



## Knights of Columbus

### South County Council No. 8251 ♦ West River, Maryland 20778

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**Subject:** Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** October 12, 2023

The Council was called to order at 7:30pm by Frank Klein.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were posted to Council Website ([www.koc8251.org](http://www.koc8251.org))  
Motion made to approve as written. Motion passed unanimously.

The Chaplain reported as follows: Father Mike passed his thanks to the Council for its raffle donation of \$5000 to the HVAC fund.



### Grand Knight's Report:

1. Our Council's annual **Maryland Renaissance Festival beerstand fundraiser** takes place **Saturday 14 October** from 9:00AM to 6:30PM. *For the last time*, we'll work the beerstands on this one day to raise money for the charitable activities we conduct or support all year long. PLEASE sign up to help now at [koc8251@gmail.com](mailto:koc8251@gmail.com). Thanks to Brother Knights Ricky Salvatore, John Zajic, Mike Cecil, Pat Mullarkey, John Menard, Leon Turkevich, Pete Stengel, David Mutschler, Kenny Harrison, and Marty Luff who've volunteered to join me. *This is going to be our "last hurrah" doing the RennFest fundraiser, so I ask you to help us go out on a strong note!* Thanks so much for supporting the one event that lets us do so much good throughout the year!
2. Welcome our newest Brother Knight Gerald "J" Atkinson into the Order and our Council! He joined us Sunday 01 October in an Exemplification Ceremony at the Holy Family Chapel. Vivat Jesus!
3. "vielen Dank und gut gemacht!" ("Thank you and well done!") to our Worthy Lecturer and "kuechenchef" Jonathan Canedo for a fantastic Oktoberfest social enjoyed at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall on 30 September. "Sehr guts essen" ("the food was awesome!") and we enjoyed each other's company as much as the traditional German Oktoberfest fare.
4. Thanks to Brother Knights John Zajic, Tony DiLaurentis, Ken Schmidt, Dan Collins, Marty Luff, Leo Laughlin, Pete Stengel, Ben Branson, Ricky Salvatore, and David Mutschler for working our Council's annual Tootsie Roll Drive at Holy Family on 22 and 23 September and to Brother Knights John Zajic, Anthony Darket, Jonathan Canedo, and Kenny Harrison for working our Council's annual Tootsie Roll Drive at Our Lady of Sorrows on 07 and 08 October. Special thanks to Father Mike and Father Rich for putting plugs in for us in the post-Eucharist announcements after each Mass! Our drive to raise funds benefiting those with differing abilities attending Anne Arundel County Central Special School is scheduled to resume weekend of 21-22 October at 7-Eleven in Deale. Please contact PGK David Way at 410-271-4965 to sign up.
5. **40 Days of Life Fall Campaign, Sep 27 - Nov 5** - 40 Days for Life is a worldwide mobilization of God's people to Pray, Fast, and Stand Vigil at local Abortion Facilities to end abortion. Holy Family Parish will be covering one hour each week during the fall campaign which meets at the Annapolis Planned Parenthood, 929 West Street. Holy Family Parish's hours are Friday from 2PM - 3PM. You may also sign up for another time by visiting <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/local-campaigns/annapolis/>. As the social and political



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environment are becoming more hostile to life, we must be God's hands and feet in defense of the voiceless pre-born babies and their mothers. The campaign is credited for having saved over 23,525 babies and their mothers from abortion; closed 145 abortion facilities and helped 251 abortion workers leave their jobs. *Please contact Katherine Miller at [ksmillerhome@verizon.net](mailto:ksmillerhome@verizon.net) if you plan to participate* or have any questions. The statistics indicate that as many as 75% of scheduled abortion appointments are no shows when people are praying outside the abortion facility. Even if you can't come pray outside the facility, your prayer and fasting are needed to fight for the sanctity of human life!

6. **"Into the Breach: The Mission of the Family"** is a five-part video series designed to help form Catholic men to be better husbands, fathers and friends by living authentic Catholic marriages while navigating the challenges and struggles of married life. You can access the entire series (as well as a study guide) by going to <https://www.kofc.org/un/en/campaigns/into-the-breach.html> and clicking on "Mission of the Family".

7. **Knights of Columbus Virtual Fraternal Benefits Webinar** is happening Thursday 26 October at 7:30PM Eastern. "Aligning Financial Decisions with Your Catholic Values" is the topic, and we'll learn more about insurance, investment, and charitable solutions which integrate responsible financial planning with our responsibilities as described in the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching. We plan to hold a "viewing party" at Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall to watch the webinar. You can also watch from your home. To register for this webinar, go to <https://tinyurl.com/KofCOct26>. We need any combination of (14) Knights to attend one of two webinars (through its completion) in the Fraternal Year to get credit for Founder's Award. Hope to "see" you there!

8. **Wreaths Across America:** Please donate a wreath and/or consider volunteering to lay a wreath by visiting this fundraising page: <https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/pages/165233/Overview>. Please note the cutoff for donating wreaths this year is November 30, 2023. Besides honoring the memory of America's fallen, your wreath donation also benefits the Council financially. Our Council will be laying wreaths on Saturday 16 December at Annapolis National Cemetery. Thanks for your support!

### 9. Upcoming Events:

Date(s)	Event
27 Sep – 05 Nov	40 Days for Life vigil: prayer and fasting in peaceful prayerful witness for the end of abortion. Check <a href="https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/Annapolis">https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/Annapolis</a> for details or contact Katherine Miller at <a href="mailto:ksmillerhome@verizon.net">ksmillerhome@verizon.net</a>
21-22 Oct	Fall Membership Drive after all Masses at Holy Family. Asking for 2-3 Knights at each Mass to do drive.
21-22 Oct	Tootsie Roll Drive at 7-Eleven in Deale. Volunteers needed - contact Dave Way at 410-271-4965 to sign up
22 Oct	"Trunk or Treat" Halloween event at Holy Family, 2:00PM – 4:00PM
26 Oct	October Social: KofC Virtual Fraternal Benefits Night Watch Party, 7:30PM Eastern, Our Lady of Sorrows Parish Hall (or you can watch at home). Click on following link to register: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/KofCOct26">https://tinyurl.com/KofCOct26</a>
01 Nov	Feast of All Saints
04-05	Tootsie Roll Drive at Christophers in Churchton. Times TBD.



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Nov	Volunteers needed – sign up at <a href="mailto:koc8251@gmail.com">koc8251@gmail.com</a>
04-05 Nov	Call for Coats Drive begins at Holy Family. Weekends through 25-26 Nov.
05 Nov	Exemplification Ceremony (if needed) 9:30-10:30 AM, Holy Family Chapel
06 Nov	Monthly Executive Meeting (virtual), 7:30PM – 8:30PM. Link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/KofC8251">https://tinyurl.com/KofC8251</a>
09 Nov	Monthly Membership Meeting, Holy Family, Classrooms 10 and 11. Meeting will run from 7:30PM and end no later than 8:30PM.
10 Nov	AAMC Blood Drive hosted by KofC 8251, 9:00AM – 3:00PM at Holy Family. Need 4-6 Knights to assist donors and support AAMC personnel.
11-12 Nov	Call for Coats Drive continues at Holy Family. Weekends through 25-26 Nov.
12 Nov	Maryland State Council Memorial Mass, 3:00PM, Shrine of St Anthony, Ellicott City
18-19 Nov	Call for Coats Drive continues at Holy Family. Weekends through 25-26 Nov.
23 Nov	Thanksgiving Day
25-26 Nov	Call for Coats Drive concludes at Holy Family.
30 Nov	Wreaths Across America – deadline to donate
02 Dec	Knights make Dinner (menu TBD) for Winter Relief at Holy Family – time TBD
03-04 Dec	“Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest begins – entries dues 11 Dec
08 Dec	Solemnity of Immaculate Conception
11 Dec	“Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest entries dues 11 Dec
11 Dec	Monthly Executive Meeting (virtual), 7:30PM – 8:30PM. Link: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/KofC8251">https://tinyurl.com/KofC8251</a>
14 Dec	Monthly Membership Meeting, Holy Family, Classrooms 10 and 11. Meeting will run from 7:30PM and end no later than 8:30PM.
16 Dec	Wreaths Across America – Wreathlaying (Annapolis National Cemetery)
16 Dec	Christmas Party
17 Dec	Breakfast with Santa – Holy Family after Sunday Masses

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### Financial Report: Presented by Brother Knight Ed Kaczka

Receipts	
Dues	\$40.00
Dividends & Interest	\$126.79
Gabriel Baby Bottle Late Returns	\$80.00

[www.koc8251.org](http://www.koc8251.org)



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Tootsie Roll Drive – Holy Family	\$1381.15
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$1627.94</b>
<b>Disbursements</b>	
HF and OLOS Donation	\$900.00
Installation Reception	\$194.12
Good of Order (Jun/Jul/Aug)	\$170.40
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>\$1264.52</b>

<b>Financial Position</b>	
Cash on hand (Checking)	\$15,525.15
Reserve/Treasury	\$20,000.00
Investment Account	\$12,910.00
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$48,435.15</b>

- Gabriel network Total Collection \$3,239.19 Balance \$1,219.19

### Membership Report:

- Brother Jeff continuously reaches out to current and future members. With our new Brother Knight Gerald J Atkinson joining the Order and our Council, we are 44% of the way to our recruiting goal for the year.

### Reports

- **Faith**
  - See “Upcoming Events” above
- **Family - NTR**
- **Community - NTR**
- **Life**
  - See “Upcoming Events” above
  - November 10<sup>th</sup> – Blood drive is scheduled.
- **Committees: NTR**
- **Fourth Degree:** Exemplification 04 Nov @ Holy Family Mitchellville.
- **Insurance Agent:** Not present



### District Deputy Report: (Jeff Maynard)

**Council Growth** – All councils should be membership active by now. That simply means that at least one new member became a Knight in each council. A low chinning bar after 3 months. The saying that “one is better than none” gets the council moving in the right direction.

- The new video series Into the Breach: The Mission of the Family was released on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Please share this resource with your members.
- **Memorial Masses (3)**
  - Prepare copies of the council necrology for all 3 Masses (state, chapter, council). Include pronunciation aid for names if needed. Ensure that a copy of the necrology sent to the state council is provided to the DD. The District Deputies will read the necrology at 2:00pm on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the State Memorial Mass.
- Confirm November dates for the state, chapter, and council Memorial Masses
- Send necrology to each POC now, and update if needed later in October



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- Invite and escort widows/families of the deceased to all 3 Masses

SK Michael Lynch, State Family Activities Director, has notified the State Deputy that he is a candidate for State Warden at the May 2024 State Convention in Annapolis. To date, no other candidates has applied, but others may apply in the coming months.

Finally – the District Warden and I are here to help. Let us know if we can help you and your members better live your Faith in the public square where we  
“Cry the Gospel with Our Lives!”

### Unfinished/Old Business:

- PGK Tom Weigand reported draft letter reaching out to widows of departed Council Knights was ready for mailing. Grand Knight asked to review letter prior to mailing. Unfinished business item remains open.

### New Business

- Council will participate in Fraternal Year 2024 Refund Support to Vocations Program (RSVP) for Seminarians in Archdiocese of Baltimore. Support for this program is budgeted in Council's approved Fraternal Year 2023-2024 budget. Three of our five sponsored seminarians from last fraternal year were ordained in June 2023. Determination of number of seminarians to support will be presented by Executive Committee to Council membership for vote at November membership meeting.

### Good of the Order:

- Family of the Month: South County Council 8251 names the family of Ben and Hannah Branson as its September 2023 Family of the Month. The Branson family are new members of Holy Family Parish in Davidsonville but jumped in to contribute to parish and Council life immediately. Brother Knight Ben, a Captain in the Marine Corps, serves as catechist in the parish's faith formation program. He also participates in the Council's charitable activities. The whole Branson family is a joy to witness at Mass. They demonstrate a family's love for God, for each other, and for the common good. Brother Knight Ben, Hannah, and their children model the Catholic family as the domestic Church our contemporary society needs to see so very much! Our Council is proud to name the Branson family as its September 2023 Family of the Month
- Received thank-you letter from Holy Family Parish for \$5000 donation to HVAC Fund from raffle proceeds.
- Received thank-you letter from Supreme Council for participating in Aid and Support After Pregnancy (ASAP) Program in Fraternal Year 2022-2023.

### Closing Prayer

- **Sick:** Ron & Florence Fick, Jeff & Linda Wilk
- **Deceased:** N/A
- Offered Prayer for Canonization of Blessed Michale J McGivney. Father Mike led Council in offering Hail Mary, then gave blessing to Council members present.

**Meeting Adjourned 8:23PM**