



Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2025

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at [7:00pm](#) by GK Jim McCarry
2. Opening Prayer – Our Father led by GK McCarry
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by GK McCarry
4. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting
 - Motion to approve February meeting minutes with no revisions, **PASSED** unanimously.
5. Chaplain's Message (Fr. Gerlach)
 - Thank you all for all your involvement in the various ministries of the parish!
 - Parish has had some recent tragedies including a woman who was recently diagnosed with a flesh-eating disease and a 21-year-old young man who passed away from norovirus. Please pray for them, their caregivers, and their families.
6. Grand Knight's Report (Jim McCarry)
 - Welcome to John McMullen, John McMullen Jr. and Dante Massey who all recently completed their exemplification. Welcome also to Doug Owens who transferred into our council.
 - Motion to accept John McMullen and John McMullen Jr into the council, **PASSED** unanimously.
 - Brothers Carlos and Johann received their 4th Degree in NYC for the 125th Anniversary of the 4th Degree.
 - John Lechun from Generation Life spoke about how the organization educates young people in middle schools, high schools, and colleges about being pro-life and loving a chaste life. They also visit churches to ask for both prayers and financial donations. Generation Life is looking for connections to help them grow their mission to spread awareness of pro-life and chastity. They will be visiting the SSJ School next week to give their chastity talk to the 7th and 8th grade students as well as Bishop Shanahan High School to give their pro-life talk.
 - Our next Bingo is May 16th.
 - Barry Philips is our new Insurance Agent
 - Over 120 people attended the discussion with Archbishop Perez in the Meehan Center about the current state of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia in which only 83% of Catholics attend mass. There were many young people in the audience. More information will be available. There are more opportunities to attend these discussions with meetings held as Bishop Shanahan High School and St. Joseph's Parish.
 - 40 Days for Life runs from now until April 13th. Please consider signing up to pray for one hour in front of Planned Parenthood.

7. Financial Report (Charlie DiValerio)

- Ending Bank Balance: \$29,549
- Available Cash: \$26,578
- Total Assets: \$29,849
- Motion to approve February Treasurer's Report, **PASSED** unanimously.

8. Membership Report (Jim Bushong)

- Welcome to John McMullen, John McMullen Jr. and Dante Massey who all recently completed their exemplification.
- Welcome also to Doug Owens who transferred into our council.

9. Other Reports

- Faith In Action Programs – Program Director (Gordon Jefferes)
 - Faith/COR (Dr. Joe LaBricciosa)
 - Next COR is scheduled for Saturday 3/22 immediately following the pam mass.
 - Brother Dean passed out companion booklets for Into the Breach and COR.
 - Sacred Heart Icon - the newest icon that is being promoted by the Knights of Columbus. We are interested in bringing this icon to SSJ. We are in the process of working out the logistics to bring the icon to the parish.
 - Man Up Philly Conference was held at Cardinal O'Hara two weekends ago. Over 1500 men gathered to hear from speakers including Pro Football Hall of Fame Safety Brian Dawkins discuss their powerful witness to the faith. Another speaker, Ed Morris, discussed his son-in-law Johnny Gaudreau's untimely death and how he inspired others in the NHL community with his faith. Attendees also attended Eucharistic adoration, confession, and mass led by Archbishop Perez.
 - Men of Malvern Retreat was this past weekend at the Malvern Retreat House. The next retreat is the second week of August. Many opportunities for spiritual graces including visiting the new Bl. Carlo Acutis Shrine at the retreat house. Bl. Carlo will be canonized next month.
 - First Friday Mass at the Malvern Retreat House at 7:30am followed by a social. Donation of \$10 is requested for breakfast.
 - To Hearts Devotion - First Friday/Saturday Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Overnight with confession, mass, and devotionals. Please attend for all or part of it!
 - St. Norbert's Parish in Paoli hosts a program called "That Man is You" on Thursday mornings to develop men spiritually.
 - Family (Paul Bellino)
 - Family of the Month - Nomination information was passed out to the council and will be shared in an upcoming bulletin so that we can have future candidates. We will also be adding a list of past recipients to the website.
 - Community (Bill Watts)
 - Scout Breakfast 3/23 after the 9:30am mass. 8-10 people are needed for setup at 8:45am in the school cafeteria. Scouts will be receiving their Parvuli Dei (Light of Christ) medals at the 9:30 mass.

- Life (Vince Strate)
 - Baby Bottle Drive - usually runs from Mother's Day til Father's Day. Bottles will be handed out after mass. All funds collected are donated to Mather's Home
 - Lent - the council discussed ways in which we can volunteer our time this Lent. The Council would like to attend Stations of the Cross together on a Friday in Lent.
- Committees:
 - Retention Committee (Gordon Jefferes)
 - We are in the process of contacting brothers who do not attend meetings. We have received some responses back and hope they can be more active in the future.
 - Fundraising Committee (Paul Bellino)
 - 3/26 at 10pm is the Webinar on Fundraising and Fundraising Techniques. Once you register, you can rewatch the webinar on demand. You do not have to watch at 10pm.
 - Please visit Supreme's website to learn more about various councils and how they fundraise.
 - Health Services (Jay Harter)
 - Blood Drive at SSJ: 3/25 from 11-4
 - Social (John Ellis)
 - No report.
- Fourth Degree (Gordon Jefferes)
 - Next Conclave 4/7 at 7:30 at Msgr. Schuyler.
 - 3/8 was the recent 4th Degree Exemplification in which 60 new members joined the 4th Degree. Next exemplification will be in May in the Harrisburg area.
 - Final dues notices have been sent out.
- Insurance Agent (Barry Phillips)
 - No report.
- District Deputy (Al Fonash)
 - Nick and Juliana from SSJ won the District Free Throw Competition. Juliana won her age group for Regionals and is heading to Mechanicsburg for the State Competition. Thank you to all who volunteered.
 - Welcome to our 4 new members!
 - Caucus Business Meeting at Peace Council on 3/30. Councils can submit delegates for voting of the new State Warden.
 - Sacred Heart Icon - Hope to have it at SSJ later in the year. Worthy DD will work with GK McCarry and Brother Joe on logistics.
- Trustees' Report
 - Nominations for Council Officers will be held at the April Council Meeting. Please reach out to the Trustees (Sam, Ed, or Dennis) if you are interested in becoming an officer.

10. Unfinished Business

- No report.

11. New Business

- 4/26 SSJ Confirmation with Bishop Cooke - 10am and 2pm mass with lunch in between
- 5/3 is the SSJ First Holy Communion

- SSJ Council is celebrating 30 years. We would like to celebrate in the near future. More information to come.

12. Good of the Order

- Additions to the Council's prayer list were as follows:
 - John McLaughlin
 - Joseph LaMagna
 - Luray Minkieski
 - Maria Dunn
 - Pope Francis

13. Lecturer Reflection (Tom Lopez)

- No report.

14. Grand Knight Reflection (Jim McCarry)

15. Closing Prayer (Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney)

- Led by Fr. Gerlach

16. Meeting adjourned: 8:28pm.