#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2021



St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church

JANUARY 2021 Council #7613 Editor: SK A. C. Rogers

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#### **COUNCIL CORNER**

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#### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 2021**

DATE	EVENT	TIME & PLACE
1/02/2021, Sat	Monthly Rosary	4:25 PM - Church
1/05/2021, Tues	CHOC Meeting	7:00 PM – Christopher Hall
1/07/2021, Thurs	Mass & Council Meeting	7:00 PM – Christopher Hall
1/14/2021, Thurs	Assembly Meeting	7:00 PM – Christopher Hall
1/20/2021, Wed	Chapter Meeting	7:00 PM – ???????
1/21/2021, Thurs	Council Business Meeting	7:00 PM – Christopher Hall
1/28/2021, Thurs	1 <sup>st</sup> Degree Exemplification	7:00 PM – Christopher Hall

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#### **BLOOD DRIVE**

We had a great response – of the 48 people that attempted to donate, 45 were successful with 42 donations of single units and 3 who donated double units for a total of 48 units. Following are two of our regular donators



Velma Hinojosa



**Deacon Steve** 

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#### THE GREAT BIRTHDAY PARADE

The children of SK PGK Sam Szalwinski wanted to have a "Birthday Parade" for Sam and wished that our Council 7613 would participate in making it a good success. The "Birthday Parade" composed of 33 decorated cars such as shown below, was in honor of SK PGK Sam Szalwinski for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 7<sup>th</sup> of December.

Many of our Knights met with Sam's family and friends in the Coker Elementary School parking lot (shown below) for the start of the parade a day before Sam's birthday.







Chris Huggins and wife Susan decorating their car for the parade

## Following is a brief history of Sam's life:

Sam grew up on a farm in Falls city, Texas and graduated from Karnes City High School in 1947 as a member of a championship football team. His civilian education continued as a graduate of St Mary's University (CUM LAUD) in 1952 with a commission in the regular army. In 1967 Sam completed his civilian education upon graduation from the University of Oklahoma with an MS degree. His military education culminated upon graduation from the National War College in 1973. On active duty he served in Korea (Combat), Germany (with family), Vietnam (Combat), and numerous locations in the United States with Family. After serving 30 years on active duty, he retired in 1982 with rank as Colonel.

Sam and his wife Beverly have been married almost 67 years and raised 7 very successful children, the oldest of which is planning to retire from Lockheed within a year. Hospital administration, State department, church volunteer, elementary education, computer engineering, and a commission in the USAF serving as a medical doctor are other careers of our children's employment. They are blessed with 12 grand children.

Upon retirement from active duty, Sam worked for 15 years in banking. Later, in 1997 he retired from the work force and began volunteering at St. Mark the Evangelist.

He joined the Knights of Columbus in 1985, serving as the Grand Knight of Council 7613, District Deputy, and Diocesan Deputy of our Archdiocese. During this time Beverly and Sam organized our parishioners, received MSGR Ryan's blessing and inaugurated the ministry known as "Habitat for Humanity". Our parishioners built 19 houses and later were blessed when SK Bill and Kathy Faucher assumed leadership.

In 2008 Sam was asked by Chris Lewis to coordinate the fund raising activity for the American Wheel Chair Mission for the Knights of Columbus throughout Texas. He led this mission for 10 years. Sam says that when health permits, he plans to continue to be helpful to others.

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## **WRAPPING PARTY**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of December the Council had a wrapping party to prepare gifts for two families. It was a great turn out with lots of gifts for both kids and adults. The families later picked up the gifts at Christopher Hall. It was a wonderful piece of Christmas.



**SK PGK Tex and Denise** 



John Goetz and Arnold Sanchez



SK Zappie hard at work with Tex and Denise

# The finished products:







Thanks to SK PGK Tex for making this Christmas special for two families.

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# **Help for James McRae**

To start the month off, several Knights helped build a ramp and redo some doors at the home of Brother Knight James McRae. Dan Alderete headed up this project. It was quite an unselfish effort.



SK Sal Scalia, Arnold Sanchez, and Romiro Ramos



Dan Alderete, SK Sal Scalia, and Romiro Ramos



SK Leo Forget showing off his better side!

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## That's a Wrap

"What a great first 6 months of being Grand Knight of such a wonderful Council! I love every minute working with such fine men helping our parish and the community. I thank all of you for all that you do. Wishing all a Blessed and Happy New Year!" Yours truly, SK GK Bill Faucher.