

St. Therese Church Knights of Columbus Council 12885
Meeting Minutes - October 13, 2026

Call to Order: Grand Knight Frank Bio: 6:30 PM

- Total in attendance: 24 Brothers

Opening Prayer: Our Father led by Deacon George Keenan.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by GK Bio.

Officers Attendance Report: Please see bottom of report.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting 9/8/26: A motion to approve was made and seconded as posted. Approved.

Lecturer's Reflection: Br. Robert Smith

- They replied, "Caesar's." At that he said to them, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." (Gospel for Oct. 18, Mt 22:21). The Pharisees were trying to entrap Jesus into taking sides in the dispute. Are the faithful to be good Jews or good citizens? But Jesus says there is no conflict here. One can be a solid citizen and maintain his true and proper obligations to the civil government, as long as he gives primacy to his duties to God. We should keep in mind that the Knights of Columbus was founded with the understanding that faithful Catholics are also faithful citizens.
- **Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:** This month, I challenge you to study how the Knights of Columbus, at the time of its founding and throughout its history, has combated anti-Catholic bigotry and shown there is no conflict between love of God and love of country. The book *The Knights of Columbus: An Illustrated History* (2020) is an excellent resource.

Grand Knight Report: GK Frank Bio

- Fourth Degree Opportunity
 - Only about 1/3 of Council members are Fourth Degree Knights, so this upcoming exemplification on the USS North Carolina (the morning of Saturday, November 14) is a great opportunity. See GK Bio if you are interested. The \$90 fee to become a Fourth Degree includes lunch. There is a \$25 fee per guest, limited to one guest per member.
- Call for support for the Assembly Veterans Program
 - Tonight, GK Bio sold raffle tickets for \$5 a piece and 3 tickets for \$10 for this annual Assembly fundraiser for veterans assistance. Funds go to Fourth Degree activities to support our veterans (including those at Good Shepherd Ashley House), and winning tickets will receive \$500 (first place), \$250 (second), and \$150 (third).
- Solicitation for Grand Knight and Deputy Grand Knight positions
 - Please consider applying to hold these positions for the 2027/2028 fiscal year.
- An attendance sheet was passed around.

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Treasurer Report: Br. Phil Ley

- The Council currently has a \$7697.64 checking account balance at Truist Bank along with a \$2129.93 CD (at 2.75%) for a total of \$9827.57.

Financial Secretary Report: Br. Paul Johnson

- We have \$2000 budgeted for St. Joseph's Food Pantry; Br. Ley was duly instructed to cut a check in that amount for the pantry.
- We currently have 98 members, including newcomers Diego Ibarra and Tom Futch. Diego and Tom both introduced themselves.
- Shrimparoo earnings included \$1700 plus \$1000 from a generous parishioner.

Programs Reports: Br. Bob Smith

- **Faith Director Report:** Br. Bob Smith (for Faith Director Holden Spain)
 - *That Man is You!* will launch tomorrow night at 7:00, including a 30-minute video and short discussion. Br. Smith is hoping to generate enough interest to hold sessions more than one time per month.
- **Family Director Report:** Br. Dan Alford
 - Asked for the number of volunteer hours members put in at St. Joe's pantry for the month of September. Br. Alford will then complete the appropriate Knights of Columbus form.
- **Community Director Report:** Br. Steve Venezia
 - *Knight Out With The Ladies* was deemed a social function that does not qualify as a community event.
- **Life Director Report:** Br. Craig Morehead
 - Br. Morehead continues to follow up with our District Attorney to solicit support for North Carolina House Bill 139 (Baby Box bill).
 - Our Council was represented at a recent Wilmington Life Chain event at UNCW.
 - There is still no date set for the 2027 March for Life.
 - Br. Morehead recommends contact with Fr. Bill to gauge support for a Holy Hour For Life with Our Lady of Guadalupe.
 - The North Carolina route of the Silver Rose Pilgrimage is still unpublished but will likely be sometime in the spring.
- **Membership Director Report:** Br. Tom Brady
 - Thank you to Br. Gene for delivering membership drive materials.

Fourth Degree Report: DGK Frank Weisgerber

- Our Council will be participating in the November 7 Veterans Day Parade.
- Fourth Degree scholarship awards are expected to be announced next month.
- The next Fourth Degree meeting is Tuesday 10/20 at St. Mark's.

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Worthy Regional District Deputy/ District Deputy

- Gene Ziemba
 - Offered fraternal greetings to the Council; delighted to see our activities and involvement.
 - Asked members to prayerfully consider taking on positions of responsibility (GK, DGK)
 - Reported that there have been changes to (Star Council) award bookkeeping. A new requirement is that our insurance agent needs to spend time to talk to around seven 12885 Council members to market Knights of Columbus products.
 - Reiterated GK Bio's call to become a Fourth Degree at the historic November 14 battleship exemplification opportunity. Only 15 spots left!

Unfinished Business:

- Shrimparoo results and notes for next year's planning, based on 70 people attending:
 - Purchased 30 pounds of shrimp and had 4 pounds left over.
 - Purchased 2 cases of cole slaw but one was wasted.
 - Purchased 1 case of potato salad and there was little left over.
 - The cocktail sauce went over very well.
 - Purchased two pounds of chopped meat for the chili, which went over very well.
 - To make sure shrimp didn't run out, each guest limit was 11 shrimp.
 - The change to "peeled and deveined" was a great idea.
 - Purchased 35 pounds of chicken with not much left over (the overnight seasoning went over very well).
 - The hot dogs went over well but over 2 large containers were left over.
 - The new ticket price of \$30 seemed reasonable.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** There is severe corrosion on the valves on both of the grills. This is a safety issue that needs to be brought up to Heather.
- Bocce results
 - St. Stan's went undefeated this year. Captain Bob Smith is looking to field two teams next year and secure Tshirts for the team. There will be a sign-up sheet on the website to keep members informed and solicit participation.

New Business:

- Calendar Review
 - *That Man is You!* is tomorrow night at 7:00.
 - *Knight Out With The Ladies* is Friday night at 6:00. The previous two such events were well-attended and lots of fun. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served. BYOB.
- Ideas for speakers and/or future agenda items were solicited.
- GK Bio appreciates the attendance support tonight.

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Prayers for Brothers and Relatives In Need

- Deacon George Keenan
- Br. Pat Kolenick
- Br. Joe Costy's niece Alena Johnson Campbell

Deacon's Reflection: Deacon George thanks everyone for prayers and visits. Prayers work!

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 10 at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall (Officers arrive at 6:00).

Closing Prayer: Our Father, Hail Mary and Grace before meal led by Deacon George Keenan.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:19 PM

Minutes completed by Recorder: Br. Tom Brady

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2026-2027 Officers		
Office	Officer	P/A/E
Grand Knight	Frank Bio	Present
Chaplain	Rev. William Upah	Excused
Deputy Grand Knight	Frank Weisgerber	Present
Chancellor	Peter Sanza	Present
Treasurer	Phil Ley	Present
Financial Secretary	Paul Johnson	Present
Warden	Patrick Kolenik	Excused
Outside Guard	Larry Dunning	Excused
Inside Guard	Richard Clark	Excused
Recorder	Tom Brady	Present
Trustee 1 Year	Anthony Melilli	Excused
Trustee 2 Year	Joe Costy	Present
Trustee 3 Year	John Dwight	Present

2026-2027 Program Chairs		
Office	Chair	P/A/E
Program Director	Robert Smith	Present
Faith	Holden Spain	Excused
Family	Dan Alford	Present
Community	Steve Venezia	Present
Life	Craig Morehead	Present
Membership	Tom Brady	Present
Advocate	(Open)	
Retention Manager	(Open)	
Lecturer	Bob Smith	Present