

The Franciscan



**KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS**
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

**Volume 17, Issue 7
Knights of Columbus**

**January 1, 2025
Council 14504**

Grand Knight's Letter by GK Sean Gammon



Brothers,

Just a quick note this month from your Grand Knight this month! I hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas with your family and friends!

We sent out the Christmas cards as well as Christmas checks to both Fr. Brian and Fr. Joseph plus the 7 retired priests that help with various masses after the December business meeting. We've always given our two priests each a five-hundred dollar check for Christmas, but this year, with the check from the Pilgrimage, we decided to gift an additional three-hundred and fifty dollar check to each retired priest that helps our family of parishes.

We also gifted ten \$50 Aldi gift cards to ten community families in need that were involved with the giving tree that St. Francis has. Both of these are some of the good that we can distribute back to our Parishes and our community.

Mike Nowak, John Hoffman (through his state position), Michael Friel (through his state position), Danny S. (through his state position), and myself will be going to the State Deputy Training session. It will be primarily for financial secretary training but will have other information passed out too. We will relay this info at the January business meeting.

Coming up in the spring we have a few things. Mike Manzo will be leading the charge for both a spring fish fry and a spring spaghetti dinner. No dates firmed up yet but be on the lookout to help. Also, John Hoffman is leading the CORE initiative, with more to come from him.

Looking at April 20, please mark your calendars for the Annual Knights of Columbus Egg Hunt. This will happen after the 11 o' clock mass on Easter Sunday at the St. Francis Campus. This is the biggest event in the Spring that we do for the parish to give back. Our Deputy Grand Knight, Deo Eustace, will be leading this event. Please consider helping with this event as it takes at least six or seven, if not more, knights to do this. We will also be stuffing eggs after the April Meeting.

We also have some new Knights come in this month, please make sure they feel welcome! Last month, We are over half way on our goal on new membership! All you need to do is ask a fellow man in the parish! Also, if any new members are in interested in joining the fourth degree, please contact me or Michael Freil.

As a heads up to the council, we will be changing up the Spring Fundraiser as our mulch vendor has retired on top of rising costs. The officers will discussing this fundraiser going forward at the January Officers' Meeting

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Grand Knight's Letter (Cont'd)

as well as moving our bank accounts from fifth-third bank to Wright Patt Credit Union as they offer more competitive rates and products.

Dues have been mailed out to every member. Please get these dues back to Mike Nowak ASAP to avoid duplicate mailings, which costs the council additional monies in postage.

As we go into the new year, please do not hesitate to contact myself, any officer of the council, or fellow brother in time of need. Hope you all have a blessed year going into 2025!

Vivat Jesus!

Sean Gammon

Grand Knight

Council 14504—St Francis of Assisi

Council 14504 Minutes for December 10th, 2024

Call to Order:

The meeting was held in person. Grand Knight (GK) Sean Gammons called the Council to Order at 7:30 PM after leading the opening prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of meeting minutes:

A motion to approve the minutes from the November 2024 meeting was made by Danny Sprouse and seconded by Mike Tortorici, upon vote of Council they were approved.

Chaplain's Message:

Nothing to report.

Grand Knight's Report:

GK Gammons began his report by welcoming Jeremy McCoy and Nicholas Sylvian who completed their 3rd Degree ceremony prior to tonight's Council Meeting.

Friendship Sunday has been rescheduled from this month until January.

Financial Report:

Council Treasurer Joe Schmidt provided a report on the financial status of The Council. He reported total deposits of \$983.35; expenses of \$3,267.08; a checking balance of \$10,120.72; savings account balance of \$15,752.44 for a total of \$25,873.16. He provided details of each deposit and expense in his report.

Membership Report:

Michael Friel reported that with the addition of the two latest Knights, our annual membership drive is halfway completed. He urged Knights in attendance to continue asking and seeking new men to join.

Program Reports:

Mike Tortorici reported discussions are in the early stage regarding another pilgrimage trip in 2026.

Field Agent Report:

Nothing to report.

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Council 14504 Minutes for December 10th, 2024 (cont)

District Deputy Report:

District Deputy John Brown provided an update on our Council's progress towards the Star Council award.

John Hoffman reported from the state office of the upcoming rollout of the Core Project to begin in 2025.

Financial Secretary Report:

Financial Secretary Mike Nowak reported that he will be mailing out registration information for fraternal year 2025. He asked that these, along with dues, be returned promptly to prevent reminders having to be mailed out. He also asked that Knights take the time to complete the attached survey of all service work done by members either as part of The Council or anything done for The Parish, like Eucharistic Ministry, helping with St. Vincent's etc. These hours logged are needed for documentation towards Council recognition.

Old Business:

Recorder Jim Stephenson advised the GK of the discussion for the monetary gift(s) to be made to those priests who assist activities at The Parish. John Hoffman clarified from earlier discussions the gift would be in the amount of \$350 per priest and would be financed by the money returned by the travel agency used in this past year's pilgrimage trip. After discussion and motions, The Council approved the item.

New Business:

A motion to donate \$100 to two parishioners heading up a medical missionary trip to Malawi was made by Jim Stephenson. The trip was described to members and a second to the motion was made by Mike Tortorici, the motion was passed upon vote.

Joe Schmidt reminded The Council of the upcoming Parish men's retreat being held in January of 2025.

Cal Frank requested the name(s) of the new sponsored seminarians be announced. He also noted he has Council shirts in all sizes for sale.

Danny Sprouse spoke to the members about the need for assistance for people to serve during The Mass as eucharistic ministers, sacristans and as servers during Mass. He asked that members think of Parish youth who could be serving as well as adult help with weekday Mass and funerals.

Lecturer's Report:

Lecturer Don Hirst provided an informative talk on the origins of the sign of the cross and the symbolism it represents.

Good of order:

Knight of the month- Sean McManamy

Family of the month- Charlotte and Mike Nowak

50/50 raffle- John Brown won the prize.

Attendance raffle- The winner was not present.

Prayers were offered by members for the health and repose of members.

Adjournment:

GK Gammons led the prayer for the Canonization of Bl. Michael McGivney and adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Recorder Jim Stephenson

Grand Knight



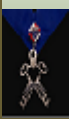
Sean Gammon 317-294-9294
gammonnew@gmail.com

Financial Secretary



Mike Nowak 937-310-1031
mjcsnowak@yahoo.com

Treasurer



Joe Schmidt 937-422-1072
Joseph.v.schmidt@outlook.com

Chancellor



Mike Tortorici 937-848-8450
mikeptort@aol.com

Advocate



Michael Freil 937-750-4780
mcfreil2019@gmail.com

Trustees



1-Yr Danny Sprouse 937-291-2007
dgsprouse@gmail.com

2-Yr Steve Berns 937-293-2463
s.berns@att.net

3-Yr John Hoffman 937-529-8723

District Deputy



John Brown 937-723-0531
jabrown147@gmail.com

Deputy Grand Knight



Deogratias Eustace 937-435-2622
deoeustace@hotmail.com

Recorder



Jim Stephenson 937-681-8367
jameswstephenson40@gmail.com

Lecturer



Don Hirst 937-475-0241
d.hirst@sbcglobal.net

Chaplain



Rev Brian Phelps

Warden



Mike Manzo 937-848-2679
mike_manzo@hotmail.com

Outside Guards



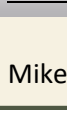
Jeff Travers 317-513-9947
jeffrey.travers@wright.edu

Inside Guard



Dan Pfeiffer dhp2go@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor



Mike Nowak 937-310-1031

Program Directors

Program John Hoffman

Faith Danny Sprouse

Vocations: Danny Sprouse

Community Steve Berns

Life Tom Brockman

Health Service Mike Tortorici

Public Rel Mike Nowak

Family Mike Nowak

Membership: Michael Freil

Recruitment Committee 1 John Hoffman

Recruitment Committee 2 Sean Gammon

Recruitment Committee 3 Steve Berns

Retention: Michael Freil