



**Knights of
Columbus®**

FEBRUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #14754

Please join us for our next Council meeting, Monday, March 11th in the St. Therese Room. Social Hour will start at 6:00pm and the General Meeting will follow at 7:00pm. All men of the parish are welcome to attend our social hour. Please join us for good food, fellowship and to see how you can participate in upcoming Council activities and programs.



FEBRUARY 2024 BIRTHDAYS

2-05 Mike Zulfa
2-07 Joel Molina
2-14 Andres Ordonez
2-14 Terry Pelton
2-15 Darren Olliver
2-16 Greg Butchko
2-22 George Ayonayon
2-23 Kevin Palla
2-26 Frank Kuhs
2-27 Ryan Fachin
2-27 Mike Neal
2-28 John Gonzales

UPDATE ON 2024 DUES: One hundred twenty four of the 158 dues for 2024 have been collected as of 2/12/2024. Second notices were mailed to members whose dues are still unpaid. The fastest way to pay dues is at our website koc14754.org.

We really appreciate those members who can pay additional optional dues. Currently 76 members have paid additional dues totaling \$3,420.

Upcoming events: The first of our six Lent Friday dinners will be on February 16, 2024. We can always use extra help for the dinners. Please contact Ed Besenfelder who is co-chairing this year's dinners with John Rozo to let him know when you can help. Ed's email is 47flathead1ed@gmail.com. There are three shifts. Set up 3-4PM. Dinner 4-6:45PM. Clean up starts at 6:30PM.

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Membership update

The submission deadline for our March 2024 newsletter is 3/12/2024 Please email submissions to Jim Patten (jpinbakca@gmail.com).

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. We are at 183 members now and have almost ten prospective members.

HUMOR FROM Maxine

I'm prone to mood swings.
Sometimes I'm grumpy,
sometimes I'm grouchy,
sometimes I'm crabby.

If you want to stay healthy, you've
got to eat balanced meals.
Burrito in one hand, beer in
the other. Balanced!

LENT FACTOIDS, by Jim Patten

Valentine's day and Ash Wednesday happen to fall on the same date this year.

You may have noticed that two of our members have their birthdays on February 14.

Ash Wednesday is always 46 days before Easter.

Easter is determined as the Sunday following the first full moon that happens on or after the March equinox, which is always March 21 in the Christian Church calendar.

Here are the----- earliest and---- latest dates for both days:

Ash Wednesday	February 4	March 10
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Easter	March 22	April 25
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A simple internet search for Easter dates will yield up many fascinating secular and religious sources with information on these moveable feasts that cover astronomy, different calendars, and bible study.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAPLAIN AND PASTOR

Dear Brother Knights and Friends:

What??!! You say you don't like fish?? How can that be? Would you be persuaded if I told you that Jesus ate lots of fish??!! The people of first century Palestine had a diet that consisted primarily of fish--maybe some goat or lamb on special occasions. Even today, if you visit Israel, you can enjoy some tasty fish from the Sea of Galilee.

Every Friday during Lent, Catholics observe abstinence from meat (beef, chicken, pork, lamb). As a result, many restaurants try to cater to those customers who eat out on Friday. Have you ever noticed that most restaurants offer Clam Chowder as the soup of choice on Fridays? McDonald's once reported that sales of their Filet-O-Fish sandwich soared during the Fridays of Lent! So, it's clear to me that most Catholics still observe the tradition of eating fish on the Fridays of the Lenten Season.

That's where the Knights of Columbus enter the picture! For the past twelve years (even before our current building was constructed), the Knights have made a tasty Lenten Meal of Fish and Chips available for our parishioners (and others). More than just a meal which satisfies the Lenten requirement, our fish dinners are an opportunity for people to gather in the spirit of Lent to share a meal. While the meal the Knights offer is tasty—it's more about the spiritual well-being of the community. Through our gatherings, our parish family is strengthened in the bond of friendship and love.

Thanks to all who volunteer their time every Lent for this undertaking. As always, I hope to meet some new people when I come to our Lenten Fish Fry!

Msgr Perry Kavookjian

Chaplain

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS FROM THE JANUARY 2024 MEN'S RETREAT

By Craig Holliday

"It is not possible to become holy alone." This was one of the first messages shared by Fr. Jim Nesbitt on the 11th annual SEAS Men's retreat. I was lucky enough to be a first-time attendee of the retreat. Forty-six men attended the retreat--the largest number in recent memory. In addition, more first-timers attended the retreat than ever before.

The event began on Friday afternoon on January 26, and continued through Sunday lunch at the picturesque St Anthony's Retreat House outside of Three Rivers. Over the course of three days, Father Nesbitt led us on a series of talks and conversations about the saints. Father Jim's sessions focused on the lives of saints and the friendships they shared with other saints. We heard a wonderful story about the competition for saintliness between Saint Basil and Saint Gregory Nazianzen. On Saturday, we were blessed to explore the holy and symbiotic friendship between St Francis and St Clare. In each of these relationships, sainthood was achieved with the help and support of others.

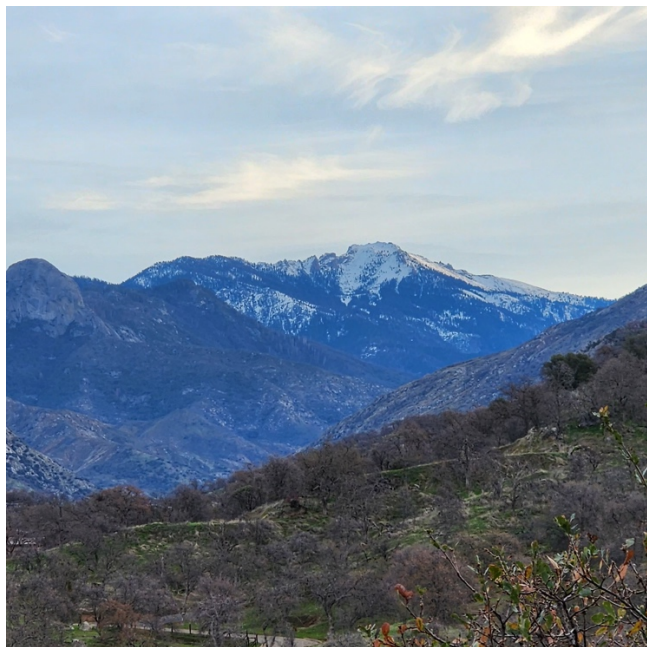
Each of the talks were followed by small group sessions with four to five men. I was in a group of five men and was fortunate to make strong friendships across the course of the weekend. Our conversations were an excellent opportunity to reflect upon Father Jim's messages to see where our lives could be increased in holiness. As the small groups shared out with the larger community, it was clear that Fr. Jim's message of holiness being impossible on our own had made an impact. It was a very powerful spiritual experience.

The retreat also featured an opportunity to attend Mass on each of the three days. Two priests were available for the sacrament of reconciliation, and we had an amazing walkthrough of the Stations of the Cross led by Father Jim. All these activities combined with the tranquil atmosphere to create a great environment for the growth of faith.

As a first-time attendee I was impressed with the welcoming camaraderie of the group. In my free time there were plenty of groups to sit down and chat with. It was a great opportunity for me to make fellowship with other parish men (many of whom are members of our local Council). I would strongly encourage other men to attend the retreat in the future.

Next year's event is scheduled for January 24-26, 2025. Hope to see you all there!

One of the views from St Anthony's Retreat House



Member Kevin Palla and Fr. Jim Nesbitt



Group photo January 2024 Men's Retreat



MEMBER PROFILE: Craig Holliday; by Jim Patten, PGK & charter Member

Craig was born in 1973 in South Africa and raised in Hawaii. Both sides of his family had left England following WWII-his mother and father met in Africa in the 1960's. Craig's father was a sugar engineer, which is what brought them to Hawaii. They lived on the Big Island and then Kauai. He has one older brother, who is a chef in Portland, OR.

He has taught history at BHS for the past 18 years. Currently he teaches European and US History courses that are dual enrolled with Bakersfield College. Before BHS he taught for 7 years at Garces. He holds a bachelor's in history from Gonzaga University, and a master's in history from Marquette. He also works part time for Bakersfield College and Fresno Pacific University as an adjunct.

Craig joined our council as a new member in December 2023 and indicates that he is interested doing work to serve the community and getting to know the men of the parish.

He likes to play pickleball and golf and enjoys doing it yourself projects. He is also an avid reader,

Craig and his wife Rosemarie were married in 1998 and have three sons (Ian 18, Colin16, and Ryan 16).

Craig's family is currently registered at SEAS, but he became. Catholic about 25 years ago in Bakersfield at St. Philip.

Craig and Rosemarie Holliday and their three sons.

Left to right: Colin, Ryan, and Ian.

Photo taken in Utah at a recent family wedding.

