

# MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Knights of Columbus Council # 17304

## Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, Feb 9, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: St. Martin de Porres

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### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:00 PM** by **Worthy Grand Knight Nathan Bernard**. All persons who were not members or honored guests were asked to retire from the chamber, and the guards assumed their positions.

### 2. Opening Prayer

The Council prayed the **Lord's Prayer**.

### 3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Council recited the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

### 4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the January 2026 Council meeting were posted to the Council website.

Motion: Approve January minutes as posted

Made by: **Ed Flanagan**

Seconded by: **Ray**

Vote: **Motion carried (voice vote)**

### 5. Chaplain's Report

**Fr. Steven** was unable to attend this meeting.

### 6. Grand Knight's Report – Nathan Bernard

- **Pro-Life Cross Display (Jan 10)**: Reported as successful. The Council may consider a larger sign next year.
- **Brisket Tacos (Jan 18)**: Event held and reported in support of Council activities.
- **Sacred Heart Holy Hour (Jan 21)**: Two holy hours were hosted with the Sacred Heart icon.
- **Super Bowl Brisket Sale (Feb 2–8)**: Thanks extended to all who participated and helped. Sales and overall success were reported as similar to last year.
- **Member Birthdays**: February birthdays were recognized.

### 7. Treasurer's Report – Sergio Guerrero

Treasurer Sergio Guerrero provided a financial update. The Revised Treasurer's Report figures were presented as follows:

#### Treasurer's Report — As of 01/30/2026

Checking: **\$4,301.20** (Chase Checking)

Savings: **\$1,000.68** (Chase Savings)

CDs: **\$12,139.92**

Total Cash & CDs: **\$17,441.80**

**Allocated to Projects (CDs): \$12,139.92**

- CD @ 3.4% maturing 2/19/26 — **\$3,034.98**: Crisis & Contingency Fund (\$3k)
- CD @ 3.4% maturing 2/19/26 — **\$3,034.98**: Monument Fund (\$3k)
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- CD @ 3.4% maturing 2/19/26 — **\$3,034.98**: Monument Fund (\$2k) / Grand Piano (\$1k)

Outstanding Checks: **\$0.00** (No Outstanding Checks)

Available & Unallocated Total Cash: **\$5,301.88**

- Checking: **\$4,301.20**
- Savings: **\$1,000.68**

**8. Membership & Admissions – Presented by GK Bernard**

Two new member prospects, **Forrest Phillips** and his son **Finn Phillips**, introduced themselves and discussed their backgrounds.

A transfer candidate, **Joe Morton**, was presented as a proposed transfer into Council #17304.

Motion: Accept **Forrest Phillips** and **Finn Phillips** as members **pending background check completion**

Made by: **Deen Hansen**

Seconded by: **Brandon**

Vote: **Motion carried (voice vote)**

Motion: Accept **Joe Morton** as a transfer into Council #17304 **pending background check completion**

Made by: **Deen Hansen**

Seconded by: **Mike**

Vote: **Motion carried (voice vote)**

Deen Hansen and Nathan Bernard presented the two new members with a **rosary** and **Knights of Columbus pin**.

**Phillip Sharp** was noted as having applied online and is awaiting interview; he was not present, and no vote was taken.

**9. Program & Committee Reports**

**Faith – Rob Daleo**

- Next Holy Hour: **February 19 at 8:00 PM**.
- “Into the Breach” video series will move out past Easter.

**Community – Dominic Gervase**

- **Valentine’s Day Bingo**: Scheduled for this coming Saturday. Members were encouraged to attend, help, and play. Setup begins at **5:00 PM** for volunteers.
- **American Wheelchair Mission**: Event is upcoming; date is pending. Due to the parish no longer allowing pulpit announcements, the Council noted that marketing and promotion will need to change.

**Family – Sergio (reporting for Family)**

- No updates.

**Life – (Paul absent)**

- Pro-life rally was rescheduled due to January storm. New date: **Friday, Feb 13, 6:00–8:00 PM** in the school gym.
- Volunteers were asked to arrive at **5:15 PM** for setup and assist with breakdown afterward.
- Program includes Rosary for Life, pizza, a presentation, and a short pro-life video.

**St. Lawrence Crew – (Ray absent)**

- Success of Taco Sunday and the Brisket Sale was discussed. Brisket sale noted: **150 lbs** of brisket, sold out by **11:30 AM**.

- No Taco Sunday this month.
- Fish fries will begin with Lent; volunteers are needed (approximately **15 people** per Friday). Fish fries will take place in the gym.

#### Technology / AV

- Nathan noted that member interest surveys will be distributed to gather input on Council priorities and activities.

#### Fourth Degree – Mario Martinez

- **Jan 17 Exemplification:** Two new members were recognized: **Sergio Guerrero** and **Randy Maldonado**.
- **Feb 28 Exemplification:** Scheduled at **St. Jude in Allen, TX**. This is expected to be the last exemplification close to Council's location for the year; the next is in **Wichita Falls, TX**.
- A Fourth Degree social event is planned for March (date pending). Council members and their wives are invited to learn more about the Fourth Degree. Mario provided a brief summary of what the Fourth Degree entails.

#### Insurance Agent Report – Don Burks, CFP®

Don Burks provided a brief insurance update focused on Knights of Columbus fraternal benefits, including:

- Endowed benefits available through Knights of Columbus policies, including the **free spousal waiver** feature on eligible whole life policies.
- A discussion of **long-term care** offerings and how Knights of Columbus approaches long-term care differently than many commercial insurers.  
Members were encouraged to reach out to Don with questions regarding coverage options.

#### 10. District Deputy's Report – Dominic Gervase

- Supreme encouraged councils to pray for **Ukraine** during the month of February.
- Texas State Council educational grant program: **\$1,000** grants to support education. Eligible applicants include children/grandchildren of Knights; applicable for college, technical school, trade school, etc. **Deadline: March 1.**
- State Annual Conference: **April 24–26** in Dallas at the **Sheraton Hotel**. Anyone is welcome to attend. **Registration deadline: April 1.**
- Leadership update: **Deen Hansen** was announced as the new **Diocesan Deputy** (following Craig Madrinski's service in that role for several years).

#### 11. Unfinished Business

A second vote previously required for a project above the \$500 threshold (kneelers) was discussed. **Ruben** reported the cost will be **under \$200**, and therefore a second vote was **no longer needed**.

#### 12. New Business

##### Financial Secretary's Report – George Siller

George provided a brief update on Council financial status and noted the Council is in good standing with the State Council.

**Brisket Sale:** Approximately **\$2,400** in brisket sales, resulting in approximately **\$1,900** in profit.

**Dues:** Second dues notice has been sent. Members who owe **\$80 or more** may be moved from the Council to State status; **34 members** were noted in this category.

### **Supreme Good-Standing Attachment:**

George noted he will begin appending a Supreme account/assessment status attachment to the Financial Secretary report as a best practice to confirm the Council remains current with Supreme and to inform the Council when assessments are due.

### **Bills (if any)**

Motion: Approve payment of bills

Bills Presented:

- **\$190.40** – Council meal expenses
- **\$53.22** – Marc Murin expenses for the brisket sale

Made by: **Ray**

Seconded by: **Jerry**

Vote: **Passed unanimously**

### **Trustees Report – Rob Daleo**

Rob noted that elections are approaching and that trustees will be speaking with current officers regarding plans for the upcoming officer cycle. Members interested in serving as an officer were invited to speak with a trustee.

### **School Gala Announcement**

Ed shared that St. Martin de Porres Catholic School is holding its gala on **February 28** and asked Knights to attend and support the school. Ticket pricing was noted as **\$100** for one and **\$170** for a couple. A request to sponsor a table for **\$700** was discussed; it was noted that the Council could not sponsor the table at this time due to the two-vote requirement.

### **13. Good of the Order**

**Knight of the Month (February): David Ribb**

**Family of the Month (February): Mejia Family**

### **Lecturer's Reflection – Jerry Barta**

Jerry offered a brief reflection encouraging members to embrace their prophetic role as disciples, to learn more about Church teaching on contemporary issues, and to be prepared to defend the truth with charity when opportunities arise.

### **Grand Knight's Summary**

The Grand Knight provided a brief summary of upcoming opportunities for service, including Bingo, the pro-life rally, and the start of fish fries during Lent.

### **Prayer Requests**

- **Craig Madrinski** – cataract surgery upcoming
- **Michael Harris** – continued prayers

### **14. Closing**

Prayer for Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney, led by GK Bernard.

Adjournment time: **8:28 PM**

Members assisted with room reset and kitchen cleanup.

**Minutes prepared by:** SK Nick Cumberland, Recorder