February, 2023 Volume 25, Number 8

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND KNIGHT

Worthy Brothers

On Saturday, January 21st, I had the pleasure of attending the Dallas Diocese Mid-Year K of C Meeting. The meeting was attended by over a hundred Grand Knights, Financial Secretaries, District Deputies and field agents. We were presented with the programs, initiatives, goals, service projects, etc. that our fifty-nine councils and twelve fourth degree assemblies commit to. Everything from basketball tournaments, wheelchair ministries, state conventions, seminarian scholarships, student scholarships, emergency response, Spanish initiatives, exemplifications, insurance products, Star Council Trackers, Right to Life Marches... it goes on and on. It is mind-boggling how much a unified group of Knights can accomplish when they join beneath a banner of faith.

The impression I came away with is that all of this is for naught without the rank-and-file members of each council and assembly... the guys who pay their dues, make some meetings, answer some calls for service, bend their heads in prayer, and appreciate the men who gather with them.

I'm exceedingly proud of the role our council members play in this process. Thank you, gentlemen. You are indeed an honor to work with. Vivat Jesus,

– Bill Eldridge

AWARD FOR SERVICE TO THE CHURCH

On January 21st, Bishop Edward Burns presented the Award for Service to the Church to one-hundred forty-five members of the diocese. The two recipients from St. Paul are both associated with our council: Brother **Edgar Calderon** and

Yexcelda Cruz, mother of Brother Sean Cruz. Our council recognizes both of these individuals in our Knight and Family of the Month Awards for January 2023.

FAMILY OF THE MONTH

The diversity of our parish challenges all of us to reach beyond our horizons. One lady who has met this challenge to bring the Hispanic community and the ACTS community together with the rest of the parish is **Yexcelda Cruz**. She stands as a pillar in our parish, a lady whose constancy and hard work continues to serve our faith day after day. Yexcelda's son **Sean** is one of the youngest members of our council. While his job situation precludes his regular participation, we have the faith that his vigor and potential as a young Catholic will reflect well both in our parish and in our council.

KNIGHT OF THE MONTH

It was a lucky day for our council when **Edgar Calderon** reached out to join us. His work in the Men's Spanish ACTS community and his willingness to work with the youth of the parish serve to make him another pillar of the faith. Edgar possesses the gift of a knowing smile that welcomes everyone into his busy world. Another of his gifts, his bi-lingualism, helps Edgar build much-needed bridges within our parish. We all appreciate that, and we have faith that, as the council grows in diversity, he will be one of the catalysts that will make it happen.

ABOVE AND BEYOND

During the weekend of January 21st and 22nd, our council worked overtime on several overlapping events. Some brothers who deserve above and beyond recognitions are as follows:

- On Saturday, Ben McKee and Nick Blair, along with his wife Aleida, moved a washer and dryer from a donor to a mother being served by Project Gabriel, a Pro-Life adjunct to the Catholic Pro-Life Community. Since the mother spoke Spanish, Aleida went along to converse with her as the installation was underway.
- On both Saturday and Sunday, Paul Szatkowski, Tony Casmus, Oscar Valdez, Joe Prampin, Chris Curto, Stephen Linkletter, and Richard Villarreal led a team that put down, cleaned, and removed the dance floor in the Parish Center for the Robert Burns Foundation Fundraising Event.
- On Sunday, Tony Casmus and Paul Szatkowski prepared and served chili to the High School Youth Ministry.

These are the ongoing activities that make us who we are. Great appreciation goes out to these members of our council.

MESSAGE FROM THE DALLAS DIOCESE CHAPTER CONCERNING THE UPCOMING STATE CONVENTION

The Texas Knights of Columbus State Convention will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, downtown Dallas, on May 5-7. Our Diocese Chapter will front the cost of many of the expenses, which is why the Advertisement Booklet AND the Friday, May 5 Casino Knight need to be successful!

We are coming to you asking for your help with prize donations for the Casino Knight. This will be a fun filled event with a live band and many gaming tables.

• We will need 20+ prizes ranging from \$50 to \$250 for patrons to bid for at the end of the night. Last time we did this, the Committee purchased all the prizes which did take away from our overall profit. As councils and assemblies, would you help us with this? Are there Knights with their own businesses and products that may want to gain visibility with? Knights from all over the State will be here so most prizes would need to be portable. Attached is a list of proposed baskets that could be put together as well.

- We will need several volunteer dealers for the night
- Can anyone donate two large rolls of tickets (as in the 50/50)?

If you can help, please contact Reed Fontenot, 501-920-0102, reed.fontenot@att.net. Would you be able to do so by mid-March at the latest? Thank you in advance!

ACTS RETREAT AND SCHOLARSHIP

ACTS retreats offer parishioners an in-depth exploration of Adoration, Community, Theology, and Service. They offer us a chance to shed our faith inhibitions in a way that can affect us for a lifetime. This program has gone far in bringing our diverse parish together. The St. Paul Men's ACTS team will offer a men's retreat in English March 23rd - 26th. Our council will offer a scholarship of \$250 for a member who attends. If you're interested, please contact the ACTS team co-leader, Rick Donnelli, at 214-498-5741 or rick@buy-sellhouse.com.

DUES

On behalf of the Financial Secretary, we thank everyone who has paid his dues for the 2023 calendar year. If you have not yet done so, please contact Chris Curto at 214-725-5262 or chris.curto@gmail.com.

COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Perhaps the most vital of the initiatives we've undertaken in the last year has been the Council Communications Team and its goal of keeping our web of brotherhood intact via phone contacts with each of our members. This program has the potential to help us deepen our committees so we can better serve our parish in the many activities we undertake. If you get a phone voicemail, text, or e-mail from one of our callers, please respond in the interest of keeping us strong as a council. Many thanks to Brother Joe Prampin for the intricate template he's devised for this program.

LAST MONTHS' 50/50

Worthy Chancellor Steve Schmitt won last month's 50/50 drawing. Maybe it's the beginning of a streak. Good luck, Steve.

BIBLICAL ARTS MUSEUM

Worthy Council Director Bob Fisher is organizing a council trip to the Biblical Arts Center for Sunday, February 19th. We plan on gathering with our wives for brunch around 1:00 PM and then taking a tour of the museum. Worthy Lecturer Ed Long has told us why Michelangelo's sculpture of Moses shows him sprouting horns. At the museum, you can see a life-sized replica of this and other sculptures such as the Pieta and David. If you're interested in attending, please contact Bob Fisher at 972-489-3752 or rmfish@swbell.net.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Thursday, February 2 nd	Membership meeting at the Parish Center, East Room 1 (7:00 PM Rosary, 7:30 Meeting - Door Code 18820#)
Saturday, February 4 th	Bingo in the Parish Center following 5:30 PM Mass
Sunday, February 12 th	Council hosts Coffee and Donuts after 9:30 a.m. Mass
Thursday, February 16 th	Officer/Director Planning Meeting, 7:00 PM at the Parish Center, Room 2, Door Code 18820#
Sunday February 19 th	Brunch and Visit to Biblical Art Museum, 1:00 PM
Sunday, February 26 th	Cook and Serve for High School Youth Group, 6:00 PM



Oscar Valdez February 3 February 4 **Dennis Epping** February 4 **Dave Kosanda** February 7 Juan Vazquez Estrada February 7 **Michael Pinto** February 12 **Ron Kormos** February 15 **Jesus Olivarez** February 16 **Michael Crowley** February 18 **Dan Schmoll** February 19 **Jerry Coen**

REGULAR FUNDRAISING

Our regular fundraising endeavors:

Donating Blood: We are number 22058 with Carter Blood Care
Tom Thumb: Good Neighbor Program No. 54476
Albertsons: Community Partner No. 49000119848
Compass Bank: When opening an account refer to our Affinity code 87719

Forms for all of the above are available at each meeting from our Financial Secretary.

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