

St. Therese Church  
Knights of Columbus Council 12885  
Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2026

Call to order by Deputy Grand Knight Frank Weisgerber at 6:30 pm. All officers were in attendance except for the Grand Knight, Chaplain, Treasurer, Warden, Inside Guard and First Year Trustee. All absences were excused.

- > The Recorder noted that all members present were credentialed.
- > The opening prayer was offered and led by Bro. Bob Smith, Lecturer.
- > DGK Frank Weisgerber led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- > The Minutes of last Council Meeting (November 2025) were approved by motion.

DGK Frank Weisgerber welcomed all the Council members to the meeting. There were a total of seventeen Council members in attendance.

DGK Frank Weisgerber also welcomed and introduced the three guest speakers in attendance. Faithful Navigator Larry Greer, of Assembly 2017, Regional District Deputy/District Deputy Gene Ziemba and Worthy Field Agent, Marty Yakimovich.

### **CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE / REFLECTION**

Bro. Bob Smith, Lecturer, read the monthly challenge from the Supreme Chaplain, Archbishop William E. Lori, and his reflection on the Gospel of Matthew 4:16.

"...the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land overshadowed by death light has arisen."

Why would anyone sit in darkness? When it is dark, we ordinarily seek source of light so that we may see-and be seen. Unless asleep, one who remains in the dark typically wishes not to be noticed. When we immerse ourselves in un-repentant sin, we effectively enter into darkness. Like Adam and Eve after the fall, we hide we hide from God. But Jesus calls us forth into the light, inviting us to repent of our sins, so that we might embrace Christ, the light of the world, who leads us to everlasting life.

Archbishop Lori challenges us to make an examination of conscience every day, perhaps using *A Guide to Confession*, published by the Order's Information Service ([kofc.org/cis](http://kofc.org/cis)) and to make a good confession at least once.

### **GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT**

DGK Frank Weisgerber read a letter addressed to the Council from Paula Basso, the widow of deceased Bro. Ed Basso, thanking everyone for thinking of her and inviting her to attend the Council's Christmas Party on December 16, 2025.

## **GRAND KNIGHT'S REPORT cont.**

Paula mentioned that it brought back many happy memories of attending past events with her husband and enjoyed meeting many of the new Knights and their wives. She stated that "I have not been to a party that I have enjoyed so much!" She was very grateful to everyone for the "special night".

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Council's Financial Report was presented by Bro. Johnson, Financial Secretary. Details of the report are available and can be requested through the Faithful Comptroller or the Faithful Treasurer.

## **PROGRAMS REPORTS**

Bro. Holden Spain, Faith Director, volunteered to investigate and possibly coordinate our Council's participation in the "Silver Rose Pilgrimage". This yearly event begins in early March and ends on December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe's Feast Day. There are 8 Silver Roses which are stewarded by Knight of Columbus Councils and travel along routes from Canada, to every state in the USA, Puerto Rico and Mexico. Every stop the Silver Rose makes throughout the pilgrimage, is a Rosary-centered occasion for Knights, parishioners and community members to pray for respect for life, for spiritual renewal of each nation and for the advancement of the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bro. Holden reported that he contacted the North Carolina Organizing Committee and was advised that they were hoping to get a Council geographically located closer to the center of the state. The Committee appreciated the willingness of our Council to participate in this worthy event.

DGK Frank Weisgerber advised the Council that on Saturday February 28, 2026 a March for Life is taking place at Long Leaf Park, Shelter#6 from 10 am-12:30.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Larry Greer, Faithful Navigator, Assembly 2017, spoke to the membership about the Knights of Columbus 4th Degree, also known as the "Patriotic Degree". It is the highest and most prestigious degree of the Knights of Columbus. Members join a local "Assembly" rather than just a Council and it's members focus on fostering patriotism, responsible citizenship and love of country alongside Catholic ideals. Activities include Color Corps for parades, church ceremonies and educational classes on the proper display of the Flag of the United States of America. FN Larry Greer also informed the Council of a 4th Degree Exemplification which will be held on March 21, 2026 at the

## **GUEST SPEAKERS cont.**

All Saints Catholic Church in Hampstead, North Carolina. Additional information regarding this exemplification can be found on the Assembly 2017 website ( [kofc2017.org](http://kofc2017.org) ) and click the Exemplification tab on the menu. There is an online fillable Form 4. Complete the form and return it with your application. Questions should be directed to the membership Chair, Greg Decker at (910) 622-0250 or by email, [gadecker@earthlink.net](mailto:gadecker@earthlink.net). Submission deadline is March 1.

Worthy Regional District Deputy/District Deputy Gene Ziemba addressed the membership and made a special presentation to DGK Frank Weisgerber and the 12885 Council with a “Fraternity Award” for the 2024-2025 year. Worthy DD Gene Ziemba congratulated the Council for it’s excellent service and dedication to the principles of Charity, Unity and Fraternity.

Worthy Field Agent Marty Yakimovich, a Knight of Columbus Brother for 28 years, spoke to the members regarding the history of the Knights of Columbus and it’s Insurance Program. Since the founding of the Knights of Columbus in 1882, the organization has been committed to providing financial protection to it’s members and their families. With nearly two million members and more than \$100 billion of Life Insurance in force, the Knights of Columbus is the largest Catholic fraternal organization in the world and one of North America’s largest life insurers. They offer a complete portfolio of top quality products to members and eligible family members including permanent life insurance, term life insurance, retirement annuities, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance and fraternal/survivor benefits. For additional information regarding Knight of Columbus insurance, contact Marty Yakimovich at (910) 617-2805 or email: [martin.yakimovich@koc.org](mailto:martin.yakimovich@koc.org)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Bro. Paul Johnson, Financial Secretary, is in the process of collecting outstanding and overdue 2026 yearly dues.

After a successful “Knight Out with the Ladies” event last November, Bro. Bob Smith is planning another fun-filled evening event. All members are invited to attend.

Bro. Joe Costy, Trustee, a member of the Wilmington St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee related that the parade will take place this year on Saturday March 14th, 11am until Noon. All are encouraged to join us in the line of march. Wear Council shirts and meet at 10:30 am. Downtown location to be announced. Also, the Parade Committee has scheduled a fund raising Irish “Hooley” to take place on Saturday February 28th, 11:30am-6pm at the Waterline Brewing Co. 721 Surrey St. Live music, singing, dancing, food, pipes and drums, always fun for all...

## **NEW BUSINESS cont.**

The 2026 Easter Baskets Raffle Sales will take place at all masses on the weekends of March 21 and March 28. There will be a QR code to purchase tickets on the Council's website [kofc12885.org](http://kofc12885.org).

Any questions, please contact Bro. Patrick Kolenik (516) 236-2248 or [pat.kolenik@gmail.com](mailto:pat.kolenik@gmail.com)

The 25th Anniversary of the founding of Council 12885 will be on February 24th 2026. An announcement in the Church Bulletin would be appropriate and welcomed. A Special Dinner Celebration was also discussed as a possible event at a local restaurant.

## **BROTHERS IN NEED**

Healing prayers are requested for District Deputy Robert Hack and Fr. Gregory Spencer, Pastor, St. Mark Catholic Church and School.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Led by Bro. Bob Smith, Lecturer, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, the Glory Be to the Father and the Grace before meal.

Next Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday March 10, 2026. Officers at 5:45 pm, Members at 6:30 pm.

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

A dinner meal was provided by Bro. Bob Smith and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Submitted by Bro. Roger Wachnicki, Recorder