



Meeting Minutes December 19, 2022

- 1 **Call to Order** – GK Hillanbrand at 7:35 pm. This Council 11564 Meeting was held in person in the Saints Simon and Jude Room of The Meehan Center and virtually thru a GoToMeeting link. There were **15 Attendees**, all in person. This meeting also followed the New Format for Council Meetings per “The Guidelines for Council Meetings” from KOC Supreme.
- 2 **Opening Prayer** – Tom Lopez, Faith Director, led us in The Our Father.
- 3 **Pledge of Allegiance** - Led by GK Hillanbrand and recited by all Knights.
- 4 **Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting** – A **Motion** to accept the Minutes of the November 21, 2022 Council Meeting was unanimously accepted. Minutes are included on the Knights website at <https://ssiknights.org> under the Council Pages (with private Password login).
- 5 **Chaplain’s Message** – Father Gerlach, our Chaplain – not present
- 6 **Grand Knight’s Report**
 - Council now follows the new format directed by Supreme per “The Guidelines for Council Meetings” to include two meetings per month: an **Officers’ Planning Meeting** (held 12/15/2022) and a regular **Council Meeting**. This is designed to streamline the flow of the regular monthly Council Meeting. **All Knights are invited to attend both meetings.**
 - **GK Hillanbrand** attended a **Retreat Weekend, December 2-3-4, at Malvern Retreat House**, and proposed a retreat for SSJ Knights and Parishioners for March 10-12, 2023 as a Holy Family Retreat. Council should start publicizing this in early January 2023.
 - **Hospitality Sunday is January 15 following the 9:30 Mass.** There will be a **Pulpit Talk** at Mass, and Knights will be recruiting for new members while attending the Hospitality. January -February KOC activities will include Hospitality Sunday, Free Throw Contest, and PREP Pizza Party which will focus on recruiting new members.
 - A proposal at the 12/15/2022 OPM resulted in agreement to **return to a 7:00 PM start for both monthly Council and OPM Meetings starting in January 2023.** The plan is to provide an hour Council Meeting with 30 minutes of spiritual activity for an earlier return home.
- 7 **Financial Report**
 - **Charlie DiValerio, Treasurer**, advised re the November Treasurer’s Report: Bingo provided a record \$2,892 profit, and Crab Feast sales added \$581 profit even after numerous donations to Religious. Following further review of a few expense line items there was . . .
 - A **Motion presented and all accepted the Treasurer’s Report of November 2022.**
 - Ending Bank Balance \$25,404 / Reserve Fund \$3,069 / Bingo Petty Cash \$300/ 4th Degree Fund \$202 / Fourth Degree Uniform Fund \$2,087 / Available Cash Funds \$22,133 .
- 8 **Membership Report** - A transfer from NJ, Dominic Golato, wants to join our Council and will be provided a Form 100 to join. Two online candidates, Patrick Lyman and Tom McNasby, have already been accepted by Council, but Tom McNasby has not yet taken his degrees and thus is not yet a member of Council. Two other candidates, Andy Weiss and Donald DelFranco, are still considering joining.
- 9 **FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAMS - OTHER REPORTS**
 - LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND - Program Director Jim McCarry**
 - Sister Barbara Jude has offered Council the opportunity to recruit with table and KOC flyers at a “**Pizza, Prayer, & Play Day**” event night on **Thursdays, January 26 and February 16, 2023 for PREP students and parents.** DGK McCarry will contact Sister to discuss how Council may help. Sister is also willing to publicize Council’s Free Throw Contest to be held on January 14, 2023.
 - **Man Up Philly 2023, an Archdiocesan Catholic Men’s Conference, will be held on March 4 at Cardinal O’Hara High School in Springfield, PA.** Council has budgeted \$500 for 8-10 men of SSJ Parish to attend at no cost with the hope they will become Knights.
 - **SSJ Council will provide a \$500 donation to the ASAP / Aid & Support After Pregnancy program.**

- A **Blood Drive** is scheduled in **The Meehan Center on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 from 1:00 to 6:00 pm.**
- The **Pro-Life March in Washington DC to be held January 20, 2023** will march to the steps of the Capitol.

Council activity continues in the **Leave No Neighbor Behind** program including livestreaming the 9:30 Mass, Rosary Recital on selected Sunday evenings, PREP sessions, donation to Community and SSJ Parish activities, and promoting Blood Donation at SSJ Parish and via appointment thru the Red Cross website at www.redcrossblood.org for the Red Cross Donation Center (Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat) on Gay Street, West Chester.

FAITH

- **Adoration Night for SSJ Knights** is every Thursday 5-6 PM. Regular SSJ Parish Eucharistic Adoration in the Sacred Heart Chapel is 7:30 am until 8pm, Monday thru Friday.
- **Rosary Recital times** are daily before the 9 am Mass; **Respect Life Rosary** every Monday night; **Flame of Love**, Thurs at 7pm.
- **Rosary dates** :
- **The Five First Saturday Devotions to Our Blessed Mother** as a request at Fatima began again on November 5 following the 9am Mass and continue on December 3, **January 7, and February 4, 2023.** Tom has a booklet describing this Devotion of Our Blessed Mother's request and the specific requirements.
- **National Night of Prayer For Life** was held **December 8.** SSJ Parish had hourly "sponsors" including the **KOC to lead the 10-11 pm hour.**
- On **Sunday, December 11** at 7pm the KOC and SSJ ProLife Ministry recited a Rosary honoring the Immaculate Conception of Mary and Our Lady of Guadalupe which was attended by 30 SSJ parishioners.
- On **January 22, Sunday at 7 pm** there will be a Rosary live streamed from the Chapel (Chapel camera is now operational !) to be led by the Knights. Knight volunteers to lead Rosary decades are needed and all Knights are encouraged to attend.
- Future Faith events include a Rosary in February, "Pizza, Prayer & Play Day" nights for PREP students and parents on Jan 26 and Feb 16, and a repeat Dedication to St. Joseph for Lent in February.

FAMILY

- For **Family of the Month** Sister Barbara Jude recommended a family and individual, but all Knights are asked to continue to present additional candidates thru the Council website especially targeting younger families involved with SSJ School and Parish. Paul Bellino has previously circulated a list for Knights to provide **names of SSJ Parishioners who might be recognized for their contributions.**
- **Christmas Poster** winners were voted at the Knights Christmas Dinner on Dec 9.
- Knights, especially Paul Bellino, are asking if Council might sponsor a **Hospitality Sunday**, possibly early in 2023. This would be coupled with a Pulpit Talk on the same Sunday to encourage new younger membership and charitable involvement.
- Paul has assembled a list of activities, charities, and organizations which "**Our KOC Council 11564 Supports**" which was placed on all Bingo tables on the Nov 18 Bingo night. This list of "**what Knights do**" will be further publicized to advertise Council's support of SSJ Parish and provide support in recruiting new young fathers as Knights. Nice job, Paul !

COMMUNITY

- **Joe Gothie, interim Community Director, hopes for a replacement Director for 2022-23.** Knight volunteers and help are requested!
- **Jonathan Little**, our newest online transfer Knight, who was instrumental in helping start **livestreaming at Mass** at SSJ, has **refreshed the KOC Website** ! Thank you, Jonathan !
- **Austin Tomlinson** has volunteered to help with live streaming which can now include spiritual events from the Chapel, now operational.
- The **Catholic Essay Contest** winners were recognized at an SSJ School assembly on Dec 16 and received gift cards from Council. One of the three winners, Bobby Ross, son of a Knight, provided his essay topic, "Evangelizing the Faith Through Entertainment", and many participants cited the practice of team prayer before all SSJ CYO games, a wonderful example of evangelizing the faith.
- Council provided \$500 to Mother Mary of the Incarnation of St Veronica Church, our sister parish, to help pay to have a **Sister chaperone two attendees to World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal in 2023.** Cost is estimated at \$3,000 each.
- The **Warm Coat Drive** held November 26-27, **collected an estimated 300 new or slightly worn coats.** Coat donations included 72 Council-purchased coats to St Veronica Parish and the estimated 300 coats to Casa del Carmen, both located in Philadelphia. On Saturday, Dec 3, Knights Joe G, Ed L, Paul B, John E, Tom L, and Steve K met and delivered the donated coats. A picture of Sister and the St Veronica group

will be included in the SSJ Bulletin for all Parishioners to see and read of their generosity. Pictures were also submitted to Keystone Knight at PA State Council. Council also purchased cleaning supplies for St Veronica's Convent totaling \$129 for Sister's Wish List on Amazon.

- The **Basketball Free Throw Contest**, Council Round, will be held in the SSJ Gym on **Jan 14 from 11:30 – 1:30**. Knights' help will be needed to conduct and recruit new Knights. The District Round will also be held at the SSJ Gym on Feb 18 at 9-11 am.

LIFE

- **Rose and Rosary – Baptisms** –All Baptisms are now again at the same **1PM time on Sunday**, and the Rose & Rosary are presented at that time. There is **no Baptism schedule issued yet for January 2023**. Please volunteer when future dates are announced!
- SSJ Council did not participate in the Special Olympics held in December at Villanova University.
- **"Keep Christ in Christmas" magnets were sold December 17-18** in The Welcome Center following each Mass.
- The **March for Life in Washington DC will be January 20, 2023**.
- **Man Up Philly** will be held **March 4 at Cardinal O'Hara High School** in Springfield, PA
- The movie, **"Mother Teresa – No Greater Love"**, is now available for purchase as a DVD, perhaps for an SSJ Parish showing ?

COMMITTEES :

- **Retention Committee - Gordon Jefferes** - not present

- **Health Services Committee - Director Bill Aaronson** – not present

- **Fundraising Committee - Paul Bellino**

- **BINGO** – Bingo was held **Friday, November 18** with Paul as numbers caller and MC. The evening was a record 174 players. With December a busy month for Christmas activities, Council will forego **Bingo** until **January 13, 2023**. Announcements will be requested for the SSJ Sunday Bulletin and KK / Knights Korner for Bingo. **Council hopes that future Bingo events might be held every 3rd Friday night**. (Maybe March 17 as a St Patty's theme Bingo ?) Knights' help is always needed for set up, check-in, sales, seating, 50/50, and cleanup.

- **400 Club sales**, offered at Bingo and in the Narthex in September resulted in 371 sales and a net profit of \$6,574. Tickets cost \$25 and drawings were held in October, November, and December. **December Drawing Winners** included Noma Bellino \$100, Mike Campbell \$100, Cory Mattia \$125, Bob Blasiotti \$125, and Anthony Savarese \$1,000. Thank you to Ed Lack who managed this important fundraiser!

- **Social Committee - John Ellis** - Council enjoyed pizza and libations tonight following our meeting ! (Perhaps if the Eagles play in the Superbowl there might be a Council sponsored social in The Meehan Center open to all parishioners which has been reserved for Sunday, February 12 ?).

FOURTH DEGREE - Gordon Jefferes – Frank Bruno, DD, wished that Council 11564 was represented at the Dec 5 Assembly Christmas Party.

INSURANCE AGENT - Jim Siermine -not in attendance. Monthly emails continue from Jim on KOC insurance and financial benefits. A new Agent is expected to start in January, and Council hopes he might attend Hospitality Sunday on January 15 to sell insurance.

DISTRICT DEPUTY - Frank Bruno, new District 19 Deputy :

- Advised that the **Annual Survey of Fraternal Activities is due January 31, 2023**.
- Encouraged **recruiting new members** in saying Council has increased with 2 new members already toward 6 required for Star Council Award.
- Advised of interest from a few Knights in the **Color Guard Uniform** where sizing can be reviewed at KofCUniform.com .
- Commended Council 11564 for a well-organized and up-to-date **Website**.
- Advised the **District (5 Councils) Free Throw Competition is February 18 at SSJ Gym from 9-11 am**. Knight volunteers are requested to assist.

TRUSTEES' REPORT - Dennis Kolesinskas, Bill Robinson, Ed Lack - no report.

10 Unfinished Business

- A Council or SSJ Parish Retreat Weekend at **Malvern Retreat, March 10-12, 2023**. This will be the Holy Family Retreat which would be an SSJ Parish activity sponsored by Council.
- A Tootsie Roll Sale in March with Cub Scout Pack 168** is planned which is opportunity for mutual aid and benefit to each's program.

- Keep Christ in Christmas magnet sales** on Dec 17-18 realized \$280 sales. 200 magnets remain in inventory for future sales.
- **4th Degree Uniform** commitments are expected from 4 Knights including Al DelFra, Jim Bushong, John Larkin, and Brian Popma which will utilize all remaining donations from Brother Al Greto in the **Fourth Degree Uniform Fund**.

-The **KOC Annual Christmas Dinner was held Friday, December 9 at Charlotte’s Restaurant in Newtown Square**. This special evening is to honor SSJ’s Priests, Deacons, and Sisters for their help to the Parish, to choose winners of the “Keeping Christ in Christmas” poster contest, and to draw the final winners of the 2022 400 Club Raffle. There were 55 attendees including 9 Religious and invited wives of deceased Knights, gratis. It was a wonderful evening ! A reservation has been made already for Dec 15, 2023 to continue this tradition.

11 New Business

-**SSJ School will celebrate their 60th Anniversary Gala on Friday, January 20 in The Ballroom at Ellis Preserve, Newtown Square, PA**. The School Board and Home and School Association are seeking sponsors, donations, and attendees with costs ranging from \$1,000 to \$10K. Since there is already \$1,000 budgeted by Council to The SSJ Fund, this amount will be donated to this important fundraiser which will provide name recognition for Council 11564 on the H&SA website, in the sponsorship booklet, and at the Gala site ssj60.com. Council will also “gift” a fragrance basket valued at \$500.

-**Hospitality Sunday and a Pulpit Talk are planned for Sunday, January 15 following the 9:30 Mass**. Knights will be present to recruit new Members as well as to enjoy socialization and recognition of our parish support activities. Great effort is needed to increase both membership and attendance at Council activities, especially Council Meetings !

12 Good of the Order

- **The following were presented for special prayers by SSJ KOC 11564 Knights** : Brother Deacon Joe Ruggiero, Brother Deacon Jim Owens, Brother Bill Robinson, Brother Al Greto, Brother Jim Bushong, Brother Bill Aaronson, Brother Charles McGuigan, Brother Hank Fisher, Janet Sasin & Family, Maureen DeMaioribus & Family, Kathy Cellini & Family, Dolores DiGregorio & Family, Deacon Paul McBlain, Deacon Bill Shearer, Jenna Desmarais, Peter VanderHeide, Lee Gamma, John and Maureen Doran, Bob Magliano, Sara Purcell, Daniel Gallagher, Evan Anderson, Judy McCracken, Tonianne Santangelo, Lauren Dior, John McClanahan, Anna Piella, Ron Ellis, Teresa Toscani, Ross Family, Carole Shea, Jocelyn Gruver, Ron Avellino, Brother John Ellis, Vince Trichilo, Brother Jay Harter, Emily Rocco, Vince Cavacini, Anne Cane, Drew Turack, Rob McCarry, Suzann Wickersham, Sheryl Fanelli, Gregory Krajnik, Robert Bellino.

13 Grand Knight’s Summary.

- With so many **Knight activities** GK Hillanbrand continues writing and emailing a **weekly summary to all Knights**, a great reminder for all with our busy calendars ! Thank you GK Hillanbrand !
- **Officers’ Planning Meetings** are held the week before our Council Meeting and any Knight may attend, not just Officers.
Next OPM will be Virtual, Thursday, January 12, 2023, 7:00 – 9PM.
- **Next Council Meeting - Monday, January 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM** in The Meehan Center and Virtual.

14 **Closing Prayer** – Tom Lopez read the “Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney”.

15 **Adjournment – 8:55 PM**



Saints Simon And Jude

Knights of Columbus

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