

BISHOP ODIN NEWS

Published Monthly
Knights of Columbus Council No. 2917
607 East Whitney Street
Houston, Texas 77022-3535
Phone: 713-694-2341
<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org>

December 2021

Vol. 40, Issue 12

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOMBALL, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 58

COUNCIL OFFICERS, COMMITTEEMEN & OTHERS

Council Chaplain		
Assistant Chaplain/Vocations	Deacon Will Hunter ex.deo@comcast.net	713-805-8582
Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain	Rev. Alberto Zanatta	281-447-6381
Chaplain CDA Court #1750	Rev. Msgr. James L. Golasinski	713-222-2289
District Deputy—District #88	Lawrence Rodriguez Lrodri5987@aol.com	713-444-8097
Grand Knight	John Buck john.t.buck@att.net	713-398-6196
Deputy Grand Knight	Kenneth Bollom kbollom@gmail.com	281-820-3602
Financial Secretary	Benny Okruhlik, PGK, FDD beokru@charter.net	281-353-5892
Chancellor	Floyd Supercinski sprcnsk@yahoo.com	713-861-6725
Recorder	Mike Goins derailed2012@att.net	346-203-1920
Treasurer	Sergio Espinosa espinosa_s@yahoo.com	832-295-9625
Advocate	Anthony Gonzales gonzalesaj001@aol.com	
Warden	Mark Demny markdemny@gmail.com	713-444-9861
Lecturer	Richard Pavlas rpavlas@comcast.net	713-392-9669
Inside Guard	Antonio Saenz granpapa1950@yahoo.com	832-643-5751
Outside Guard	David Roe david.roe.tx@att.net	713 854 5812
1 Year Trustee	Anthony M. Zuccarini Refzucc@gmail.com	713-688-0617
2 Year Trustee	Edward Ruhnke, Jr. evrjr@att.net	713-861-6000
3 Year Trustee	Floyd Rekieta srekieta@hotmail.com	281-536-0620
Program Director		
Family Director		
Public Relations	Don Christen dechristen@comcast.net	713-628-8177
Pro-Life Program Director	Floyd Supercinski sprcnsk@yahoo.com	713-861-6725
Membership Director	Kenneth Gonzales kennethg1976@gmail.com	832-614-5425
Rosary Team Captain	James E. Urbanovsky, PGK, PFN jurbanovsky@att.net	713-861-6347
Rosary Team Leader	Benny Okruhlik, PGK, FDD beokru@charter.net	281-353-5892
Senior Club President	Angie Heinrich	713-683-8417
V.A. Hospital Chairman	Bob Rivera	832-431-9282
K of C insurance	Zach Scardino zachary.scardino@kofc.org	281-541-8667
Northside Columbus Club President	Paul Heidbreder heidbreder60@yahoo.com	281-726-3390
President Ladies Auxiliary	Lydia Clifton liiclifton91@yahoo.com	832-713-3814
Catholic Daughters Regent	Pat Koterias patkoterias@att.net	713-864-4490
Manager, Northside Columbus Club (rentals)	Lydia Clifton nscc2917@gmail.com	713-694-2341
Editor, <i>Bishop Odin News</i>	Kathy Bronikowski kbroniko@hotmail.com	281-356-3535



BISHOP ODIN NEWS

Bishop Odin Council 2917 - Knights of Columbus



607 East Whitney Street
Houston, Texas 77022

CHARTERED MARCH 25, 1945

A Monthly Publication

Phone: 713-694-2341
Fax: 713-694-2342

Grand Knight: John Buck

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org>

December 2021 (Vol. 40, No. 12)

Grand Knight's Message

John Buck

Brother Knights,

First and foremost, our Program and Family Director positions are still open, any volunteers to accept one of these positions? For both of these positions, many of the programs are already in action, we are just in need of someone to fill in their name as the director and lead.

I hope that you all stay well enough to be able to attend our annual council Christmas party. Please remember to RSVP for the Christmas party. See the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

We will also announce our selection for 2020/2021 Knight and Family of the Year at the Christmas party. The Knight and Family of the Month Award are very special awards, with the Knight and Family of the Year Award being the most prestigious award that a council can present to their membership. Being selected Knight and Family of the Year by your council is a great achievement and great honor. The Knights of Columbus offer a set of guidelines/criteria for the councils to follow for choosing the Knight and Family of the Month, followed by the selection of the Knight and Family of the Year selected from the monthly awards. Some of the criteria given to us by the Order of the Knights of Columbus for selecting the Knight and Family of the Month are: volunteerism in parish, council, civic, school and other groups; donating blood; and acts of charity among other items. With the selection of the 12 monthly Knights and Families, it was a very tough decision on who to select for the Knight and Family of the Year.

Brothers, with the Christmas season upon us, we need to remember the real meaning for the season—celebrating the birth of Jesus. Let us also remember what should have been the true reason for us all joining the Knights of Columbus—helping others through works of Charity; coming together to strengthen our Catholic Church and Order through Unity and building our council through Fraternity.

Merry Christmas to my Brother Knights and your families.

Assistant Chaplain's Message

Deacon Will Hunter

Forgiveness from the Eyes of God

Forgiveness begins with the understanding that love comes from the Lord alone and no one else. No one can forgive themselves or another person without first looking to God for his love and mercy. It is God alone who has the gift of love to give as he will to whomever he chooses to give it to. No relationship can exist outside of the love and mercy of God, no matter how much the people care for each other. No love can exist outside of the grace of God who alone can open the hearts of both men and women.

Relationships begin and end with the love of God so that we are made to see just how generous his love is for us in spite of what we might think of him or his divine and perfect will for us. In order for us to love one another, we must find it in our hearts to reconcile ourselves back to God for the many and varied sins we have committed against him daily. How can we reconcile ourselves back to a spouse or child or brother or sister if we cannot reconcile ourselves back to God? It is not possible for us to love another person genuinely if we do not first love God with all of our heart.

How does forgiveness take place in our hearts? It begins with understanding that everything in our life is a gift from God. We must learn to accept that gift with the same love that it is given to us. If we are able to accept the gift from God with the love he gives us, we are then able to let go of the gift when the time comes for the gift to be taken. Gifts from God can be taken from us temporarily or permanently in relationships.

When the gifts are taken, how ready are we to forgive God for taking back his gift? How ready we are to give back the gift to God and how much love we give back to God determines our willingness to forgive when we are hurt.

Hurt and pain come from the fact that we open our heart to others and then our heart is taken advantage of by another person or circumstance. Because we do not want to deal with that pain of betrayal or abandonment, we choose not to forgive others.

When we commit emotional atrocities against others, we find it hard to forgive ourselves because we feel that God will not forgive us. So we look at God the way we look at ourselves, holding a grudge against someone who has hurt us.

Fortunately for us, God does not hold grudges against us when we hurt him or betray him daily. God pours out his love to us when we decide to reconcile ourselves back to him when we understand how badly we have hurt him and taken advantage of his love. Only when we recognize how badly we have hurt God and taken advantage of his perfect love and his gifts, are we willing to forgive ourselves and others so that God can show us how he has forgiven us our sins.

Financial Secretary

Benny Okruhlik

The Supreme Council requires the Financial Secretary to bill its membership for dues at least once each year. Bishop Odin Council generally bills annual dues during December each year. The Financial Secretary is in the process of preparing and mailing these bills in early December. Please remit your dues upon receipt of your bill as it becomes an additional cost to the council to bill a second and third time, All members whose dues are already in arrears, will receive a bill indicating the current amount plus all dues owed in the past.

The Officers of the council know that there are times our members may experience financial difficulties and may have a problem in remitting their dues. Regardless of time in arrears, it is never too late to get with your Financial Secretary or your Grand Knight. Such problems can be resolved but the member must initiate this action. However, the council does have a retention committee and the members of this committee are asked to check on our brothers that may have problems, financial or otherwise. Please help us with resolving your problems.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all my brothers and sisters for all the prayers, calls and cards of well wishes during my hospital stays. I thank God for giving me another chance at life. I must admit that a cheerful call or card is so helpful during times like this. No one has a desire for any hospital admission but three times in two months plus rehab is more than any of us bargain for. It is so nice to have these calls and cards when you have a need. I am at home and hope I can continue for a long time. I particularly want to thank my wife, Earline, who was at my side every day and still continues to help me at home. It is very good to have friends that care. God is good all the time.

I want to say Thank You to the Houston Chapter of the Knights of Columbus and Particularly to Diocesan Deputy, John Hinojosa. I was totally surprised when the Grand Knight, John Buck, began reading from the award when he presented it to me. The award is naming Benny Okruhlik as the first ever, "Knight of the Year" from the Houston Chapter. Thanks to all that may have had anything to do with the award.



Congratulations to

- James Urbanovsky, Knight of the month for October.
- Floyd & Sandra Rekieta, Family of the month for October.

Council Officers meeting is Dec. 1

Council meeting is Dec.13

**Northside Columbus Club meeting
Wednesday, Dec. 15 at 7:00 p.m.**

Workday is Saturday, Dec. 18



Knights of Columbus Fundraiser

The Galveston-Houston Archdiocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus is holding a raffle fundraiser. Proceeds will be used to support our Order's Pro-Life Program. Under our Order's definition of Pro-Life, we protect life which begins with conception and ends with natural death. The funds raised from this raffle will benefit the many different programs within the Pro-Life category. Here are some programs the funds will be used for: support of the anti-abortion movement; education of when life begins; ultrasound machines for women to see the life they hold before making the decision to have an abortion; prayer programs across the archdiocese, state and country; provide information and support to the Special Olympics program; support to facilities and senior homes for those in need before their natural death occurs; education of the meaning of death defined as the "natural end" to life.

Brothers, the raffle tickets are (1) for \$5 or a book of (5) for \$20. All prizes will be given as VISA Gift Cards with prize values of:

1st Prize \$5,000	2nd Prize \$2,000
3rd Prize \$1,000	4th Prize \$1,000
5th Prize \$500	6th Prize \$500

The prizes will be drawn at the Galveston-Houston Archdiocesan Chapter of the Knights of Columbus' Annual Clergy Appreciation Night on January 28, 2022.

Council 2917 has been given 50 raffle books to sell. Let us again be a leading council by selling our quota of raffle books. With the number of membership that we have, this should be a simple quota for us to meet. We ourselves do not have to make every raffle ticket purchase. You can take a book or two, or more to sell at your parish.

For raffle books, please contact John Buck at 713-398-6196 or john.t.buck@att.net. You can also get your raffle tickets and books at council meetings and other council events at the hall.

Our Order's Founder, the Blessed Michael J. McGivney's leading Principle of the Knights of Columbus is Charity, but with this act of charity—funding our Pro-Life Program—we are also promoting "life"—life as taught to us by our Catholic faith and defined as from conception until natural death.

Northside Columbus Club

Meeting Place of Bishop Odin Council 2917

I want to thank the following Brother Knights that came out to volunteer on our November Saturday workday: John Buck, Don Christen, Jerry Gorney, Greg Okonski, Richard Pavlas, Shawn Riechhardt, Roger Rodriguez, Dennis Roeder, Ed Ruhnke, Jr., and James Urbanovsky. Thanks to John Buck for taking the lead on this day. I was unable to attend this workday due to an out-of-town funeral that I attended.

Unfortunately, I missed the big surprise to the NSCC. On that day, Brother Knight, Dennis Roeder, presented the NSCC with a donation of a refurbished Zero Turn Cub Cadet 60-inch lawn mower. We cannot thank Dennis enough for this generous donation to the NSCC. As most of you know, our other 60-inch lawnmower had been stolen about two years ago, and it has been a time consuming job for James Urbanovsky and Richard Pavlas to mow our large piece of property with a standard riding lawn mower.

I also want to thank Shawn Riechhardt for donating a couple of extra surveillance cameras for the NSCC to use when one of ours goes down. Thanks to Roger Rodriguez for coming to the property on weekdays to prep and paint the door jams, the doors and the entry floors to our outside bathrooms. Thanks to Larry Tobias for replacing our money counting machine and working on our copiers.

It is generous donations of time, talent, and machinery like those above that give me a large sense of pride to be affiliated with an organization such as ours. Thanks again to all of you.

Just a friendly reminder that I am still in need of some volunteers for Wednesday, December 8th, for our Kids Meals event occurring at the hall. I am in need of two teams of five people from 7:30 AM until 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM to help direct cars into their parking place.

I have received two volunteers so far, but need more. Maybe someone could attend both times. Thanks in advance.

Our next NSCC Board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 15th, at 7 PM.

Sincerely,
Paul Heidbreder
NSCC President



**NEXT WORK DAY WILL BE ON
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18TH**

Program Director

Memorial Mass—our Annual Memorial Mass for our 12 deceased Council Brothers has been celebrated. We had a nice turnout from the families of our deceased Brother Knights and our council officers and brothers. Thank you to Fr. Albert and Deacon Will for presiding at the Mass and thank you to the students from Assumption School for providing the beautiful music. Thank you to Richard Pavlas, Don Christen and Dennis Roeder for the meal and thank you to the Ladies Auxiliary for providing the desserts.

Council Christmas Party and Annual Awards Presentation—December 12. Be sure to RSVP by December 6th to reserve your dinner. Please see the flyer for complete information. Each member of Council 2917 and the Ladies Auxiliary and 1 guest are invited to attend this party. If you have someone outside of the council or LA that you would like to invite, there will be a \$10 donation per person to attend, but I will need the RSVP for these non-member guests also.

Service Hours—We need you to fill out your service hours report for the time that you volunteered this year. **These reports are due to the hall by January 10, 2022,** our January meeting night. The forms are needed to help keep the Order of the Knights of Columbus as a tax exempt, fraternal organization. Not only do your volunteer hours help in this aspect, but it also shows to the public that the Knights are volunteers and financially support charitable organizations.

John Buck, GK
Council 2917

Pro-Life Program Director

Floyd Supercinski

Our next rosary will be December 27 at 7 p.m. followed by a light snack.

Thank you to the Knights for providing refreshments for the November Memorial Service



Join the Helpers of God's Precious Infants on

**Saturday, Dec. 18 for 8:30 a.m. Mass at
St. Patrick Church, 4918 Cochran St.**

Followed by a Rosary at (Aaron's) Texas Ambulatory Clinic,
2505 N. Shepherd Dr., Houston

Remember to adhere to Archdiocesan Guidelines for
presence at an abortion clinic

For more information contact Vicky Whynott 832-875-5126

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/pro-life>

We are still in need of a Program and Family Director.

Brother Knights, surely there is someone among you who has wonderful ideas and plans for this council and would like to see it grow and become more active.

Please consider donating your time and talent.



***All members of Council 2917
and Ladies Auxiliary are invited to
our annual Christmas Party.***

***Sunday, December 12
Cocktails beginning at 3:00 p.m.
Dinner served at 5:00 p.m.***

***Please RSVP by December 8
to **John Buck** at 713-398-6196 or john.t.buck@att.net
or **Lydia Clifton** at 832-989-1913 or
lilclifton91@yahoo.com***

***The Ladies Auxiliary will have a raffle at the party.
If you would like to make a donation
to the raffle— cash or gift cards ONLY—
please contact: **Lydia Clifton by November 22*****

***KC wives and Ladies Auxiliary members,
if you are able to attend this event,
please bring a dessert to share.***

Happy Birthday Greetings to all Brother Knights celebrating the gift of life

Don E. Christen	Dec. 2
Brian J. Kubiak	Dec. 5
Ronald J. De Simone	Dec. 7
Baltazar Chavarria, Jr.	Dec. 8
John H. Stoever	Dec. 9
Michael V. Syzdlik	Dec. 10
Joseph J. Earthman	Dec. 12
William E. Harrell, Jr.	Dec. 12
Monserato Rivera, Jr.	Dec. 14
Archie P. Kitkoski, Sr.	Dec. 15
Ronald F. Wischnewsky	Dec. 15
Robert J. Bollom	Dec. 17
Antonio C. Cavaliere	Dec. 18
Tommy J. Gorski	Dec. 19
Bennie J. Bronikowski	Dec. 20
Deacon Will Hunter	Dec. 22
Michael W. O'Connor	Dec. 23
Jude T. Sivcoski	Dec. 23
Jason M. Kimball	Dec. 25
Douglas J. Wendt	Dec. 26
Roger Rodriguez	Dec. 27
Harold Fenn	Dec. 28
Arvin D. Mobley	Dec. 28
Rev. Msgr. Fred O'Connor	Dec. 29
Stanley Jankowski, Jr.	Dec. 30
Richard B. Habernal	Dec. 31

Please pray for our sick:



- Brother David Cornelius and wife, Lillian
- Brother Joe Pavlik
- Brother Danny Naskey who is suffering from leukemia and facing a bone marrow transplant.
- Brother Benny Okruhlik
- Carmen Buck, mother of GK Brother John Buck
- Christine Swiech, Ladies Auxiliary
- Robin Bronikowski, wife of Brother Johnny
- Ladies Auxiliary member Fabiola Beltran, her son Jesse and grandson Ronnie Lopez
- Emilia Espinosa (diagnosed with brain cancer and undergoing chemotherapy) ex-wife of Brother Sergio Espinosa,
- Gilbert Sanchez (suffered a stroke) uncle of Brother Anthony Gonzales
- Betty Gilbert (recovering from quadruple by-pass surgery), daughter of Brother Charlie & Barbara Brossman.
- Randy Tardy, (on waiting list for a liver transplant), son-in law of Brother Charlie & Barbara Brossman.
- Katelyn Dempsey, granddaughter of Brother Anton Wagner
- Rick Wright, brother-in-law of Brother Floyd & Sandra Rekieta

Names on our "Sick Prayer List" will appear in our newsletter for 3 months, after which they will be removed unless notification is received to have the name remain.

Please contact Brother Floyd Supercinski, Chancellor, at 713-861-6725 if you would like to add anyone or have the name remain on our prayer list. You can always read the prayer list on our website as well.
<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/sick-distressed>

Pray for our Military

Especially:

Tyler Kubiak, serving in the U.S. Navy. Tyler is the son of Brother Michael Kubiak and grandson of Brother Dennis and Birdie Kubiak.

Noah Clark, U.S. Army Drone Program, grandson of Brother Alvin and Bobbie Clark.

Shawn Hrcir, son of Brother Bob Hrcir.

If anyone has a relative in the military and would like his/her name added to our prayer list, please submit the name and branch of service to kbroniko@hotmail.com

To be a Christian without prayer
is no more possible than
to be alive without breathing.

-Martin Luther

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of December

Catechists —

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Deadline for the Jan. newsletter is Dec. 16.

LADIES AUXILIARY

Lydia Clifton, President

Greetings Ladies,

I want to wish all of you and your families a very blessed and Merry Christmas! I hope the new year will be a better year for us all.



The Knights of Columbus Council 2917 held their Memorial Mass on November 22 to remember the Brother Knights of our Council who have passed away this past year along with members of the Ladies Auxiliary: Lucille Clawson, Barbara Kallus and Margaret Kopycynski. We had over a hundred people in attendance. Thank you to Earline Okruhlik, Dorothy Urbanovsky and Kathy Bronikowsk for providing the desserts.

On **December 12, we will have the adult Christmas party.** All Brother Knights and Ladies Auxiliary members and their spouses are invited to attend. See the flyer in this newsletter for more information.

If you plan on attending the party, please RSVP by Dec. 6 so we will have a count for the meal.

Irma Limas won the attendance prize at our **November 8th Meeting.** **Our next meeting will be Jan. 10.** Members who volunteered to bring desserts for our January meeting: Kathy, Earline, Dorothy.

Thank you to the following ladies who helped in the kitchen in October: Dorothy Urbanovsky, Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Cecelia Piwetz, Caroline Mocek, Bennie Bronikowski, Kathy Bronikowski.

Thank you to the following ladies who provided dessert for October: Dorothy Urbanovsky, Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Angie Heinrich, Cecelia Piwetz, Kathy Palasota, Kathy Bronikowski.

Upcoming Events

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/calendar>

- Dec. 1 Council Officers' Meeting
- Dec. 3 BINGO
- Dec. 3 Marine Toys for Tots Dance
- Dec. 4 Marine Toys for Tots Cookoff
- Dec. 6 Domino Tournament
- Dec. 10 BINGO
- Dec. 12 Adult Christmas Party**
- Dec. 13 Council Meal at 6 p.m./meeting at 7 p.m.
- Dec. 13 Ladies Auxiliary Meal 6 p.m./meeting at 7 p.m.*
- Dec. 15 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Dec. 17 BINGO
- Dec. 18 Council Work Day
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25 Merry Christmas!
- Dec. 27 Pro-Life Rosary (*Ladies*)
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve
- Jan. 1 Happy New Year!
- Jan. 3 Domino Tournament
- Jan. 5 Council Officers' Meeting
- Jan. 7 BINGO
- Jan. 10 Council Meal at 6 p.m./meeting at 7 p.m.
- Jan. 10 Ladies Auxiliary Meal 6 p.m./meeting at 7 p.m.*
- Jan. 14 BINGO
- Jan. 15 Council Work Day
- Jan. 19 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Jan. 21 BINGO
- Jan. 24 Pro-Life Rosary (*Knights*)
- Jan. 28 BINGO

"And she shall bring forth a son and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins. (Matthew 1:21)"



May the miracle of Christmas touch your life!





Andy McClosky
Manager

a.mcclosky@parkerlumber.net

Parker Lumber
www.parkerlumber.net

7103 Airline Dr.
Houston, TX 77076

713-694-6658
fax 713-694-2682
cell 281-850-7650

Injured in an accident? call:
DeSIMONE LAW OFFICES

4635 S.W. Freeway, Suite 850
Houston, Texas 77027

Phone: 713-526-0900 Fax: 713-526-8041
rdesimone@desimonelawoffice.com
www.DeSimoneLawoffice.com



AMMO FREEDOM
sales@ammofreedom.com
Ammo
Optics
Holsters
Magazines
Reloading
www.AmmoFreedom.com
www.AmmoFreedom.com

SIR KNIGHT LEONARD P. KASOWSKI, CPA
BROTHER KNIGHT JEFFREY P. KASOWSKI, EA
INCOME TAX • BOOKKEEPING • QUARTERLYS • NOTARY
INDIVIDUALS • PARTERSHIPS • CORPORATIONS • ESTATES

2050 N. Loop West, Suite 115, Houston, TX 77018
(713) 868-8093 • CELL (713) 206-1318

HEIGHTS FINANCIAL SERVICES

Wendy L. Prater

ATTORNEY AT LAW



- Wills
- Powers of Attorney
- Probate
- Family Law
- Divorce
- Child Support
- Name Changes

713-802-9171

1919 North Loop West, Suite 490
Houston, Texas 77008
praterlaw@sbcglobal.net

www.praterlaw.com

Family Owned & Operated
JOSEPH J. EARTHMAN
GENERATIONS
We specialize in affordable Catholic funerals
SK Joseph Earthman, Past GK 2917 | 713-802-0000



Windfern Pest
Control

John Villarreal
Certified Applicator / Sales

4001 N. Shepherd #120
Houston, TX 77018

Windfernpestcontrol7@yahoo.com
TPCL 6800

713-681-9150

Arrows Rugby Football Club

Play or Support Houston's Catholic Rugby Club

Blake Pellerin, President
Council 2917 Member
blake@civalsearch.com
713-206-0795



10 Players are Council 2917 Knights
Most Events are at NSCC
Players AND Non-Players Welcome!

www.ArrowsRugby.com

Rugby | Faith Formation | Fellowship

Hall Rental

Rental of Council 2917 facilities are available for Wedding Receptions, Company Events, Quinceanera's, Birthday Parties, Christmas Parties, Graduation Celebrations, Funerals, etc.

For details contact
Lydia Clifton, hall manager
713-694-2341.



*If you would like to advertise in this newsletter, please email Kathy Bronikowski
kbroniko@hotmail.com*