



Knights of
Columbus®

DECEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #14754

Please join us for our next Council meeting, Monday, January 8th in the St. Therese Room. Social Hour will start at 6:00pm and the General Meeting will follow at 7:00pm. Please join us for good food, fellowship and to see how you can participate in upcoming Council activities and programs. You can also check out the Council website at koc14754.org for more information.



DECEMBER 2024 BIRTHDAYS

12-5 Andy Weber
12-6 Anthony Duncan
12-6 Francisco
Rogriguez
12-07 John Chacon
12-10 Donovan White
12-13 Doug Farolan
12-18 Jim Gabel
12-20 Kyle Cisneros
12-21 Brian Bean
12-27 Jon Bachman

UPDATE ON 2024 DUES: Fifty nine of the 158 dues bills for 2024 have been collected as of 12/3/2023. You will be able to pay your 2024 dues at our January 8, 2024 meeting. All 2024 dues bills should be paid by January 15, 2024.

Food Drives: Cash donation for our Thanksgiving food drive were Just over \$7,400 and we delivered some 11,000 pounds of food to Catholic Charities in Bakersfield including 66 turkeys. Our Christmas food drive will be at all Masses on December 16 & 17.

Upcoming events: Our council's Christmas party will be on Tuesday 12/12/2024. A Flocknote RSVP was sent on 12/4.

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The submission deadline for our January 2024 newsletter is 1/12/2024 Please email submissions to Jim Patten (jpinbakca@gmail.com).

The photos on the left are parts Jim and Rita Patten's Christmas Village scenes.



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

NOTE FROM BILL JEFFRIES, DGK & MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

Please call or email me (661-703-6171 billjeffries1953@gmail.com) if you have any questions about your membership, and feel free to give my contact information to prospective members you may know.

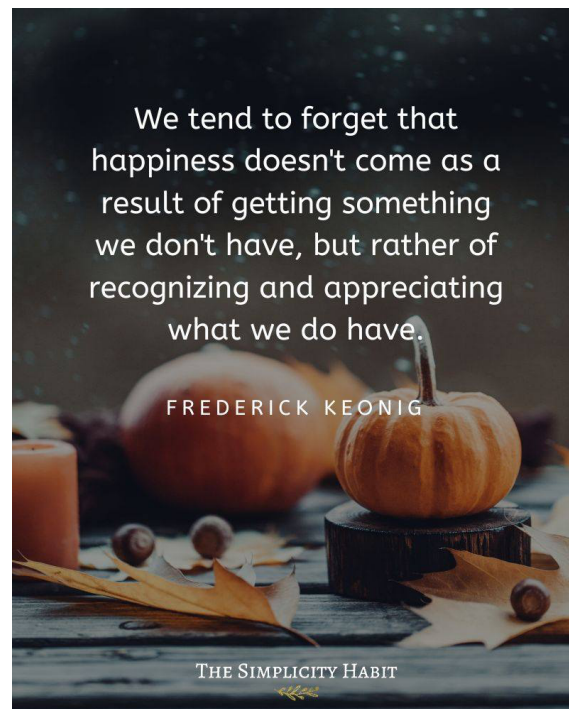
Dear Brother Knights:

Here we go AGAIN! Another Christmas comes our way—seemingly faster than usual (or is that just because I'm getting older?!) You may agree with me—as soon as Halloween is over, we jump right into Thanksgiving, Christmas and then, the New Year. Our calendar is relentless in keeping us moving from one holiday to the next without much rest. No wonder so many people are exhausted by the time the holidays are over.

It doesn't have to be that way. We **DO** have a choice in how we respond to our society's demand that we move things along at such a quickened pace. We can give ourselves permission to reflect and ponder the true meaning of the holidays. That's the beauty and wisdom of the Church calendar (also called the Liturgical Year). The Liturgical Year gives us ample time to enter into the season s-l-o-w-l-y and to prepare ourselves for the actual celebration of Christmas. Advent provides us with four weeks (usually) to focus on the ways that Christ comes to us—not simply at the end of time or on December 25—but **each and every day**. Every morning we wake up can be an opportunity to “welcome Christ” into our lives. Each time we meet a neighbor we can reflect on how Christ can make himself known to us in that encounter. Every time we sit down with spouses or loved ones to enjoy a meal, we can remember that Christ is invited to be seated with us. And every time we attend Mass, we believe that Christ is there under the forms of bread and wine. So, Christmas does not have to take us by surprise by showing up so quickly. If we live each day in anticipation of Christ's coming, we will slow down and welcome the actual holiday by already having prepared ourselves for it.

Of course, this is not an easy thing to do. We will all feel the pressure of preparing for Christmas NOW! The choice is ours. We can “go with the flow” or take our time and take control of what is rightfully ours—the celebration of Christ's birth.

Msgr Perry Kavookjian



MEMBER PROFILE-Don Dale

By Jim Patten, PGK & Charter Member

Don, a cradle Catholic, was born in 1946 in Temple City CA. He has two brothers and one sister. He retired in 2006 from Berry Petroleum where he was controller for twenty-one years. He was also a CPA. He is a U.S. Navy veteran serving between 1966 and 1972. His service included two years on the aircraft carrier Levingston.

Don was briefly a charter member of our council and he we are happy to have him rejoin now in December 2023.

His interests include golf, reading, and shooting pool.

Don and his wife Ann were married in 1967, so we now have at least six current and former members who were married that same year. They have three children, Amiee, Brian, and Carrienne, and seven grandchildren.

The Dales are original SEAS parishioners and Don served several years as chair of the SEAS finance committee.

DON & ANN DALE



2023 THANKSGIVING DRIVE PHOTOS

These photos were taken on November 19, 2023. It was a busy day at SEAS since we also had the Houchin blood drive. This photo shows both the Houchin blood mobile and the Catholic Charities truck on either side of the statue of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. (It seemed to me that the smile on her face was even bigger.) PGK Jerry Anderson is seated at the table and that is Doug Faloran stationed inside the truck.



Here (left to right) are Craig Carter, chair of our food drives, and two more Knight volunteers, Eddie Marmolejo, and Ron Black.



2024 LENT FRIDAY DINNERS

By Ed Besenfelder, Treasurer & Lent Friday dinner chair

If you are like me, there are way too many things to be worried about during the November/December Holiday season without adding Lent and the Lenten Fish Dinners to the list. But Lent begins very early this coming year, and we should probably start planning now. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on February 14th in 2024. Note, that is also the same day as Valentine's Day. Makes it difficult to fast and take your sweetheart out for a nice Valentine dinner...

As you all know, the first Friday in Lent starts our 6 consecutive Fridays of the Lenten Fish Dinners sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The following are the calendar dates for the 2024 dinners:

- Friday, 2/16/24
- Friday, 2/23/24
- Friday, 3/01/24
- Friday, 3/08/24
- Friday, 3/15/24
- Friday, 3/22/24

Serving time this season will change a little from past years and will now run from 4:00 to 6:30 PM. Hopefully we can use the additional time after closing, from 6:30 - 7:00 PM, to get the kitchen clean-up completed (and quiet) before Stations begin at 7:00 PM.

So, please mark your calendars and be prepared to sign-up at the January council meeting to support your brother Knights on those dates. We will be running two stations – one at the kitchen window, and the other as a drive-thru by the back patio – just as we have done the past few years. So, we will need 18-22 Brothers and the Pit Masters every Friday to support the effort. As in the past, we will need:

- Set-up Crew: 4-5 men are needed starting around 3:30 PM to set-up and clean tables and chairs
- Main Event: 10-12 (more is better) men to help take orders, serve meals, run dinners to the drive-thru, etc., starting a little before 4:00 PM and working until we shut the kitchen windows.
- Pit Masters: You guys are always self-directed and know when you need to start and how many brothers you need support the effort.
- Clean-up Crew: need 5-6 men to clean-up the kitchen and grounds after we finish serving. Men are needed from around 6:15 to 7:00 PM.
- As always, the LMF will also support our effort by preparing all the dinner orders.

I'm really looking forward to serving our parishioners as we have done now since 2011. It is always a lot of fun and very rewarding to see so many parish families turn out for an excellent dinner and wonderful fellowship. Sign-up sheets will be passed around at the January Council Meeting on January 8, 2024.