



# MARCH NEWSLETTER

## St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council #14754

Please join us for our next Council meeting, Monday, March 14th. The social hour will begin at 6:00pm with food prepared by our Pit Masters. The general meeting will follow at 7:00pm in



Happy Birthday!

- 03/02 Andrew Gomez
- 03/03 Patrick Collins
- 03/04 Krystian Florentino
- 03/04 Andy Schoolt
- 03/05 John Denvir
- 03/07 Bard Anderson
- 03/10 Harvey Cambell
- 03/10 Craig Phillips
- 03/14 Chris Florentino
- 03/14 Mark Rhoades
- 03/14 Ray Warren
- 03/19 Jacob Riel
- 03/20 Robert Page
- 03/20 Bryan Plant
- 03/20 Steven Pruett
- 03/20 Brian Riel
- 03/23 Bernardino Reyes
- 03/25 Craig Carter
- 03/26 Anthony Urzanqui
- 03/27 Michael Cordova

The Council's first Lenten Friday Fish Fry dinner this year was a huge success! Brother Ed Besenfelder reported that 375 meals, including 860 pieces of fish, were served last Friday. Unfortunately, some of the later arriving parishioners were turned away as we ran out of fish at the end of the night. The net cash flow was nearly \$2,500. That figured exceeded any recent past Fish Fry. More product will be ordered for subsequent dinners and we hope to see all the Knights membership at future Fish Fries, helping with set up, serving or clean-up; or just coming by for a great dinner and fellowship. See the flyer at the end of this newsletter. Tonight Brother Ed and the Kern River Brass will be providing music in the patio area from between 5:00 to 5:30 pm until their catalog is exhausted.

Mark your calendars for the next Roadside Clean-Up which will be held on Saturday, April 23. Speak to, or contact, Brother Andy Schoolt to get more information and find out ways in which you can help. This is an opportunity to also encourage members of your family to participate in a truly worthwhile ministry of our Council.

At the February Council meeting WGK Dennis Shaw awarded Knight of the Month to the following members: Brother James Patten was recognized in December for his work in getting our Council web page operational. Brother Vince Pagano was honored in January for his work in organizing and ensuring that the SEAS Men's Retreat is a huge success. And Brother Tim Escalante (and ALL of the Pit Masters) were recognized for the preparing the meals we enjoy at each Council meeting but also for assisting Msgr. Perry and other ministries when an event is hosted at the parish for which meals are needed. Many thanks to all those honored and to those working in the background to make this Council so effective.

Brother James Patten reports that the American Cancer Society Discover Shop needs volunteers. They accept gently used clothing, furniture and other goods. Many of the volunteers are older and they need "younger" folks with stronger backs to help unload some of the heavier items people donate. The shop is located at 5420 California Avnue in the Stockdale West shopping center. Store hours are 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Saturday. Stop by the shop or call 661/324-1359 and speak with Traci, the store manager, to get more details about applying to volunteer.



Dear Brother Knights

Lent has arrived! Thankfully, we do not have to deal with COVID restrictions as we once did. Let's pray that all remains steady as we recover from a very difficult and confusing time over the past two years. There are already signs that our parishioners are returning to the practice of our faith. We have a record number of RCIA folks being welcomed into the Church at Easter; our Confirmation class boasts over 100 students; a new bible study has started; we are developing our own in-house retreat for engaged couples our new modular building is up and running and Mass attendance is getting back to pre-COVID levels. All looks good!

Thanks to those Knights who have volunteered their time and energy to our Lenten Fish Fry. The first turn-out was excellent. Thanks to those who are staying on top of our relationship with Catholic Charities. As you may know, Catholic Charities has been dealing with a general decline in support. We will continue working with them to alleviate the problem. May our efforts assist them in the important work they do.

There are other events that are being planned for later in the year. The "Heritage Festival" will celebrate the diversity of our parish family (June) and our annual Gala is being organized for some time in the Fall. Both will benefit the Building Fund which is moving forward. A new design for our Church will be introduced to the parish in the near future.

On a more somber note, we remember Julie Black and Vince Maciorski who have died. Ron Black (Julie's husband) is a brother Knight and Vince was a more recent member. May all of our deceased loved ones rest in eternal peace.



Msgr Perry Kavookjian



WGK Dennis Shaw  
Grand Knight Report

How are you identified? I have been thinking about this topic often lately. I had a pleasant conversation with one of our transfer Knights from a local parish and he commented that when he sees the Knights wearing their name badges at Mass, he would watch them to see how they interacted with everyone else. He said he was surprised at how welcoming and helpful the Knights were and he was drawn to be a part of our council. That reminded me that when I wear my Knights name badge at Mass or other parish functions, that others are watching and seeing how I live out the Gospel and teaching of the Knights of Columbus. Simply by being welcoming, sharing a smile and handshake, assisting where needed, we let others know that we are active leaders within our parish community. I want to encourage all of you to wear your badges at Mass and other parish functions and be the example that draws others to the Knights.

I was also thinking about wearing ashes on Ash Wednesday. I attended the 12:15PM services and although I did not want to pass out ashes (Deacon Noel's wife Irma twisted my arm to help), I found the experience to be very powerful for me. Being able to physically touch another person, make the sign of the cross with the ashes and say the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return", was very special to me. As I went back to the office, I had some new co-workers who do not know my faith background tell me I had dirt on my forehead. This gave me the opportunity to share a little about my Catholic faith and Lent. I am sure many of you have similar experiences from Ash Wednesday. These opportunities to witness to our Catholic faith are important as we are identified as men of faith.

Most of the time in our everyday lives, we are not wearing our Knights name badges or ashes on our foreheads, so how do people know we are men of faith? Are we the calm during the storms at work, or at home, or at the store or restaurant? Do we open the door for women who are walking up behind us? Do we stop to help the person in need who has no food or roof over their head? I think of the example so many of my Brother Knights have shown me over the past few years. I am so grateful for the example many of you have shown to me to help me on my journey. As we move through Lent, may each of us find ways to be the light in darkness. I hope you all have a spiritual and reflective Lenten season. May we all grow closer to Christ as we progress towards Easter.

## ON JULIE BLACK'S PASSING

By Jim Patten, PGK & Charter Member-March 1, 2022

Please continue to keep brother Ron Black and his family in your prayers and thoughts. The funeral for his wife Julie was held on March 1 at SEAS. In our November 2020 newsletter I covered both Ron's and Ed Besenfelder's involvement with the in the Model "A" Ford Club of America (MAFCA). It was no surprise when members of the club brought a dozen of their cars for the funeral procession to Greenlawn cemetery. In the photo Ron's Model A that Ed drove is lined up (on the left) to lead the funeral procession.



Julie's funeral mass was presided by Monsignor Perry, our pastor and chaplain. Several of the pallbearers and honorary pallbearers were Knights. Three Knights managed the communion lines for the well-attended mass, and many of our council members were in attendance.

Ron himself wore his Knight name badge, just like he always does when he attends mass and when he serves as a lector. What an example for all our members!

Ron and Julie were married in 1971 so like many of our council members and SEAS parishioners they were married for over 50 years. She also leaves behind her son Raul Black, her daughter Christina Rivera and son-in-law Gabe Rivera. Grandchildren; Brea Williams, Berklee Brown, Audrey Black, and Roman Black, her two and a half grandchildren, her three sisters and many friends.

When we started this council in 2009, we had no deceased members and every one of us were relatively healthy. Over the last twelve years we have accumulated a list of deceased members and have seen several members, like Ron, become a widower. Some members have lost children and other loved ones. On the plus side, some have married and become new parents, some have completed their college degrees and moved forward in their careers. We have all been involved with establishing the first new Catholic parish in Bakersfield since 1968. I think that all our active members have appreciated the benefits of being a Knight thru both the good and bad times!



**The St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Council  
14754 and volunteer members of the Seton Ladies Ministry Fel-  
lowship serve up:**

**LENTEN FRIDAY Fish & Chips DINNERS:**

**Served Fridays 4:30PM-6:45PM**

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church**

**2022 DATES: 3/04, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/01, & 4/08**

Option to purchase meals in a "Drive-Thru" located at the back of the church, or at the Kitchen Counter as in year's past.

PRICE: \$12 per 2-piece meal, \$2.00 per additional piece of fish; Credit cards will be accepted.

Music provided by "Kern River Brass" ensemble from 5:30PM-6:30PM on 3/11 & 4/08

**MENU PRICE INCLUDES:**

**Fish: Two 2-3oz pieces of cod, up to 2 extra pieces can be ordered**

**Fries: Generous Order of Fries with each meal**

**Coleslaw, Tartar Sauce, Ketchup, & 8oz bottle of Water**

**Dessert: Vanilla Ice-cream, extras available for \$1.00**

**Let us do the cooking on Lent Fridays. Net proceeds support the charitable efforts of our council for our parish and community.**

**\*\*\* Stations of the Cross at 7:00PM in the church \*\*\***