

# The Franciscan



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

**Volume 18, Issue 2**  
**Knights of Columbus**

**Auguste 1, 2025**  
**Council 14504**

## **Grand Knight's Letter** by GK Sean Gammon



Hello All!

We are well into Summer! We will be helping with the Incarnation Council to staff the grilling stations at the Parish Picnic on August 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be two 90 minute shifts to help, so you can still spend time with your family at the Picnic. Please consider helping. Sign-ups are to be directed to Mike Manzo to keep everything in line and organized.

Mike Nowak and I went to the State Roadshow and got valuable information that we will pass along to the council at the next business meeting. We also got Football Crazer tickets to hand out. Consider buying one or a few. They are 20 dollars and help defray our costs as well as keep the per capita for State down. If you need a ticket, they will be with Mike Nowak and I at the meeting, the Donut Sunday, or email me or Mike and we can mail a few to you!

I will be also be reaching out to our Insurance Agent for a benefit night at either our September or October meeting. If you have any questions in the meantime, his contact information is in this newsletter.

Also in this upcoming meeting, we will be casting the final vote on the 2025-2026 budget. If you would like a copy to review, email me, Mike Nowak, or Joe.

We are also looking at doing a council Christmas social this December. Date TBD. Come to the Council meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup> and socialize with your brothers afterwards over snacks and drinks!

**Vivat Jesus!**

**Sean Gammon, Grand Knight**  
**Council 14504—St Francis of Assisi**

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## **Council 14504 Minutes for July 8th, 2025**

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was held in person. The Grand Knight, Sean Gammon, called the Council to order at 7:30 pm and led the Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Mike Nowak previously e-mailed the Council meeting minutes from May, 2025, to all members. After motions by Danny Sprouse and Sean McManamy, the Council approved the minutes as published.

### **Chaplain's Message:**

Nothing reported.

### **Grand Knight's Report:**

The Grand Knight reported that copies of the proposed budget were available to all members and that it would be discussed under new business.

Father Brian was presented with a Blessed Michael McGivney icon.

It was reported that council achieved Star Council.

It was reported that the Road Show would be on July 12 at Council 500.

Help was requested for the preparation of dinner for the upcoming Vacation Bible Camp on July 15.

Help will be needed for grilling at the Parish Picnic on August 24.

### **Financial Report:**

Treasurer, Joe Schmidt, reported the current deposits, expenses, and checking account balance. Deposits totaled \$498.41 and expenses totaled \$1123.20.

### **Membership Report:**

State Membership Director, Michael Freil, reported that the same number of new members will be needed for the new fraternal year.

### **Committee Reports:**

The council will provide dinner for the Vacation Bible Camp on July 14 and the Mens Club will provide Dinner on July 16. Volunteers will be needed for both.

It was reported that there will be a spaghetti dinner after the 4:30PM Mass on August 15, in celebration of the Feast of Assumption.

Help will be needed to prepare food for the Parish Picnic on August 24. Please sign up with Mike Nowak or Mike Manzo.

A golf outing is scheduled for September 7. Details will be in the parish bulletin.

Mike Tortorici reported that dates will soon be announced for a Pilgrimage to Italy in 2026. Father Ken has agreed to go along.

### **Report of the Fourth Degree**

Michael Freil reported that a 4th Degree Exemplification will be held on July 26 at Ascension.

### **Financial Secretary Report:**

Checks were written to Supreme for the per capita and an audit will be due by September 15.

### **Field Agent Report**

Nothing reported.

### **District Deputy Report**

District Deputy, John Brown, reported that the council will need to add 10 new members and conduct two fraternal benefit nights to again qualify for Star Council. It was noted that COR will be a major focus and that there will need to be a director for Evangelization and Faith. Measure Up is due by August 1, Matching Funds by September and SOS will be due by December 15 and April 1.

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## **Council 14504 Minutes for May 13th, 2025 (cont)**

### **Unfinished Business:**

None.

### **New Business:**

John Hoffman motioned to postpone a vote on the new budget until August. The motion was seconded by Mike Nowak. The council voted in favor.

John Hoffman motioned for #250 to cover some of the costs for Father Brian to attend a Priest Convocation. Mike Nowak amended the motion to \$500. Danny Sprouse seconded the motion. The council voted in favor.

John Hoffman motioned for \$130 for the Chapter, which will include \$30 for dues, \$50 for Father Peterka and \$50 for VAVS. Danny Spouse seconded the motion. The council voted in favor.

John Hoffman motioned for Sean Gammon, Steve Berns and Michael Freil to be delegates to the Dayton Chapter along with alternates John Hoffman and Cal Frank. Sean McManamy seconded the motion. The council voted in favor.

Mike Tortorici motioned to donate \$250 for the Elizabeth New Life Christmas in July fundraiser. Mike Nowak seconded and the council voted in favor.

Sean McManamy motioned to donate \$250 to Texas flood relief. Mike Tortorici seconded and the council voted in favor.

### **Good of the Order**

Knight of the Month – Dan Turner

Family of the Month – Bartsch family

### **Closing Prayer:**

All are asked to pray for Don Hirst, Fr. Joseph and his mother, those who are morning, and the flood victims in Texas. All were asked to pray for peace.

### **Adjournment:**

Grand Knight Sean Gammon closed the meeting with the Prayer for Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney at 8:40 pm.

**Submitted by Trustee and Acting Recorder, Steve Berns**

## Stephen Bartsch's Eagle Scout Project

Stephen Bartsch, son of fellow Knight, Dr Mark Bartsch, recently completed his Eagle Scout project with the help of some Knights from the Council. The project involved building a crushed limestone path connecting the neighboring Sinclair Parking lot with St Francis Parish via the Prayer Labyrinth. The pictures below show both before and after perspectives as well as a picture of Mark.



The timing of his project is particularly apropos as the Parish Picnic is less than a month away and his path will allow Picnic attendees an easier walk from overflow parking at Sinclair.

Only about 5% of Scouts achieve Eagle Scout status, the highest rank in Scouting, which is a measure of the Scout's work ethic, dedication and leadership abilities. Council 14504 extends congratulations to Mark on this worthwhile endeavor! We're also looking forward to Mark joining our Council one day in the future! Please congratulate Mark next time you see him.



## Grand Knight



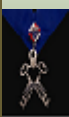
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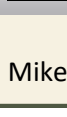
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**Health Service** Mike Tortorici

**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