



**APRIL 2026 NEWSLETTER**  
**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council**  
**#14754**

**Website: [www.koc14754.org](http://www.koc14754.org)**

**As Opening Day has arrived, it is only fitting to hear from the immortal philosopher, Yogi Berra:**

- "Always go to other people's funerals; otherwise, they won't go to yours."**
- "You better cut the pizza in four pieces because I'm not hungry enough to eat six."**
- "If you don't know where you are going, you might wind up somewhere else."**
- "When you come to a fork in the road, take it."**
- "No one goes there nowadays, it's too crowded."**
- "It was impossible to get a conversation going; everybody was talking too much."**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

We start our roll call of April birthdays with the most impressive of the bunch. Happy 95th birthday this month to Anthony Silvestro. He is the oldest member of our council. When Anthony was born, Herbert Hoover was the president.

Our list of birthdays this month is as small as it is all year. Only 13 members of the Council have April birthdays. Joining Anthony Silvestro are three of our Sir Knights: Timmy Aguilera, PGK Ron Carr, and Arnaldo Alvarado. Joining those other members with birthdays this month is Guy Lyons--a charter member of our Council.

The youngest member of our Council born in April is Paul Puncer, born in the first term of George W Bush. Our closest birthdays of two Knights this month are Tony Madruga and Steve Roach. They were born about two weeks apart in 1955, when the top song in the country was "The Ballad of Davy Crockett" by Bill Hayes.

Happy birthday to all of our April Knights!

**Day, Knight, Yrs service**

6, Tony Madruga, 10

8, Alex Horvath, 11

8, Guy Lyons, 17

15, SK Tommy Aguilera, 9

17, SK Ron Carr, 18

18, Casey Callagy, 2

19, Paul Puncer, 4

21, Steve Roach, 8

22, Arnaldo Alvarado, 9

22, Jason Barnes, 2

24, Joey Velasquez, 4

25, Anthony Silvestro, 11

29, Brad Webb, 11

## WHAT'S UP

- LMF 5K Run and Pancake Feed – **Saturday, April 18**
- Men's Testimonial – **Kern River Brass and Men's Choir – Saturday, April 25**
- Mother's Day, **Sunday, May 10**
- Heritage Festival **Sunday, May 24**
- Pentecost **Sunday, May 24**
- Memorial Day, **Monday, May 25**
- Father's Day, **Sunday, June 21**

## GRAND KNIGHT

### ANDY SILVESTRO'S MESSAGE

Hello K of C Family:

### Knights of Columbus: March 2026 Monthly Highlights

#### Spiritual Growth & Formation

- **Cor Meeting Launch:** Successfully established the first Cor meeting on **March 7th**. Under the guidance of PGK Bill Jeffries, the group began exploring *Into the Breach* by Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted.
  - *Note:* The next session for men 18+ is scheduled for **April 18th (7:00 AM – 8:30 AM)**.
- **Stations of the Cross:** On **March 13<sup>th</sup>**, Music Director Susan Scaffidi led the Knights of Columbus choir in song through each Station of the Cross. We appreciate her leadership and the choir's contribution to this most important event each year. Then, on **March 27<sup>th</sup>**, Brother Jim Deming organized the stations by involving 14 different families to carry the cross. The evening was led by Deacon Hugo and narrated by his wife, Alma.

#### Service & Community Outreach

- **Lenten Fish Fries:** Reached a major milestone on **March 27<sup>th</sup>**, completing the **sixth consecutive** weekly Fish Fry for the season with Brother John Rozo leading the charge with his famous \$10 fish tacos plate.
- **Ladies Ministry Rummage Sale:** The Council provided logistical support for the drop-off (**March 20<sup>th</sup>**) and the successful sale day (**March 21<sup>st</sup>**).
- **Campefino Event:** On **March 28<sup>th</sup>**, Chapter President Joe Dominguez led the council's participation at Our Lady of Guadalupe, strengthening community ties and parish relations.

March has been an incredibly busy month. I am now looking forward to Holy Week and Easter Sunday to conclude another successful year grounded in faith and family.

Vivat Jesus!

WGK Andy Silvestro

## **FISH FRY SUMMARY**

### **BROTHER ED BESENFELDER and JOHN ROZO**

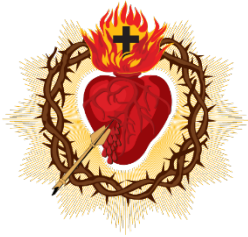
The following is my summary and observations: **this was our most successful year - by far!**

- **Net Cash Flow**, after paying merchant fees, is an amazing **\$16,885.93!**
  - "Hats Off" to everyone involved this year! This year was a bit busier than past years due to the additional volunteers required to prepare Taco Dinners, but I think it was well worth it.
  - Thank you all for all your hard work! I've never seen a busier kitchen, but you guys made it happen and made this year's dinners a great success!
  - The Ladies Ministry Fellowship, as always, were invaluable and this year added time to prep all the condiments early and meet the service line additions. Thank you.

**Here are a few observations and thoughts:**

- **We served 1,085 customers over the 6-week period!**
  - I did notice that the first 3 weeks were much busier than the last 3 weeks
  - 60% of the orders in the first 3-weeks
- **Total Revenue, minus Tips and Merchant Fees, was \$31,356.37**
  - Tips totaled \$2,536.80 (7.6%)
  - Merchant Fees for our use of the SEAS credit card machine totaled \$521.20
- **We sold 1626 Fish dinners and 725 Taco Dinners**
  - 70% fish dinners (1626 dinners)
  - 30% taco dinners (725 dinners)
- We raised the price of a Fish Dinner from \$12.00 to \$14.00. The Taco dinner was \$10.
  - Fish Dinner sales were close to 80% of our revenue.
  - Taco Dinner sales were 21% of our revenue.
    - Although, at \$10.00 per meal, even though taco dinners are not a strong revenue source, I am sure there are a lot of parishioners out there are grateful for a good and low-cost taco dinner (*and, those tacos sure sold better than the fish sandwiches!*)
    - This year the Pit Masters fried and sold, 5,495 pieces of fish. I'm sure they fried well over 5,500 pieces this Lenten season,
- **Again, a big thanks to everyone involved!**

**FAITH MESSAGE**  
**BILL JEFFRIES**



*Cor*

The world needs courageous men to witness to Jesus Christ. [171] [SEP] [SEP]

*Cor* exists to form and strengthen Catholic men in faith and virtue as missionary disciples by drawing them into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through prayer, formation, and fraternity.

*Cor* meetings at SEAS for Catholic Men age 18 and older are scheduled for Saturday April 18, May 2 and June 6<sup>th</sup> from 7AM – 8:30AM at St John room. Please RSVP by Friday before each Saturday meeting to Brother Bill Jeffries at [661-706-6171](tel:661-706-6171) or email [billjeffries1953@gmail.com](mailto:billjeffries1953@gmail.com)

**April 2026 Archbishop William E. Lori, Supreme Chaplain's Monthly Challenge**

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread. (Gospel for April 19, Lk 24:35)

The disciples on the road to Emmaus did not recognize Jesus until the breaking of the bread. Jesus promised he would be with us always, and the Eucharist is his fulfillment of that promise. We encounter his presence most profoundly in the Eucharist, where he is truly present — body, blood, soul, and divinity — under the appearance of bread and wine. The disciples' experience on the road to Emmaus was no ordinary meal, but an encounter with Christ, who invites us, too, to enter into communion with him through the Eucharist.

**Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month, I challenge you to remain in prayer and adoration for several minutes after Mass to grow in awareness of Christ's true presence in the Eucharist.

**Questions for Reflection:**

Do you fully realize it is the true body and blood of Christ that you receive in the Eucharist? Do you habitually pray in thanksgiving after Communion for this immeasurable gift? Do you consistently participate in Mass on Sundays and holy days? Do you make an effort to attend more frequently, so that you might avail yourself of the graces of this great sacrament?

## **MEMBERSHIP UPDATE**

### **CRAIG HOLLIDAY, CHANCELLOR**

We continue to be blessed with the addition of new members. In the month of March, we added James de la Garza and Fernando Pineda. These two brother Knights brought our Council total to 215 Knights. Our quota for supreme is 12 new members, we have added 18. As always if you run into men in the parish who you think would be great Knights, please feel free to send them along to any member of the Council leadership.

Our dues collection for the 2025-2026 fraternal year is winding to a close. We presently have 75% of our members paid through the end of the fraternal year. We have an additional 45 members who still have outstanding dues. In total this year we've collected \$6424.00 in regular dues and \$3900 in optional dues. This brings our total dues receipts to just over \$10,000. If you would like to pay your dues Please remember that you can always do that through our website or by sending a check to our financial secretary Chris Ziemer.

## **INTERVIEW WITH BROTHER RON CARR**

***When were you born and where were you raised? Also, how many siblings do you have?***

The day I was to be born a major disaster occurred called the Texas City disaster. It was an industrial accident that occurred on April 16, 1947, in the port of [Texas City, Texas](#), which is located in [Galveston Bay](#). It was the deadliest industrial accident in U.S. history and one of history's largest non-nuclear explosions.

The explosion was triggered by a mid-morning fire on board the French-registered vessel *Grandcamp* (docked at port), which detonated her cargo of about 2,300 tons of ammonium nitrate. This started a chain reaction of fires and explosions aboard other ships and in nearby oil-storage facilities, ultimately killing at least 680 people and over 3000 people were injured.

As a result of this explosion, there was no available hospital space so I had to be born in my home. I was raised in the southeast Houston area.

***Do you have siblings? How much older or younger are your siblings?***

I have an older sister 10 years older, and my other sister was one year younger.

***Would you describe your career(s)/occupation(s)?***

I got involved in flying airplanes and later got a managerial job with Continental Airlines. I spent 10 years working for them. Unfortunately, they went bankrupt, so I had to find another job. I spent the rest of my career working for the US postal service.

***Have you been in the military?***

I was lucky enough not to be drafted, because I followed the advice of a career Navy Chief. He recommended I drop my student deferment and rely on my high draft number. This placed me in a separate group that didn't get selected for the draft, whereas if I hadn't done that, I probably would have been drafted.

***What is your educational background?***

I attended Steven F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, as an engineering major, but unfortunately did not finish. Nacogdoches is just above Lufkin, Tx. You may recognize that name Lufkin because that is where oil field pump jacks were made. Money was tight and I needed to get a job to make ends meet.

***When and why did you join the Knights?***

It's kind of funny how that happened. A helper with the RCIA introduced himself to me as a member of the Knights of Columbus. I asked him for some information on the Knights, and he gave me a Form 100 to fill out. Only later did I find out that the form was actually intended to join the Knights. It is obvious to me today that Our Lord was working to get me involved all along.

I joined in 2006 and worked my way up to becoming the Grand Knight for Council #12591 between 2009 until 2014.

***What are your hobbies and interests? (Especially those that may help serve the parish/council)***

I love flying airplanes but these days it has gotten very costly to rent a plane. I also love gardening and working on cars.

***What brought you to the Catholic Church? Have you had any thoughts of becoming more involved with the church and if so, in what manner?***

My parents were members of the Southern Baptist church, which is faith I grew up with. My first marriage lasted 10 years and my second marriage lasted seven years. After I divorced my second wife, I was talking to a lady I met at Costco, and I mentioned to her that I was interested in meeting a loving and caring woman. She introduced me to her sister, Alicia. Alicia lived in Seattle, Washington, so I developed a long distant relationship with Alicia and later moved there. We attended several churches in the Edmonds area, and I fell in love with the homiletics of a Catholic parish priest, Fr. Haydock. We started going there and to the Holy Rosary together. In 2004 decided to attend RCIA (now OCIA). After completing RCIA I had a meeting with Fr. Haydock about what I had to do to join the church. He told me there was no problem as my prior marriages were not in the Catholic Church.

I am very happy to be a part of the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish and an active member of the KOC Council 14754 and a recent 4<sup>th</sup> Degree member of the Admiral Callighan Assembly.

## **DO YOU LIKE TO SING IN THE SHOWER? HOW ABOUT IN CHURCH?**

The men's choir is seeking additional voices. The choir sings for 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Christmas with the Kern River Brass, and is always adding to the dates and repertoire. We even rehearsed some standard beer festival songs. If you would like to join us, we rehearse at 8:30am on the 2<sup>d</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month, immediately following men's bible study, and rehearse other dates as needed. If you are interested just show up at one of the rehearsals, or if you have questions, contact Ed Knudson at [osuetk@bak.rr.com](mailto:osuetk@bak.rr.com), 661-333-8279, or Susan Scaffidi at [scaffidi@setoncatholicchurch.org](mailto:scaffidi@setoncatholicchurch.org) or 661-587-3626.

## **APPEAL FOR DONATION**

On behalf of Brothers Andy Silvestro and Michael Dhanens, Council 14754 would like to begin collecting items, monthly, for distribution St. Vincent DePaul Center and/or the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center.

### **For St. Vincent DePaul Center:**

*New men's and women's socks and underwear*

*Gently used men's and women's clothing that can be used directly by the homeless*

*Heavy duty re-usable plastic grocery bags*

### **For the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center:**

*Diapers (all sizes) Gently used baby clothes for both boys and girls*

*Baby blankets, New bottles, pacifiers and teething toys*