



Knights of
Columbus®

JANUARY 2025 NEWSLETTER

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #14754

WEBSITE WWW.KOC14754.ORG



Happy Birthday!

January 2025
BIRTHDAYS & Years
of Service

06 Modesto Intoy 17
07 Jerry Anderson 17
10 Kevin Streiff 52
12 Anh Tuan Nguyen
13
13 Abel Serrano 6
16 Casey Zeimer 10
17 Timothy Struempf 13
21 David Romero 7
23 Marcello Junho 1
23 Augie Moreno 14
26 Nelson Castro 6
29 David Rodriguez 32
29 Jose Vargas 8

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

These 13 members have 15 average years of service ranging from one year to 52 years. This month's average age is 60 ranging from 40 to 72. January birthdays include PGKs Jerry Anderson and Kevin Streiff who is also an honorary life member. In this month's birthdays, there are three 4th degree, seven 3rd degree, and one 2nd degree, and two 1st degree members. All 1st and 2nd degree members should contact our membership director to see how easy it is to become a full 3rd degree member of our council.

See our website calendar for upcoming events.

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Fr. Perry's January article

Grand Knight's January article

Articles by Craig Holliday, Membership Director

The submission deadline for our February 2025 newsletter is 2/06/2025 Please email submissions to Jim Patten (jpinbakca@gmail.com).

MEN'S RETREAT REMINDER

The registration form for the 2025 Men's retreat (Jan 24 thru Jan 26) and a payment portal for the retreat is now on the SEAS webpage.

FR. PERRY'S JANUARY 2025 ARTICLE

Dear Brother Knights and Friends:

"2025!" Can you believe it? When I was younger, I used to calculate how old I would be in the year 2000 (42 years old). Now, here we are 25 years later—one quarter of the way into this century! I am 66 years old. Hard to believe!

Yet, with each new year that we are blessed with, we are given new opportunities to serve God's people. I don't want to brag but our parish family has practiced great generosity with their time, treasure and talent each year in meeting the needs of the poor. I credit the Knights with motivating people to serve in this way. I can only say "thank you" to those who have stepped forward in so many ways to fulfill our mission to God's people.

This new year promises to keep us busy! As our parish continues to grow, we will be doing another "push" for our capital campaign. While I'm still not certain what is happening at the diocesan level, we can only move forward and build up our funds here so that we can make progress. I will have more to share with our congregation in February.

Thank you for your support, your good work and for keeping the faith!

Sincerely,

Msgr Perry Kavookjian

GK BILL JEFFRIES JANUARY 2025 ARTICLE

Happy New Year 2025 to our SEAS Knights, their families and to the SEAS family. Looking back to the past 6 months of our '24 – '25 fraternal year the SEAS Knights have donated their time, talent and treasure to support our church. We supported Seminarian Elliot Yarak, who was assigned to SEAS for the past six months and we pray for him as he returns to Mount Angel Seminary to continue his studies. Knights supported Catholic Charities with Coats for Kids, plus food drives for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Pitmasters cooked chicken for the annual SVDP BBQ and for the SEAS couple's dinner in Nov. We also collected turkeys and hams for Saint Vincent DePaul's Thanksgiving and Christmas meals and served over 200 breakfast meals in late September. Knights assisted at the fall LMF rummage sale, had a fall roadside pickup. Knights served just over 200 taco dinner meals at Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration. In Dec Knights volunteered to set up chairs and kneelers in the Chapel, assist with Christmas Decorations and ended Dec 2024 with a 5th Sunday Rosary.

Welcome Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope. For additional information review the US Conference of Catholic Bishops website at <https://www.usccb.org/jubilee2025>.

SEAS Men's Retreat with Fr. Jim Nisbet "Christian Living in the 21st Century" at St. Anthony Retreat Center, Three Rivers, CA January 24-26, 2025. Registration forms are available to fill out at SEAS and online registration should be available on the weekend of Jan 4th.

Looking forward to Ash Wednesday on March 5, 2025, as the SEAS Knights prepare for their #1 fund raiser the Lenten Fish Dinners on Friday March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 11. Easter Sunday is April 20, 2025. More details to follow with the dinners and schedule volunteers to sign up.

We are still recruiting new Knights and request you to invite a guest to attend one of our SEAS Knights Social Dinners on the second Monday of the month beginning at 6 PM.

Thank you, Brother Knights, looking forward to a blessed 2025!

GK Bill Jeffries

Fall Recruitment Update, by Craig Holliday, Membership Director

The Council's Fall recruitment drive helped bring several new Knights into the council. Some of these gentlemen showed interest at our events in early October, some of them came to dinner in October and November, and others were referred to the Council by fellow Knights.

The new batch of Knights range in age from 30-72. All of them are married or engaged to be married. They have held a variety of jobs ranging from winemaking to corrections to school crossing guard. Importantly they all are interested in deepening their faith and helping the community.

Please welcome each of the following new Knights:

- **Don Castro:** Although he was born in Columbus, Ohio, Don was raised in Tehachapi. He's a retired cable TV worker and now works as a school crossing guard. Don served in the Army between 1971 and 73. He and his wife Linda have been married since 1999.
- **Greg Desme:** Originally born in Redwood City, Greg grew up in Bakersfield. He was an altar server with Father Ralph at St Joseph's Church. Greg attended East Bakersfield High, Bakersfield College, and Cal State Bakersfield. He and his wife Janis have three children. Greg works in real estate and likes to fly fish and play tennis in his spare time.
- **Luis Franco:** Luis was born in Mexico and raised in Delano. He retired after a career in corrections and presently works for 5-0 Driving School. Luis has four children. He and his wife Maggie were married in 2019.
- **Kevin Kearney:** Kevin was born in San Diego. He graduated from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo with a degree in chemistry. He works as a winemaker for ASV wines. Kevin is engaged to be married in June of 2025. In his spare time, he enjoys shooting, traveling, and woodworking.
- **Sean Santillan:** Sean was born and raised in Bakersfield. He holds a bachelor's degree in criminology and a master's in psychology from University of St Mary. He works as a high school teacher at Wasco High teaching freshman English. He and his wife Christina were married in 2018 and have two children. In his spare time Sean likes cooking, baking, grilling and smoking meats.
- **Stephan Sanchez:** Stephan is transferring as a member from OLPH. He was born and raised in Bakersfield. Stephan has a bachelor's and master's degree in business and presently works as a Purchasing Manager. He is the single father of a 9-year-old son. In his spare time, he enjoys weightlifting, running, and cooking.
- **Jacob Priester:** Jacob was born in Hanford and raised in Bakersfield. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in biology from Cal State Bakersfield. He works with Steve and Megan Pruett. Jacob and his wife Bailie just welcomed their first child, Meadow.

We are also currently in communication with more than a dozen other prospective Knights. If you are interested in helping with recruitment or membership, we would love the help. Please contact either myself (craig_holliday@kernhigh.org or 661-599-9219) or Grand Knight Bill Jeffries (billjeffries1953@gmail.com or 661-706-6171).

Dues Payment Update by Craig Holliday, Membership Director.

As of December 31, 2024 slightly more than half of our dues paying members (89 out of 173) have paid their 2025 dues. Remember that we have about a dozen members who pay no regular dues or limited dues for a variety of reasons. The dues collection has brought in \$4,158 in regular dues.

We have also collected a very impressive \$3,579 in optional dues from members. To date 65 members have contributed optional dues. The average optional contribution is about \$55 per member. These optional dues help offset a variety of expenses, including sponsoring our seminarians, providing food for St. Vincent de Paul breakfasts, helping first time Men's Retreat attendees, and a host of other charitable efforts.

The most popular method of dues payment this year is check (46% of payments). Followed by credit card (27%), through the website (16%) and cash (11%).

As a reminder, you may still pay your dues at the January meeting (January 13, 2025). You may also pay by sending a check to Financial Secretary Chris Ziemer (K of C Council 14754, 11704 Copernicus Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93312) or through our website <https://www.koc14754.org>. Brothers who do not pay their dues by January 15, 2025, will be sent a second dues letter shortly thereafter.

If you have any questions about paying your dues, please contact Membership Director Craig Holliday at 661-599-9219 or craig_holliday@kernhigh.org.