

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>

February 2023

Vol. 42, Issue 2

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

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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
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Grand Knight: John Buck

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org>

February 2023 (Vol. 42, No. 2)

Grand Knight's Message

John Buck

Brothers,

These last 6 months of our fraternal year are nearing, with June as the month for council officer elections coming very soon. Have you been reflecting on becoming a council officer or director? We need you—many of you—to step up, offer your services to the council in the role as officers and directors. However, do not place your name as an officer candidate if you cannot fulfill the duties of an office. Brothers, our council leadership and membership is older, but we are also gaining new membership that is younger. To our older and younger members that have been around awhile and feel that our leadership is old and antiquated, now is your time to step forward in bringing Council 2917 into a new direction. You do not need to hold an office, but you can be a committeeman or even just attend the council officers meeting to give your ideas or just to experience the inner operations of the council. Remember that you are Council 2917 and that the officers of the council are who you elected to run your council.

Brothers, I would like to implement new programs into our Culture of Life Program. Currently, we have our Pro-Life Prayer Program on the 4th Monday of each month, but I would like to see Council 2917 take a more active role in the K of C Culture of Life Program. I would like to invite the G/H Chapter of the K of C's Culture of Life Director to our council, probably at one of the upcoming Pro-Life Prayer Meetings to discuss opportunities for Council 2917 to be more involved in our Life programs. Attend our Pro-Life Prayer Meeting to learn of these new ideas.

At the February Council General Membership Meeting, the 2nd Monday meeting, we will have a speaker present to talk about the need of our parish food pantries and the services that they provide. The K of C "40 Cans for 40 Days" will begin soon, bring your 40 items of dried and canned food to the hall during Lent.

February 22nd is Ash Wednesday, have you started reflecting on how you presented yourself to others last year? Have you acted as you have been taught to act by your church and have you placed the values of the Order of the K of C in your daily life? Are you back to attending Mass in person? Now is the time to search your inner self, be honest with your self evaluation. Are you living up to your potential as a good Christian and good role model of your community? You have the time for improvements to be made.

Council Brothers, in reading the above, if you understand the meaning of the 3 Principles of our Order of the Knights of Columbus, you will find the hidden ways to implement our Order's Principles in your daily life—Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Assistant Chaplain's Message

Deacon Will Hunter

Our Purpose

We often wonder what our purpose in this life is for and how best can we execute that purpose. To be crystal clear, we as human beings have only one purpose in this life. The sole purpose for all human beings is to serve the Lord God. There is no other purpose in this life for any of us. There is a difference between our purpose in this life and what we desire to do or become in this life.

What we choose to do or become in this life is based largely on our likes and dislikes in this world. Sometimes circumstances will play a part in what we ultimately end up doing in this life personally and professionally. Sometimes we like what we do in this life and learn to live with it based on our emotional, mental, and financial needs.

None of the above mentioned parts of our life have anything to do with our purpose in this life. We were created by the Lord God to do one thing on this earth and that is to serve him and his divine will. Throughout the years, we have tried to merge what we want in life with our purpose in life. These two occurrences rarely go together to our satisfaction. The Lord God will always require of his people that which his people are not always willing to give. The Lord God requires much from his people because he gives so much to his people.

Read John 11:4-7 and you will begin to receive a glimpse into our purpose both in living and in death. Jesus gives a clear and concise explanation for the purpose of Lazarus' death. Jesus explains to his disciples that the death of Lazarus is not for him to die, but to bring glory to the name of the Lord God. That explanation is not just for the disciples, it is for every person. Jesus is telling his disciples as well as us that our purpose on this earth is to praise and serve the Lord in whatever capacity he deems necessary.

We should serve the Lord with each gift he has given us in this life. The gifts of the Lord are bestowed on us to better the world that we live in and ultimately glorify the Lord God. For our part, we spend too much time wasting the gifts of the Lord on people and circumstances that do the complete opposite of what they are intended to do. We cling and clutch to the gifts of the Lord for our own selfish purposes.

(continued on next page)

Assistant Chaplain's Message *(continued)*
Deacon Will Hunter

We have little desire to sacrifice and suffer for the Lord God using his gifts to bring glory to his holy name. We want to take ownership of the gifts given to us by the Lord and use them according to what we want and not what the Lord God wants for them while in our possession. Look upon the gifts of the Lord and use them according to his divine and perfect will.

Think about the many times we have been given gifts and ask yourself, was the Lord God obligated to give me that gift? Have I done anything that would warrant the Lord giving me this gift? As opposed to asking for a gift from the Lord God and using it in a way it was intended to be used, why not offer the gift back to the Lord and thank him for his kindness and generosity.

Ask the Lord God this question instead, Lord will you help me to use the gifts you have given me to bring glory to your name? Will you teach me Lord to give thanks to you for the gifts you have placed in my life?

Never forget that all we have and all we know comes from the Lord God and he alone should be praised and glorified for them. It is the Lord God alone who deserves to be glorified, for this is the purpose, this is the function of our lives while here on earth. Do not lose sight of this plain and simple truth. Our purpose is to serve the Lord God who created us.

Meeting Attendance Prize

In February, we will reinstate the Meeting Attendance Prize. We will have new guidelines for this program. At each 2nd Monday monthly General Membership Meeting, we will draw one (1) name from the list of current Council 2917 Members.

The name of the Brother Knight drawn must have his dues paid through the end of the current year;

the name of the Brother Knight drawn must be present at the meeting;

the prize amount will begin with \$50. If there is no winner, the prize will increase with a \$10 increment each month until a winner is drawn;

the maximum amount to be given away is \$100. Once the \$100 amount is reached, the monthly attendance prize will stay at \$100 until there is a winner;

when there is a winner, the amount starts again with \$50.

Remember brothers, to win the Attendance Prize, you must be present at the meeting and have your dues paid through the end of the year.

Deadline for the March newsletter is February 16.

- ◆ **Council Officers** meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 1
- ◆ **Council** meeting is Monday, Feb. 13
- ◆ **Northside Columbus Club** meeting is Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Workday** is Saturday, Feb. 18
- ◆ **Pro-Life Prayer** meeting is Monday, Feb. 27

Financial Secretary's Message

Benny Okruhlik

Bishop Odin Council 2917 reported and filed the Annual Survey of Fraternal Activity report. This report is the result of hours the Council members submitted as requested by the Grand Knight and required by our Supreme Knight and Supreme Council. The report includes activities donated to: Faith Action, Family Activity, Community Activity, Life Activities, number of meetings and other Fraternal Commitments.

Bishop Odin Council donated to **Faith in Action** \$14,600 and 1,240 donated hours. In this group, we included support to Church Facilities, Seminary and Seminarian support, Vocation support and participation in Church Ministries.

Our Council contributed \$2,300 and 1,652 donated hours to **Family Activity**. Included in this category are: Food for Families, Keep Christ in Christmas, Family Formation and Family Prayer.

We also contributed \$4,000 and 3,874 hours to **Community Activity**. Included in this category are programs like Coats for Kids, the Wheelchair program, Habitat for Humanity, Scouting and several others.

The category **Life Activities** includes Culture of Life, Special Olympics, Pregnancy programs and March for Life where Council 2917 contributed \$6,700 and 595 donated hours.

We also reported hours in terms of Visits to the Sick, Visits to the Bereaved, Blood Donations and the 127 meetings by all various Officers and Board members.

All Councils are requested to submit the reports to the Supreme Council. The Supreme Council combines the reports and makes public what the Knights of Columbus contributes annually.

Bishop Odin Council members should be aware that most of the financial support given comes from our Council Bingo program. The Council could not make these contributions without Bingo. As you review this message, please consider giving some of your time to help work bingo on Friday night. If you see any one of our regular workers, take the opportunity to say Thank You. You do not have to make a commitment every Friday. Any help will be appreciated.

Second notices for dues have been mailed to all members that have not remitted dues for 2023. Members are reminded that all grace periods end effective March 1, 2023. The Affiliate Member Initiative (AMI) program will be processed for those members that are more than twenty-four (24) months in arrears. Please remit your dues as we want you and we need you.

Northside Columbus Club

Meeting Place of Bishop Odin Council 2917

I want to thank the following volunteers that came out to volunteer for our January workday. Thanks to these volunteers, we were able to accomplish quite a bit that day: John Buck, Kenneth Bollom, Bennie Bronikowski, David Cornelius, Jerry Gorney, Paul Heidbreder, Terry Kennedy, Nick Navarro, Floyd Rekieta, Roger Rodriguez, Edward Ruhnke, Jr., and Larry Tobias.

We are going to need some volunteers to help park cars and work in the hall on Saturday, March 4th and Sunday, March 5th for a Wargames Boardgame Tournament that will be held in Odin Hall on those two days.

The next meeting of the NSCC Board will be on Wednesday, February 15th, at 7:00 PM in the Pub.

Paul Heidbreder, NSCC President

**NEXT WORKDAY WILL BE
Saturday, February 18
starting at 7:30 a.m.**

Program/Family Director

Volunteers!



Is there any interest from someone within our membership that would like to accept the roles of Program or Family Director? Brothers, this is our council's one area where we are sub-standard. Without a director of these 2 offices, Council 2917's growth is definitely behind. We can recruit new members, but we need programs for our membership to take part in and feel they are a member. We have so much to offer, with many programs already in place—we just need a leader to enhance our programs. Along with the directors, we also need committeemen to chair programs and events under the directors.

John Buck, GK, Council 2917

Northside Columbus Club (NSCC)

Floyd Rekieta, Secretary

The NSCC will present a Financial Report to the NSCC Stockholders at the February 13 meeting.

Celebrate Mardi Gras with Mark Halata & Texavia

Sunday, February 19, 2023

1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

*KC Hall
607 E. Whitney St.
Houston, TX 77022*

*Admission: \$12.00 per person
Doors open at 12:30*

*Sponsored by Knights of Columbus Council 2917 Ladies Auxiliary
and North Side Columbus Club*

For more information contact Kathy at 281-356-3535.



Fraternal Benefits Night

Brothers, the K of C is asking that council 2917 set up a Fraternal Benefits Night (FBN)) with our Council Field Agent, Robert Mata. Brother Robert can give much greater information at the FBN than time allows at our council meeting.

Basically, the information that Brother Robert will give will pertain to retirement plans and insurance plans.

Council brothers, we can use the FBN not only as an insurance information meeting, but also as a recruitment tool. You do not have to be a member of the Order to attend an FBN.

Please reply to me if you would like for the council to set up an FBN at our council hall soon.

John Buck, GK

The Holy Father's Intentions for February

For parishes—

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

Pro-Life Program Director

Floyd Supercinski

The public is invited to join our Brother Knights and their families as they pray the Rosary to end abortion.

Thank you to the Knights for providing refreshments at our January rosary.

Our next rosary is: **February 27** at 7:00 p.m.

Brother Knights, please invite your families and friends, to attend this event.

A light meal will be served afterwards.

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



Congratulations to

- J.J. Limas, Knight of the month for December.
- Bennie & Kathy Bronikowski, Family of the month for December.

40 Cans for Lent

The goal of this program is exactly as the name implies—each council member is asked to contribute one can of food per day during the 40 days of Lent.



A food collection box is in the foyer of the hall awaiting your donations. Collected food will be divided between St. Rose, St. Ambrose and Assumption food pantries.

Lent starts February 22



Make plans to join us for a **SUPER BOWL PARTY** on **Sunday Feb. 12**. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Potluck meal and chances to win. Bring your family and friends.

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
Paul Heidbreder
281-726-3390



DOMINO RESULTS

Moon Tournament Winners for Jan. 2

1st Place: Mike Jozwiak
2nd Place: Ron Wendt



Next Moon Tournament is Feb. 6

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 Hrcncir, son of Brother Bob Hrcncir.

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

Happy Birthday Greetings

to all Brother Knights celebrating the gift of life

James E. Urbanovsky	Feb. 2
James A. Giacona	Feb. 3
Deacon Edward B. Herrera	Feb. 3
James D. McClosky	Feb. 5
John A. Galla	Feb. 7
Ernest Ramirez	Feb. 10
Gene B. Okonski	Feb. 12
Bruce W. Buss, Sr.	Feb. 13
Dennis J. Kallus	Feb. 14
William P. Kerley	Feb. 17
Michael Hart	Feb. 19
Hector A. Rosales	Feb. 19
Charles A. Brossman	Feb. 20
John W. Mueller	Feb. 20
Michael E. Goins	Feb. 27
Tommy J. Yanowski	Feb. 28

Brother Knight, Louis Posinski, Jr., born Nov. 19, 1952, passed away at the age of 70, on Dec. 16, 2022. He was predeceased by his brother-in-law Ronald Brock. He is survived by his wife Mary Anne Smith Posinski of Stoneham; his daughters, Luanne Marie Posinski Johnson (Timothy) of Magnolia and Debbie Anne Posinski Evans (Jonathan) of Midland; his 4 grandchildren; his siblings, Pierce Glass (Connie), Agnes Brock, Margaret Patke (Jimmy) and Rosie Chmiel (Bennie); his siblings-in-law, Joyce Smith, Alfred Smith (Elaine) and Gregory Smith.

Brother Knight John Carter Roffall of Cypress, Texas, passed away on May 11, 2022, at age 78 after a lengthy battle with dementia. John was born on July 1, 1943, in Houston, and raised by his loving parents Joyce Aline (Owen) and Cecil Francis Roffall. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend who was deeply loved by all who knew him. John married his high school sweetheart, Linda Belle Bolton, on June 27, 1964. John and Linda went on to have two children, Michael Wayne Roffall and Theresa Renee Roffall. He was a meticulous and hardworking man, and he lived by the words "If a job's worth doing, do it right; if it ain't worth doing, don't do it." John was very giving of his time, and he was always willing to use his talents to help others. John was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Cecil Francis "Frank" Roffall, Jr. He is survived by his wife, Linda Belle Roffall; children Michael Wayne (Rachel) Roffall, Theresa Roffall (Tim) Carpenter; sisters Rose Mary (Chris) White and Paula Irene (Larry) Birkes and 5 grandchildren.

May God have mercy on the souls of these Brother Knights and grant them eternal rest. Please remember these brothers and their families in your prayers.

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>

Please pray for our sick:



- Brother Knight Leo Landry
- Brother Knight Jim Azzarello
- Brother Knight Gene Walkoviak
- Brother Knight James Urbanovsky
- Brother Knight Benny Okruhlik
- Karen Goins, daughter of Brother Knight Mike & Mary Goins
- Barbara Diaz, fiancée of Brother Knight Floyd Supercinski
- Rosemary Adamo, Ladies Auxiliary member
- Christine Swiech
- Danette Burnett, daughter of Brother Knight Clem & Marie Laskowski
- Betty Jackowski, wife of Brother Knight Robert
- Rita Ann Jalomo, daughter of Brother Knight Ismael
- Janie Okonski
- Rosalie Lobpries
- Carmen Buck, mother of GK Brother Knight John Buck
- Robin Bronikowski, wife of Brother Knight Johnny
- Christine Piwetz, daughter of Cecelia Piwetz
- Katelyn Dempsey, granddaughter of Brother Knight Anton Wagner

IN MEMORIAM



Brother Knight George Alfonse Janacek, was born on Sept. 29, 1925, to Cyril and Mary Janacek. He was one of 9 children, born and raised on the family farm in Schulenburg, TX. He moved to Houston where he met his wife, Roselee "Patty" Scambray. They were wed on July 5, 1953 at Assumption Catholic Church in Houston, George volunteered to join the war during World War II in April of 1944 at the age of 18. He joined the Navy where he served as a Seaman First Class aboard the USS Dennis (DE-405) in the Pacific Theater around the Philippine Islands. During his service, he received the American Area Ribbon, the Asiatic-Pacific Area Ribbon (4 bronze stars), the Philippine Liberation Ribbon (2 bronze stars), and the World War II Victory Medal. For his actions during the Battle off Samar, he was also awarded the Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon (1 bronze star). Returning from the war, George returned to Schulenburg where he became a truck driver, eventually working for Herder Truck Lines of Weimar, TX for over 20 years. In 1974, he opened his own business in Houston, Hornet Campers, located on Airline Dr. George was a devout Catholic attending both Assumption Church in Houston and St. Stanislaus Church in Anderson, TX. George took his final breath on Monday, Jan. 23, 2023, in the home of his daughter and son-in-law. He is preceded in death by his mother and father, 7 of his siblings, and his wife, Roselee Janacek, who passed on Aug. 9, 2022. He is survived by his sister, Marcella Srubar of Pasadena, his daughter and son-in-law, Cheryl and Eddie Lett, 3 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Rev. Msgr. Fred O'Connor, born Dec. 29, 1928, in Houston, TX to Fred and Margaret O'Connor, died on Tuesday, Jan. 17, 2023, in Houston, TX. Msgr. O'Connor was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by numerous cousins. Msgr. graduated from St. Thomas H.S. in 1945. With his desire to guide and support people, he turned down both a scholarship at Rice University and a professional baseball contract to enter the seminary. Msgr. O'Connor graduated from St. Mary Seminary in 1952 and was a priest in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston for over 70 years. He served faithfully in numerous parishes in the Archdiocese and was often moved to a parish with a great need. He served as Chaplain at the Harris County Jail and in retirement celebrated Mass for the women at the Plane State Jail in Dayton for many years.

Brother Knight Carroll J. Brownfield was born on Oct. 18, 1927 to Jesse M. and Camille Cecille (Thomas) Brownfield in Shreveport, LA. Carroll grew up in Houston and worked with his father at Johnson shipyards as a draftsman. He attended the University of Texas until returning home to help his widowed mother and sick brother. Carroll married Ruby Aline Jarrett on Feb. 18, 1950 and had 4 children: Caroline, James, John and Kathy. They made their home in Houston, where he and his wife were very active in Assumption Catholic Church. He was a 58-year member of the Knights of Columbus, participating in countless service and church projects. He worked at Tenneco Gas for 47 years as a draftsman and then manager over the drafting department. His main focus was design of pumping stations in Laurel, Mississippi; Kinder, Louisiana; Mexico City and some work on off-shore rigs. Carroll passed away on Monday, Jan. 16, 2023 in Katy, TX at the age of 95. He is survived by his daughter, Kathy Mandagelo and her husband Marc; grandchildren, Jeffery Mandagelo, Brandon Bain and his wife Traci, Tiffany Mandagelo and Lauren Foster. Carroll was preceded in death by his loving wife, Ruby Aline Jarrett Brownfield; baby daughter, Caroline Brownfield; sons, James Carroll Brownfield and John Douglas Brownfield.

LADIES AUXILIARY

Kathy Bronikowski, President

Dear Ladies,

Please promote our **Mardi Gras dance with Mark Halata & Texavia on Sunday, Feb. 19 from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.** We are co-sponsoring this dance with the Northside Columbus Club.

Dues are due in March. The dues are still \$10.00 for the year. You can pay your dues at the March meeting or mail them to Earline Okruhlik, 5314 Tatum, Spring, TX 77389. Make check payable to Ladies Auxiliary.

At our January meeting we discussed helping out a charitable organization. We decided to help out Angela House.

Maureen O'Connell, OP, founded Angela House in 2001 to serve women coming out of incarceration. She thought it unconscionable that they had so many obstacles and so few opportunities to build a stable life and escape the cycle of recidivism. Sister Maureen set out to create a successful program to empower these women using a standard of care other programs could emulate.

Since 2002, Angela House has provided trauma-informed rehabilitative services in a safe, homelike atmosphere structured for the unique needs of formerly incarcerated women. The program provides individual and group therapy, referrals for medical and mental health care, dental and vision care, job readiness training, twelve step-recovery groups, as well as emotional and spiritual support. Residents are encouraged to set realistic and attainable goals for their future.

Angela House has a life-changing impact on the women they serve. It creates a ripple effect in their families and the greater community. They learn the skills needed for independent living and obtain the resources to shed the behaviors that led to their incarceration. The program reduces the recidivism rates for women in Harris County and contributes to public safety.

We will be collecting donations beginning at our March 13 meeting and continuing until our May 8 meeting. Currently their needs are:

Zip Lock Bags (gallon, quart, sandwich, snack)	
13-gallon Trash Bags (white)	
Coffee	Toilet Paper
Creamer	Paper Towels
Sugar (2 or 5 lb size)	Dishwashing Liquid
Black Pepper	Cleaning Supplies
Body Wash	Laundry Detergent
Hand Sanitizer	

We will also be accepting cash donations. Should their needs change, I will print the changes in the March bulletin.

We encourage the Brother Knights to participate in the donations.

At our January meeting we discussed some activities we could do as a group. If you have any ideas or suggestions of an activity you might enjoy, please bring them to our March meeting.

I want to thank Maria Ramirez and Cecelia Piwetz for bringing desserts to our January meeting.

Ladies who volunteered to bring desserts to our March meeting are: Dora Rivera, Earline Okruhlik, Kathy Bronikowski

Congratulations to Gloria Gutierrez who won the \$20 attendance prize at the January meeting. The attendance prize for March is \$20.00

Thank you to the following ladies who helped in the kitchen in January: Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Cecelia Piwetz, Kathy Bronikowski.

Thank you to the following ladies who provided desserts for bingo in January: Earline Okruhlik, Gloria Gutierrez, Cecelia Piwetz, Sandra Rekieta, Gladys Tobias, Kathy Bronikowski.

NEXT MEETING: MARCH 13

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/ladies-auxiliary>



Upcoming Events

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

- Feb. 1 Council Officers' Meeting
- Feb. 3 BINGO
- Feb. 6 Domino Tournament
- Feb. 10 BINGO
- Feb. 13 Council Meal at 6 pm/Meeting at 7 pm
- Feb. 14 **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY** 
- Feb. 15 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Feb. 17 BINGO
- Feb. 18 Council Work Day
- Feb. 19 Mardi Gras Dance with Mark Halata & Texavia**
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday—Lent begins 
- Feb. 24 BINGO
- Feb. 27 Pro-Life Rosary (Ladies)
- Mar. 1 Council Officers' Meeting
- Mar. 3 BINGO
- Mar. 6 Domino Tournament
- Mar. 10 BINGO
- Mar. 13 Council Meal at 6 pm/Meeting at 7 pm
- Mar. 13 Ladies Auxiliary Meal 6 pm/Meeting 7 pm
- Mar. 15 Northside Columbus Club Meeting
- Mar. 17 BINGO - **HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY!**
- Mar. 18 Council Work Day
- Mar. 24 BINGO
- Mar. 27 Pro-Life Rosary (Knights)
- Mar. 31 BINGO



CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAS

Court Christ the King #1750

Next Meeting is **Tuesday, Feb. 7**

Social at 6:30 - Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

If you would like information on joining the Catholic Daughters, please contact

Marianna Olivarez 713-501-8004

<http://www.kofccouncil2917.org/catholic-daughters>



Andy McClosky
Manager

a.mcclosky@parkerlumber.net

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