

Council Meeting Minutes

Organization: Knights of Columbus

Date: December, 2025

Location: Prince of Peace Parish Hall Meeting Room

Presiding Officer: Alex Montgomery-Soares – Grand Knight

Summary of the Meeting:

The December 2025 Knights of Columbus Council meeting focused on financial stewardship, community service, and upcoming spiritual activities. The council reviewed its stable financial standing, with a balance exceeding \$57,000 despite substantial year-to-date disbursements for charitable projects like the "Tootsie Roll" drive and seminary support. Key highlights included the recognition of Tom Farmer as Knight of the Month and reports on successful service projects, such as serving 240 meals at St. Mary's Food Kitchen and conducting a local street cleanup. Looking ahead to early 2026, the council finalized plans for a Christmas party on January 17th, a Corporate Communion on January 18th, and ongoing collections for the "pro-life crib" and homeless outreach via the Uplift ministry.

Financial Reports and Status

- **Treasurer Report (Rob Ragusin):**
 - **Account Balance:** The ending balance as of November was \$57,135.89, reflecting a decrease of \$10,721 for the month.
 - **Disbursements:** Monthly expenses included payments for tootsie rolls, seminary support, food for families, and Christmas gifts for the pastor.
 - **Receipts:** The council received \$1,340 from sausage sales and tootsie roll reimbursements.
 - **Year-to-Date:** The year-to-date status shows a decrease of \$936. Total YTD disbursements are \$38,738(covering events like Old Settlers and Fall Festival), and total receipts are \$37,801.
- **Financial Secretary Report (Jeff Bartz):**

- **Warrants:** Seven warrants were processed totaling \$2,920.69.
- **Membership:** The council has a total of 378 members (a decrease of one due to transfer), consisting of 205 associates, 140 insurance members, and 33 inactive members.
- **Dues/Fees:** Membership cards are available for those who have paid, and "the square" is available for members to pay for the upcoming Christmas party (\$15/person or \$25/couple) .

Designees of the Month

- **Knight of the Month:** Tom Farmer was nominated and approved as the Knight of the Month for December.
- **Family of the Month:** Troy & Phyllis Mills was nominated and approved as the Knight of the Month for December.

Director and Committee Reports (Grand Knight Report)

- **St. Mary's Food Kitchen:** On December 1st, a crew of 22 people served 240 meals, which was considered a good turnout despite the cold weather .
- **Street Cleanup:** The cleanup on December 6th was successful; despite recent snow, the crew filled all trash bags.
- **Uplift (Homeless Ministry):** The next outing is January 10th. There is an urgent need for blankets, jackets, shoes, boots, socks, AAA batteries, and candles.
- **Pro-Life:** A "pro-life crib" will be set up to collect baby items (especially newborn diapers) and gas cards (specifically QuickTrip) throughout the month of January to benefit the Life Pregnancy Center.
- **Rosary Rally:** A public rosary rally is scheduled for January 22nd at 12:00 PM at the Olathe town square.
- **Website/Newsletter:** All minutes and upcoming dates are currently up to date on the council website .

Old Business

- **Minutes Approval:** The November meeting minutes were approved with amendments to include a \$500 approval for families and a \$100 donation to Boys Town.
- **Food Drive:** The November/December food drive collection ends "tomorrow" - **12/17/2025**
- **Closet Security:** The new security lock codes for the council closet have been installed and tested by several members and officers.

New Business

- **SEEK Conference:** The council discussed supporting two students to attend the SEEK Catholic university conference in Colorado .
- **Fire Retreat 2026:** Scheduled for February 7–8. Preparation for the breakfast burritos is underway.
- **Christmas Party:** Scheduled for January 17th with a \$2,000 budget. The menu will likely be provided by Hy-Vee, featuring options like chicken, ham, and roast beef.
- **Corporate Communion:** Scheduled for Sunday, January 18th at 9:00 AM. Members are asked to wear their badges.

Raffle Drawing

- **Winning Ticket:** #6605
- **Winner:** Bob

Closing Prayer:

Led by council. Special focus on community safety, gratitude, and unity through faith.