

**Knights of Columbus Council 11809**  
**Membership Meeting Minutes, December 8, 2022**

1. Meeting called to order @ 6:00PM with 42 Council Members in attendance.
2. Opening Prayer and Pledge of allegiance.
3. GK Kluch introduced Matt Stuart as our newest Council Member with Matt giving us a brief history of his background. Welcome Matt!
4. GK Kluch read the November Membership Meeting Minutes with Greg Jude and Jim Andrews motioning (first and second respectively) to approve. Council voted unanimously to approve.
5. Council Chaplin, Fr. Bill Fournier spoke on the November Challenge of Supreme Chaplin, Archbishop Lori, keeping Christ in Christmas with a Nativity Scene in our homes while assisting our local Faith in Action programs reflecting on a brief history of the Christmas Crèche. The Crèche started sometime in the 13<sup>th</sup> century with St. Francis of Assisi and the holding of live plays named “Miracle Plays” in town squares. Since there were very few books and fewer that could read, the Scripture verses were taught early on with these types of plays. Fr. Bill mentioned that there was very little discussed in Scripture about the Nativity. Scripture briefly dealt with the Wise Men and animals. Beginning in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century, the Crèche became more pronounced in Southern Europe with little mention of it in Northern Europe. The Christmas Tree and history of St. Nicholas formed in Germany. The legend of St. Nicholas giving gold coins to help needy folk in the village while dressed in bright red robes has carried on down through the ages to today with Santa Claus and the Christian Nativity Scenes of our times.
6. Brother Joe Kowalkowski reported on the results of the November 16 & 17<sup>th</sup> Turkey Drives at OLL and Posse Parking Lots. A total of 163 Turkeys, 16 Hams and \$2325 in cash donations were collected in the two day effort!

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Joe gave kudos to all who helped in this great program: Cary King, Jim Michel, Greg Jude, Robert Miller, Richard Benjamin, Ed Kubala, Jeff Gallagher, Mike Hug, Larry & Elsie Loseke, Joe Shanks, John Heep, John & Grace Mahoney, Bob Conen, Dave & Lori Lara, Tom Scott, Zeke Spanelli and Ken Blick. A very gratifying effort and tremendous way to end our Council Year! Congrats all!

Brother Kowalkowski also reported on the upcoming Coats 4 Kids Program which will be held at the Valley View Food Bank in Peoria on Dec 19<sup>th</sup>.

Joe mentioned that in addition to the Coats we have purchased for the Kids a total of \$1825 has been raised for gift cards which will be distributed to the children as well on the 19<sup>th</sup>. All Council Members are encouraged to participate in this worthwhile program!

7. Grand Knight Report:

- GK Kluch again reminded the Council of our need for the following:
- Life Director (Faith in Action)
- Community Director (Faith in Action)
- Program Director
- Warden
- Deputy Grand Knight
- We need members to stand up for the Council and Serve!
- GK Kluch covered the December Calendar mentioning the following events:
- Coats 4 Kids, Monday Dec 19<sup>th</sup> at the Valley View Food Bank, Peoria
- Church Christmas Decorating, Monday Dec 19<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. Folks are needed.
- Bernadette's Brew, Sunday, Dec 18<sup>th</sup> after the 9 and 11 AM Masses.
- GK Kluch then reviewed the January and February Calendar Events:
- Fourth Degree Exemplification, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup>, Holy Spirit Church, Tempe,
- Bernadette's Brew, Sunday, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> after 9 and 11 AM Masses.
- Mother Teresa Movie, Sunday Jan 15<sup>th</sup> subject to approval by Fr. John.

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- Eucharistic Celebration, Feb 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, Rich Stone spoke briefly on the activities planned for this week at OLL , which comprise study and breakout groups culminating in a Parish Picnic on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. More details to follow.
- Possible suggestion for a Dinner Dance on Feb 14<sup>th</sup> was voted down due to lack of time in preparation and kitchen problems being cleared.
- Lent beginning on Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> (Ash Wednesday) with weekly Fish Frys to follow beginning Feb 24<sup>th</sup>. Again, more information to follow next month.

8. Treasurer's Report:

- Mike Ward's reported
  - \$553 income for November:
    - \$125 member dues
    - \$2 interest,
    - \$395 donations
    - \$31 50/50 raffle funds
  - Expenses totaled \$2,444 consisting of:
    - \$55 Food expense community,
    - \$45 Food Bank pass thru
    - \$2000 seminarian support
    - \$192 Full Circle
    - \$28 postage
    - \$52 Bank svcs.
    - \$72 Council Equipment
  - Total -\$1,891 and -\$22 YTD

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9. District Deputy's Report: Joe D'Andrea presented the Star Council Award for 2021-22 to our Past GK, Carl Jarvis. Congrats to Carl and Council 11809! Joe also reminded us of the Fourth Degree Exemplification at Holy Spirit Church, Tempe on Jan.14<sup>th</sup>. He also read a report on the various Charitable Programs that the U.S. Knights have funded in the past year such as Coats 4 Kids with \$812,803.00 being raised to purchase over 40,800 Coats! The AZ State Council also matched any donation of \$500 or more up to a total of \$2,000 this past year in support of the Crisis Pregnancy Centers statewide! This is what the Knights truly represent!
  
10. Faith in Action: GK Kluch highlighted the four areas of focus: Faith, Family, Community and Life. Richard Stone is our Faith Director, Jim Andrews and Ken Blick are our Family Directors and we still need a Community and Life Director at this time. It is time to stand up for our Council! We need to participate in all four areas in order to work towards our Columbian Award.
  
11. Unfinished Business: GK Kluch presented a motion for modification of the Council By-Laws. Discussion on quorums centered on the number of Officers (needed at Monthly Officers Meetings) and Members (needed at Monthly Membership Meetings). After much discussion, it was decided to change the numbers to 8 and 18 respectively with Mike Hug and Bob Miller making the first and second motions. **Motion Passed. Bob Coats made a motion to approve and Bob Conen 2<sup>nd</sup> Council Dues be raised to \$40.**

The Council unanimously approved the changes in addition to various word changes outlined by GK Kluch in the By Laws Docs attached to these Minutes.

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12. New Business: Discussion to solicit donations from Honorary Life

- Members being adopted. Bob Conen also proposed a fund raising idea of selling tickets at \$25 each with one half of the proceeds going to charity and the other half being used by the Council for private use.
- Jim Andrews, our Family Director updated the Council on the “Keep Christ in Christmas” coloring contest. Jim mentioned that the entries were very few at this time but this is a learning experience for next year.
- Joe Kowalkowski proposed a gift card of \$250 to be given to radio station KSCW in gratitude for all of the exposure (advertisement) of our Food Drives during the year. Council approved unanimously.

13. Good of the Order: Larry Loseke gave Council an update on Herb

- Strider’s condition. Herb has undergone extensive surgery and is recovering. Please keep Herb in your prayers.
- Joe Everitt has passed and funeral arrangements will be forthcoming. Please keep the Everitt Family in your prayers as well.
- Prayers were also mentioned for Gail Perrault and Mrs. John Heep.
- Bob Charlebois has been awarded Knight of the Month! Congrats to Bob for a job well done this year!
- Mike Ward also reminded Council Members to log in their Community Hours on the Supreme Web Site. Food Bank volunteering, visiting the sick and bringing Communion to the Home Bound are just a few of the Community Hours that can be counted.

14. Meeting Adjourned & Prayer for Fr. McGivney’s Canonization @7:45 PM

Jim Michel, Council 11809 Recorder