



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Knights of Columbus Council # 17304

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, July 13, 2026

Time: 7:15 PM

Location: St. Martin de Porres Parish Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:15 PM** by **Worthy Grand Knight Nathan Bernard**.

2. Opening Prayer

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

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

Guests / Prospects:

- Tim Cox

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the **June 2026 Council meeting** were posted to the Council website.

Motion: Approve June minutes as posted.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Seconded by:** Steve Bredeson
- **Vote:** Motion carried by voice vote.

5. Chaplain's Report

Fr. Steven was absent.

6. Grand Knight's Report – Nathan Bernard

Worthy Grand Knight Nathan Bernard reviewed the new **30-60-90 planning handout**, noting that the Council is returning to an older style of meeting handout that members can take home, use for notes, and reference for upcoming events and Council goals.

Nathan also reviewed changes from Supreme for the new fraternal year:

- Supreme has changed the requirements for the **Columbian Award**, with **eight programs now required** rather than four programs in each Faith in Action area.
- These requirements will be reviewed more throughout the year and at planning meetings.
- The Council will continue identifying programs that are impactful for our parish, school, and local community.
- The **Founders Award** requirements have also changed and will now relate more closely to fraternal benefit / financial review activity.

- The 30-60-90 handout will be used at each meeting to track upcoming events and Council progress toward Star Council.

7. Treasurer's Report – Sergio Guerrero

Sergio Guerrero presented the Treasurer's Report.

Treasurer's Report as of 06/30/2026

- **Chase Checking:** \$12,668.59
- **Chase Savings:** \$1,000.73
- **CDs:** \$12,414.76
- **Total Cash & CDs:** \$26,084.08

CD Allocations:

- \$3,103.69 CD @ 3.4%, maturing on 5/19/26 – Crisis & Contingency Fund (\$3,000)
- \$3,103.69 CD @ 3.4%, maturing on 5/19/26 – Monument Fund (\$3,000)
- \$3,103.69 CD @ 3.4%, maturing on 5/19/26 – Monument Fund (\$3,000)
- \$3,103.69 CD @ 3.4%, maturing on 5/19/26 – Monument Fund (\$2,000) / Grand Piano (\$1,000)

Outstanding Checks: \$0.00

Allocated to Projects: \$12,414.76

Available & Unallocated: \$13,669.32

- Checking: \$12,668.59
- Savings: \$1,000.73

8. Membership & Admissions – Dominic Gervase

Dominic Gervase reported that he is taking over Membership from Dean Hansen for the new fraternal year.

Dominic reported that the Council has approximately five prospects in the queue, including **Tim Cox**, who was present at the meeting. Tim introduced himself and shared background on his faith journey and interest in joining the Knights.

The Council discussed Tim's interest and background.

Motion: Approve Tim Cox for membership in Council #17304, pending completion of the normal admissions / exemplification process.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Seconded by:** Mario Martinez
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

Dominic noted that he will continue working with the other prospects and will look to schedule an in-person CUF / exemplification once several members are ready. In the meantime, Tim will be encouraged to complete the online exemplification process.

9. Program & Committee Reports

Program Director – Mario Martinez

Mario Martinez introduced himself as the new **Deputy Grand Knight and Program Director**.

Mario spoke about the importance of the **Faith in Action** initiatives and encouraged members to get involved in one or more program areas. He emphasized that many men join the Knights to grow in faith and put their faith into action through service.

Mario encouraged members to "intern" in program areas that interest them so they can learn how programs are organized, help with planning, and potentially grow into leadership roles. He also

emphasized the desire to plan programs farther in advance for the fraternal year so members can better prepare their schedules and participate.

Fraternal

Upcoming fraternal and family events were reviewed later during the Grand Knight's Summary.

Fourth Degree – Ruben Diaz

Ruben Diaz provided the Fourth Degree update.

- Fourth Degree members participated in the Arlington parade, with strong participation from Knights across the Dallas/Fort Worth area.
- The next Fourth Degree exemplification will be **August 29 in Greenville**.
- Members interested in joining the Fourth Degree were encouraged to speak with Ruben.

Insurance Agent Report – Don Burks, CFP®

Don Burks provided an insurance update focused on **term life insurance**.

Don explained that term insurance is a modern tool for transferring risk and can be especially useful for young families with significant financial responsibilities and lower available resources. He contrasted individual term insurance with group term insurance through work, noting that workplace coverage may not provide the same long-term guarantees or conversion options.

Don reviewed Knights of Columbus level term options, including:

- 10-Year Level Term
- 15-Year Level Term
- 20-Year Level Term
- 30-Year Level Term, newly available

He also discussed permanent conversion options and riders, including disability waiver of premium and full conversion riders. Members were encouraged to consider whether term insurance or other Knights of Columbus insurance products may be appropriate for their family's needs.

10. District Deputy Report – Dominic Gervase

Dominic Gervase provided the District Deputy Report.

- The District earned **All-Star District** for the prior fraternal year, thanks to the work of Council #17304 and the other councils in the district.
- The Fort Worth Diocesan meeting was recently held, with **Dean Hansen** serving in his first meeting as Diocesan Deputy. Dean now oversees **63 councils**.
- Changes to Star Council requirements were discussed at the Diocesan meeting, with more information to come.
- The **31st Annual Priest / Religious Appreciation Dinner** will be held **July 27** at **St. Jude Catholic Church in Mansfield**.
- Council #17304 will sponsor a table for the dinner. Members interested in attending should contact Nathan or Dominic.
- New fraternal year charity pins are available for **\$20**. Funds support the Council's state charity goal.

11. Unfinished Business

None.

12. New Business

Bills Presented

The Financial Secretary reported that the Council remains in strong financial position and provided a dues update.

The Council transferred **18 members to Texas**, with one withdrawal and one transfer out. Current rolls are approximately **151 members**. Approximately **43 members** have not paid current dues.

Bills presented:

- Supreme per capita assessment: \$441.25
- Texas per capita assessment: \$1,352.00
- State Charities: \$1,510.00
- Religious Appreciation Dinner table: \$400.00
- Dinner for the meeting: \$86.17

Total Expenses Presented: \$3,789.42

Motion: Approve payment of bills as read.

- **Made by:** Mario Martinez
- **Seconded by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Vote:** Motion carried.

New Motions

No additional new motions were presented.

13. Good of the Order

Knight of the Month

Drew Smith

Family of the Month

Freeman Family

14. Lecturer's Reflection – Jerry Barta

Jerry Barta gave the Lecturer's Reflection based on the Gospel parable of the weeds among the wheat. He reflected on God's patience with sinners and the importance of recognizing both "wheat" and "weeds" in our own lives. Jerry encouraged members to reflect honestly on sin, examine their consciences, and remember that the path to heaven requires effort, prayer, and support from one another.

Monthly Challenge:

Reach out to a family member or friend and invite them to receive the Sacrament of Penance.

15. Grand Knight's Summary

Nathan reviewed upcoming items from the 30-60-90 handout.

Upcoming events include:

- **Holy Hour:** July 16 in the chapel
- **Family Night at Portillo's:** July 23
- **Priest / Religious Appreciation Dinner:** July 27 at St. Jude in Mansfield
- **Bingo Night:** August 8
- **Taco Sunday:** August 16
- **Labor Day Bulk Meat Sale:** upcoming; more details to follow

Nathan reminded members that help will be needed for upcoming events, especially Bingo Night and Taco Sunday.

16. Prayer Requests

The Council offered prayers for:

- **Russ Woodford** – continued recovery and healing after hospitalization
 - **Rob Daleo** – continued healing and medical needs
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17. Closing Prayer

The Council prayed the **Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney**, led by **Grand Knight Nathan Bernard**.

18. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **7:57 PM**.

Minutes prepared by:

SK Nick Cumberland, Recorder