



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Knights of Columbus Council # 17304

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, Sept 14, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM to 8:10 PM

Location: St. Martin de Porres Parish Hall

Yep, that's on me. Those inline file references are useless for something you're trying to paste directly into your records.

Here is the **clean copy/paste version with no citations or source markers**:

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Knights of Columbus Council #17304

Monthly Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, September 14, 2026

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:10 PM

Location: St. Martin de Porres Parish Hall

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:00 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**.

4. Approval of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the **August 2026 Council meeting** were distributed to members and posted to the Council website.

Motion: Approve August minutes as posted.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
 - **Seconded by:** Jerry Barta
 - **Vote:** Motion carried by voice vote.
-

5. Chaplain's Report

Fr. Steven was absent.

6. Grand Knight's Report – Nathan Bernard

Nathan thanked everyone who participated in the **Labor Day Bulk Meat / Brisket Sale**, noting the significant amount of work required throughout the weekend.

Nathan also recognized **Pope Leo's birthday** and encouraged members to remember him in their prayers.

A visiting seminarian, **Nicholas**, attended the meeting and briefly introduced himself to the Council.

7. Treasurer's Report – Sergio Guerrero

Sergio presented the Council's financial position as of **August 31, 2026**.

- **Chase Checking:** \$12,970.57
- **Chase Savings:** \$1,000.75
- **CDs:** \$12,461.48
- **Total Cash & CDs:** \$26,432.80

CD Allocations

Four CDs at **3.4%**, with the provided maturity date of **5/19/26**:

- \$3,115.37 – Crisis & Contingency Fund
- \$3,115.37 – Monument Fund
- \$3,115.37 – Monument Fund
- \$3,115.37 – Monument Fund / Grand Piano allocation

Outstanding Checks: \$600.00

- \$300.00 – Father David Books
- \$300.00 – Father David Books

Available & Unallocated: \$13,371.32

- Checking: \$12,970.57
 - Savings: \$1,000.75
-

8. Membership & Admissions – Dominic Gervasi

Dominic reported that **six prospective members** were being considered for admission, five of whom were present and introduced themselves to the Council.

Candidates included:

- **Jack Wesbecker**
- **Brian Flanagan**
- **Francis Maggalas**
- **Steve Ibarra**
- **Michael Pham**
- **Liam Harding**

The candidates who were present spoke briefly about their backgrounds, families, parish involvement, and reasons for wanting to join the Knights.

Liam Harding was unable to attend, but members who knew him spoke positively about him.

Motion: Approve all six candidates for membership.

- **Made by:** Ed Flanagan
- **Seconded by:** George
- **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously.

Dominic will continue coordinating the membership and exemplification process with the new members.

9. Program & Committee Reports

Faith – Ron Echevarria

Ron provided the Faith update.

The Council plans to bring the **Rosary back before Council meetings**, with members invited to arrive at approximately **6:15 PM** to participate.

Upcoming Faith activities include:

- **September 17:** Knights Holy Hour / Rosary for Intentions
- **October 7:** Feast of the Holy Rosary parish-wide event with participation from multiple ministries
- **October 19:** Beginning of a **54-Day Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe**
- **October 19:** Marian Consecration opportunity associated with the novena

Members were encouraged to participate and support the Council's increased emphasis on Faith programming.

Community

Planning continues for the Council's annual **Wheelchair Mission**, anticipated for approximately January. Additional details will be finalized closer to the event.

Family

Family programming continues as part of the Council's Faith in Action initiatives.

Life – Paul Parkes

Paul discussed upcoming Life programs.

The Council's principal annual Life event will again coincide with the national March for Life period.

January 22, 2027 is currently planned for a parish gathering including:

- Rosary for Life
- Novena for Life kickoff
- Life-related presentations/videos

Paul also discussed participation in the annual **America Needs Fatima Public Square Rosary Rally**.

The rally will take place on **Saturday, October 10**, the nearest Saturday to the October 13 anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's final apparition and the Miracle of the Sun.

The public Rosary is planned for the common area near the school.

St. Lawrence Crew

There will be **no Taco Sunday in September**.

Taco Sundays are expected to continue in:

- October
- November
- January

February Taco Sunday will not be held due to the beginning of the Fish Fry season.

Planning will also begin for the **Super Bowl Sunday sliced brisket sale**.

Members were reminded that the Council Christmas Party is scheduled for **December 12** at the **Elks Lodge**, similar to last year.

Technology / AV

No formal update.

Fourth Degree – Presented by Mario on Behalf of Ruben Diaz

Mario provided the Fourth Degree update.

- Two new Fourth Degree members were recognized.
- The **Silver Rose** will be received on **September 19**, with opportunities for Color Corps participation.
- A Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held **October 17 in Flint, Texas**.
- A Spanish-language Fourth Degree Exemplification will be held **October 24 at San Juan Diego Catholic Church in Dallas**.

Mario also provided a brief explanation of the Fourth Degree for the Council's newly admitted members.

10. Insurance / Financial Advisor Report – Don Burks, CFP®

Don provided an update on Knights of Columbus financial and fraternal benefits.

He discussed the history of the Knights as a **fraternal benefit society** and the financial advantages associated with that structure.

Don also discussed the investment side of Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors and its commitment to **Catholic-compliant investing**.

Beginning **September 18**, Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors clients will have access to **MoneyGuideElite**, an enhanced financial-planning platform.

The software can assist with:

- Retirement planning
- Education funding
- Family financial goals
- Investment planning
- Scenario modeling
- Estate-planning considerations

The service will be available to qualifying Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors clients at no additional charge.

11. Fraternal / Bingo Update – Russ Woodford

Russ announced the next Council **Fraternal Family Dinner**:

September 22 at 6:00 PM

MOOYAH Burgers in Prosper

Members and families are invited. The restaurant is owned by a fellow Knight and Council members will receive a discount.

The next **Bingo Night** is scheduled for **October 24**.

Dates have also been identified for four Bingo events during the following year.

12. District Deputy Report – Dominic Gervasi

Dominic provided the District Deputy Report.

- The next Chapter Meeting will be **September 30** at **St. Francis of Assisi in Grapevine**.
 - The Council's required annual audit report has been successfully submitted.
 - The District Deputy annual report has also been submitted.
 - State per-capita obligations were confirmed as paid.
 - Dominic asked the Council to continue remembering the victims, families, first responders, and the country in connection with the **25th anniversary of September 11, 2001**.
-

13. Unfinished Business

None.

14. New Business

Financial Secretary Report

The Council remains in **good standing with Supreme**, with no balance currently due.

Current membership rolls total **151 members**.

There remain **36 members with unpaid dues**, totaling approximately **\$1,530**.

Members who have paid dues but have not received their membership card may pick it up following a Council meeting.

The Council is also seeking members interested in learning the **Treasurer and Financial Secretary** positions in preparation for future leadership transitions.

Bills Presented

Bills presented included:

- Breakfast Taco signage – **\$41.97**
- Annual Council insurance – **\$441.00**
- Randy Maldonado – meeting meal and can opener expenses – **\$99.15**

Total Bills Presented: \$582.12

Motion: Approve payment of bills as presented.

- **Made by:** Mario Martinez
 - **Seconded by:** Jerry Barta
 - **Vote:** Motion carried.
-

Seminarian Support

The Council has previously approved support payments for seminarians, but addresses are still needed before checks can be mailed.

Dominic will help obtain the necessary information so the Treasurer can issue the approved payments.

Fall Festival / Bingo Communications

George reported that he is working with local homeowners associations to expand communications surrounding Bingo and the parish Fall Festival.

He has established contacts within local neighborhoods and will explore having event information distributed through HOA communication channels.

Parish and School Support

As part of the current budget, the Council previously elected to consolidate many individual ministry-funding requests into direct quarterly support for the **parish and school**.

Motion: Disburse the budgeted **\$2,500**, divided equally:

- **\$1,250 to St. Martin de Porres Parish**
 - **\$1,250 to St. Martin de Porres School**
 - **Made by:** George
 - **Seconded by:** Ed Flanagan
 - **Vote:** Motion carried.
-

Michael W. Mission Support – Cambodia

Nathan presented a request to support Michael W.'s upcoming mission work.

Motion: Approve **\$500** in support of Michael's mission trip to **Cambodia**.

- **Made by:** Nathan Bernard
 - **Seconded by:** Ron Echevarria
 - **Vote:** Motion carried.
-

Michael W. Mission Support – Sri Lanka

A separate request was presented for Michael's mission work in Sri Lanka.

The Council discussed the significant ongoing needs of the parish community there, including recovery from severe weather damage.

Motion: Approve **\$500** in support of Michael's mission trip to **Sri Lanka**.

- **Made by:** Nathan Bernard
 - **Seconded by:** Mario Martinez
 - **Vote:** Motion carried.
-

Blessed Michael McGivney Image

Michael also requested an image of **Blessed Michael McGivney** representing Council #17304 that he can personally deliver during his mission work.

Nathan will procure an appropriate image under the **Grand Knight's discretionary authority**.

The Council expressed support for the gift, and Nathan will also explore whether Supreme may be able to provide an appropriate image.

15. Good of the Order

Knight of the Month – September

Jesus "Chuy" Romero

Family of the Month – September

Shane and Natasha Fernandez

October Recognition Announced

- **Knight of the Month:** Tim Cox
 - **Family of the Month:** James and Carrie Rhodes
-

16. Lecturer's Reflection – Jerry Barta

Jerry's reflection focused on **forgiveness** and Christ's teaching that we must forgive not merely seven times, but **seventy-seven times**.

He emphasized that Christian forgiveness should mirror the boundless mercy God offers us.

Monthly Challenge:

Make a list of people, past or present, whom you have found difficult to forgive and **pray sincerely for them each day**.

Members were encouraged to examine whether they have truly forgiven past offenses or are still holding onto resentment.

17. Grand Knight's Summary

Nathan reviewed the Council's **30-60-90 planning handout** and reminded members that it provides an ongoing view of upcoming events, program requirements, and Council progress throughout the fraternal year.

Members were encouraged to keep the handout available and use it to stay informed even when unable to attend a meeting.

18. Prayer Requests

The Council offered prayers for:

- **Shane Fernandez** – illness / recovery
- **Mark Fremgen** – recovery from retinal surgery
- **Honor** – recovery following a heart attack
- **Mike Wilson** – medical concerns
- An anonymous family member experiencing medical issues

- **Tony Hall**, Casey's stepson – lung cancer
 - Ray's grandson – thanksgiving for progress following open-heart surgery and placement of a pacemaker
 - Victims and families affected by the **September 11 attacks**
 - First responders and members of the military
 - The United States and continued prayers for unity and peace
-

19. Closing Prayer

The Council prayed the **Prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney**, led by **Dominic Gervasi**.

20. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **8:10 PM**.

Minutes prepared by:

SK Nick Cumberland, Recorder