturo Benal, Tony Almanza, Steve Zehnder, David Dybala, Keith Archer, Mary Archer, Daniel Rosales, Sanka Jaysinghe, Steve Castillo, Jim Kowalski, Chris Gleason, Dan Hernandez, Robert Neito, Linda Reitmeier, Madison Goza, Mia Duarte, Greg Warr, Mariana Ortiz, Adam Ortiz, Mariana Ortis(daughter), Rod Kinard, Hector Rubio, Trevor Edwards, Ben Burns, Tim Burns, Roy Cormier, Lupe Hernandez, Jesse Radillo, Mike Fitzgerald, Agustin Perez, Joseph Perez. Thanks to all.

Property Improvement Program.

Twice a year Knight Hands helps a needy citizen in the city of Duncanville by doing repairs to their home or yard. This year we did both. Jorge Ruiz replaced rotted fascia on the front of the home and Allen Reitmeier and Jorge Ruiz replaced rotting siding on the garage wall.



David Dybala, Ken Rarick and John Balasa straightened and repaired a badly leaning and crooked fence. They replaced a 4" X 4" post and re-cemented a couple other posts and repaired the gate going into the front yard as well



While this was going on, Mike Fitzgerald and Jack Ramsden were building a new section of fence in the back yard. Not as easy task digging a hole near a tree and in the hard, dry ground.



The P.I.P. is sponsored by the City of Duncanville, but is administered by the First United Methodist Church in Duncanville. Sue Clark and Betty Dunn are the movers and shakers of P.I.P. This fall over 60 citizens of Duncanville volunteered and repaired 5 homes in the city. All the work was done in one day. We also did this job in one day on Wednesday September 25, 2019



Seven Knights participated in this years' P.I.P project – Ken Rarick, David Dybala, Jack Ramsden, Mike Fitzgerald, Jorge Ruiz, John Balasa and myself. We spent about 20 man hours completing this project. Thank you everyone for a job well done. Florence Harrington was most appreciative.