

Knights Life



www.kofc8157.org

Holy Spirit Catholic Church – Duncanville, Tx,



Rest in Peace Brother Knight Leo Mattingly, 1933-2023

Leo Mattingly, born Edward Leo in Opelousas, LA lived a very purposeful life. Leo accepted a position with Magnolia Oil in December of 1954 and graduated with a Mechanical Engineering Degree from LSU in May of 1955. He was commissioned in the Army January 29, 1955. He protected his country by serving in the Korean War and in Vietnam.

In his early days he enjoyed a skilled game of darts. Leo led a very interesting life and a challenging career in the oil industry. He traveled all over the world including long stints in Asia, Saudi Arabia,

Alaska, Nigeria and Scotland North Sea where he oversaw the construction of off shore pipelines. In 1974 Leo married the love of his life, Philomena Madden. They traveled together to Alaska and then he and Philomena settled into their Duncanville home where everyone was always welcome.

Leo joined The Knights of Columbus Council 8157 at Holy Spirit Parish in 1994. He was voted the Knight of the Year 1995-96 and in 2016 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award. Leo was an active member of the Duncanville Citizens on Patrol program. He enjoyed representing Saint Nick during the Christmas Season at Holy Spirit Parish and Santa at many of the city of Duncanville's Christmas celebrations. He recently resided at St. Joseph's Residence in Dallas for the past few years where he always rejoiced during our council visits with meals for the residents and proudly wore his Knight shirt alongside his brother Knights. A lifetime member of Holy Spirit Council 8157, Leo celebrated his 90th birthday on February 4th, 2023 in a gathering arranged exclusively for him at the Upper Room of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in appreciation for his devoted service to the church and community.

Leo is preceded in death by his parents, D C. and Grace Guillot Mattingly, and siblings as well as his wife Philomena. He leaves to cherished memories with nieces and nephews, many dear friends and the Knights of Columbus Council 8157.

Rest in eternal Peace brave Brother Knight, you will be missed.

About Your 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	OPEN
Grand Knight	Mike Fitzgerald
Deputy Grand Knight	Marc Evans
Chancellor	Paul Ryan
Recording Secretary	Roberto Nieto
Treasurer	James Smith
Warden	Adan Luna
Inside Guard	Gamaliel Hernandez
Outside Guard	Russell LeRoy
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Advocate	Russell Gully
Trustees	Jim Russell
	David Dybala
	Dan Schneider

Service Program Directors

Awareness Committee	Jorge Ruiz
Concessions	James Smith
Church Activities	James Smith
Family	Jose Montoya
Faith	Charles Ruelas
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	Jim Russell

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
Allen Reitmeier, Jorge Ruiz, Robby Zablan, Dan Murphy, Jim Russell

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 member ship roster is available in paper form to all Knights in good standing at the general meeting

Knight of the Month July 2023



Jim Russell

Jim Russell was born (an only child) and reared in Rochester New York but traveled to Stillwater Oklahoma to study and receive his degree (after much debate) in marketing. Talk to him about his alma mater and watch his face light up. He was an ROTC graduate and served 4 years as an officer including one tour in the Republic of Vietnam. In between his military career, in 1966 he married Mary and they have been together for 56 years, at least. Together the two of them raised 5 children (Jeanine, Mark, Matthew, Christine and Tiffany). And these five have given them 13 grandchildren. Jim's career revolved mostly around purchasing machine parts for military contractors – first LTV (Ling Tempco Vaught) and then Raytheon. Jim and Mary have a long history with Holy Spirit having attended the 2nd ever Mass at Central Elementary. They were choir members for many years as well as faith formation instructors. When I asked Jim the best thing about the Knights he said “the charity. But for myself it's the fraternity – the Knights are like my family”. Jim enjoys stamp collecting, reading, (particularly history), researching his family tree and he really gets excited when he starts talking about his knitting. He has knitted about 70 blankets and given them to his family and friends.



Knight of the Month Aug 2023

Robby Zablan

Robby arrived in the United States from the Philippines at age

three. He's been in the Duncanville area ever since including graduating from Duncanville High School in 1993 and the University of Texas – Dallas in 1998 with a degree in psychology. His work career began in the entertainment industry with ARAMark – providing warehouse and waiter service to their customers. After a stint in the Army from 2005 through 2007, Robby has dedicated his life to the well-being of his mother – he is her caretaker now. Robby is very active with the Legion of Mary – they meet weekly and are dedicated to the Rosary and the Legion of Mary Handbook. He is also a lector at Sunday Masses. Since joining the Knights of Columbus he has blossomed into a ready and steady contributor at the fish fries, baseball, cookouts, a member of the retention committee, and has just recently agreed to write the Family of the Month and Knight of the Month stories starting in September. When I asked Robby what was the best thing about the Knights of Columbus he said “it gives everyone the chance to be a part of church ministries; to fulfill their desires to be chartable”. He's a very profound person – a deep thinker. His hobby is reading – not just reading but studying. He reads Socrates and Aristotle – whew. But most of all he reads and studies the Bible. He says his favorite book of the Bible is Roman; but he reads them all.

Knight of the Month Jun 2023



Robert Nieto

Dr. Roberto Nieto (Neurologist) was born and raised a Catholic from Corpus Christi, TX and is 60 years young. His mother Maria Louisa Nieto, San Antonio, TX is still alive and hails from Mexico City. His father is from Mexico City as well, but has long been passed on. He says they left him his beautiful gift of faith as he has been to several different parishes. He says he enjoys the meaning of

the Eucharist most as well as the lives of the saints including his favorite, St. Francis of Assisi...”the church is totally universal and reaches around the globe,” says Dr. Nieto. His goal as a Catholic is to reach salvation and says he would like, “my name on the list,” before he passes on. Dr. Nieto was married in 1996 to his wife Gloria. They met at St. Rita’s during a Catholic Singles event. They have three daughters Maria, Marisa, and Monica who all three live out of the house, and calls him and his wife empty nesters, but he says he would welcome them back if they needed to. He recalls the devastating nature of the pandemic and his eldest daughter needing to come back home during the time. It was apparent at work, hospital Methodist Mansfield that the pandemic took its toll. It was here that Dr. Nieto worked from 60 to 80 hours a week. Dr. Nieto was going to be an engineer before he entered into the field of medicine, he says he enjoys problem solving. He went to Yale University in New Haven, CT, UT Houston Medical School, Hermann Hospital, and then MD Anderson and then did his residency at UT Southwestern here in Dallas. He enjoys riding his bicycle and writing as in reading and writing as, “there are lots of different things to study, but nothing in specific.” He has really enjoyed his time in the Knights of Columbus and hopes to continue for years to come. He enjoys being a Christian servant and that servitude is alive and well in the Knights.

Knight Hands Participate in P.I.P.

Each spring and fall residents of Duncanville are encouraged to submit applications to the City of Duncanville for consideration of the Property Improvement Program. The accepted applicants receive assistance to repair exterior elements of their home. Things like fence repair, tree trimming, painting, replacing rotted wood and the like. While the First United Methodist is the heavy lifer in getting homes repaired, others participate as well – namely Grace Place, 1st Christian Church, the City of Duncanville and our own Knight Hands.

This fall Knight Hands accepted the challenge of replacing a section of fence for a lady at 415 South Alexander Avenue in Duncanville. And so it was that on Saturday morning October 7, 2023 at 8am eight

dedicated Knights showed up at this address to do the job.



Led by David Dybala, Director of Knight Hands, these men got straight to work demolishing the old rotted fence and erecting a brand spanking new one. Included in the merry band of Knight Hands were; Jack Ramsden, Larry Balagna, Efrain Ochoa, Jesse Radillo, Manuel Urias, Rod Kinard, Mario Luna and Allen Reitmeier.



No wonder the job was completed quickly and precisely – lots of talent in this group. For sure there was a load of talent in this group; but there was also a lot of socializing. Efrain brought breakfast Taco’s, Allen brought McDonald Burrito’s, and Jesse brought breakfast bar. There was also lots of kidding

around while the work was going on – it was a social event as well as a work job. Mrs. Sabree was most grateful.



Family of the Month July 2023



**Jack and
Juanita
Ramsden**

When I asked Jack Ramsden to tell me about himself, he

started out by telling me about his introduction to being a Catholic. He recited how he and Juanita went through RCIA together in 2009, encouraged by some of the churches' founders – Dan and Ann Keough, Jim and Mary Flusche, Joan Allen, Andy Goza, and others. He spoke with passion about his joy and peacefulness while being in church. And when I asked him what his hobbies were he promptly answered “the church”. And so we honor Jack and Juanita as Family of the Month for July 2023. Together they have raised 4 children and are assisting in raising 7 grandchildren. Together they also nurture 5 dogs – three of them are rescue dogs. Jack’s career involved machine shops; first as an employee – if you call president of the company an employee-and later as owner of his own company (Four Winds) making machine parts for various customers in the Metroplex. So never underestimate Jack’s ability to figure out how to build or repair something. Jack joined the Knights of Columbus in 2012 along with Doug Karpan and Billy Callander. He participates in nearly everything the Knights do and is usually the first one to step up when something needs to be done. Juanita and Jack also deliver about 4,000 Meals on Wheels each year for the past many years. Jack was also recognized as Knight of the Year in 2018. When I asked Jack the best thing about the Knights he simply said “the guys”

Family of the Month Aug 2023



**Doug
Karpan and
Kim
Hedrick**

Doug says he's a "purebred Texan". He claims Burkburnett as his home town; a town about 115

miles northwest of Ft. Worth in Wichita County with a population of about 11,000 souls. In reality, Doug has lived in many parts of the country being as how his dad was a career member of the Air Force. Doug actually attended three different high school and graduated in Washington State. He then joined the Air Force himself and served for 4 years before receiving an associate's degree and then entering his career work as a design technician for a number of engineering firms in north Texas. He retired in 2020. Since 1988, Doug has been very active in the Catholic Church; most notably as a RCIA sponsor as well a team member of RCIA. He also became a Lector, a Eucharistic Minister and Hospitality Minister Captain for 11am Sunday Mass. Doug is also active in the Knights by attending most meetings, helps with fish fries, Veterans and St. Joseph cookouts and Knight Hands. Doug's favorite pastime is reading the religious classics although he is also a dove hunter and a bygone golfer. When I asked Doug the best thing about the Knights of Columbus he said "we're called to serve. The Knights give us the opportunity to serve our community". Kim Hedrick, Doug's friend and companion, has been with Doug for 11 years and together they enjoy visiting museums. Doug says "we do everything together". Kim has been in Day Care management for many years; but for the past 10 years has been a volunteer at the YMCA and library in Grand Prairie. Congratulation on being selected the family of the Month for August 2023

Family of the Month Sept 2023



**Leobardo
Ortiz**

KofC 141st Supreme Convention

The Knights of Columbus 141st Supreme Convention took place on August 1-3, 2023 in Orlando, Florida. Our Texas Delegation included all our Texas State Council officers led by our Worthy State Deputy Terry Frugé and First Lady Beth, as well as several Texas Delegates from all over the state of Texas

The events kicked off with the States Hospitality Suites on Monday during lunch time for a few hours, this allowed everyone enough time to try to visit all of them and sample some of their offerings. As has been our Texas tradition for over a decade, the Texas hospitality suite served our famous authentic Texas Chili, no beans of course, only beef and venison combined with an array of traditional (but secret) spices. Our Chili turned out to be quite popular and it was soon the talk of the resort.

The opening Mass on Tuesday morning was a magnificently sublime event with the most amazing visuals being displayed on the giant jumbotron screens while the angelic voices of the choir and musicians contributed to fill our hearts with the joy of the Holy Spirit. It was followed by the opening business session with the Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly's eloquent welcome speech.



The States Banquet was the main event of the evening. The Knights of Columbus presented **Mother Agnes Mary Donovan**, the Founding Superior General of the Sisters of Life,

with the **Gaudium et Spes Award**, and the Order's highest honor.

The day culminated with the Texas Delegation's fraternal tradition of going out as a group for dinner proudly wearing our Texas flag shirts and cowboy boots at the nearby Columbia restaurant. Thursday's Memorial Mass was very impressive and various relics were put on display afterwards. Eight new Supreme Directors were elected replacing their retiring predecessors, they will join our own SK Alfredo Vela, IPSD and current Supreme Director on the KofC Board of Directors.



Many important Resolutions were passed during the closing business session and eight of the most outstanding ones are listed below.

- [BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE](#)
- [STANDING AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING](#)
- [IN SOLIDARITY WITH UKRAINE](#)
- [COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF HIS HOLINESS BENEDICT XVI](#)
- [IN SOLIDARITY WITH INDIGENOUS PEOPLES](#)
- [IN SUPPORT OF THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL](#)
- [IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CHURCH'S TEACHING ON HUMAN ECOLOGY](#)
- [SUPPORT OF WOMEN RELIGIOUS](#)

Installation of Council Officers Ceremony



The Installation of Council 8157 Officers Ceremony was held on Tuesday, September 5th, 2023 during our general membership meeting. As usual the doors of the Upper Room at Holy Spirit opened at 7 PM for social time and the Ceremony started at 7:30 PM. On this busy night, the Admissions Committee had also scheduled an interview for three new candidates who will be joining our council soon.

We had several special guests who joined us this evening, our Pastoral Administrator, the Reverend Father Uche Aladi, who served as our Council Chaplain, and the Reverend Father Manny Sabando, our Parochial Vicar. Attending to conduct the ceremony itself was our Worthy Dallas Diocesan Deputy, Mike Courtney, assisted by our Worthy District Deputy (District 109), Kebran Alexander. Assisting with the room preparations for the ceremony was Past Grand Knight, Jorge Ruiz, with the help of Council Guards Gamaliel Hernandez and Russell LeRoy along with a few other brother Knights. A huge thanks must go to our Worthy Warden Adan Luna who took charge of preparing a delicious meal of beef and pork tacos with all the trimmings and also provided the beverages.

The Installation of Council Officers is always a solemn and hope filled occasion. The ceremony was opened by retiring Grand Knight Jim Russell, who immediately after his opening greeting invited Fr. Uche to say a prayer for our recently departed Brother Knight Leo Mattingly. After a few words of appreciation to his brother Knights of Council 8157, in gratitude for allowing him the honor of serving as their Grand Knight for the Fraternal Year 2022-23, Jim handed the gavel to DD Mike Courtney for the remainder of the ceremony. Fr. Uche was called upon to invoke the blessing of God upon us all. Later in the ceremony, as Council Chaplain, he would be called upon to bless the Medals of Office.

The Officers installed on this evening were:

Grand Knight	Mike Fitzgerald
Deputy Grand Knight	Marc Evans
Chancellor	Paul Ryan
Financial Secretary	Peter Perta
Warden	Adan Luna
Recorder	Roberto Nieto
Treasurer	James Smith
Advocate	Russell Gully
Trustee	David Dybala
Trustee	Jim Russell
Trustee	Dan Schneider
Lecturer	Jim Russell
Inside Guard	Gamaliel Hernandez
Outside Guard	Russell LeRoy

Congratulations were offered by all to our newly installed officers of Knights of Columbus Council 8157.

Immediately after the ceremony ended, the chairs were rearranged and the regular business meeting took place. Our Worthy DGK Marc Evans, set up the screen and projector with his laptop once again to make use of the Google Translate app for the benefit of our non-English speaking Hispanic brothers.

We look forward to the leadership of our new council officers in the Fraternal Year 2023-24