



# KJT NEWS



The Official Newsletter of the Catholic Union of Texas

Volume 67, No. 03

[www.kjtnet.org](http://www.kjtnet.org)

May 2025

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Scripture of the Month

“O Lord, our God, how  
wonderful Your name in  
all the earth!” (Ps 8:2a)

## MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE PRESIDENT

### Congratulations Graduates!

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all the graduating college and high school seniors for achieving this significant milestone in your lives. The list of KJT State Scholarship recipients is in this issue of KJT News on pages 21-23. Over \$30,000 was awarded, and all applicants received a scholarship. Have a great summer and good luck with your future plans, whether entering the workforce or continuing your education!

#### **2025 KJT Texans of Czech Ancestry (TOCA) Nominee – Annie Hyzak**

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, Annie Hyzak was recognized as the 2025 KJT Nominee for the TOCA award which is given to a member of the representative organizations of TOCA each year who embody the Czech culture, history, and spirit. Annie

has been an active member of KJT Society #112, Austin since June 1982 and has participated in numerous Czech functions in the past. You can see her photo and all her accomplishments on page 15 of this issue of the KJT News.

#### **Golf Tournaments – North – Rescheduled for June 6 and South – October 4**

The North Texas Region Golf Tournament was canceled due to rain on Friday, May 2, 2025, at the Brickyard Golf Course in Ferris, Texas. A total of 16 teams had traveled to participate, but weather conditions prevented the event from taking place.

The tournament has been rescheduled for Friday, June 6 at 8:30 a.m. and will be held again at Old Brickyard Course. Teams wishing to participate or sponsors interested in supporting the tournament are encouraged

to contact the Home Office. The event aims to raise funds for Camp Hope of the PTSD Foundation of America.

Be sure to add October 5, 2025, to your calendar to join us in Flatonia (details below) for the KJT South Region Golf Tournament, which will also benefit Camp Hope.

#### **KJT South Region Texas Golf Tournament - Saturday, October 5, 2025**

**Flatonia Golf Course  
1245 US-90  
Flatonia, Texas 78941**

#### **Camp Hope Donation**

I had the opportunity to visit the Camp Hope campus in Houston on March 26, 2025, and present them with a check for over \$25,000 to support veterans who are suffering from the effects of PTSD. I received a tour of the facility from Christy Carbaugh, Event Manager



**CHRISTOPHER L. URBAN**  
*KJT State President*

of Camp Hope. It is a first-rate facility, and I found that it costs around \$150 per day per veteran to go through the six to nine-month program. In total, KJT has donated over \$36,000 to Camp Hope, and I am so happy that KJT has been able to help defray some of the costs for these veterans who have served our country protecting our liberties and freedoms. I encourage you to go to <https://ptsdusa.org/camp-hope/> to learn

*See Urban, page 2*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

## Urban: Family Day and Other Updates

*Continued from page 1*

more about Camp Hope. We hope to present them with another sizeable check later this year after our two golf tournaments have been held.

### 2025 KJT State Family Day – Frelsberg, Texas

We invite everyone to join us for KJT State Family Day on Sunday, July 20, 2025, from 11:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Sts. Peter and Paul Parish in Frelsberg, Tx. Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. with a catered BBQ meal for lunch beginning at noon. We will have attendance prizes throughout the day with the drawing being held at 2:30 p.m. Please note that there will not be a dedicated Mass for KJT this year, but Mass times for the parish are 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. (Latin). We look forward to seeing all of you there for fun, games, and fellowship!

### Leon Barton

It is with heavy heart that I say that we lost a long-time agent and society officer in May, when we were notified that Leon Barton of Society #134, Round Rock passed away. Leon was one of the first people I met when I began my career with KJT back in 2001 as he was among our top agents in the salesforce.

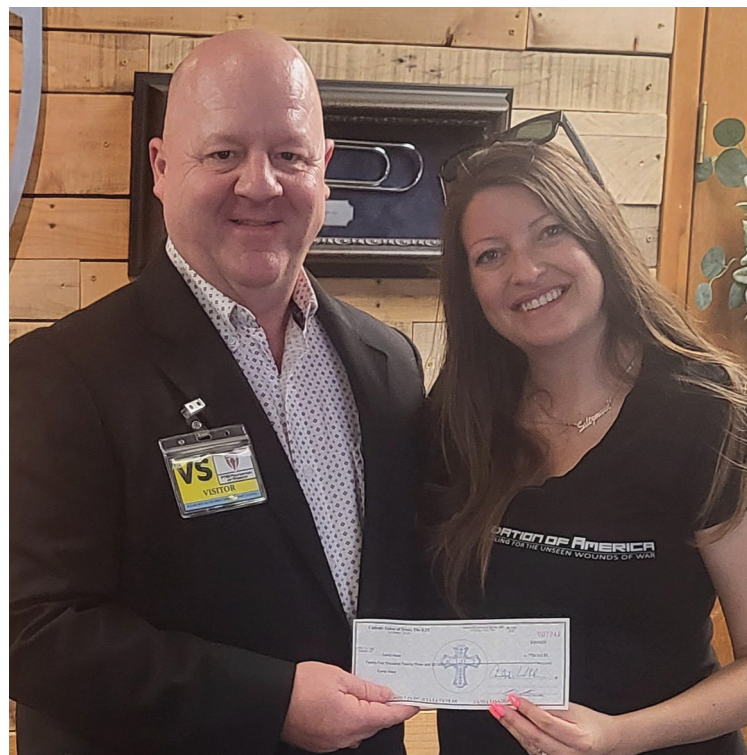
Leon won our Star Award nine times, taking the top spot twice and second place, three times. Leon was instrumental in Chartering Society #134, Round Rock in 1998 where he served as president and/or vice-president as well as the insurance representative since the society's inception. Leon will certainly be missed. His obituary can be found on page 5 of this issue of the KJT News.

### 44th KJT General Convention

I have been informed by State Director, Cynthia Nemec, that she will not seek

re-election at the 44th KJT General Convention to be held in July 2026. You can see her letter to the membership on page 3 of this issue of the KJT News. As a result, we will be seeking candidates to fill her position. In order to run for this position, you must attend at least 50% of your local society's meetings during 2025, so if you are interested, please be sure to fulfill this requirement. The full eligibility requirements can be found on this page.

I wish all of you a safe and happy summer, fun vacations, and safe travels to you all! Stay cool!



KJT State President, Christopher L. Urban presenting the check to Christy Carbaugh, Event Manager at Camp Hope.

## Delegate/Director/Resolution Requirements

If you are interested in being a delegate to the convention, would like to run for a place on the board of directors, or would like to submit a resolution for a by-law change.

### 1. DELEGATE ELIGIBILITY

a. To be a delegate at the 44th Convention in 2026, the By-laws state that a delegate must be a Catholic insured member (life or annuity) and must attend at least 50% of the local society meetings of whom they represent from January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

b. A member may not be a delegate if they or their spouse is a state officer, director/directress or insurance representative representing another fraternal life insurance organization.

### 2. RESOLUTIONS FOR BY-LAW CHANGES

a. Resolutions for changes to the Charter, Constitution, and By-laws must be submitted to the State Secretary on or before February 21, 2026, in order to be presented at the convention.

b. No motions and proposed revisions shall be allowed from the floor at the General Convention.

### 3. DIRECTOR ELECTIONS AT THE CONVENTION

a. To run for director:

i. Must be eligible to serve as a delegate (attend 50% of meetings in 2025)

ii. Must submit an application of candidacy (request from home office)

iii. Must consent to a background check (get from office)

iv. Must submit resume along with items ii and iii.

b. Items ii, iii, and iv above must be submitted to the KJT State Secretary between February 1 and April 1, 2026.

c. Applications will be reviewed by a qualifications committee and the applicant will be notified if the application is approved or disapproved.

d. A document that contains the roles, duties, and qualities of a director can be requested from the Home Office

e. If a candidate wants to run against an incumbent director, the same procedures as above are applicable.



# GOLF TOURNAMENT CHANGE

April 8, 2025,

Dear KJT Membership,

It has been my great privilege and honor to serve as a State Director for the KJT. I want to thank you, the KJT membership for having confidence and trust in me. For the past seven years, I have met some wonderful people and have had some incredible experiences.

However, I will not be seeking re-election for another term for KJT State Director, Position 4. I wanted to let the membership know that I will continue to serve in the current term as State Director, but increased family obligations will prevent me from seeking re-election at the 2026 State Convention.

I will always cherish the memories of serving as a KJT State Director. To my Family, the State Officers, State Directors and Office Staff of the KJT, thank you for your continued help, friendship, and support as we strive to make the KJT a stronger fraternal.

Fraternally yours,  
Cynthia Nemec  
KJT State Director

## Society #13 Matching Grant Donation

KJT Society #13 of Yoakum held a Youth Taco Fundraiser and with receiving the home office matching grant, they were able to present a \$1,000 check to St. Joseph Catholic Church CCD confirmation program. Pictured here are Anthony Harper, President KJT Society 13; Pastor, The Rev. Matthew Huehlefeld, J.C.L.; Robert Hybner, Treasurer KJT Society 13.



## 5TH ANNUAL NORTH TEXAS KJT CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE

**WHEN**

**Friday June 6, 2025  
8:30am**

**Shotgun Start**

**WHERE**

**Old Brickyard Golf Course**

605 North Interstate 45; Ferris, Texas 75125



**TEAMS**

**\$90 per person/\$360 per team**

**Fees include: Golf, Dinner (at KJT Auditorium),  
Cart Fees, Range Balls and Mulligans.**

**Longest Putt Contest  
Longest Drive Contest  
Closest To The Pin Contest  
And more!**

**PREREGISTER & PAY ONLINE AT**

**www.kjt.net.org/kjt-golf or  
RSVP by calling the KJT Home  
Office at 800-245-8182**



**PTSD FOUNDATION OF AMERICA  
CAMP HOPE**

## SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED

### PLATINUM SPONSOR-\$850

- 2-four person teams
- Advertising at registration & awards presentation
- Two hole sponsorships
- Opportunity to add business information in player goodie bag. (Koozies, caps, etc.)
- Social Media Recognition

### GOLD SPONSOR-\$450

- 1-four person team
- Advertising at registration & awards presentation
- Two hole sponsorships
- Opportunity to add business information in player goodie bag. (Koozies, caps, etc.)
- Social Media Recognition

### SILVER SPONSOR-\$200

- Advertising at registration & awards presentation
- One hole sponsorship

### HOLE SPONSOR-\$150 OR 4 FOR \$500

- Company sign at hole

**Net proceeds of the tournament will be matched ( up to \$2,500 )  
by the KJT Home Office and donated to Camp Hope.**

## STATE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



**Shirley Pokorney**  
State Director

KJT is such a multi-faceted organization, and I feel extremely blessed to serve as one of your state directors! What a privilege it is to be so warmly welcomed at your society/director meetings and to get acquainted with so many new friends. I love to hear all the creative ways you raise funds for state charities. I am awed to learn of all the good you are doing for our Catholic Church in your parishes and as service projects in your communities. I am so proud when I hear the cumulative effects of all those efforts state-wide. And I appreciate getting to be the bearer of the checks that represent the results of your fundraising efforts to some of the bishops every year and to experience their sincere appreciation.

May is one of my favorite months for KJT activity. It is such a joy to show up at high school senior

assemblies to surprise and reward some truly outstanding young men and women with scholarships to colleges as well as trade and technical schools. If everyone could experience their intelligence, enthusiasm, empathy, sincerity, and desire to serve as I am honored to do, all concern and doubt about the future of our society and our country would be totally erased.

Presenting 75-year diamond pins and visiting with the recipients has given me a clearer perspective of KJT's noble history in Texas. It is a pleasure to hear these veterans' stories of how our organization has changed, yet kept the founding values that never lose their relevance. This is almost unanimously the reason they provide for retaining their loyalty to the union.

In addition to my duties as a director, I also serve as an agent for our competitive rate annuities, as well as life, home, and auto insurance. Thank you for placing your trust in me. It makes me happy to know that I provide sound financial products that our members need, but honestly, I have to say that I can never ever give as much as I gratefully receive from our members!

Since the purpose of these director articles is for you to get to know us better,

I will provide a peek into my personal life. What do I do when I am not involved in KJT activity?

- I am a doting "Baba" to six (6) absolutely delightful and perfect (of course) grandchildren!

- I never know a bored moment because lots of volunteer activity keeps me out of trouble. (Apparently, the word is out that I feel a duty to give back to my parish and community, and that I can't say no to any request for assistance on projects and committees.)

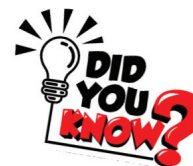
- I am most peaceful when maintaining my koi pond and trying to keep my yard green and blooming.

- I've been bitten by the travel bug, and have recently been on pilgrimage to the Marian shrines of France, Spain, and Portugal; walked in the footsteps of St. Paul in Turkey and Greece; collected and delivered school supplies on a mission trip to serve the poor and orphans in Honduras; visited Poland and the homeland of St. Pope John Paul II and prayed at the Basilica of Divine Mercy; and most recently, I thoroughly enjoyed coordinating another KJT Kruise to 10 Caribbean countries and islands which ended by sailing through the amazing engineering marvel Panama Canal.

Finally, why am I so

passionate about KJT? KJT is assuredly a very serious business, but it is so much more than the wonderful financial products it provides. It is also a source of statewide, lifelong friendships, a provider of spiritual inspiration, a way to join others in serving and doing great good for our families, our church, and our communities. Mostly, KJT knows how to have FUN

while working together on all these things – Fun meeting and doing business, Fun cooking and eating together, Fun worshipping together, Fun fundraising for our charities, Fun on bus trips, and Fun cruising together! I want to say a huge "Thanks!" to all of you for allowing me the opportunities to have so much fun with you!



One of the benefits of being a KJT member is the published KJT News, which reports Society activities, donations, meetings, etc.

We want you to know that there are options to receive your copy of the news. You can choose

from the following:

- Printed & mailed hard copy.
- "GO GREEN" - Receive an e-mail notification with a link to access a digital version.
- Simply go to our website and access the KJT News – besides the current edition, the past editions are archived for your convenience, electronically. No subscription needed.

To "GO GREEN" and subscribe to the electronic version, please visit our website and click on the link, <https://kjt.net.org/subscribe>; an email is required for this option. By doing this, we can be more ecologically responsible and reduce publishing expenses. This step will remove the printed version for you.

The KJT News is available for you - anytime, anywhere – not just by mail. As a bonus, when viewing online electronically, IT IS IN FULL COLOR!

We will happily continue to mail the printed version of the news to those who enjoy reading a printed copy or simply prefer this method. If you no longer wish to receive the printed copy by mail, please notify our office,





## OBITUARY

### Leon James Barton Obituary



ROUND ROCK: Leon James Barton, 82, of Round Rock, Texas, passed on to his heavenly father on Thursday, May 1, 2025. Leon was born on August 23, 1942, in Lavaca County to the late Rudolph and Rosie (Rainosek) Barton.

Leon had been married to the love of his life, Mar-

garet (Targac) Barton for 61 years. Leon graduated from St. Joseph's High School in 1960 and went on to serve in the US Army. He retired from HEB in 1997 after 37 years of dedicated service. His dedication to HEB allowed him to work in Yoakum, Victoria, Corpus Christi, and Round Rock where he provided a range of knowledge as a Store Manager, Produce Supervisor, and Inventory Control Manager. He also served as Grand Knight at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Yoakum. He established the KJT Society at St. Williams Catholic Church in Round Rock where he served as President and Vice President until his death. Leon was fluent in Czech and

loved to sing along to any Czech song. Leon also enjoyed fishing, listening to polka and waltzes, gardening and tending to his plants and flowers. His favorite pass time was sweeping his sidewalks and driveway on a daily basis.

Survivors are his loving wife Margaret (Targac) Barton of Round Rock; sons, Greg Barton and wife Sandra of Point Venture, James Barton and wife Meg of Round Rock; three granddaughters, Amanda Barton, Mercedes Barton (Justin) and Kamry Sanchez-Barton (Myrissa); four great-daughters, McKena Lopez, Leia Lockett, Aleny Lockett and Reese Sanchez-Barton; one sister, Betty Jean Wiggins (Al) of

Houston and brother, Raymond (Pat) Barton of San Antonio and niece/daughter Kathy Custer of Victoria.

Preceded in death by his parents; brother, Eugene Barton and his wife Lorene Barton.

Visitation 4 to 6 p.m. with Rosary recited at 6 p.m., Sunday, May 4, 2025 at Thiele-Cooper Funeral Home in Yoakum.

Funeral Mass 10 a.m., Monday, May 5, 2025 at Sts. Cyril & Methodius Catholic Church in Shiner with Rev. Michael Odarty-Lampthey officiating. Burial to follow at Shiner Catholic Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Ronnie Matias, Michael Barton, Jeff Matias, Mark Wiggins, Frankie Targac, Paul Barton

and Louie Matias.

Honorary Pallbearers are Amanda Barton, Mercedes Barton and Kamry Sanchez-Barton.

Memorials may be given to KJT or St. Cyril & Methodius Catholic School.

Arrangements by Thiele-Cooper Funeral Home, (361) 293-5656.



## Looking for Insurance Representatives



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 KJT Home Office 1-800-245-8182 or email us at  
[insurance@kjtnet.org](mailto:insurance@kjtnet.org)**

## OBITUARY

# Alois James Kutach Obituary



Alois James (AJ) Kutach, 87, longtime member of St. Stephens #112 KJT, peacefully entered eternal life on Friday, March 28, 2025 surrounded by his beloved family.

Born in the area of Worthing, TX on February 20, 1938, A.J. was the second of nine children born to Julius and Agnes Kutach. Raised in Shiner, TX, A.J. attended St. Ludmila's Academy, graduating in 1956. After high school, he began his lifelong career as a meat cutter, following his older brother Eugene to San Antonio and working for Handy Andy. On May 14, 1960, he married the love of his life Dolores Morisak and they moved to Austin, TX where they raised four children, Cynthia Giesen, David Kutach, Sandra Konvicka, and Susan Schubert. A.J. continued working in the grocery business as a meat cutter in-

cluding, managing the meat market for Austin's original Whole Foods Market located on North Lamar. In the early 1980's, A.J. would continue working for Whole Foods Market alongside his brother Eugene (Gene) until he retired in his mid 70's. He and his wife of 64 years, Dolores, would make their final home in Pflugerville, TX where they were engaged in the community of the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church Friendship Club. A.J. was proud of his Czech heritage, having been an active member of the KJT Society #112, serving many positions on the board throughout his life.

AJ loved hosting many family gatherings as well as playing softball in his younger days with his family and relatives. He enjoyed fishing at the coast including hosting an occasional fish fry, rooting for his beloved Astros, Cowboys and Aggies, and spending time with his wife Dolores at the Pflugerville recreation center. He especially cherished going to all of his grandchildren's many events and activities. AJ and Dolores always loved to listen to polka music, talk frequently with his brothers and sisters, and he was proud to call Shiner Texas home.

Left to cherish his mem-

ory is his wife of 64 years Dolores, daughters, Cynthia Giesen and husband Robert, Sandra Konvicka and husband Michael, Susan Schubert and husband Jeff, son David Kutach and wife Mechelle, grandchildren Holt Giesen, Trent Giesen, Reece Kutach & wife Sonny, Alyssa Kutach, Mikayla Konvicka, John Konvicka & fiancé Janine Smajstrla, Derek Konvicka, Kevin Konvicka, Karson Schubert, Macey Schubert, and Blaine Schubert. Surviving siblings include: Eugene (Gene) Kutach & Anita, Edward Kutach & Brenda, Jeanette (Technik) & William, Julius (Jr.) Kutach, George Kutach & Erline, Dennis Kutach & Georgia, brother-in-law James Rose, sister-in-law Gloria Kutach, and many nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by parents, brother Robert Kutach Sr (Bobby), sister Evelyn Kutach Rose, and sister-in-law Irene Kutach.

A rosary prayer was held in Pflugerville, TX at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church on Wednesday, April 2 to commemorate with Austin and Pflugerville friends and a Mass was held in Hallettsville, TX at St. Mary's Catholic Church on Friday, April 4 with burial at the Worthing cemetery.

### KJT DISTRICT VI FAMILY DAY

Join Us

Sunday, June 22, 2025

at

**Sts. Cyril & Methodius Parish Hall**

603 Parrott Ave, Damon, Tx 77430

Registration - 11:00 a.m.

Catered Meal - 11:30 a.m.

District VI Meeting Following Meal

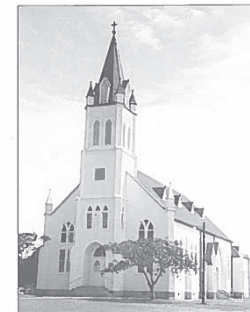
**Children's Activity:** A youth project will take place and supplies will be provided.

\*Czech Music \*Memorial Service

\*Silent Auction \*Door Prizes

**Please RSVP for the meal via phone or text by June 5, 2025 to**

**Justin Eschenburg at (979) 661-0087.**



1890 ★ 135th Year ★ 2025

# PICNIC

St. John the Baptist Church

## AMMANNSVILLE

On FM 1383

Mass at 5:30 p.m. Saturday

# SUNDAY, JUNE 15

(Father's Day)

\*\*\*\*\*  
**GOLDEN FRIED CHICKEN & SAUSAGE DINNER**

Served from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

All Plates \$15.00 - Dine In or Plates To Go

\*\*\*\*\*

**Country Auction at 1:00 p.m.**

**Plinko ★ Cake Walk ★ Bingo ★ Ring Toss ★ Surprise Packages  
Toy Walk ★ Country Store ★ Snow Cones ★ Duck Pond  
Hamburgers beginning at 4 p.m.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MUSIC DURING THE DAY & NIGHT BY**

**Czechaholics & Mark Halata and Texavia**

\*\*\*\*\*

**You are all invited to celebrate with us!**



## OBITUARY

# Beno A. Hellinger Obituary



Beloved father and grandfather Beno A. Hellinger passed peacefully to his eternal reward while at home with his loving family on February 16, 2025.

He was born November 16, 1935, one of eleven children to Beno and Bessie Hellinger in Kovar, Texas. He spent his youth working on the family farm, then graduated from Smithville High School. In his senior year of high school, he was elected "Class Favorite," which is no wonder since, though he might have seemed reserved, he made lasting connections with everyone he met.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1957 to 1960, most notably in Alaska working in the Army post office. Later, he used his mechanical skills at his brother Fred's gas station and then worked as a butcher at a meat packing plant in Austin. Dad worked for thirty years for the U.S.

Postal Service in Austin. As a long time member at St. Louis Parish, he was a dedicated volunteer in several ministries such as usher, money counter, and Fun Fest cake walk. He enjoyed working with the Knights of Columbus, spending many Sunday mornings making breakfast tacos and Lenten Fridays preparing the fish for Lenten fish fries with his perfected method. An active member of the Smithville KJT Society #63 and RVOS, Dad served in offices for his local chapters of both organizations.

Family was so important to Beno, and that started with his meeting Jane Goertz on a blind date. Married in 1964, they settled in Austin at a house that grew along with the family. It was a special treat from Dad when he suggested the family get to eat outside on the picnic table. He orchestrated day trips to places like Enchanted Rock, San Antonio, and Marble Falls with kids piled in a station wagon or in the back of a covered truck.

Through the years, he loved working on the farm with cows and growing vegetables. Mom would say he was like a little boy once he got onto a tractor. Because he kept the farm going, when it reached being 100 years in the family, the State of Texas

awarded the Hellinger Farm as a Designated Family Land Heritage Property.

He could build just about anything out of wood from small bookshelves to farm buildings, he grilled the best chicken around in his home-made bbq grill, and his special recipe smoked sausage made any meal a celebration. He started the family's annual Fourth of July Ice Cream Crank Off which combines his love of ice cream and friendly competition with his sense of patriotism. Passing on a love for his Czech herit-

age to his children and grandchildren, Dad filled every Sunday with polka music. His unique sense of humor and generous hospitality made every gathering delightful for everyone.

Beno is survived by his ten children: Diane (Titus) Ashour, Catherine (Kevin) McCue, Pamela (Keith) Tabor, Paul Hellinger, Laura (John) Duckworth, Charles (Dolly) Hellinger, John (Angie) Hellinger, Linda (Hoyt) Moss, Mark (Vaness) Hellinger, and Elaine (Ryan) McGuckin. He is also survived by 23 grand-

children and five great-grandchildren plus his sisters Helen Alloway and Henrietta Meuth. He is preceded in death by his loving wife of 59 years, Jane Goertz Hellinger.

Visitation will be held on Sunday, Feb. 23 from 4-7 p.m. at Cook Walden on Lamar Blvd. with Rosary at 6:00 p.m. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Louis Catholic Church, 7601 Burnet Rd., Austin at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 24. Burial at Kovar Cemetery at Sts. Peter and Paul Church in Kovar at 3 p.m.

## Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas Announces its Annual Youth Essay Contest

The CCFT Annual Youth Essay Contest is open and invites 11th or 12th grade students in the 2025-26 school year who are members of CCFT, KJZT, or KJT to compete. Membership in the CCFT is not required for an essay submission. CCFT has established \$1,200 in awards and a one-year CCFT membership. Winning essays will be published in the CCFT newsletter and CCFT website. Full acknowledgment of authorship will be given.

Please contact Carol Filer, CCFT Secretary, at [ccftsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ccftsecretary@gmail.com) or 512-658-3409 for information on the essay topic, writing guidelines/rules, criteria, and submission details. Deadline for submitting an essay is Monday, September 15, 2025. We encourage you to request information early to allow time for completing groundwork, writing, and submission.

The CCFT was established and recognized by the IRS Code under Section 501(c)(3) in 2018 as a non-profit organization. The mission of the Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas (CCFT) is "to document, study, preserve, celebrate and perpetuate all elements of the Czech Catholic faith transplanted to Texas by immigrants from the Czech lands; and to strengthen ties with Czech Catholics of the ancestral homeland evangelized by SS Cyril and Methodius."

# IN MEMORIAM

## NOTICES OF MARCH/APRIL 2025

Henry J. Pekar, 97 Yoakum #13 1/24/25	Dennis E. Matula, 78 Wied #43 3/7/25	Santos Quintanilla, 90 Jourdanton #87 1/23/35	Paul K. Bordovsky, 92 Poth #81 1/31/25
Lawrence Pavlu, 86 Nada #34 2/3/25	Alphonse Konvicka, 93 Shiner #20 1/29/25	Raymond P. Soukup, 74 West #31 3/5/35	Willie Bohuslav, Jr., 93 Ammannsville #4 3/9/25
Frank V. Hlozek, 93 Houston #56 1/30/25	Marvin J. Charanza, 76 Frenstat #12 2/11/25	Victor Peschke, Jr., 70 La Marque #119 11/4/24	Victor Caka, 88 Shiner #20 3/12/25
Gilbert R. Belota, 69 Fayetteville #9 2/6/25	Georgie Stastney, 91 Corpus Christi #72 1/9/25	Arnold J. Kasmiersky, Jr., 82 Fayetteville #9 3/5/25	Kenneth J. Krivanek, 89 Fort Worth #54 1/31/25
Stanislav Grygar, 93 Cyclone #57 2/12/25	David P. Kruppa, 82 Rowena #78 2/16/25	Larry G. Stastny, 72 Sealy #80 3/10/25	Thomas R. Podsednik, 91 Tours #60 3/17/25
Richard L. Hasserd, Sr., 98 La Marque #119 11/25/24	John L. Dvorak, 81 West #31 2/24/25	Joseph E. Buchta, 79 Damon #92 2/20/25	Albert C. Patak, 96 Ennis #35 3/21/25
Glenn Skrivanek, 57 Ennis #35 2/17/25	Victoria Vlk, 92 Ennis #35 2/2/25	Miles E. Havelka, 60 Corpus Christi #72 3/13/25	Raymond J. Krajca, 89 Ennis #35 2/14/25
Maria Mendez, 82 La Marque, #119 2/24/25	John L. Cernosek, 82 La Marque #119 1/30/25	Joyce A. Zemanek, 79 Bryan #14 3/14/25	Adolph J. Mican, 81 Yoakum #13 3/25/25
Preston C. Kronkosky, 91 Austin #112 2/10/25	Edward H. Smajstrla, 98 West #31 3/3/25	Franklin Zrubek, 85 Granger #28 2/18/25	Alois J. Kutach, 87 Austin #112 3/28/25

The members of the Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT, wish to express their sincere, and heartfelt sympathy to the families and friends of the dearly departed who are listed above.  
May their souls rest in peace.



## TOP PRODUCERS



**Tanner Schlottman**  
Society #35  
Ennis

First Place April



**Lisa Alexander**  
Society #119  
La Marque

Second Place April



**Brady Alexander**  
Society #119  
La Marque

Third Place April



**John Kana**  
Society #4  
Ammannsville

Fourth Place April



**Linda Gaas**  
Society #12  
Frenstat

Fifth Place April



**Taylor Ivy**  
Society #79  
Hungerford

Sixth Place April



**Holly Malik**  
Society #81  
Poth

Seventh Place April



**Robert Leopold**  
Society #84  
El Campo

Eighth Place April



**Robert Nors**  
Society #31  
West

Ninth Place April



**Ellen Zdansky**  
Society #72  
Corpus Christi

Tenth Place April

### Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas

Calling all families! Would you like to visit a really special place?

Then take a ride to lovely Dubina, TX, and visit the Diocesan Shrine of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Built in the 1800's, this gem of the country churches was declared to be the Shrine of the Diocese of Victoria by the Diocesan Bishop, the Most Rev. Brendan Cahill, S.T.D., on Feb. 14th, 2022. It is a privileged and indulgenced sanctuary, a pilgrimage church, and a place of healing, blessing and peace. Families are invited to visit the Shrine and offer prayers of thanksgiving for the blessings they have received. They can take pictures of themselves and post them on Facebook or send them to be published in this paper. The Shrine is located at 4148 FM 1383 in Dubina, TX. The pastor is Father Chase Goodman. For more information, call 979-723-6714 or go to [stmichaelweimar.org](http://stmichaelweimar.org).

(--Rev. Paul Chovanec, Chaplain – KJT #119, St. Sylvester, LaMarque, TX)



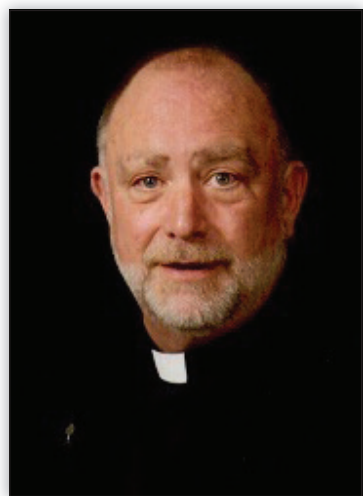
## SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

### Mary's Faith

*"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the LORD would be fulfilled." (Lk 1:45)*

On May 31, we celebrate the liturgical Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast commemorates not just a simple family event between two cousins. The Visitation is an event of salvation history and teaches us much about the dynamics of faith. Like us, Mary had to walk by faith. One writer likens faith to darkness and light. It is dark because we cannot fully grasp divine truth. It is light since faith brings us to truths we cannot know otherwise. Mary walked in the light of faith. God told her enough about His plan for her to make each new step. Faith is not only intellectual, that is, belief. Faith is also trust and action. Pope St. John Paul II in *Redemptoris Mater*, #14, offers an inspiring account of Mary's faith:

"To believe means to abandon oneself to the truth of the word of the living God, knowing and humbly recognizing 'how unsearchable



**REVEREND  
ROBERT E. (BOB)  
KNIPPENBERG**  
*KJT State  
Spiritual Director*

are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways' (Rm 11:33). Mary, who by the eternal will of the Most High stands, one may say, at the very center of those inscrutable judgments of God, conforms herself to them in the dim light of faith, accepting fully and with a ready heart everything that is decreed in the divine plan."

Faith means to say "amen" ("so be it") to the word, the command, and the promises of God. An important element of Mary's faith is also

common to ours. God speaks to us through others. We come to know God and His saving plan through people in the Christian community; for example, parents, teachers, preachers, and others. Revelation is not made directly to us. Except for the special experience of the Annunciation, Mary came to know God's will through others.

Mary's faith, which is praised by Elizabeth, draws her to the dignity of being the Mother of Jesus and still greater to being a true disciple of the Lord. Faith was not easier for her than for us. The contrary is true. For Mary it was more difficult to believe than for the apostles. She understood more of God's plan. Pope St. John Paul II commented that the expression, "blessed is she who believed," is a key unlocking the innermost reality of Mary. Being aware that this faith was difficult, involving deep struggle, gives us an insight into Mary's life and evidence of her likeness to us, sharing completely in the human condition, but without sin.

### District 7 Meeting Held

KJT District 7, held their annual meeting in Victoria at the KC Hall on April 27. Vice President Donald Dusek resided over the meeting in the absence of President Vince Nemec. We had a very successful meeting with a youth activity and meal. KJT Directors present were Margaret Holik and Cynthia Nemec.



**July News Deadline:  
Thursday, July 10**



# CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION GRANT

## CATHOLIC SCHOOL TUITION GRANT PROGRAM



The Catholic Union of Texas will continue to offer the Catholic School Tuition Grant Program in 2025 to assist in obtaining an excellent education from a Catholic school! The Catholic school tuition program awards a maximum of 100 grants of \$150 each to students chosen through a random selection process. The student applying for the grant must be a life insurance member of the KJT. We will accept only one application per student.

The application must be postmarked by May 31, 2025. Winners will be notified by August 1, 2025. All awards will be paid directly to the Catholic school that the student attends after verification of attendance is submitted. Submitting an application does not guarantee that the entry will be automatically selected.

### Catholic School Tuition Grant Program for Grades K 11

### Catholic School Tuition Grant Program Rules

1. The student must be a life insurance member of the Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT.
2. The student must enter a Catholic elementary school or be part of a Catholic accredited homeschool curriculum, grades Kindergarten through 11 in Fall 2025.
3. Winners will be determined by a random selection process and notified by mail.
4. All awards will be paid directly to the Catholic school the student attends. Verification of attendance will be required.
5. Please submit the following entry form. Photocopies of this form are also acceptable.
6. For additional information, contact the KJT Home Office at (800) 245-8182.

Mail this completed form to:



**KJT**  
Catholic Union of Texas

Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT  
CST  
P.O. Box 297  
La Grange, Texas 78945

----- Cut line here -----

### Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT Catholic School Tuition Grant Program for Grades K-11

*Please Print*

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate No. \_\_\_\_\_ Society No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Make Check Payable To: \_\_\_\_\_ (school or business office)

Send Check To: Address \_\_\_\_\_ Grade-Fall 2025 \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**Incomplete entries will be automatically disqualified.**

**Submitting an entry to the Home Office does not guarantee that you will automatically receive a tuition grant from Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT.**

**Deadline  
May 31, 2025**

Submit

Print

Clear

# INVALID ADDRESSES

## NO ADDRESS KNOWN

Below are the names of members for whom we no longer have a valid mailing address. If you know a person named, please let them know to contact their local society or the home office at (979) 968-5877 or by email to [billing2@kjtnet.org](mailto:billing2@kjtnet.org). We appreciate your help on this matter!

<b>Society #3, Hostyn</b> <b>Dustin Allen Polasek</b>	<b>Society #40, East Bernard</b> <b>Lisa Kay Smaistrla</b>	<b>Society #112, Austin</b> <b>Jonathon M. Lung</b> <b>Joe M. Lung</b>
<b>Society #4, Ammannsville</b> <b>Michael James Leer</b>	<b>Society #56, Houston</b> <b>Harvey L. Tobias</b>	<b>Society #119, La Marque</b> <b>David R. Lee</b>
<b>Society #9, Fayetteville</b> <b>Martin D. Boyer</b> <b>Lawrence L. Chovanec</b>	<b>Society #59, Seymour</b> <b>Stephanie A. Mills</b>	<b>Society #121, Katy-Spring</b> <b>Branch</b> <b>Ronald M. Farracks</b>
<b>Society #14, Bryan</b> <b>Emil V.F. Luza</b>	<b>Society #72, Corpus Christi</b> <b>Bobbie Jo Schaefer</b> <b>Susan Hoelscher</b>	<b>Society #122, Freeport</b> <b>Charles D. Chambers, Jr.</b>
<b>Society #27, Taylor</b> <b>Adam Lee Roznovak</b>	<b>Society #84, El Campo</b> <b>James H. Reynolds</b> <b>Lindsay Rose Till</b>	<b>Society #126, New Braunfels</b> <b>Teresa May Roberts-Elben</b>
<b>Society #31, West</b> <b>John Pavelka</b> <b>Jason Hayden Blakley-Coley</b> <b>Kirk E. Percy</b>	<b>Society #87, Jourdanton</b> <b>Eugene A. Jasik</b>	<b>Society #129, Schulenburg</b> <b>Paul S. Watzlavick</b> <b>John C. Hrncir</b>
<b>Society #35, Ennis</b> <b>Samantha Kate Erwin</b> <b>Kelly M. Vavra</b>	<b>Society #103, Baytown</b> <b>Lyndon J. Novosad</b>	<b>Society #139, Bay City</b> <b>Langston Keith Hobbs</b>
<b>Society #39, Marak</b> <b>Edward Ray Hubnik</b>	<b>Society #111, Dallas</b> <b>Gregory E. Adamcik</b> <b>Frances Patterson</b>	



# KJT DONATES

## Society #35, Ennis Hosts Multiple Activities

Hello to all of you from KJT Ennis. In January we kicked off our 125th Anniversary Year with a Super Bowl Party and a Chili Cookoff. There was a big turnout for the Chili Cookoff with many teams competing. The organization NOW Pod with Vicki and Mark Sanders were able to donate back \$2,500 to our society. We are very thankful for their generosity and look forward to working together next year. Theresa Haskovec was

also the winner of the liquor wagon that was raffled off. On April 6 we held our annual Easter Egg Hunt for the kids. It was rainy so the activities were moved into the hall. We had a big turn out with many new members attending. We continue to have Trivia Nights that bring in a full house and everyone is having fun and enjoying their evening with a little bit of friendly competition.

In future news, on June 28 we will

be having a 125 Anniversary Building Fundraiser. Your ticket will admit two with a dance and open bar and a chance to win cash prizes, first prize being \$12,500. You can contact Danny Zapletal for tickets ([dannyzapletal@yahoo.com](mailto:dannyzapletal@yahoo.com)). Also on August 16 we will have a free event to celebrate our 125 Anniversary. There will be more details on this event on our social media.

We look forward to seeing you

soon and if you're ever in the neighborhood drop by and see us.

Please visit our Facebook page to see how much fun we are having at KJT Society #35 in Ennis. It will also keep you informed of our next event and members meetings. Until next time, have a good day and stay safe. Also remember to contact Tanner Schlottman to get those grandkids or great grandkids added to be a new member of the KJT.



Chili Cookoff Donation



Easter Egg Hunt



Trivia Night



### Waterpark Savings

As a valued partner of Splashway, we're giving you exclusive deals on our waterpark tickets and season passes this summer. Save \$5 on general admission tickets and \$10 on Season Passes! Simply visit **SPLASHWAY.COM** and enter your promo code below at checkout!

Splashway is a family destination with high thrill rides, a relaxing lazy river, and a safe and fun spot just for the little ones.

Cabana rentals are also available; food on site or pack a picnic lunch.



**\$5 Off Waterpark Tickets, Code Expires 9-30-2025**  
**\$10 Off Season Passes, Code Expires 7-31-2025**  
**Day Tickets: KJT25 ~ ~ Season Tickets: SP25KJT**

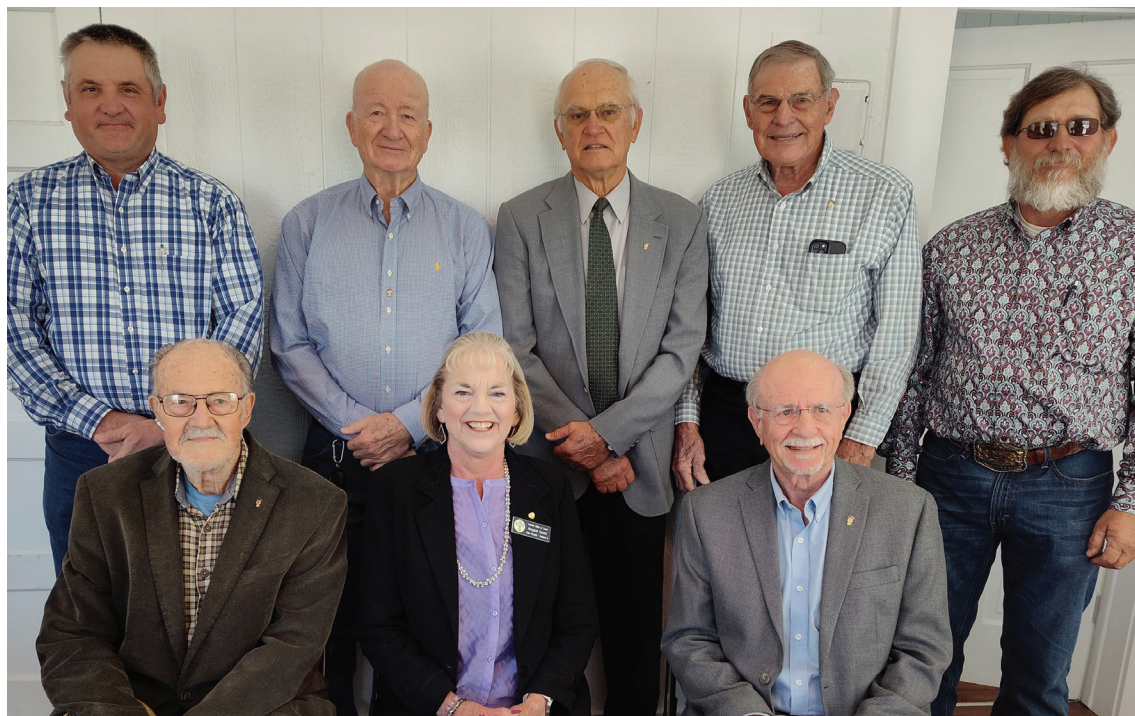


## 75-YEAR PINS PRESENTED

### Wied Society Presents 75-Year Pins

Wied #43 recently had several members earn their 75-year membership pins. Five of them came to the meeting on Sunday, March 16th and were recognized for this milestone. Thank you, gentlemen, for your dedication to our society and congratulations!

In attendance were front row: Kasper B. Janak, St. Director Margaret Hanslik and David Janak. Back row: President Matthew Motal, Jerome Kanak, Patrick Pesek, Henry A. Janak and Sales Rep. Michael Till.



### Important Reminder For Members

The KJT asks  
members to always check  
their certificates  
to note if they  
have the:

- proper beneficiaries  
designated
- current mailing address
- current phone number
- current email address

### Wilber Czech Festival Bus Trip

JULY 31- AUGUST 4, 2025



The 64th Annual Wilber Czech Festival runs Friday, August 1 through Sunday, August 3 and is expected to attract more than 30,000 Czech culture enthusiasts to the community of Wilber, Nebraska, population 1,940. Wilber, located in the heart of early Nebraska Czech settlement, was identified as the "Czech Capital of the USA" in a Joint Resolution issued by Congress in 1987. Promoters of the annual event have characterized the Wilber Czech Festival as "three days of parades, dancing, music and Czech food galore" with the crowning event being the Miss Czech-Slovak US Pageant competition that takes place on Sunday evening. Enjoy what promises to be a fun, five-day, four-night road trip through mid-America and the opportunity to enjoy the 64th Annual Wilber Czech Festival. One night stop at the Kansas Star Casino on the way to Wilber.

#### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 4 nights Hotel
- Breakfast daily at hotel
- Round Trip Bus from Temple, TX
- \*Possible other pick-up points based on interest\*\*
- Wilber Festival Activities
- Tour Director
- Special Group Dinner
- Private bus

Double Occupancy \$1130 per person  
Single Occupancy \$1415 per person

\*Discount of \$50 per person for SPJST, KJT, KJZT & Sokol Members\*



1-800-399-0791

[planit@teammgt.com](mailto:planit@teammgt.com)  
<https://teammgt.com/planit-custom-tours>

\$200 per person due at time of booking  
50% per person due - March 30th  
Remaining Balance Due - June 01st

**Planit**  
Custom Travel & Event Management

### KJT SUMMER CAMP



**Camp  
Adventure**  
Are You  
Ready?

Camp Dates: August 9 – 13, 2025

Age Requirement: 9-15 as of July 1, 2025

NEW LOCATION: LUTHERHILL CAMP & RETREAT

Applications will be available at [www.kjtnet.org](http://www.kjtnet.org)



## TOCA BANQUET

### Annie Straka Hyzak of Austin Society #112 Honored by KJT at Texans of Czech Ancestry Banquet

Annie Straka Hyzak truly exemplifies the Czech culture, history, and spirit of what it means to be Czech. She reads, speaks, writes, and translates the Czech language—a skill that not many Texan Czechs can do today. At the last KJT state convention, she was professionally recorded speaking her native Czech. Besides being actively involved in the KJT and the KJZT, she is also a member of the Austin Czech Historical Association (ACHA), Travis-Williamson Counties Czech Heritage Society (TWCCHS), and the Texas Czech Genealogical Society (TCGS). Anne is an officer in almost all of these organizations and is known for giving numerous presentations about Czech culture. Program topics include

early Texas Czech schools, Czech wedding, Easter, and Christmas customs, Czech immigrants, and other items of interest. She has researched old Czech newspaper articles to aid her presentations, and as a retired high school math teacher, she is capable of holding everyone's attention. Anne has written two family history books about her maternal grandparents and stories about her aunts and uncles, most of whom lived in the Corn Hill, Texas area. At the request of Father Nesrsta of Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Anne reads the biblical passages at their annual feast day Czech Mass for Sts. Cyril and Methodius, having done so since 2013. Anne participates in the annual multicultural recitation of the Rosary at St. Louis King

of France Catholic Church in Austin by leading a Czech decade. She was a member of the Happy Czech Singers for many years, a group based at St. Louis that traveled to festivals, funerals, and other events.

As a talented seamstress, Anne sewed authentic Czech costumes (kroje) for her daughter and herself to wear to Czech Night at the annual Austin Aqua Festival in the 1970s and 1980s. When she became a grandmother, she did the same for her two granddaughters when they were Little Sisters to the TWCCHS Queens. Through the years, Anne made colorful posters for Czech Night at Aqua Fest and bake sales for member organizations. Other creative contributions include floral

arrangements and decorations for different Czech functions. She has traveled to the Czech Republic four times, visiting distant relatives in Moravia which requires conversing in Czech with them, while serving as translator for others traveling with her.

To provide a lasting legacy, Anne contributes memorabilia to Czech museums in the Central Texas area. Additionally, Anne is involved in other civic and church activ-

ities, such as Austin Retired Teachers Association (ARTA) and North Austin Civic Association (NACA). Anne has been recognized by TCGS for her contributions to Czech culture and by TWCCHS as a 2013 TOCA recipient. She has also received CHS's top state award for her active involvement in Czech activities. Anne is very deserving of this TOCA Award for her continued support of all things Czech.



Pictured with KJT's honoree, Annie Straka Hyzak, at the Texans of Czech Ancestry Banquet are her family and KJT State Secretary/Treasurer Kevin Kana and KJT State Vice-President David Wagner.

### 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Czech KOLACHE KLOBASE Festival Saturday, June 14, 2025

Admission: \$10 per person (covers parking & all events) Children 12 & under: Free

**Riverside Hall – East Bernard, TX**

**Indoor Entertainment – Riverside Hall**

Red Ravens  
Czech & Then Some  
Mark Halata & Texavia  
Red Ravens  
Flag Tribute/Grand March  
Czech & Then Some  
Mark Halata & Texavia  
Concert (all 3 bands)



11 am – 12 noon  
12 pm – 1 pm  
1 pm – 2 pm  
2 pm – 3 pm  
3 pm – 3:30 pm  
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm  
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm  
5:30 pm – 6 pm



**Al Sulak's Country Sounds** 12 noon – 2 pm  
**Kolache Eating Contest** Sponsored by KJT State Ofc. 2 pm – 2:30 pm  
**Al Sulak's Country Sounds** 2:30 pm – 4 pm

**Sausage/BBQ Chicken Plate Lunch Available for Purchase 11 am**  
Drive Thru Plates To Go – 11 am – 1 pm  
Sausage Sandwiches & Hamburgers available for purchase afternoon

[www.kkfest.com](http://www.kkfest.com)

Arts/Crafts \* Cake Walk

Raffle \* Silent Auction

Booth Info: 979-531-9747 or [sdjika@gmail.com](mailto:sdjika@gmail.com)

Proceeds benefit KJT Sec. #40 Hall Fund

**Lotsa Kolaches!**  
**Handicap Parking**

General Info: 979-533-1902



# KJT IN ACTION

## West Society #31 Visits the Zoo

Members of the West Society #31 visited the zoo recently. Below are some pictures from the visit.



Members Pictured: Robert Nors, Georgie Nors, Brent Pavlas with Emily Pavlas, Sherry Pavlas, Michael Kraemer, Cathy Kraemer, and Holly Pavlas. Not pictured is Louis Pavlas.



Emily Pavlas enjoying the zoo.



Little Emily Pavlas with her mother, Holly Pavlas

## Join Hands Day for Society #119

KJT Society #119 held Join Hands Day with Queen of Peace Work for Penance on April 12, 2025. Several organizations and parishioners joined together to spruce up the

church grounds and cleanup the interior of the church. It is always great to work together to accomplish great things!



### 125th Anniversary Building Fundraiser

## KJT Society #35

**Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> 2025 7PM - 11pm**  
\$125 Donation Ticket Admits Two, includes  
OPEN BAR and Dance



**1st PRIZE \$12,500.**



**2nd PRIZE \$1,250.**



**3rd - 12th PRIZE \$125**

### Live Music By Lost Money

Doors open at 6:30  
1216 S. Paris St. Ennis, TX

Food available from Tastytown Cafe, served out of the  
kitchen. Not included in admission





# MEMBERSHIP

## 25-Year Membership May/June 2025

Society #3, Hostyn  
Allison Marie Hoffmann  
Jacob Andrew Janda  
Megan Joy Hoffmann

Society #9, Fayetteville  
Robert W. Kasmiersky, Jr.

Society #13, Yoakum  
Rev. Tommy Chih Hsiang Chen

Society #20, Shiner  
Rev. Gabriel David Espinosa

Society #31, West  
Albin Joseph Pustejovsky, III  
Karleen M. Nors  
Amanda Kristine Mynar  
Julie Joanna Mynar

Society #34, Nada  
Jacqueline Eggemeyer  
Kelsey Ann Eggemeyer

Society #35, Ennis  
Ashtin Marie Slovak  
Kaitlin Michelle Slovak  
Taylor Alan Vavra  
Wesley Philip Vavra

Society #40, East Benard

Society #54, Fort Worth  
Kendall Rain Martin

Society #59, Seymour  
Randi Leigh Peters

Society #72, Corpus Christi  
Kimberly Rae Ramirez

Society #87, Jourdanton  
David Alan Soward  
Frances Marie Soward

Society #90, Rosenberg  
Brent Clay Redding  
Justin Paul Redding

Society #108, Brenham  
Kyle C. Bugaj

Society #111, Dallas  
Kara Marie Adamcik

Society #117, Waco  
Christopher Michael Kubala

Society #122, Freeport  
Paul David Pyle

Society #129, Schulenburg  
Rhett Dalton Ahrens

Society #133, Missouri City  
Joseph Nunzio Stornello

**Sunday, July 20, 2025, 11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.**  
**KJT State Family Day**

Annual State Family Day; 11:30 registration  
w/catered meal at noon.

Music, Games and Attendance Prizes Throughout the Day!  
**\*\*RSVP REQUIRED BY JULY 11TH\*\***

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Kolache Festival**  
**Caldwell, Texas**  
**September 13, 2025**

# MEMBERSHIP

## 50-Year Membership May/June 2025

Society #14, Bryan Christopher L. Yendrey	Society #35, Ennis Albert W. Haskovec, Jr.	Society #56, Houston Timothy J. Finn, Jr.	Society #111, Dallas Keith R. Daboub
Society #20, Shiner Robert George Herman, Jr.	Society #43, Wied Aaron B. Pesek Jimmy L. Voelkel, Jr.	Society #84, El Campo Daniel A. Kubena Gerard A. Kubena	Society #115, Victoria Albert J. Schilhab
Society #31, West Scott A. Chudej	Society #54, Fort Worth Michael Gerard Becan, II	Society #92, Damon Charles A. Fink	

## 75-Year Membership May/June 2025

Society #3, Hostyn Wayne J. Kubasak	Society #34, Nada Donald R. Buzek	Society #57, Cyclone Kenneth. Daskocil	Society #100, Caldwell Michael B. Kocurek Patrick J. Polansky Robert D. Kocurek
Society #4, Ammannsville Claude J. Mazoch	Society #40, East Bernard Daniel C. Kubes	Society #72, Corpus Christi Richard D. Foerster James M. Ermis	Society #109, Hillsboro Rudolph T. Janek
Society #16, Wallis Edward Kanak, Jr.	Society #48, Hillje Joseph B. Liska Lawrence J. Hlavaty	Society #81, Poth Michael A. Liska Colin E. Bludau Homer Bludau	Society #111, Dallas Eugene R. Tobola Jaromir J. Becan, Jr.
Society #20, Shiner Robert J. Juranek	Society #54, Fort Worth John A. Tesar John M. Maly	Lawrence J. Janacek Owen W. Bludau	Society #117, Waco Benjamin R. Hubenak
Society #29, Frydek Rudolph D. Zboril			
Society #31, West Raymond P. Soukup William E. Mynar	Society #55, Corn Hill Lambert H. Havelka	Society #84, El Campo Mark Pratka	Society #139, Bay City Benjamin G. Kaspar



## KJT IN ACTION

### KJT SOCIETY 132 PFLUGERVILLE SOCIETY HAPPENINGS

In conducting the Living Rosary, Society #132 was planting the seed for Devotion to our Blessed Mother. Near the conclusion of the Rosary, a young girl told her grandmother "I want to learn to pray the Rosary". There is a need to teach new generations of our children how to pray.

On Sunday May 4, 2025, to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of the Living Rosary, we celebrated our diversity by praying the Rosary in twelve languages reflecting the cultures of our parishioners. It was attended by approximately two hundred parishioners and friends. Everyone attending received a beautiful rosary made by KJT Society 132 and other ministries. The Rosaries were blessed by Fr. Pedro and F. Juan Carlos.

After the Rosary, we gathered in the Parish Hall to enjoy multicultural food and fellowship, along with a short reflection by Fr. Pedro.



KJT Youth members waiting to go into church to pray the "Hail Mary" in English.



Joe Panketh prayed the "Our Father" in Malayalam and Bridget Krahula is praying the "Hail Mary" in Czech.



Parishioners lifting their Rosaries to be blessed by Fr. Pedro and Fr. Juan Carlos.



L-R: Fr. Pedro Garcia Ramirez, Fr. Juan Carlos Lopez  
- Both priests are KJT members.

### 34th Annual Czech **Kolache Klobase Festival** Saturday, June 14, 2025 (11:00a-6:00p) Riverside Hall – East Bernard, TX

*Inside air conditioned hall, wood dance floor:*

**Red Ravens (11-12, 2-3)**

**Czech & Then Some (12-1, 3:30-4:30)**

**Mark Halata & Texavia (1-2, 4:30-5:30)**

**Flag/Vet Tribute & Grand March (3-3:30)**

**Three Band Concert (5:30-6)**

*Under pavilion in water-fan cooled comfort:*

**Al Sulak's Country Sounds 12n-2p, 2:30p – 4p**

**Kolache Eating Contest – 2p – 2:30p**

**Sausage/BBQ Chicken plate lunch avail. @ 11 am**

**Drive thru plates 11a-1p**

**Sausage Sandwiches/Hamb. avail afternoon**

**Cake Walk \* Arts/Crafts \* Raffle**

**Silent Auction \* Lotsa Kolaches!**

Booth info: 979-531-9747 or email [srdujka@gmail.com](mailto:srdujka@gmail.com)

General info: 979-533-1902 or [kkfest.com](http://kkfest.com)

### REMINDER TO AUSTIN SOC. #112 MEMBERS

Members wishing to go to the Round Rock Express game on Sunday, June 29, please contact Sarah Vitek at [sarah.vitek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sarah.vitek@sbcglobal.net) to place your order for tickets. Give the number of adults, Jrs. and if you need a car pass; Jrs. are given free passes.

### NOTICE TO KJT AUSTIN SOCIETY #112

KJT Society #112 is proposing to donate \$25,000 from the Society Management account to the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange, Texas. Voting will take place at the society quarterly meeting to be held September 9, 2025; members are encouraged to attend.



# KJT IN ACTION

## West # 31 Fish Fundraiser Held

West Society gathered for a fish fry fundraiser for their Join Hand’s event with the KJZT. This was a drive-thru meal with a great turnout; we had several crews working in their areas to keep it all moving along. We want to thank all our KJT and KJZT members and others for all their help in making this a successful fundraiser!



Crew filling to-go plates in the kitchen



Crew taking & filling orders



Fish & hush puppy frying crew



Battering crew

## Joe Pustejovsky Receives 75-Year Pin

Recently, West Society #31 member Joe Pustejovsky was presented with his 75-year membership pin.

Society Officers gathered around to congratulate Joe on his 75-year membership. Pictured here are Cathy Kraemer, Michael Kraemer, Joe and his wife, Carolyn, Robert Nors and Sherry Pavlas.



127<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CELEBRATION

Srs. Peter & Paul, Plum Parish Feast

Sunday, June 29<sup>TH</sup>, 2025

Mass Time 10:00 A.M.

Sausage Sales: Saturday, June 28 at 5 P.M.  
First come first served, No advance orders

Plate Price: \$15.00  
Fried Chicken and Plum Sausage  
Drive Thru: 10:30 A.M to 12:30 P.M.  
Exit Loop 220 - East of Plum  
Dine In: 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 PM  
Exit Plum Church Road or Loop 220 - West of Plum  
Hamburgers Served 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Auction at 1:00 P.M. | Bingo at 2:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.  
Music Under the Pavilion  
11:00 A.M - 1:00 P.M. Ken Brothers & Chris Janca  
1:00 P.M - 5:00 P.M. Mark Halata and Texavia  
Cake Walk • Children's Games • Country Store  
Ring Toss • Refreshments • Fish Pond • Raffle

7 Miles West of La Grange Off Highway 71 • 126 Plum Church Road, Plum Texas | [www.HostynPlumCatholic.org](http://www.HostynPlumCatholic.org)



# 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**Jack Bauer**

Jack is a member of KJT Society #3 in Hostyn; he graduated from Lake Travis High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. His parents are Eric and Melissa Bauer.



**Riley DeRoulac**

Riley is a member of KJT Society #132 in Pflugerville; she graduated from Hutto High School and will attend Cecil College. Her mother is Mary DeRoulac.



**Mia Douglas**

Mia is a member of KJT Society #130 in Elgin; she graduated from Veritas Academy and will attend Texas Tech. Her parents are Cody and Leah Douglas.



**Lexa Eschenburg**

Lexa is a member of KJT Society #29 in Frydek; she graduated from Sealy High School and will attend University of Arkansas. Her parents are Shane and Danielle Eschenburg.



**Addisyn Fisher**

Addisyn is a member of KJT Society #84 in El Campo; she graduated from El Campo High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. Her parents are Craig and Cheryl



**Paul Jackson**

Paul is a member of KJT Society #46 in La Grange; he graduated from Clear Springs High School and will attend Texas A & M University, Kingsville. His parents are Martin and Angela Jackson.



**Valerie Kaiser**

Valerie is a member of KJT Society #132 in Pflugerville; she graduated from Pflugerville High School and will attend Sam Houston State University. Her parents are Doug and Denise Kaiser.



**Kaylynn Kolinek**

Kaylynn is a member of KJT Society #132 in Pflugerville; she graduated from Lake Travis High School and will attend University of Utah. Her parents are Larry and Traci Kolinek.



**Sydney Kubicek**

Sydney is a member of KJT Society #27 in Taylor; she graduated from Lexington High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. Her parents are Johnny and Tiffany Kubicek.



**Jeffrey Lopez**

Jeffrey is a member of KJT Society #132 in Pflugerville; he graduated from Lopez Home School Academy and will attend Austin Community College. His parents are Jeff and Cristina Lopez.



# 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**Koy Macik**

Koy is a member of KJT Society #12 in Frenstat; he graduated from Caldwell High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. His parents are Kirby and Melissa Macik.



**Cody Malinovsky**

Cody is a member of KJT Society #20 in Shiner; he graduated from St. Paul High School and will attend Texas State University. His parents are Michael and Peggy Malinovsky.



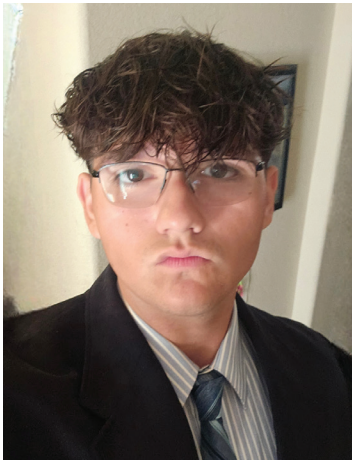
**Julia McConnell**

Julia is a member of KJT Society #119 in La Marque; she graduated from Powdersville High School and will attend University of South Carolina. Her parents are Eric and Dana McConnell.



**Breelyn Miller**

Breelyn is a member of KJT Society #4 in Ammannsville; she graduated from Frassati Catholic High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. Her parents are Nathan and Laurie Miller.



**Michael Motal**

Michael is a member of KJT Society #43 in Wied; he graduated from IDEA Pflugerville College Preparatory School and will attend University of Central Arkansas. His parents are Martin and Debbie Motal.



**Adrian Cisneros Nava**

Adrian is a member of KJT Society #132 in Pflugerville; he graduated from Hendrickson High School and will attend Austin Community College. His parents are Ernesto Cisneros Martinez and Rosa Nava Alvarado.



**Sadie Noska**

Sadie is a member of KJT Society #3 in Hostyn; she graduated from Flatonia Secondary School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. Her parents are Brian and Jill Noska.



**Kathleen Novak**

Kathleen is a member of KJT Society #142 in Chappell Hill; she graduated from Bellville High School and will attend Texas A & M University. Her parents are Michael and Laura Novak.



**Paxton Pustejovsky**

Paxton is a member of KJT Society #31 in West; he graduated from Abbott ISD and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. His parents are Douglas and Missie Pustejovsky.



**Megan Rebuck**

Megan is a member of KJT Society #35 in Ennis; she graduated from Bishop Lynch High School and will attend Texas A & M University, College Station. Her parents are Christopher and Melony Rebuck.

# 2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



**Joel Orlando Solorzano**

Joel is a member of KJT Society #46 in La Grange; he graduated from La Grange High School and will attend University of Texas, San Antonio. His parents are Jose and Leticia Solorzano.



**Kaden Swope**

Kaden is a member of KJT Society #115 in Victoria; he graduated from Sealy High School and will attend Blinn College. His parents are Kevin and Allyson Swope.



**Juliann Tomasek**

Juliann is a member of KJT Society #134 in Round Rock; she graduated from Tomasek Academy and will attend Texas State University. Her parents are Anthony and Mary Ann Tomasek.



**Kole Townsend**

Kole is a member of KJT Society #48 in Hillje; he graduated from Strake Jesuit College Preparatory and will attend Austin Community College. His parents are Steven and Michelle Townsend.



**Halle Zdansky**

Halle is a member of KJT Society #72 in Corpus Christi; she graduated from Veterans Memorial High School and will attend Del Mar College. Her parents are Harry & Michelle Zdansky.



# GRADUATION

# 2025



## #142 DONATES TO SENIOR CENTER

### #142 Chappell Hill Donates to the Senior Center

KJT Society #142 (St. Stanislaus, Chappell Hill) in conjunction with the KJT Memorial Foundation's generous donation given to the WCHLA (the Senior Center) donated needed small wares. The items will be used in the kitchen and dining areas of the center as well as in the crafts and sewing rooms. We hope we have made their work a little easier with these items.



#### KJT STATE FAMILY DAY

**July 20, 2025**

**Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Frelsburg**

**Diamond Center  
1031 Church Lane  
New Ulm, Texas 78950**

**Time: 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM**

**Catered Meal: 12:00 Noon**



***Music, Games & Attendance Prizes Throughout the Day!***

No special KJT Mass this year.

(Sts. Peter & Paul Mass times: 8:30 am & 10:30 am, Latin)

**\*\*RSVP Required by July 11<sup>th</sup>\*\***

[www.kjtnet.org](http://www.kjtnet.org) / [info@kjtnet.org](mailto:info@kjtnet.org) / 979-968-5877



**KJT**  
Catholic Union of Texas

Submit news articles to [media@kjtnet.org](mailto:media@kjtnet.org)

# MEETING MINUTES

## KJT 134 March 8, 2025 Meeting Summary

The KJT meeting took place at St. William parish Hall (Round Rock) on March 8, 2025. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.

At 6:50 p.m., Monsignor Luis Pavlicek presides the blessing for the meal. Hot dogs and chili is served. Thanks to Tina for graciously prepare this meal.

At 7:39 p.m., Tina officiates the opening of the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Important date: Next meeting will be on June 14 at St. William’s Parish hall.

Welcome to new guest: Lynn McFadden.

- Treasury report for March 8, 2025 was read by Janie. Motion was approved by Chris Lively and second it by Emily Risinger. All those in favor say “aye.”

- Meeting minutes from Dec. 6, 2024, was read by Tina. Motion was approved by Chris Lively and second it by Erin Risinger . All those in favor say “aye.”

Shirley Pokorney’s report:

- KJT 134 is in good shape at state local

- Location for the convention is Embassy Suites in San Marcos. Must be a KJT member to attend.

Date: July 10-12, 2026.

- Camp dates will be Aug. 9-13. This is for 9-13 years old. Location: Lutherhill in La Grange.

- KJT memorial foundation. A beautiful folder to enroll someone on special occasions. Raised funds will go to scholarship, food pantry.

- \$350 donated to priest retirement fund from KJT 134 will be presented to Bishop Joe Vasquez. Total donation from the ministry is \$ 8,850. We have 4,800 seminarians.

- 75-year service pin is presented to Monsignor Louis Pavlicek. Fr. Louis promotes service to community.

Leon Barton’s note:

- Fr. Louis Pavlicek will continue to be KJT 134 spiritual director for 2025

- Honoring new member –Andy Roger.

- Other new comer – Lynn McFadden and Michelle.

- 61st wedding anniversary for Leon and Margaret

- SOR meeting at Elgin

- Get refund of 2% from the office.

- Three great granddaughter

- Thank you to Les and Gabriele Miller for the KJT audit on Jan-10th, 2025.

- Thanks to Tina for setting up and food

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Priest retirement and Door prize were drawn. Bingo night.

**Felix Leonardi**  
**Secretary KJT 134**

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Catholic Union of Texas



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Deposit Balance	Kapital Account 6 <sup>+</sup> , FPDA 7 <sup>+</sup> , IRA 6 <sup>+</sup> , & Roth IRA 6 <sup>+</sup>
\$250 <sup>***</sup> - \$9,999	4.50%
\$10,000 - \$99,999	4.75%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	5.00%
\$250,000 - Up	5.25%

\*Includes .50% First Year Only Additional Interest  
\*\*Requires Additional Deposits  
\*Accounts have a 3.00% Guaranteed Rate  
Interest Rates are subject to change without notice.





# EASTER ACTIVITIES

## # 43 Wied Easter Egg Hunt

KJT Society #43 Wied held their annual Easter egg hunt at St Mary’s Catholic Church on Easter Sunday. There was a great turnout of egg hunters. Everyone had an enjoyable time and looks forward to next year.



## Hungerford Easter Egg Hunt

Hungerford KJT #79 held its 32nd Easter egg hunt with about 40 eager participants. The hunt was held on the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church grounds.



Golden egg winners - Molly Steiner, Kase Boenisch, and Hadley Minks.



First time egg hunter, Ronny Krejci.



Participants in Society #79's Easter Egg Hunt

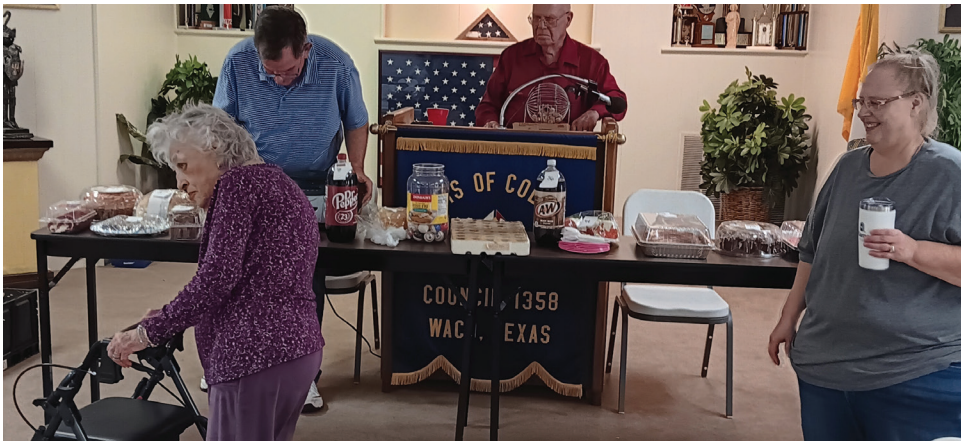


# EASTER ACTIVITIES

## Society # 117, Waco Lent and Easter Events



During Lent, #117 President Frankie Muehlstein, Valerie Boyle and other members (not pictured Dan Boyle, Nancy Tichavsky, Jim Greenwood) had helping hands in the Friday fish fry-day for St. Phillips church in China Spring. Thank you for all the dedication, hard work, and time!



Annual Easter meeting with polka music and a cake walk.

Mark your calendars for Society #117’s next meeting on July 13, 2025, at 12 p.m. at the KC Hall on 5515 Sanger Avenue, Waco, honoring high school graduates. Cold Cuts will be provided; members attending are asked to bring chips, a side dish, and/ or dessert to share. Guests are welcomed.



Evan and Jay Espinoza (grandsons of Milan and Harriet Dujka) showing their bountiful Easter surprises found at the egg hunt, along with Janet Skopik, #117 secretary.

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# Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT

# KJT NEWS

## KJT News

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While the KJT has had the ScriptSave prescription drug discount card for many years, ScriptSave now has some additional savings opportunities for our members.

If you would like to take part in the ScriptSave program and you don't have your original card that was sent out at the inception of the program, you can contact us at [info@kjt.net](mailto:info@kjt.net) or you can call the office at 800.245.8182 to get your discount card. Additionally, you can go to [www.kjt.net](http://www.kjt.net) to download your card. All household members of a KJT member may take part in the program.

## Official Newsletter of the Catholic Union of Texas

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## Save the Date

**Sunday, June 8, 2025**

West Soc. #31 Meeting  
Meeting after 8 a.m. Mass  
w/Kolaches & Coffee

**Saturday, June 14, 2025**  
FLAG DAY

**Saturday, June 14, 2025**  
KOLACHE KLOBASE FESTIVAL

**Sunday, June 15, 2025**  
KJT Youth & Teen Camp  
Applications Due!  
Submit to Home Office in La Grange

**Sunday, June 15, 2025, 11 a.m.**  
Ammannsville Church Picnic  
135th Ammannsville Picnic, Golden  
Fried Chicken & Sausage, \$15 Dine In or  
To Go, Live Music, Games, Auction

**Sunday, June 22, 2025, 11 a.m.**  
KJT District VI Family Day  
in Damon;

**Saturday, June 28, 2025, 7 - 11 p.m.**  
125th Anniversary Building Fundraiser

**Sunday, June 29, 2025**  
Parish Feast - Sts. Peter & Paul in Plum  
See notice on p. 20

**Tuesday, July 1, 2025, 7:30 AM**

Society #115 Meeting  
Quarterly meeting beginning with  
7:30 a.m. Mass, followed by 8:30 a.m.  
meeting.

**Sunday, July 13, 2025, 12 p.m.**  
Waco #117 Meeting

Summer meeting honoring high school  
graduates. Cold cuts will be provided;  
members attending are asked to bring  
chips, a side dish and/or dessert to share.  
Guests are welcomed.  
Location: 5515 Sanger Avenue, Waco.

**Sunday, July 20, 2025**  
**11:30 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**KJT State Family Day**  
Annual State Family Day; 11:30 regis-  
tration w/catered meal at noon  
See notice on p. 24

**Thursday, July 24, 2025, 1:30 p.m.**  
Holy Family KJT Society #133 Meeting  
Mtg. in Room #2, Holy Family Catholic  
Church

**Thursday, July 31, 2025**  
2025 Road Trip to the 64th Wilber,  
Nebraska Czech Festival  
Wilber, Nebraska Czech Festival -  
July 31 -August 4, 2025; Discounts for  
KJT, SPJST, KJZT & Sokol Members