



KJT NEWS



The Official Newsletter of the Catholic Union of Texas

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Scripture of the Month

"Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned." (Ps 51:3a)

MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!



CHRISTOPHER L. URBAN
KJT State President

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas season and 2026 has started in good fashion for you. Thank you for your membership in KJT and all that you do on the local society level. If you are a society or district officer, an insurance representative, home office staff or a state director, please accept my gratitude for the time you spend keeping things running smoothly.

Past KJT State Secretary, Mary Jane Oltmann, Will Be Missed

Past KJT State Secretary, Mary Jane Oltmann passed away on December 6, 2025, at the age of 84. Mary Jane began her career with KJT on June 1, 1977, and faithfully served KJT and its members for over 33 years until August 31, 2010, at which time she retired. Mary Jane began her career as a secretary for the Union until March 14, 2002, when she was appointed as KJT State Secretary where she served until retirement. I will always remember Mary Jane for her calm demeanor and her warm, friendly smile. Her full obituary can be found on page 5 of this issue.

44th KJT General Convention

The convention is quickly approaching so I am repeating the following once again for anyone interested in being

a delegate, submitting resolutions for changes to the by-laws, or running for a position on the board.

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.

c. Delegate forms are due to the KJT State Secretary by January 23, 2026.

2. RESOLUTIONS FOR BY-LAW CHANGES

a. Resolutions for chang-

es to the Charter, Constitution, and By-laws must be submitted to the State Secretary on or before February 21, 2026, to be presented at the convention.

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

3. DIRECTOR AND STATE ATTORNEY ELECTIONS AT THE CONVENTION

a. To run for director or state attorney:

i. Must be under age 75 as of December 31 of the convention year.

ii. Must be eligible to serve as a delegate (attend 50% of meetings in 2025) (eligible to serve as a delegate does not apply to the state attorney position)

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

See Urban, page 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Urban: 2026 is Going to Be Busy for KJT

Continued from page 1

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

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

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

The 44th KJT General Convention will be held July 10-11, 2026, at the Embassy Suites by Hilton San Marcos Hotel Spa & Conference Center located at 1001 E McCarty Ln, San Marcos, TX 78666. More details regarding the convention are forthcoming in future issues of the KJT News. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

State Attorney Hundl, Not Seeking Re-election

I have recently been informed by Attorney Hundl that

he is not seeking re-election as State Attorney. Attorney Hundl and I were elected to the board during the 39th KJT General Convention in 2006 in Houston. It has been a pleasure serving on the board with him during the past 20 years. You can see his letter announcing his decision on page 7 of this issue. His knowledge and candor will certainly be missed.

With that said, we are now searching for a new State Attorney to fill this position. The qualifications are similar to those required for State Director (see previous announcement); however, unlike State Director candidates, those running for attorney do not need to meet the eligibility criteria for serving as a delegate. Bylaw 12(c) states, "Any attorney, who is a member of the Union can be a candidate for the State Attorney of the Union."

KJT Memorial Foundation Food Pantry Donations

The KJT Memorial Foundation is an educational and charitable foundation that is administered by the KJT Board of Directors. The Foundation donated another \$14,600 to food pantries throughout the state once again. Food pantry donations for the past three years total \$50,100. These donations have helped provide meals and holiday cheer for many families during the hol-

iday season.

KJT Scholarships

Graduating high school seniors who have been members for at least one year as of March 1, 2026, are eligible to apply for scholarships. \$30,000 has been allocated toward the scholarship program for 2026. The deadline to submit your application for the state scholarship is March 1, 2026. KJT scholarships range from \$1,000 - \$1,800 depending on the applicants' qualifications.

The KJT Memorial Foundation is offering four \$1,000

scholarships to students who will continue their education at a vocational or technical college. The deadline for scholarship applications is March 1, 2026. Applicants must have been a member for at least one year as of the deadline date.

If you have a child or grandchild that will be graduating in 2027, there is still time to get them enrolled into KJT if they are not already a member. You can contact the home office or your local KJT representative for details on how to become a member.

2026 Programs

Most programs have remained largely the same except for what I have mentioned above. Below is a list of important dates to remember with various dates and deadlines of our events throughout the year.

In Closing

May God's blessings be bestowed upon you and your family throughout 2026 and beyond! We look forward to seeing you throughout the state at various events during the year!

2026 IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Month	Day	Event
January	31	Annual Society Report Due
March	1	KJT College Scholarship Forms Due
April	17	6th Annual KJT North Texas Golf Tournament, Ennis
April	30	IRS Form 990-N Due
May	1	KJT Youth & Teen Camp Applications Due
May	2	Join Hands Day
May	31	Catholic School Tuition Grant Entry Forms Due
June	14	Flag Day
June	29	Officer Member Recruitment Application Deadline – 1st Period
June	28	KJT State Family Day
June	28	KJT Youth/Teen Combined Camp Starts, Ends July 2nd
July	1	Seminarian Scholarship Applications Due
July	10	44th KJT Annual Convention, Ends July 11
September	30	KJT Discounted Splashway Season Pass Deadline
October	3	17th Annual KJT Central Texas Golf Tournament, Flatonia
October	17	KJT Annual Tarock Tournament at TCHCC
December	5	Deadline for Statewide Charity Project Donation
December	29	Officer Member Recruitment Application Deadline – 2nd Period

ACTIVITIES MANAGER MESSAGE

Welcome 2026



MICHAEL REZNICEK
KJT Activity Manager

Welcome everybody to the New Year, 2026. Hope everyone had a Merry and Blessed Christmas and a great start to a new year. I am looking forward to another great year with the KJT, all the Societies and members. Reflecting back on 2025, I hope all the society fundraisers, events and festivals yielded a huge success. I commend all those who dedicated all their time and effort to succeed with all these endeavors. It takes a lot to be able to have a successful event.

As the New Year begins to unfold, I am looking forward to the upcoming SDOR meetings. It is always a great pleasure to attend and visit with all the society's officers and members to pass around new ideas and enjoy a great meal. It is also a great time to receive updates on our Fra-

ternal Organization and its growth. Our financials are still strong, but we are always in need of new members. We have so many Fraternal benefits to offer to help encourage others to join this wonderful organization, but it takes everyone to work together and spread the word to bring in new members. To me it is exciting to be a member of a Fraternal that is 136 years old.

In 2026 I am also looking forward to attending all the many upcoming festivals and society events. To add to all the excitement, we have our 44th General Convention coming up in July in San Marcos. I look forward to visiting with as many of our delegates as possible.

In closing I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as State Director Pos.3 and Fraternal Activity Manager.



Hostyn KJT Society #3 Presents Seminarian Kevin Boening with Christmas Gift

This year the Hostyn KJT Society presented a card and monetary Christmas gift to Kevin Boening. Kevin was accepted into the St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee to begin his Priestly Formation. The program lasts about 7 years, with Ordination anticipated in May 2032.

The Hostyn Society wanted to commend him and express their support and appreciation as he takes this journey. Kevin's late grandfather, Hostyn KJT member Arnold Janda, joined KJT in August 1938.

The presentation was made after Mass while Kevin was home visiting with his family during the Christmas holidays. Pictured are Hostyn KJT Officers Treasurer Brenda Fietsam, Vice President Benedict Kallus, and Reporter Dianna Kallus, along with recipient Kevin Boening. Family members in attendance included his mother, Jenifer Boening and grandmother, Helen Janda, among others.

Looking for Insurance Representatives

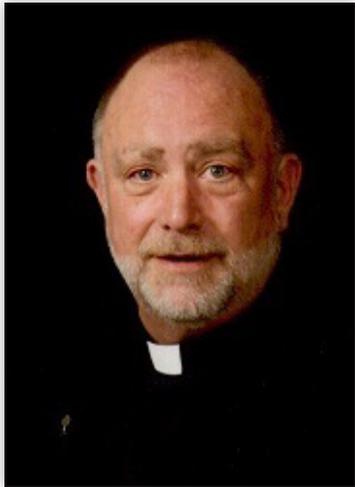


On-Going Training
Schedule Flexibility
Competitive Commission
Fun & Team Oriented Environment

**To learn more, contact David Wagner at the
KJT Home Office 1-800-245-8182 or email us at
insurance@kjtnet.org**

SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

A New Year



*Reverend Robert E. (Bob)
Knippenberg
KJT State Spiritual Director*

“It happened that there was a man full of leprosy in one of the towns where Jesus was; and when he saw Jesus, he fell prostrate, pleaded with Him, and said, ‘Lord, if you wish, you can make me clean.’” (Luke 5:12)

New years often bring with them new lists: lists of resolutions, list of hopes, lists of wishes. Wish lists come with

a variety of items. There are physical wishes such as the longing for good health and a long life; there are psychological wishes in that we yearn for friendships and recognition; and, there are spiritual wishes that would include deep union with God and a sense of peace. Our wish lists are long and diverse.

The fulfillment of our desires is thwarted by illness (leprosy), by rejection, by sin. All of us need cleansing and purification. If we but ask, we can be assured that Jesus is saying to us: “I do will it. Be made clean” (Luke 5:13b). God’s will is that we have fullness of life, indeed, life in abundance (John 10:10).

In order for this cleansing to happen, there are several dispositions needed: humility, courage, and hope. Humility means that we face the truth of our human condition. If we are truly honest, we must admit to the leprosy of our minds and hearts. This

illness takes the form of prejudices and bigotry, hardness of heart and insensitivity. We stand in need of forgiveness and healing. No one is exempt.

This cleansing also demands courage, the courage to change. Transformation is painful as we are stripped of what was for what might be. The unknown causes fear. The grace needed here is trust in the Lord. Our God is a God of life and love. We have nothing to fear.

Hope is a third element on our pilgrim journey. The lexicon of hope includes a deep sense of the possible, realistic expectations, and enthusiasm. When the heart is hopeful, great things can happen.

“Lord Jesus, You will that we be clean and whole. Touch our lives with Your healing forgiveness. Strengthen us to face our leprosy, whatever form it takes. You are the Lord of life and love. Come quickly to our aid.”

THE CZECH HERITAGE SOCIETY OF TEXAS (CHS) ANNOUNCEMENT of SCHOLARSHIPS for 2026

The Czech Heritage Society of Texas is pleased to announce the award of two scholarships, the CHS Victor Peter Memorial Scholarship and the CHS Albert J. Blaha Memorial Scholarship.

Instructions for applying can be found on the CHS Website, <https://czechheritage-texas.org/>. You can also contact Kyle Stuckly, CHS Scholarship Chair, at (817) 925-1673.

Graduating Texas high school seniors in 2026 are eligible. It is not required that applicants be members of CHS, but it can be helpful to the applicant.

Please note the CHS Albert J. Blaha Memorial Scholarship is open to both 2026 graduating Texas seniors and first-year college students with less than 30 post-high school credit hours.

The CHS Victor Peter Memorial Scholarship is a \$500 award to the selected applicant with proof of registration in a program of studies in a college or university prior to receipt of award. All items required for applying must be submitted and postmarked no later than March 6, 2026.

The CHS Albert J. Blaha Memorial Scholarship is a \$5000 award. Proof of registration in a program of studies at a college, university or vocational/technical school is required of the selected applicant prior to disbursement of the award which will be made to the school, not directly to the applicant. All items required for applying must be submitted and postmarked no later than March 6, 2026.

2026 YOUTH CAMP DATES

June 28 – July 2

Mark Your Calendars!

OBITUARY



Oltmann

Mary Jane (Huebel) Oltmann was called home to be with the Lord on December 6, 2025, at the age of 84, just 5 days shy of her 85th birthday. Born on December 11, 1940, in Roznov, Texas, to the late Robert Fred Huebel and Mathilda (Foyt) Huebel, Mary Jane's life was a testament to her unwavering faith and the joy she found in the simple pleasures of life.

Mary Jane's journey through life was marked by her devotion to her family. She shared a beautiful marriage of 65 years with her late husband, Curtis H. Oltmann, Jr., a unification blessed with love, family, and music. They met at one of his dances and it was the beginning of a wonderful life together. They traveled as he played lead guitar with a variety of bands, sharing many moments of companionship. Rarely were they ever seen apart from each other. Together, they

navigated the joys and sorrows of life, including the loss of their infant daughter, Pamela Lynn Oltmann.

She was a loving mother to her son, Craig Edward Oltmann (wife Lisa), and her daughter, Sherry Lynn Pfluger, always supporting their endeavors. Her grandchildren, Hunter Callis, Madison Oltmann, Colt Callis (fiance', Breann), and Kyle Oltmann (wife, Shelbie), and great-grandchildren, Korbyn Oltmann, Laykelyn Callis, Curtis Oltmann III, and Fisher Callis, were the light of her life. Mary Jane's siblings, her late brothers Robert Rudolph Huebel (wife, Verlin) and Clinton Claude Huebel (wife, Dolores), and her late sister Dorothy Mae Huebel Kieke (husband A.J.), along with numerous nieces and nephews, also held a special place in her heart.

A graduate of La Grange High School in 1959, where she was honored as "Most Athletic" her senior year, Mary Jane's spirit of determination and excellence carried through all her endeavors. She served with dedication as a Teacher's Aide at Sacred Heart School and as the KJT State Secretary for many years, touching countless lives with her kindness and wisdom.

She enjoyed spending time outdoors, especially in their garden, picking vegetables or planting flowers. She

was a fixture on the sidelines, watching her grandchildren play sports, and her kitchen was a place of warmth and delight, filled with the aromas of her cooking and baking.

We celebrate the life of Mary Jane Oltmann, a woman of grace and sweet smiles, whose light will forever shine in the lives she touched. Visitation was held at the Koenig-Belvill Funeral Home & Cremations in La Grange on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Family received friends from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. and a Holy Rosary took place at 7:00 p.m. Funeral Services were held on her birthday, Thursday, December 11, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church with burial following in the La Grange City Cemetery. Honored to serve as pallbearers were: Hunter Callis, Colt Callis, Kyle Oltmann, Jay Kieke, Robert Ray Huebel, Bill Powers, Mark Prause and Craig (Tic) Prause.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to JOL Hospice or to Sacred Heart Catholic Church of La Grange.

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Koenig-Belvill Funeral Home & Cremations, 208 W. Pearl St., La Grange, Texas. Family and friends can view and sign the guestbook online at www.lagrangefunerals.com.

West KJT Society #31 November Meeting Minutes

By **GEORGIE NORS, Reporter**

After a breakfast of kolaches and coffee, West Society #31 held a meeting.

President Michael Kraemer called the meeting to order and led the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed everyone.

He then asked Secretary Cathy Kraemer to read the minutes of the October meeting. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Next the attendance prizes were drawn and Emily Pavlas and Robert Nors were the winners.

Then Robert Nors gave the Treasurer's report and Vice President, Sherry Pavlas reported on Correspondence. She reported no one on the sick list.

On Officers reports, Cathy Kraemer reported on the local Food Pantry, which is run by the local KJZT. Our Society donated \$100 and \$400 was received from the Home Office from the Memorial Foundation. Cathy made a motion to add it to the Food Pantry, seconded by Marvin Cepak, Motion carried. There were no other Officers reports.

Under old business, President Kraemer reported on the Youth trip to the Western Belle. It is very impressive and they have lots of stuff for the kids, like Hay rides, Pumpkin and Apple shoots, and lots for the kids to do. Also they have lots of benches and seating for resting.

The Red-C Radio Benefit will be held next week. The Society purchased a table for 8 people. President Kraemer reported we needed to confirm who will be coming.

He also reported on the Society Christmas Party which will be held on Dec. 14 at the Tours Hall with the meetings starting at 11:30 a.m., followed by the meal and program. And Santa and his Elf will be there. A meal of pork loin and sausage, mashed potatoes, green beans and bread will be served. Members are asked to bring a salad or dessert. Also raffle prizes will be welcomed. A motion was made by Robert Nors and seconded by Don Urbanovsky to have a ham donated by the society for a raffle prize. Motion carried.

Under new business: the KJT Convention paperwork has been received. The Convention will be in San Marcos on July 9-12, 2026. We are allowed 10 delegates and 10 alternates. Delegates must have attended 50% of meetings in 2025.

President Kraemer reported that a draft calendar for 2026 is available for the members. He also asked for any suggestions for events that will attract more members to the meetings.

Raffle prizes were drawn and Sherry Pavlas and Ervin Laubert were the winners.

A motion was made and seconded to close the meeting. Members were again reminded of the December Christmas Party at Tours Hall with a meeting starting at 11:30 a.m. Ervin Laubert led the closing prayer.

KJT MAKES DONATIONS

Hostyn KJT Society #3 Donates to 3 Local Schools

The Hostyn KJT Society #3 donated \$200 each to 3 local Catholic Schools. The students are active members of the Hostyn KJT Society.



ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL, WEIMAR
(L-R) Fr. Chase Goodman, Faith Vavra (6th grade), Hannah Conners (5th grade), James Conners (4th grade), Alex Conners (PreK-4) and KJT Secretary Joyce Muras, Grandmother to Hannah, James & Alex.



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL, LA GRANGE
(L-R): KJT Treasurer Brenda Fietsam (Aunt), Krislee Kallus (6th grade), and Sacred Heart Principal Karissa Kleiber.



ST. ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC SCHOOL, SCHULENBURG
(L-R): Principal Taylor Jensen, Brielle Goedrich (6th grade), Luke Goedrich (7th grade), and Grandparents KJT Vice President Benedict Kallus and KJT Reporter Dianna Kallus.

Hostyn KJT Society #3 Donates to Local Organizations

Hostyn KJT Society #3 Officers presented Christmas donations to the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department, AMEN and Deputy Santa.



KJT Treasurer Brenda Fietsam, La Grange Fire Chief Frank Menefee, KJT Secretary Joyce Muras, and KJT Vice-President Benedict Kallus.



Wren Downey -Volunteer and Susan Schultz-AMEN Vice President, along with KJT Treasurer Brenda Fietsam.



KJT Treasurer Brenda Fietsam, Sergeant Charles Jobb, KJT Reporter Dianna Kallus, CIT Investigator Jeremy Castleberry, Lieutenant David Beyer, KJT Vice President Benedict Kallus, Reindeer "Sven", Deputy David Smith, Investigator Ken Kretz, and KJT Secretary Joyce Muras.

LEGAL CORNER

Honored to Have Served



Philip J. Hundl
KJT State Attorney

For the past two decades, I have had the privilege and honor of serving the Catholic Union of Texas, the KJT, as its State Attorney. This role has been one of the highlights of my legal career both professionally and personally, it has allowed me to develop many friendships and reconnect with relatives through our shared admiration of The KJT, our history and culture.

As we approach our 2026 convention, I reflect on what we've achieved together. Over the past twenty years, I am incredibly proud of the accomplishments of the members, officers and board of directors all of which contribute to The KJT continuing to thrive. We have modernized our bylaws, constitution and procedures, ensuring that the

KJT remains both respectful of tradition and aligned with the needs of the future. Additionally, through the board's and officers' careful management, we've strengthened the KJT's financial position—our surplus has grown, and the KJT is stronger than ever.

With that in mind, I wish to share a personal decision: I have chosen not to seek another term as State Attorney. The KJT is in a very good spot and I will assist in any way I can to make this a smooth transition. We have received interest from a very experienced State Attorney candidate and I'm confident The KJT will not miss a beat. This is a decision I make with a heart full of gratitude and confidence in our leadership moving forward.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the golf tournaments, family days, district officer meetings, member appreciations, board meetings, conventions (casino night/dances), attempting to learn Czech and Tarok, kolache eating contests, and videoing member memories at the last convention.

It has been an honor to serve this community, and I look forward to continuing to support the KJT in new ways as we step into the future together. See you at the convention! Koupím ti pivo!

6TH ANNUAL NORTH TEXAS KJT CHARITY GOLF SCRAMBLE

WHEN

Friday April 17, 2026
8:30 am Shotgun Start



WHERE

Old Brickyard Golf Course
605 North Interstate 45; Ferris, Texas 75125

TEAMS

\$100 per person/\$400 per team

Fees include: Golf, Lunch (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

**THE WARRIOR'S
REFUGE**

**Net proceeds of the tournament will be matched (up to \$2,500)
by the KJT Home Office and donated to The Warrior's Refuge.**

SPONSORSHIPS NEEDED

PLATINUM SPONSOR -\$900

- 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-\$500

- 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-\$250

- Advertising at registration & awards presentation
- Two hole sponsorship

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

- Company sign at hole

STATE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Correct Beneficiary Designations Are Extremely Important



Kevin D. Kana
KJT State Secretary/Treasurer

As we finish putting away the Christmas decorations, we begin to turn our attention to getting all of our documents together for tax season. The beginning of the new year is also a good time to make sure your beneficiary designations are correct for your financial assets. Many different changes in life can affect your beneficiary designations such as death of a loved one, marriage, divorce, and birth of a child. Have any of these happened to you in the past year? If so, you may need to update your beneficiary designation.

Most people designate their spouse as their primary beneficiary or if their spouse is already deceased, they will probably list their children. We are regularly asked if more than one beneficiary may be listed. Yes, you can absolutely name more than

one beneficiary. When a death claim is processed, the death benefit is paid equally among the stated beneficiaries.

There are different levels of beneficiaries. There is the primary beneficiary(ies) and you may also have contingent beneficiaries. The primary beneficiary is exactly what it says. Valid primary beneficiaries are paid the death benefit. Contingent beneficiaries can be thought of as a "plan b" just in case the primary beneficiary is already deceased at the time a death claim is paid. Keep in mind that contingent beneficiaries are only paid if and only if all valid primary beneficiaries pre-decease the insured. All policies must have at least a primary beneficiary, but a contingent beneficiary designation is not required, although it can certainly be helpful. What happens if a primary beneficiary is already deceased at the time a death claim is being made and there are no other primary or contingent beneficiaries named?

Unfortunately, as you would probably expect, this can cause a problem and will slow down payment of the death claim. If there are no valid primary or contingent beneficiaries, then KJT by-laws state that the deceased

insured's estate now becomes the beneficiary of the policy. This will require extra paperwork as we will then need the insured's PROBATED will and/or Letters Testamentary naming the executor of his/her estate. It can take several months for that to be finalized by the court. Needless to say, it is much better to make sure your beneficiary designations are always up to date so that surviving loved ones will not have to go through the extra hassle and headaches.

Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas Annual Meeting

The Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas / CCFT will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, February 14 in Dubina. Mass will be celebrated at St. Cyril and Methodius Church in Dubina at 10:30 a.m. followed by a cover dish lunch and annual meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting and meal. This is a great opportunity to learn about the foundations mission, and there will also be a question-and-answer section for anybody interested and wanting to learn more about the Czech Catholic Foundation of Texas. If you are attending, please bring a covered dish for the meal.



KJT State Scholarship

KJT State Scholarship applications are available online at www.kjt.net.org or by contacting the home office at (979) 968-5877.

The KJT will be awarding \$30,000 in scholarships in 2026. The scholarships will range from \$1,000-\$1,800 each to the most qualified KJT members enrolling in an institution of higher learning or vocational trade school. If any scholarship winner enrolls in a Catholic institution, the scholarship award is doubled.

The KJT Memorial Foundation, our charitable, educational, and non-profit organization, will offer four scholarships of \$1,000 each. These scholarships will be awarded to members attending a vocational or technical school regardless of his/her ranking.

Applicants must be a KJT insured member for one year prior to March 1. Deadline for all applications is March 1, 2026.

IN MEMORIAM

NOTICES OF NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2025

Robert Zrubek, 84
Granger #28
9/9/25

Alois C. Janak, 84
Victoria #115
10/29/25

Ludmilla Cowan, 70
Yoakum #13
11/22/25

Dennis D. Pospisil, 63
Austin #63
10/2/25

Sandra Henneke, 76
Wied #43
11/1/25

David R. Ayres, 90
Dallas #111
11/20/25

David J. Tajchman, 82
Corpus Christi #72
10/3/25

James Sofka, 76
Shiner #20
10/31/25

Mildred Zapalac, 86
Bryan #14
11/12/25

Daniel D. Novy, 82
Ennis #35
10/7/25

Henry D. Martinka, 94
Granger #28
10/10/25

David J. Mlcak, 73
Frydek #29
11/30/25

Edmund F. Klepac, 92
Poth #81
10/19/25

Ludvik B. Novak, 93
Needville #49
11/28/25

Don E. Wilks, 68
Granger #28
10/22/25

Leroy A. Canik, 90
Fayetteville #9
10/19/25

Dan Berto, 81
Georgetown #141
11/7/25

Jacob Warschak, 28
Fayetteville #9
11/19/25

Rudolph A. Tepera, 88
Marak #39
10/3/25

Anton F. Peterson, 90
Dallas #111
11/19/25

Larry D. Hernandez, 69
La Grange #46
11/19/25

Wesley J. Lanicek, 89
Ennis #35
10/12/25

Mildred Chovanec, 92
Hillje #48
11/14/25

Joseph R. Fojtik, 91
Corn Hill #55
11/21/25

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 PRODUCER



Schlottman Claims Heavy Hitter Award in 2025

The Heavy Hitter Award is an incentive program that measures a sales representative's production based on adjusted annualized premium and the number of applications submitted. The award recognizes representatives who demonstrate both strong premium production and consistent application activity throughout the year.

The program includes four

designations: Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze.

We are pleased to announce that Tanner Schlottman achieved the Heavy Hitter Award at the Silver level in 2025.

Congratulations to Mr. Schlottman on this accomplishment, and we look forward to continued success in 2026.

2026 Life Premium Challenge

At the beginning of 2025, each KJT agent was challenged to write \$3,000 in Life premium for the year. The KJT Home Office is pleased to recognize Tanner Schlottman, KJT Society #35 Agent, who rose to the challenge and submitted at least \$3,000 in

Life premium.

We congratulate Mr. Schlottman on achieving this goal and thank him for his efforts and commitment.

In 2026, we will once again challenge our agents to reach the \$3,000 Life Premium mark.

Schlottman Returns to #1 in 2025

With another year complete, we congratulate our 2025 Star Award winners and look forward to honoring them at our upcoming 2026 SDOR meetings.

On behalf of the KJT, we extend our warmest congratulations to Tanner Schlottman, who earned the number one Star Award spot for 2025. Tanner finished the year with 10.5 new insurance members, 11 issued applications, and 845.85 Star Award tracker points. This marks his eighth time on the KJT Stars Award board and his second time claiming the number one position.

In addition to finishing first in the Star Award standings, Tanner also qualified for the Heavy Hitter Award (Silver Level), the 3000 Club Incentive, and multiple other incentives throughout the year. He has done an excel-

lent job representing KJT Society #35 in Ennis and the KJT as a whole. We look forward to what Tanner will accomplish in 2026 and beyond. Congratulations to Mr. Schlottman for being the best of the best.

Earning second place in the 2025 Star Awards was Margaret Holik of Society #48 in Hillje. This is Margaret's seventh time on the Stars Award list. In 2025, she accounted for 8.5 new members, 11 issued applications, and 469.86 Star Award tracker points. We congratulate Mrs. Holik on another extraordinary year.

Completing the top three Star Award recipients, Ellen Zdansky of Society #72 in Corpus Christi earned third place. This is Ellen's thirteenth year as a Star Award qualifier. She accounted for 5 new members, 5 issued

insurance applications, and 385.12 Star Award tracker points. Congratulations to Ellen on another great year.

Rounding out the 2025 Star Award winners are fourth place, Holly Pavlas of Society #31 in West, a first-time winner; fifth place, Thomas Arellano of Society #141 in Georgetown, a second-time winner; and sixth place, Shirley Pokorney of Society #132 in Pflugerville, a fourth-time winner.

We are very proud of the efforts our Stars put forth in 2025. This year, our Stars recorded another strong year of Star Tracker points, and without their dedication and efforts, our goals would have been difficult to achieve. Congratulations to all of our award winners, and we look forward to seeing who will take the top honor in 2026.

**Consecutive
App-A-Month Producer**

**Donald Dusek
Shirley Pokorney
Tanner Schlottman
Thomas Prasifka**

**Consecutive New
Member-A-Month
Producer**

**Donald Dusek
Tanner Schlottman
Thomas Prasifka**

KJT IN ACTION

Society #4 Makes Donations

Ammannsville KJT Society 4 recently donated to three local area food banks. Money from The KJT Memorial Foundation and KJT Society #4 was used.



Schulenburg Area Food Pantry Donation
Representing Ammannsville KJT Society 4 were (from left) Michael Bartosh, treasurer, Carly Divin, vice president, and John Kana, president. Accepting the checks on behalf of the SAFP were (continuing from left) Debra Blansitt, president; Coleen McGill, Colleen Seyl and Gerald Smith all Pantry volunteers.



La Grange AMEN Donation
AMEN volunteer Mary Lou McElroy, KJT treasurer Michael Bartosh, AMEN vice president and volunteer Susan Schultz, KJT president John Kana



Weimar FFA WeCAN Food Pantry
Members of the Weimar FFA and representatives of the Ammannsville KJT Society are pictured: front, from left, Kim Rubio, FFA Treasurer; J'Len Conn, Leslie Jimenez, Carly Divin, KJT #4 vice president; Michael Bartosh, KJT #4 treasurer; John Kana, KJT #4 president; Ruby Alamilla, FFA Vice-President; Brooke Ohnheiser, Paityn Hudce, and Zowie Lee, FFA Secretary.

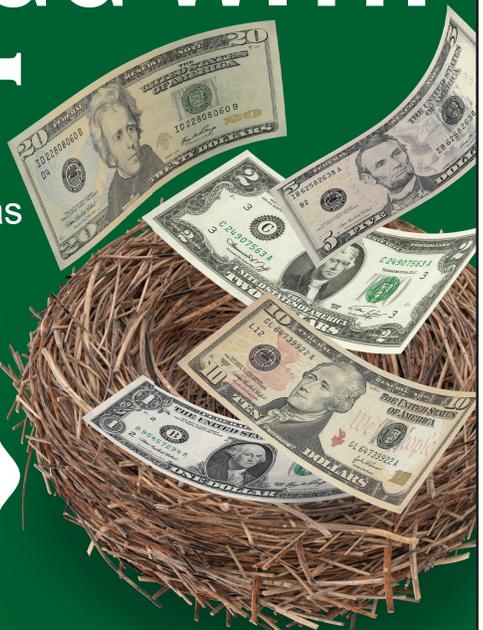
GROW YOUR NEST EGG WITH KJT

Catholic Union of Texas



EARN UP TO

5.25 %



Effective January 1, 2026 : NEW INTEREST RATES
on All NEW Kapital Accounts
IRA and Roth IRA Accounts
Flexible Premium Deferred Annuity (FPDA),

Deposit Balance	Kapital Account 7 ⁺ , FPDA 8 ⁺ , IRA 7 ⁺ , & Roth IRA 7 ⁺
\$250 ^{***} - \$9,999	4.50%
\$10,000 - \$99,999	4.75%
\$100,000 - \$249,999	5.00%
\$250,000 - Up	5.25%

*Includes 1.00% First Year Only Additional Interest
***Requires Additional Deposits
+Accounts have a 2.55% Guaranteed Rate
Interest Rates are subject to change without notice.



KJT IN ACTION

KJT Society # 115 Makes Multiple Donations



Victoria KJT Society #115 contributed to Our Lady of Victory Emmaus Center to sponsor a televised Mass for the KJT living and deceased members. In the photo are Donald B. Dusek, society president/agent, The Very Rev. Kirby Hlavaty, OLV rector/ pastor, and Joseph B. Pustka, society treasurer.



On January 7, Victoria KJT Society # 115 donated to Midcoast Family Services, a non-profit, in Victoria. Pictured: Ginny Stafford, Community Engagement Coordinator, Tracy Aguilar, COO, Joseph B. Pustka, society treasurer, Donald B. Dusek, society president/agent, and Michael Nevlud, society vice-president.



Victoria KJT Society #115 recently presented their donation to the KJT Religious Retirement Fund. In the photo are Joseph B. Pustka, society treasurer; Margaret Holik, State KJT Director; Donald B. Dusek, society president/agent; Robert Stryk, society secretary and Michael Nevlud, society vice president.

Society #117 Gathers Donations



Society #117 closed out 2025 with a wonderful Christmas luncheon. Members gathered their donated items for their community and Youth projects, The Shepherd's Heart and Fuzzy Friends Animal Rescue.

President Frankie Muehlstein brings The Shepherd's Heart a check from KJT Catholic Union, and Secretary Janet Skopik delivers over 65 pounds of nonperishable food items to the Pantry's distribution department.



Victoria Society #115 donated to the Order of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in Victoria; funds will be used for medical needs and sisters in training.



The State KJT and the Victoria KJT Society #115 made donations to the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent in Victoria, Texas. Pictured: Joseph B. Pustka, society treasurer; Robert Stryk, society secretary; Robin Cadle, president and CEO of the Food Bank and Donald B. Dusek, society president/agent.

KJT IN ACTION

#13 Donates to Food Pantry



KJT Home Office, based in La Grange, recently donated to the Yoakum Food Pantry. L-R: KJT Society #13 President Anthony Harper, Food Pantry Director Carolyn Strong, and KJT Society #13 Treasurer Robert Hybner.

KJT #13 Donates to Priests and Religious Retirement Fund



KJT Society #13 donated a \$1,000 check to the Priests and Religious Retirement Fund and Seminarian Education Fund on December 7th. Proceeds were attained from the recent KJT Society #13, "No Bake Sale."

Pictured here are KJT Home Office, Vice President David Wagner, and KJT Society #13 President Anthony Harper

Society #84 Bake Sale Fundraiser and Grant Presentation

Society #84 in El Campo held a benefit bake sale fundraiser on Saturday and Sunday, November 22/23 after masses in front of St. Phillips Church. The bake sale benefitted the KJT Priest & Religious Retirement Fund and the St. Phillips Catholic School. Members donated various home baked items including cheese rolls, poppyseed rolls, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, cakes, cobblers, strudels, pies as well as monetary donations. Our thanks to the parishioners of St. Phillips as well as members of Society #84 for making this bake sale project a huge success! We will use the money earned along with the matching grant program to donate to St. Phillips Catholic School.

The Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT, along with KJT Society #84 of El Campo made a presentation to St. Phillips Catholic School in El Campo in the amount of \$2,000. The money was funded by the State KJT matching grant programs and the El Campo KJT. A bake sale was held in November to raise money to donate to the school; this money will be used for funding the school's growing computer programs.

On hand to make the presentation were officers of El Campo Society #84, President Robert Leopold, Secretary/Treasurer Leonard Leopold with St. Phillip's Pastor Dalton Ervin & St. Phillip's School Principal Kathy Jahn accepting the donation on behalf of the school.



Pictured here are Society #84 Officers Leonard Leopold, Robert Leopold, St. Philip School Principal Kathy Jahn and Father Dalton Ervin, Pastor at St. Phillip Church

KJT #112 Christmas Celebration with KJZT #93



Austin KJT #112 and KJZT #93 held their Christmas party at St. Louis Church Hall. We had a catered meal by Pok-e Joe's barbecue and members furnished desserts. Everybody enjoyed their afternoon.



The August Motloch III family



The Rodney Zurovetz family

#28 Granger Makes Food Pantry Donation



The KJT home office made funds available from the KJT Memorial Foundation to society food pantries. Ask and you shall receive. Granger KJT #28 presented a \$400 check to the Granger Community Food Pantry.

ADDRESSES NEEDED

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. We appreciate your help on this matter!

Society #9

Steven Charles Chovanec

Society #16

Edward J. Jurek

Society #20

Ted Wagner

Society #28

Chandra Jo Hamende

Society #31

Jason Ryan Brock

Society #43

Brandon W. Janak

Society #48

Deborah Kay Bernhard

Craig A. Saha

Society #55

Thomas D. Lockhart, II

Society #63

Harley V. Alloway, Jr.

Society #71

Alvin J. Svoboda

Society #72

Darrell James Bohuslav

Monica M. Jackson

Society #79

Florian L. Kalmus

Society #81

Mark W. Ender

Society #84

Jerome D. Krenek

Society #90

Richard L. Triska

Society #102

Tommie L. Urbanczyk

KJT ACTIVITIES



Meals on Wheels Donation

Hostyn KJT Society #3 presented two donations to the Meals on Wheels Rural Capital Area in La Grange. The Hostyn Society gave \$100 and an additional \$400 came from a KJT Memorial Fund grant. (L to R): Treasurer Brenda Fietsam; Secretary Joyce Muras; Jennifer Burrow, Meals on Wheels Site Manager; and Reporter Dianna Kallus.

St. Stephen's KJT #112 Austin December Meeting Minutes

By SARAH VITEK, Reporter

The meeting of St. Stephen's KJT #112 was held on Tuesday, December 9, 2025 at Ted and Sarah Vitek's home.

A thank you card was received from the Texas Czech Heritage and Cultural Center in La Grange for our society's donation that was presented at the Muziky, Muziky on October 18. President John Bartos was very appreciative and thanked the society for the very generous donation. It will help with the expansion of the facility that is anticipated.

Our society made a donation to the Cesky Vecer, which was held in Corn Hill. This gave us exposure in the program as well as recognition at the event. This is an annual event sponsored by the Austin Czech Historical Association.

A Mass for our deceased members as well as KJZT #93 was held in conjunction with the Christmas party. A delicious meal with entertainment and Santa and Mrs. Claus made for a fun evening for all.

All the present officers were re-elected by acclamation. They are Louri O'Leary as President, Annie Hyzak as Vice-President, Chris Macik as Secretary and Kenneth Klanika as

Treasurer. Also, Sarah Vitek will continue as Reporter.

The election of delegates and alternate for the convention on July 9-12 was conducted.

The donations to the Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society and the St. Louise Food Pantry were made with each recipient being extremely thankful for this support.

Our society will again be a sponsor for the annual CROP WALK in Austin that will be held on March 1 at Camp Mabry.

The President appointed the Audit Committee which consists of Ted Vitek, Sarah Vitek and Susan Zurovetz and the Budget and Finance Committee consists of Darlene Vitek, Chris Macik and another member to be selected. Both committees will give their report at the February meeting.

The next society meeting will be on FEBRUARY 10, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at Pok-e-Jo's. The rest of the meetings dates for 2026 are May 12, September 8 and December 8.

In lieu of the original raffle, the statewide charities winners were Barbara Janecek, Ted and Sarah Vitek and Darlene Vitek.

A delicious pot-luck was enjoyed by all.



Traveling Nativity

The annual Traveling Nativity was presented to Karen Kulcek by Harvey and Linda Koudelka, last year's recipient at the St Mikulas social.

KJT DISTRICT 7 Meeting & Family Day

Date: Sunday February 8, 2026

Time: Registration at 11:00 am

Location: KC Columbus Club Hall
Bay City, TX

Czech Music
Catered Meal
Memorial Service
Business Meeting
Children's Activity
Silent Auction
Door prizes

****This necessitates an RSVP to Vincent Nemecek by January 31, 2026****

Call 979-541-5177 or email vcnemecek@sbcglobal.net

Please Join Us!
We look forward to visiting with you!

MEMBERSHIP

25-Year Membership January/February 2026

Society #3, Hostyn
Theresa Ann Pavlica
Michael Lee Pavlica

Society #4, Ammannsville
Joshua Nathaniel Cervantez
Krista Leigh Holub
Ryan Tyler Holub

Society #9, Fayetteville
Jamielyn Marie Warren
Jeremy Joseph Muske

Society #13, Yoakum
Dorothea Cherie Harper

Society #14, Bryan
Leanne Nicole Marek

Society #29, Frydek
Thomas Joseph Mock

Society #31, West
Tim W. Russell
Bethany N. Kazda
Kyle R. Langford

Society #35, Ennis
Melissa Ann Spaniel
Brandy Renee King
Devon Michael Spaniel

Society #40, East Bernard
Taylor Ryan Buxkemper

Society #46, La Grange
Nicholas C. Matocha

Society #72, Corpus Christi
Tina Leann Cuellar

Society #80, Sealy
Sarah Marie Kulhanek

Society #87, Jourdanton
Meadow Marie Netardus

Society #100, Caldwell
Susan Lynn Beran

Society #101, Danbury
Kevin R. Jurek

Society #111, Dallas
Lainey Katherine Valenta
Collin Paul Valenta
Sean Terry Valenta

Society #112, Austin
Christian Anders Larson
Steve Anthony Larson
Taylor Lauren Repa
Kate Mackenzie Repa

Society #115, Victoria
Martha Migl

Society #119, La Marque
Dylan Timothy Alexander

Society #126, New Braunfels
Deborah J. Richmond

Society #132, Pflugerville
Rev. Tom V. Frank

Society #134, Round Rock
Ronald F. Norwood, Jr.

Society #139, Bay City
Christopher Conlan

MEMBERSHIP

50-Year Membership January/February 2026

Society #4, Ammannsville
Steven S. Cernosek

Society #23, Plum
Bradley J. Prihoda

Society #31, West
Curt A. Veselka
David C. Filer
Robert E. Marak
David W. Kallus
Darrin P. Banik

Society #34, Nada
Allen E. Eggemeyer
Jason P. Eggemeyer

Society #35, Ennis
Danny E. Strunc
Glen D. Wilson
Daniel W. Tenney, Jr.
Chad W. Parma
Michael W. Ritchey

Society #40, East Bernard
Stephan D. Naiser
Chad W. Poston

Society #43, Wied
Randall P. Janak

Society #49, Needville
Joe J. Kovar, III

Society #50, Penelope
Pete Dudik

Society #55, Corn Hill
Darren P. Lefner
Randy J. Havelka

Society #68, Weimar
Wayne Allen Machalke

Society #71, Ganado
Russell J. Johnson

Society #80, Sealy
Patrick J. Frnka
Todd A. Ashorn

Society #84, El Campo
Philip R. Leopold

Society #111, Dallas
Johnny M. Divin
Stephen J. Divin

Society #119, La Marque
Brian S. Janacek

75-Year Membership January/February 2026

Society #3, Hostyn
Stephen F. Janda
Thomas J. Svec

Society #27, Taylor
Larry A. Cernosek
Johnnie L. Mekolik

Society #28, Granger
Robert J. Klepac
John G. Pavelka

Society #31, West
William C. Pustejovsky

Society #35, Ennis
Anthony R. Vitovsky

Society #43, Wied
Alphonse A. Jansky
Robert J. Matula
Benedict A. Svetlik

Society #48, Hillje
Philip A. Huvar
Patrick A. Skrovan

Society #49, Needville
Kenneth E. Raska

Society #54, Fort Worth
Robert Becan, Jr.

Society #60, Tours
Wilbert J. Vrba

Society #72, Corpus Christi
Stephan P. Havelka
Alfred D. Horak
Gabriel E. Kaspar

Society #81, Poth
Robert D. Polasek
Lawrence L. Jansky

Society #84, El Campo
Michael John Nemeck

Society #90, Rosenberg
Darlic H. Hundl
Raymond J. Sykowski

Society #121, Katy-Spring
Branch
John L. Maresh

KJT IN ACTION

Society #35 Has Social & Officer Election

Happy New Year to you all! In December we had our annual Christmas party after our meeting and election of officers. We are happy to welcome Kyle Liska as our new Vice President. He will be replacing Ashley Holland who stepped down after many years of service. I am sorry to see Ashley move on and am thankful for his help throughout

the years. At the party Santa and Mrs. Claus made an appearance for all the kids and everyone enjoyed an afternoon of fun, food and refreshments. We are excited for 2026, and all the activities going on at our hall and hope to see you soon. Come visit us throughout the week in the club room to catch up with old friends and make some new memories.

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 member meetings. Until next time, have a good day and stay safe. Also remember to contact Tanner Schlottman to get your kids and grandkids enrolled into the KJT.



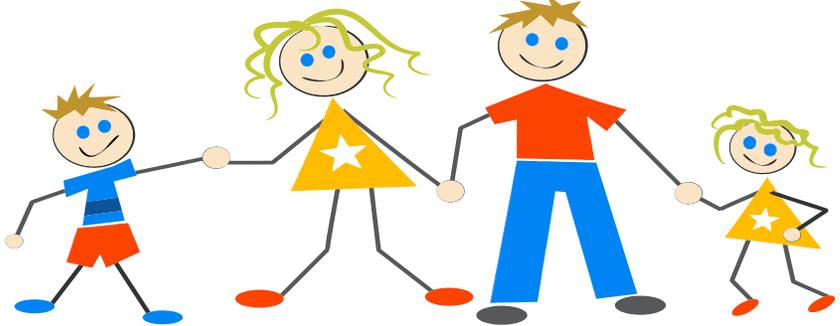


KJT
Catholic Union of Texas

District V
Family Day 2026

When: Sunday March 22, 2026
Where: Leonard and Deloris Dlabaj Farm
328 Zmolek Road Ennis Texas





Kids under 18 Be sure to bring your art project for a special prize

Registration 10AM
Games 11 – 2 PM
Awards and District Mtg to follow

Society #12 Community Project Continues



Frenstat KJT Society #12 gathered for their annual community project; next year will mark their 30th year in cleaning up FM 2774 in front of Frenstat Holy Rosary Church. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

75-YEAR PINS PRESENTED

John J. Grigar III



KJT Society No. 40 of East Bernard awards a pin to John J. Grigar, III in recognition of his 75-year membership.

Pictured here are State Director Michael Reznick, John J. Grigar, III, Angeline Grigar (101-year-old mother of John), Society #30 President Edwin C. Marik

Ben Kaspar



State Director Cynthia Nemecek is shown presenting the 75 year pin to Ben Kaspar at the Bay City Society #139 meeting on December 8, 2025. Margaret Holik, state director, and Michael Reznick, state director and fraternal activity director were also present for the presentation. Congratulations Ben on achieving this milestone.

Vincent Nemecek



State Director Cynthia Nemecek is shown presenting the 75-year pin to Vincent Nemecek at the Bay City Society #139 meeting on December 8, 2025. Margaret Holik, state director, and Michael Reznick, state director and fraternal activity director were also present for the presentation. Congratulations Vince on achieving this milestone.

Society #80 Helps Those in Need

Making a difference in the Sealy community, the KJT Society #80 delivered numerous boxes of Kleenex to three (3) caregiving facilities in the area. This is an annual society event to help those individuals needing some care.

Making Deliveries: Rita Patek, Fred Patek, Steven Kutra and Louis Hajdik .



KJT Society #55 Makes Donations



KJT Society #55 Corn Hill sponsored its annual food drive for the Jarrell Community Food Pantry. The society collected approximately 1,200 pounds of food and \$400, donated by the parishioners of Holy Trinity Catholic Church in December. Pictured are (l-r) Janet Havelka, President John Valenta, Vice President John Danek, Jenna Danek, Chaplain Fr. Stephen Nestrsta, Helen Havelka and Teresa Nemecek.



KJT Society #55 Corn Hill President John Valenta (left) and Vice President John Danek (right) present the KJT Memorial Foundation grant to Dianne Johns from the Jarrell Community Food Pantry. The pantry serves families in the surrounding area with much needed food, especially during the holiday season.

KJT CHRISTMAS PARTIES

KJT #40 and KJZT #30 Hold Joint Christmas Party



KJT Society No. 40 and KJZT St. Anne Society No. 30 of East Bernard held their annual Christmas party on Tuesday, December 16, 2025. Members and guests donated non-perishable items that were given to the “Giving Tree” sponsored by Catholic Daughter Court No. 1108 and Holy Cross Church in East Bernard.

Attending the party, shown in photo left to right were KJZT State Director Kathy Wishert, KJZT Society Treasurer Donna Vacek, KJZT President Angeline Grigar, KJZT Secretary Julia Kubes, KJT Secretary Mark Dujka, KJT Vice President Sandy Logan, KJT President Edwin C. Marik and State KJT Director Michael Reznicek.

KJT Societies #121, #56 and KJZT #114 Have Joint Christmas Party

On December 07, 2025, our KJT Societies #121, #56, and KJZT #114 joined together for their Christmas celebration. We had a nice turnout, and a great time was had by all.

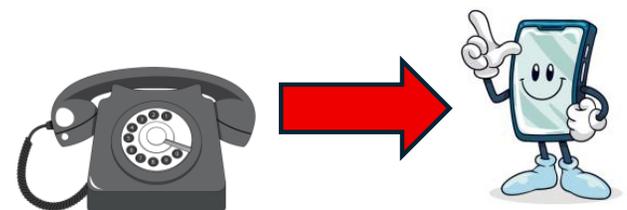


Hillje KJT Society #48 Has Christmas Social

Hillje KJT #48 held their Christmas Social and meeting on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at the St. Andrews Parish hall. Family, food, and fun!



Be sure we have a **valid cell number** on file for you!
You may have cancelled your land line or moved and we need a way to reach you.
Thank you!



KJT HAPPENINGS

KJT #134 Has Christmas Celebration

The KJT meeting took place at St. William Knight of Columbus Pavillion (Round Rock) on Dec. 5, 2025. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m.

Catered meal of pork loin, sausage, butter potatoes, green beans, lettuce salad, rolls and tea was brought by Chris Kelm catering.

At 7 p.m., Monsignor Luis Pavlicek presides the blessing for the meal.

At 8 p.m., Tina officiates the opening of the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

- Treasury report for December 5, 2025 was read by Janie. Motion was approved by Belinda Lively and second it by Gabriele Miller. All those in favor say "aye."

- Meeting minutes from September 12, 2025, was read by Tina. Motion was approved by Emily Risinger and second it by JJ Lively. All those in favor say "aye."

KJT134 election of 2026 officers on December 5, 2025:

1. Emily Risinger was elected by acclamation as a Vice President of KJT 134. Motion was accepted by Erin Risinger and Belinda Lively.

2. Official 2026 officers are Tina Risinger as President, Emily Risinger as Vice President, Janie Zbranek as Treasury, and Felix Leonardi as secretary.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Priest retirement and Door prize were drawn.

Less and Gabriele Miller led the Christmas carol

Merry Christmas,

Felix Leonardi - Secretary KJT 134,

St. William Catholic Church, Round Rock, TX 78681



Society #134 Officers Elected

St. William KJT #134 Round Rock 2026 Officers Msgr. Fr. Louis Pavlicek, Spiritual Leader; Janie Zbranek, Treasurer; Tina Risinger, President; Emily Risinger, Vice President; Felix Leonardi, Secretary

**March
News
Deadline:
Tuesday,
March 10
10 a.m.**

**Save the
Date
District 6
Family Day/
Meet & Eat
June 14,
2026
Sealy, Texas**

KJT Ennis Society #35 Members Meeting schedule 2026

January 4, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm
March 1, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm
May 3, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm
July 3, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm
September 6, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm
December 6, 2026	Sunday at 1:30 pm

Journeys of Faith with Ceci
**A Marian Pilgrimage to
 Lourdes & Fatima**
Including Avila and Lisbon
 with Fr. Bob Knippenberg

**11 Days
 October 6-16, 2026**

For More Information Contact:
 Ceci Triska - email: ceci.triska@gmail.com
 979-332-7651 Please leave message
 Select International Tours
 800-542-4542 mirela@select-intl.com
 selectinternationaltours.com





MEMORIAL SERVICE

KJT Society # 40 and KJZT Society # 30 Hold Memorial Service

KJT St. Wenceslaus Society No. 40 and KJZT St. Anne Society No. 30 of East Bernard, Texas held their 22nd annual Memorial Service on Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025, with Chaplain Very Reverend Charles E. Otsiwah, E. V. presiding. Prior to the service Tim and Laura Faltysek led the rosary. Society Members served as greeters, altar servers, lectors, gift presenters, Eucharistic ministers, and music ministry. A special table with candles represented each deceased member for the past 5 years and two large candles represented all deceased members from the two societies.

KJT Society President Edwin C. Marik and KJZT Society Secretary Julia Kubes read the names of each deceased member as a candle was lit by a family member or representative.

Following the service a reception was held at Riverside Hall where a meal consisting of chicken spaghetti and mixed vegetables was served.

Homemade desserts were available to enjoy.

Special guests were KJT State Director Margaret Holik and KJT State Director Michael Reznicek. Door prizes completed the evening.

Deceased KJT members honored were Lee Hillmann, Jr., Bennie Kubicek, Jerome Kucera, Larry Minks, Agnes Minks, John B. Vanek, Patricia Kolafa, Gene Bartosh, Syl Hlavinka, Albert Smaistrila, Joseph S. Kramr, Jack Hlavinka, John H. Viktorin, Stanley Dusek, Theresa Polasek, Elizabeth Macha, Joshua Austin, Edward Kopecky, Rev. Donald Ruppert, John Kramr, Alphonse David, Jr., Vaclav J. Novak, Cynthia L. Kubicek Leo C. Kolafa, Delbert Sliva, Paul T. Hlavinka, Marvin E. Adamek, Frank Charles Prazak, Charles P. Muras, Ann M. Kramr, Sylvester F. Dusek, Frank L. Buxkemper, Victor F. Hlavinka, Kelly Beseda Macha, Maureen R. Wolter, Tammy M. Bailey, Richard A. Vacek, Raymond J. Marek, Thomas

J. Bilicek, Jesse J. Tovar, John T. Kopecky, Charles J. Hlavinka, Calvin D. Hillmann, Frank A. Kramr, Cecilia M. Banse, Frank A. Polak, Roman A. Sliva, Vernice Janis.

Deceased KJZT members honored were Anna Marie Melnar, Delores Koenig, Sylvia Preisler, Agnes Minks, Beatrice Fojtik, Denise Kucera Malota, Mary Tydlacka, Agnes Kliss, Joan Karasek, Helen Matula, Georgie Sliva, Elizabeth Macha, Bernadette Dobias, Margaret Snodgrass, Rosalie Millsap, Rev. Donald Ruppert, Josie Barta Mican, Elizabeth Pavlovsky Brod,

Gladys Dusek, Agnes Jochech, Marietta Macha, Christine Jochech, Ann Kramr, Ann Huebel, Kelly Beseda Macha, Georgie Orsak, Paulina Poncick, Florence Chernohorsky, Charles Wicke, Raymond J. Marek, Dorothy Kutach, Eve Hlavinka Batla, Caroline Janik Ottis, Cecilia Jedlicka, Sophia Prokop, Barbara Beer, Marylynn Patsy Faltisek, Connie Grigar, Mary Ann Srubar, Vernice Janis.



Save the Date!

KJT DISTRICT VI FAMILY DAY

Join Us

Sunday, June 14, 2026

at

Sealy Columbus Hall (KC Hall)

1310 HWY 90W, Sealy, TX

Registration - 11:00 am – 12 Noon

Meal: 12 Noon

District VI Meeting Following Meal

Bingo Follows Meeting

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 1, 2026, to

Justin Eschenburg at (979) 661-0087

Don't wait for your KJT News in the mail; be one of the first to see what is happening without delay!

Go to our website <https://kjinet.org/subscribe> for the online version, sent straight to your email or phone!

It is a great color copy available at your fingertips, anytime, anywhere!

SUBSCRIBE NOW!

KJT HAPPENINGS



KJT Society #40 Makes Donations for Needy Families

Edwin C. Marik, KJT Society No. 40 President of East Bernard presents a \$400 check to Karen Rejsek, Regent of the Catholic Daughters of America Court St. Bernardette No. 1108. The \$400 grant came from the officers and directors of the State KJT Memorial Foundation and was used to provide food for those in need during the holiday season. The CDA court and Holy Cross Church were sponsors of the "Giving Tree" from which needy families received gifts and a large bag of groceries. This worthy project was chaired by Karen Rejsek.



#55 Corn Hill Helped with Christmas Meal

Members of KJT Society #55 Corn Hill helped with the Under the Blue Mantle Christmas Meal at Saints Cyril and Methodius Church in Granger in early December. Making deliveries were left to right, Helen Havelka, Andrew Klepac, Carol Sukup, Janet Havelka and Diane Bringman. The work was coordinated by KJT Society #28 Granger Society to feed the homebound, sick, elderly, widows/widowers, and disadvantaged.



Society #48 Presents Check to Manna Meals

Hillje KJT #48 presenting check to Manna Meals; pictured are Charles Holik Hillje KJT #48 President; Micheal Hansen, Director Manna Meals; Margaret Holik KJT State Director



Society #40 Makes Donations to Statewide Charities

KJT St. Wenceslaus Society #40 presented State Director Margaret Holik a check for the three statewide charities.

L-R: State Director Michael Reznicek, State Director Margaret Holik, Society President Edwin C Marik, Society Secretary Mark Dujka



Society #81 Makes Donation

On Nov. 19, the KJT Society #81 presented their donation to the Poth Food Pantry, along with money from the KJT Home Office.

Pictured here are: Food Pantry volunteer; KJT #81 President, Lawrence Jansky; newest KJT #81 member, Lincoln Alexander; KJT #81 Member, Angela Alexander.



#79 Hungerford Successful Food Drive

Hungerford KJT Society #79 Treasurer Charles Orsak (right) presents St. Vincent DePaul Society of Wharton, coordinator Glenn Klease (left), a

check for donations received during the society's food drive as Junior members Jaxton and Zera Ivy look on.

Along with the monetary donation,

DELEGATE/DIRECTOR REQUIREMENTS

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.

KJT DONATES



\$400 Donation Made to Blessing Cup Food Pantry

Catholic Union of Texas KJT Memorial Foundation approved a \$400 donation to the Blessing Cup Food Pantry in El Campo. Presenting the donation to Dorthy Bacak board member and treasurer of the Blessing Cup is President Robert Leopold KJT Society #84 El Campo. Mrs Bacak thanks the KJT for its support and kindness.



Society #121 Makes Donation to Fair Haven Food Pantry

St. Jerome KJT Society #121 Katy Spring Branch presented funds to Fair Haven food pantry; proceeds were from the KJT Memorial Foundation grant.

Pictured here are: Ted Sedlar Eleanor Sedlar presenting check to Richard Portwood.

KJT Society #112 Makes Donations to Food Pantry



As a result of a donation from the KJT Memorial Foundation to the societies, we were able to match the funds and present a check to the St. Louis Food Pantry. Accepting the check is Angela Oxford representing the Food Pantry along with KJT President Louri O'Leary, Treasurer Kenneth Klanika and Santa. This is a very deserving cause, and the donation was much appreciated.



Kenneth Klanika, Treasurer of Society #112 presented a check to Angie Mishoe of the SVDP at Sacred Heart Church. Pictured are other members of SVDP and the KJT.



#122 Food Grant Presentation

Jimmy Mikes, president of KJT #122, presented a check from home office for \$400.00 for the Saint Vincent de Paul food pantry at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Lake Jackson.

Pictured here are: Jerome Bartos, Sherry Bergen, Jimmy Mikes and Janet Gipson.



#133 Food Grant Presentation

The KJT Memorial Foundation has approved a \$400.00 grant to food banks; St. Vincent De Paul Society was the receiver from Society #133, Missouri City. Presenting the Check is President Al Janda, Holy Family KJT Society #133.

L-R, SVDP members: Steve Barta, Dave Gallagher, Sherri Peugh, Kathy Mroczkowski, Jeanette Holloway, Ernestine Frazier, Al Janda, Mona Washington, Mary Jo Barta.

MEMBERS STAY ACTIVE

KJT Society #132 Pflugerville Society Happenings

Society 132 in Pflugerville had a busy Month of November 2025. On Nov. 14 we celebrated St. Elizabeth's Feast Day. After Mass there was a meal in the Parish Hall provided by different ministries. Society 132 donated \$200 to provide the paper goods for this celebration.

On Nov. 9, we had our annual Veterans Day pancake breakfast and blood drive. We provided free breakfasts for twenty-five veterans. The blood drive collected 24 units of blood. Normally, nine units is considered a productive day.

During the breakfast, \$300 was donated to the American Legion. Fourteen hundred dollars was given to the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Twenty-one breakfasts were delivered to parishioners who are home bound.

In December, Society #132 provided annual monetary gifts for the three Parish priests and three deacons. Fr. Juan Carlos also received a one-thousand dollar check for the church and we set aside \$1,700 for the Agnes Pokorney Scholarship Fund. Two new KJT members and two current members were given their Kapital Account documents.

New officers were elected for 2026.

During the Christmas Party, members played a gift exchange game with Shirley Pokorney as the leader of the game.



Shown here is Fr. Juan Carlos, our Parish Pastor, who won a beautiful wooden serving tray.



Members of the Pflugerville Kerlin-Lyerly American Legion Post. In front Left: Jim Wilkinson on Right Joe Lopez.



New KJT members: L to R: Marcela Cisneros Nava, Jaime Mota. Alice Bosquez and Jim Krahula made additional investments.

KJT
Catholic Union of Texas

Holy Family Society # 133 St Mikulas Social

Beverly Filip began the workshop by explaining the tradition of St. Mikulas. Lainey Koudelka and Andrew Levine enjoyed making crafts and receiving their bags of fruit and candy.



DONATIONS

KJT Society #119 La Marque Has Bake Sale

On November 23, 2025 KJT Society #119 held its' matching grant bake sale in the parish life center at Queen of Peace Catholic Church in La Marque.

Lots of delicious homemade cakes, pies, cookies, brownies and other goodies were provided by the members. It was a successful bake sale and we met our matching grant goal. At the conclusion of the bake sale, raffle prize winners were drawn.



During the bake sale, a presentation to Galveston County Food Bank (GCFB) President and CEO Donnie VanAckeren was made. A \$400 check from the earnings fund of the KJT Memorial Foundation was presented by State Director & Society #119 President Mike Reznicek, with Society #119 members looking on.

In addition, a \$2,000 check was presented from the matching grant bake sale.



Holy Family Catholic Church Receives Matching Grant

Father Sunny Joseph, pastor of Holy Family Catholic Church, receives a matching grant check from Holy Family KJT Society #133 who sponsored the bingo at the parish bazaar. Shown at the presentation were VP/Treasurer Harvey Koudelka, Father Sunny Joseph, Chaplain Linda Koudelka and State Representative Cynthia Nemeec.



Donation to Holy Cross Catholic School

Bay City KJT Society #139 presented a donation of \$2,001 to Holy Cross Catholic School in Bay City on January 6, 2026. Society president James Engbrock and Father Stephen Vacek, pastor of Holy Cross Church, presented the check to Brooke Tomek, the principal of the school. Also present at the presentation was Vincent Nemeec, society secretary/treasurer; Larry Browning, society vice-president, and State Director Cynthia Nemeec. The society applied for the matching grant along with proceeds from a society fundraiser for the total donation. The donation was earmarked for the upgrade to the office system.



Statewide Charities Donation Made

Bay City Society #139 President James Engbrock is shown presenting State Director Cynthia Nemeec with a \$500 donation to the statewide charities fund during December 8, 2025, society meeting held at the Bay City Columbus Club Hall meeting room. Also present were (left to right) Michael Reznicek, state director and fraternal activity director, Margaret Holik, state director, Larry Browning, society vice-president, and Vincent Nemeec, society secretary/treasurer.



HONORING VETERANS

Society #142 Honors Veterans

Society #142 recently gathered on November 8, to place flags out at St. Stanislaus Catholic Cemetery for Veterans Day. There were about a dozen members who volunteered their time for the event.



Society #139 Presents Grant

The KJT Memorial Foundation and Bay City Society #139 presented a \$400 grant to the Holy Cross Church St Vincent De Paul Society in Bay City. Shown presenting the check to Janet Knox, St Vincent DePaul society, is Cynthia Nemeck, KJT State Director. Also shown at the presentation (from left to right) are Vincent Nemeck, society #139 secretary/treasurer; James Engbrock, society #139 president; and Reverend Stephen Vacek, pastor of Holy Cross Catholic Church.



**If Your Bank Was
Bought by Cadence
Be Sure to Call
KJT Home Office
w/New Bank Details
for ACH Drafts,
If Applicable!**

NEW ADDRESS?



Moving? Got a new phone number or email?
Make sure to update us with your new info.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Save the Date

Saturday, February 7, 2026, 4 p.m.

Valentine's Dinner & Concert
Texas Czech Heritage & Cultural Center

Sunday, February 8, 2026

Society #31

Meeting after 8 a.m. Mass with Kolaches & Coffee
Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church
bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times

Sunday, February 8, 2026, 11 a.m.

District 7 Meeting & Family Day
Meeting & Family Day; RSVP to Vince Nemecek by
1-31-26. See flyer for details.

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 6:30 p.m.

Austin Society #112 Meeting
Austin Society #112 Meeting - Pok-e-Jo's, 2121 W
Parmer Lane, Austin, TX

Friday, February 20, 2026

Society #31

First Friday Of Lent - Fish Fry Benefit -Parish Center
Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church
bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times

Sunday, March 1, 2026

KJT COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FORMS DUE!
Submit to home office in La Grange.

Sunday, March 1, 2026, 1:30 p.m.

Ennis Society #35 Member Meeting

Sunday, March 8, 2026

Society #31

Meeting after 8 a.m. Mass with Breakfast served
Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church
bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times

Saturday, March 21, 2026

TOCA Banquet – Pavilion Hall
Contact Czech organizations for tickets

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Society #31

District Family Day with Ennis hosting event. NOTE:
Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church
bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times

Sunday, March 22, 2026, 10 a.m.

District V Family Day
Join us for Family Day at Leonard and Deloris Dlabaj
Farm; See Flyer for Details

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Save the Date

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Society #31

Youth Outing (TBD) & brief meeting afterwards.

NOTE: Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times

Sunday, April 12, 2026

Babouci: Brass band from Czechia

Babouci: Brass band from Czechia Time and details
TBA

Friday, April 17, 2026, 8:30 AM

North Texas KJT Charity Golf Scramble
6th Annual North Texas KJT Charity Golf Scramble;
Proceeds benefitting The Warrior's Refuge;
See Flyer for Details

Friday, May 1, 2026

CAMP APPLICATIONS DUE

Camp applications due in home office by May 1.

Saturday, May 2, 2026

JOIN HANDS DAY

Sunday, May 3, 2026, 1:30 PM
Ennis Society #35 Meeting
Member Meeting.

Saturday, May 9, 2026

Society #31

Society Hamburger/Bake Sale Fundraiser
(no meeting)

Dates and times are subject to change. Check Church bulletin for exact meetings and event dates and times.

Tuesday, May 12, 2026, 6:30 PM

Austin Society #112 Meeting

Austin Society #112 Meeting - Pok-e-Jo's, 2121 W
Parmer Lane, Austin, TX

Sunday, May 17, 2026

TCHCC Slavnost 'May Fest' and Tribute to the Czech
Immigrants to Texas

Sunday, May 31, 2026

Catholic School Tuition Grant Entry Forms Due in
La Grange, home office.

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Society #31, Flag Day

Meeting after 8 a.m. Mass with Kolaches & Coffee
(FLAG DAY) NOTE: Dates and times are subject to
change. Check Church bulletin for exact meetings and
event dates and times.

Catholic Union of Texas, The KJT

KJT NEWS

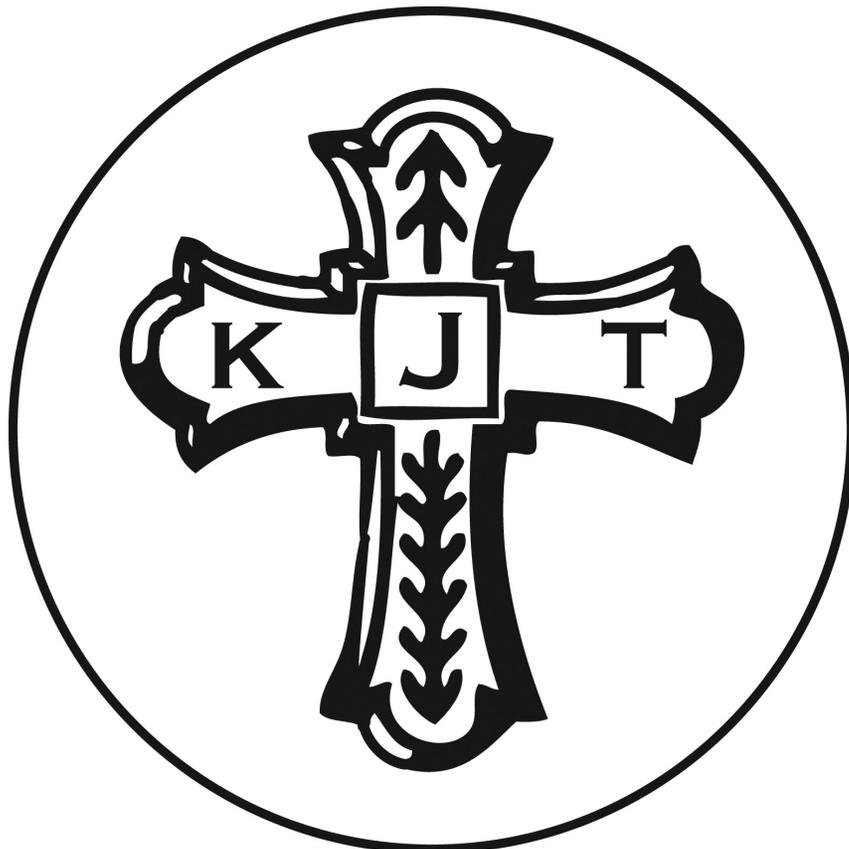
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While the KJT has had the ScriptSave prescription drug discount card for many years, ScriptSave now has some additional savings opportunities for our members.

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@kjtnet.org or you can call the office at 800.245.8182 to get your discount card. Additionally, you can go to www.kjtnet.org 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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