



# JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #14754



Please join us for our next Council meeting, Monday, September 11th in the St. Therese Room. Social Hour will begin 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](http://koc14754.org) for more information.

07/02 Matthew Schneider

07/05 Jamison Holt

07/07 Andrew Silvestro

07/08 John Zabatta

07/12 Jose Hernandez

07/15 Ed Besenfelder

07/21 Daniel Davila

07/21 Rev Perry Kavookjian

07/24 Bruce Lumis

07/27 Terry Horan

07/28 Marques Hernandez

08/01 James Dutton

08/02 Jonathan Sales

08/03 Gregory Gerow

08/03 Michael Molatore

08/04 James Johnstone

08/06 George Smith

08/07 Edward Gonzales

08/07 Juan Tirado

08/08 Daniel Goetz

08/10 Sam Duran

08/10 Jason Frazier

08/15 Noel Delos Reyes

08/20 Richard Ramos

08/22 John Rozo

08/24 Ikenna Clement

08/25 Benjamin Romero

08/27 Dennis Shaw

08/28 Ron Black

Brother Knights. The "baby bottle" drive, designed to raise funds by the parish in support of the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center, was quite successful. Over \$4,200 was donated by parishioners for this worthy cause. Brother Mike Molatore spearheaded our effort and was the liaison with the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center. Many thanks to Brother Mike and all who made this effort a success.

Please welcome the new Council officers installed at our recent Installation Ceremony and Dinner held July 24. See the list of officers on our web page, [koc14754.org](http://koc14754.org). Please also offer support and congratulations to WGK Donovan White elected to lead our Council for 2023/2024. The ceremony was attended by our DD Tony Rancik and several members of our local Chapter. The dinner was provided by Sorella's Italian Restaurant and featured Erin Rogers, Executive Director of the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center, as a guest speaker. It was a truly wonderful evening.

Brother Andy School has set the date for the next Council Roadside Clean-Up. This event will be held on Saturday, September 30. Please plan on meeting in front of the church at 8:00AM if you like to participate. A sign-up sheet will be provided at the Gen-eral Meeting on September 11. Feel free to invite family members.

The pit masters have continued to have a busy summer. After cooking a meal in support of the Music Ministry, the pit masters also offered their BBQ talents in support of several summer youth programs. Thanks, again, for all you do for the Council and parish.

The next Fifth Sunday Rosary will be in October. Please refer to the Newsletter and future flocknote announcement for an opportunity to pray the Rosary with fellow Knights and with the parish. Or use this as an opportunity to participate directly by volunteering to recite a decade. Please put this date on your Calendar.



Dear Brother Knights:

My hope is that you have been able to enjoy some “down time” during these summer months. Whether you traveled to another place or just enjoyed some time in the comfort of your home, the summer is always an opportunity for most of us to wind down and be renewed. It’s all because our schools are in recess during the summer that so many families can take advantage of this to do some fun things together.

In our younger years, my brothers and I always looked forward to our “summer vacation”. Our favorite destinations were Pismo Beach, Disneyland or San Francisco and, even though it might only be for a few days, it was enough to bring us together as a family for some good old-fashioned fun. Eventually, as the summer progressed, my brothers and I would experience a mix of excitement and trepidation about going back to school. My mother would take all of us shopping for school supplies: Pee-Chee folders (remember those?), three-ring binders, pens, pencils, and more. We’d also shop for school clothes. We all went to Catholic schools so we had to buy those uniforms—dark pants and white shirts—along with the standard black, lace-up shoes (which were appropriate for church as well). This was the ritual we observed every year—summer vacation followed by preparation for another school year.

As I reflect on those by-gone days of my youth and prepare myself for another year of ministry at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton parish, I am thankful for those “routines” of life which give me the opportunity to experience God’s blessings over and over again.

We now move forward to a new Columbian Year. I thank you for your ongoing commitment and dedication to our parish family. My gratitude is with our Officers who served last year. My prayers are with those who will lead us this year.

Msgr Perry

*Following is an excerpt from WGK Donovan Whites message from our Web Page:*

It is an honor and a privilege to be installed as Grand Knight of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council for the new Fraternal Year.

It is humbling to walk the path of our Past Grand Knights. Their accomplishments and dedication need to be recognized and acknowledged. Not the least of which are the achievements of our immediate Past Grand Knight Michael Dhanens. He led us with innovation, determination, and vision. Like all Past Grand Knights, we owe him a debt of gratitude and respect for the work he did and the leadership he provided. In the coming year, I look forward to building on Michael’s and previous Grand Knights accomplishments and instituting our own. I appreciate and treasure the advice that I have received from Past Grand Knights and members of this council. I hold the principals of our order, Charity, Unity, Fraternity, and Patriotism, sacred. Here are some examples of how we continue to exhibit these principals.

Charity has never been a problem or question for this council. Last year we donated over several thousand dollars to deserving organizations and individuals. We, along with the partnership of the Ladies Fellowship Ministry, have raised an incredible amount of funds through our Fish Fry drive. Our Coats for Kids received generous funding from our parishioners. Members of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton also supported Catholic men as they further their vocations in religious life. Our seminarians have benefited greatly. We want to help ensure they have all they need to be successful priests. Our council has contributed monetarily to other causes such as Right to Life, St. Vincent de Paul, K of C Ukraine Support Fund, and the Bakersfield Pregnancy Center. We not only open our wallets, but we open our hearts. This council is very generous, and we thank God for blessing us so that we may be a blessing to others.

Unity and fraternity are also practiced. Annual events like the St. Vincent de Paul Breakfasts, Roadside Cleanups, Christmas Family parties, Annual Men’s Retreat, 5th Sunday Rosaries, Charter Members Night and Fish Fry’s have brought us together. We will also continue use our monthly meetings and social gatherings to instill in all of us the tenants of Unity and Fraternity.

We as a council have a responsibility and duty to each of our brothers and friends. We have a responsibility to the community at large. We have a responsibility to support are pastor. We cannot forget about those brothers who have given their time and dedication to a cause that they believe was worthwhile. I can truthfully say that in this council our fellow brother cares. With the addition to our Fallen Knights committee, we hold true to these desires. I want to make sure that each Knight can serve the ministries in a meaningful and productive way, and this council will continue to that support which leads to the fulfillment of Fr. McGivney’s vision. We are the strong right arm of the church.

I want to thank my fellow officers for their dedication, trust, and leadership. Please pray for me and the officers of this council, that we act justly and as catholic gentlemen in all our decisions, and we as a council uphold the traditions of our order with honor and dignity. God Bless You and God Bless the United States of America and the Knights of Columbus.

Vivat Jesus!



Msgr Perry Kavookjian



MEMBER PROFILE: Brandon Whitehead

By Jim Patten, Membership Director, Council 14754

Brandon officially joined our council in August 2023. Both he and his wife Allyssia are active SEAS parishioners. She is a lead person in the SEAS Mom's group and now Brandon is a Knight, and he has already begun learning about the sweat equity we provide to the parish by joining with the Knight team that moved and replaced the chairs in the church for the August carpet cleaning. Brandon indicates he joined the Knights for more opportunities for faith-based service. Our members know he will find those opportunities, in addition to the sweat equity chores.

Brandon was born in 1989 and raised in the San Gabriel Valley. He has two older sisters. He graduated from San Marino High School and Pasadena City College.

He is a heavy equipment operator with IUOE local 12 here in Bakersfield.

He served in the US Marine Corps from 2008-2012 and deployed to Afghanistan, Haiti, and East Africa. (Thanks for your service, Brandon!)

Brandon shared that he enjoys spending time with family, fishing around Catalina Island, and playing dominos, and soccer. (Now we know who to call on if we want to add the Knight's soccer challenge program to our youth activities.)

Brandon and Allyssia were married in 2017 and have two children, Aiden and Ameila.

He completed RCIA in 2019, at Holy Family in South Pasadena and is on the SEAS roster as a registered parishioner.

Allyssia, Brandon, Aiden and Ameila Whitehead.



## CASEY CALLAGY MEMBER PROFILE

By Jim Patten, PGK & Charter Member

Casey, a cradle Catholic, is one of three new members who joined our council in June 2023. He was born (in 1962) and raised in Bakersfield and is one of 8 siblings (3 sisters 4 brothers-{2 past}). His nephew is council member Ryan Fachin. Ryan is one of our council members and Brother Bill Wonderly's son-in-law's. Both Ryan and Bill, who are part of our council BBQ Pit Master team, recruited and recommended Casey for membership in our council.

Casey indicates his education consisted of high school trade school and the school of very hard knocks. He is now retired from being a heavy-duty industrial mechanic.

He states his reason for joining the Knights is "to make myself a better person and have a little fun along the way". I think all our active members will agree that both those things will happen! Even our less active members realize that they are better informed Catholics by being in the KofC communication network both at the national and parish council levels.

Casey is single and he states that his hobbies are "build whatever". (Maybe Fr. Perry should ask him how he is at building churches?)

Here is a photo of Casey Callagy and Bill Wonderly taken at our 7/24/2023 council meeting.



## DAVID LOPEZ MEMBER PROFILE

By Jim Patten, PGK & Charter Member

David, who was raised Catholic, is one of three new members who joined our council in June 2023. He was born (in 1968) and raised in Bakersfield and is one of 13 siblings (9 sisters; 4 brothers). He is a SEAS parishioner.

He is currently Director of Technology for McFarland Unified School District. David has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical/Electronic Engineering for Sacramento State.

David likes to go fishing and spending time with his family. He and his wife, Veronica, were married in 2008. Pearl is their daughter, and David has step sons, Andrew and Joseph.



Veronica, Pearl, and David Lopez