



Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2024

1. Call to Order – Meeting called to order at [7:00pm](#) by GK Jim McCarry
2. Opening Prayer – Read by GK Jim McCarry
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by GK Jim McCarry
4. Approve Minutes of Prior Meeting
 - Motion to approve November meeting minutes with no revisions, **PASSED** unanimously.
5. Chaplain's Message (Fr. Gerlach)
 - No report
6. Grand Knight's Report (Jim McCarry)
 - Insurance Agent Matt Doettger was present for the meeting. If anyone has any questions about the insurance program, please reach out to Matt. When someone joins the Knights of Columbus, they are already entitled to a \$5,000 insurance policy.
 - Wendy Burpee, Executive Director of Genesis Women's Clinic in Pottstown, spoke to us at the council meeting about the good work that the ultrasound machine that we donated is doing. Genesis performs about 15 ultrasounds a week. About 85-90% of mothers who utilize the ultrasound machine at Genesis, end up choosing life! After birth, Genesis provides services to the family for 3 years. Since 2019, over 500 babies have been saved! Please continue to pray for the good work being done by the Genesis Women's Clinic, Chester County Connect Care, and all other Pro-Life Women's Clinics.
 - Coats for Kids was a huge success. Thanks to Bill Watts for all your hard work!
 - 3 and a Half Stories of Christmas was another success. About 4-5 Knights were present.
 - National Night of Prayer was not well attended but there are plans for a better event next year.
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Magnets: We have a handful available in the cabinet. We will attempt to sell what we have this upcoming weekend.
7. Financial Report (Charlie DiValerio)
 - Ending Bank Balance: \$37,019
 - Available Cash: \$34,048
 - Total Assets: \$37,319
 - Motion to approve November Treasurer's Report, **PASSED** unanimously.
8. Membership Report (Jim Bushong)
 - No report.
9. Other Reports
 - Faith In Action Programs – Program Director (Gordon Jefferes)
 - Faith (Tom Lopez)

- Tom is still in the hospital. His tumors are shrinking substantially, and he has 4 more treatments left. Please continue to pray for Tom's recovery.
 - In Tom's absence, Dr. Joe Labriccioso will take over the responsibilities of the Faith Director.
 - Fatima Rosary will be on January 4th after the 9am mass.
 - COR Program - First meeting will be the third and fourth Saturday of the month starting in January (1/18 and 1/25) after the 9am mass. Meetings will be about an hour long. Deacon Jim Owens will make a pulpit announcement in January. COR focuses on strengthening the faith of men through fraternity, formation, and prayer. Joe plans to have a full-page ad in the bulletin as well as utilizing the Constant Contact that is emailed weekly to all parishioners. More information can be found on the Knights of Columbus website as well as Formed.org.
- Family (Paul Bellino)
 - Thursday 12/19 at 8:15AM in the Gym will be the award ceremony for the poster contest and the essay contest.
 - Family of the Month - Sam is hoping to start the Family of the Month/Spirit of the Parish Award in January. If anyone has any suggestions, please reach out to Sam.
- Community (Bill Watts)
 - Bill and Johann delivered 72 coats to St. Veronicas plus half of the boxes of coats from the coat drive. The other half of the coats went to Casa del Carmen in North Philly. We also sent coats to Mother of Mercy House in Kensington.
 - Winners of the Essay Contest will be chosen after the council meeting. Awards will be given at the morning assembly on Thursday.
 - Free Throw Contest will be on Sunday 1/19 at 1:30pm in the Gym. Setup will be at 1pm.
- Life (Vince Strate)
 - Living Last Supper will be March 29th from 7-9pm
 - Poor Man's Supper - Awaiting a date from Greg.
 - Options for Her, a mobile pregnancy and women's center, visited Simon and Jude a few weekends ago. Several Knights stopped by.
 - Vince attended the Pro-Life Union Dinner in Philadelphia the weekend before Thanksgiving. It was well attended with over 1000 attendees. Committees:
- Retention Committee (Gordon Jefferes)
 - No report.
- Fundraising Committee (Paul Bellino)
 - Trivia Night on 5/24 - Mac has had several parishioners ask about a Trivia Night. This would be our Spring Fundraiser, similar to Italian Night. Mac will contact the professional who runs the trivia to discuss pricing. Sam will make an announcement at the January Bingo to try and poll the crowd on the idea and the date. We will also try to set up a poll on our website.
 - Thanks to Dennis for taking care of the last 400 Club drawing at the Christmas Dinner! Thanks to George for getting the poinsettias to the dinner.
- Health Services (Jay Harter)

- No report.
 - Social (John Ellis)
 - No report.
 - Fourth Degree (Gordon Jefferes)
 - Next Conclave 1/6 at 7:30 at Msgr. Schuyler. We will be putting together our 2025 Activities Calendar.
 - 2/22/25 is the 125th Anniversary of the 4th Degree at St. Patrick's Cathedral in NYC.
 - Dues notices for 2025 will be sent out this month.
 - Insurance Agent (Matt Doettger)
 - Emphasize Keeping Christ in Christmas and Keeping Christ in everything we do related to the Family.
 - Our council has 28 Knights who utilize the Knights of Columbus insurance program.
 - Please review your life insurance policies and see if you have enough coverage.
 - The Knights of Columbus provides free financial reviews.
 - Please reach out to Matt with any questions.
 - District Deputy (Al Fonash)
 - The Star Council Award was presented to the Council for the previous fraternal year. Congratulations!
 - The Star District Award was presented to Past District Deputy Frank Bruno. Congratulations!
 - Mid Years Officers Convention - District Deputies received information about many programs including COR. There was social time and mass with other District Deputies.
 - District Free Throw Competition on Saturday 2/8 from 9-11am at St. Agnes. Volunteers are needed.
 - East Regional Free Throw Competition is Sunday March 2nd at Gwynedd Mercy
 - State Free Throw Competition 3/22 in Mechanicsburg
 - Grant Program for Students - open to Catholic School students whose father is a Knight. There will be 50 \$1,000 grants awarded.
 - Review Annual Goals and discuss if you need another Fraternal Benefit Night.
 - Columbian Award - Received by Councils who achieve the 16 credits of Faith in Action Programs
 - Over 18,000 Coats were distributed to kids across the state for the Coats for Kids Program.
 - Trustees' Report
 - 62 Knights guests attended the Christmas Dinner at Charlottes. Thank you to all who attended!
10. Unfinished Business
- No report
11. New Business
- No report.
12. Good of the Order
- Additions to the Council's prayer list were as follows:
 - Stephen DePersis (deceased)
 - John Larkins
13. Lecturer Reflection (Tom Lopez)
- "Litany of the Most Precious Blood" from the Daily Prayers to Save America Book was prayed as a council.

14. Grand Knight Reflection (Jim McCarry)
15. Closing Prayer (Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney)
 - Led by Sam Hillanbrand
16. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.