



**Knights of Columbus
Council #1221
Business Meeting Minutes
December 14th, 2023**



Call to Order

Thursday, December 14th, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Warden's Report on Membership Card

Bro. Dan Gulley: All present are current members.

Opening Prayer

The Lord's Prayer was said by all.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

Presentation

- Graceland Raelson (Holy Family) from Coats For Kids were present
- 160 coats (over half were kids' coats)
- They explained the background of the program and what it has grown into
- District Deputy Greg Brodfurher presented a Certificate of Excellence to Graceland for her efforts

Reading of and Approval Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The meeting minutes for November were sent out via email and placed at the bar prior to the meeting for review. The minutes were read and accepted by all.

Chaplain's Message: Fr. Jeremy

- This is the Gospel from last Sunday, reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark: John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." John the Baptist is sort of a quintessential character for this season of Advent. He's the precursor of Jesus, he prepares the way for Him, he calls for repentance, he forgives sins. Jesus himself will be baptized by John in the river Jordan; he doesn't confess any sins during the process, but he is baptized and anointed with the Holy Spirit in a particular way. I'm always intrigued by John. It says he wears camel's hair and a leather belt, eats locusts and wild honey, he was sort of a character and strange person. I'm sure people were rather attracted to him, as they were going into the countryside to hear him talk and speak. They were encouraged by his call to repentance by the

presence of the message of God through him. And yet, there is this sort of strangeness to him because he is evidently different than the rest of the Jewish people around him. He had a particular love of God and a particular call for his life, and he knew that call. I'm not saying that we should do what the scriptures say in terms of going around in camel's hair and a leather belt, eating locusts and wild honey, but I do think that there should be something about John the Baptist that attracts us and that we should look to him as a model. Obviously, Jesus is our perfect model as Christian men, but John the Baptist was a person that gathered others together to repent their sins. He got their attention, and he was not afraid to not live like the rest of the world. We live in a world where on the surface, there is lots of polarization, and we can't agree on things. If you look the cars we drive, the ways our houses are shaped and the way that we decorate or what we wear, there's a sense of uniformity among us. We look to the world around us for fashion statements, for what we pursue, for what we think is important, for how we set career goals or what defines success. John evidently sets a different standard. I think the challenge in that for us, not just as Christian men, but as Knights of Columbus, our lives are radically different. Not just different for difference sake, John wasn't doing these things just so that he could be different. He did them as a way to draw others to this call of God, to make a point about penance and desire to live as a sign in the world. I'm not asking us to give up our normal clothes and diet, but are our actions and priorities different enough that others would see them and say "there's something different about this person, something different about the way Christ works in their life and how they prioritize Christ. How they set their agenda is different." At the forefront of that is our recognition of our sinfulness. Christians like to talk very generally that they're a sinner, and they need Jesus as a savior. If we really recognize the profound depths of that, that I need to confess my sins and seek God's mercy and forgiveness and received it, Jesus tells us that we must give it to others. Are we living a different life, do people notice it? It's not to draw attention to ourselves, it's to draw attention to the Lord. John the Baptist lives this very different life so that they could point out, more effectively, the coming of the Christ. Christ has come, but so many do not see Him, recognize Him, or acknowledge Him. Jesus needs to be pointed out again, anew, in every age, in every place. He needs us to be John the Baptist. Let's take a cue from John the Baptist to be a little different, not just for difference sake, but so that others may truly experience Christ and point him out to those in the world.

Grand Knight's Report: WGK John Vernia

- 65 Thanksgiving food baskets were distributed to the community
- Very successful fish fry in December
- This week, we started our latest construction project (demolition of the back wall in the basement)
- January Fish Fry Events:
 - First Friday Fish Fry (5th)
 - Angels in Disguise Benefit Fish Fry (19th)
- Christmas Breakfast on Dec 25th for the homeless here at the hall
- January 16th will have a Gibault presentation meeting here at the hall

Deputy Grand Knight's Report: DGK Ron Webber

- Planning meeting:

- No notes from last week

Treasurer's Report: Bro. John Kaiser

- At the end of November, the General Fund has \$43,055, the Gaming Fund is at \$29,668 and the CBC Fund has \$125,351.
 - *(For new members, CBC stands for The Columbia Building Corporation which is a separate entity from Knights of Columbus 1221. Each 1221 member is also a shareholder in the CBC)*
- All bills are paid and up to date.
- The mortgage has been paid off!

Balloting for Membership: Bro. Matt Lincoln

- New Members for the month of November:
 - None
- New Members for the 2023-2024 Fraternal Year:
 - Brenden Kelly
 - David Harbeson (Holy Family)
 - Luke Naville
 - Joseph Naville
 - Jon (Mike) Bartley
 - Jeff Greenwood (reinstatement)
 - Dominic Morales (transfer)
 - Stephen Fernung (SMK)
 - John Nies (reinstatement)
- Potential
 - Joseph Hackney (SMNA)
 - Chris Didelot (SMK)

Financial Secretary's Report: Bro. Matt Lincoln

- Still have 32 out of 500 members that haven't paid their dues for 2023
- Will be working to contact those that have not yet paid (see Bro. Matt if you would like to help make phone calls to those members)
- 2024 dues have been mailed out
 - Already have 1/3 of them paid, which is excellent
- Mark Lodes became an honorary life member
- Gibault is at \$412
- SOS is at \$205

New Business:

- Libs Paving will be submitting a bid for sealcoating of the parking lot given the cracks that have formed in the new surface (which is natural)

Report of Service Program Committees:

- **Program Director: Bro. Greg Brodfurher**
 - No report this week

- **Community Director: Bro. Kevin Kruer**
 - No report this week
- **Family Director: Bro. Rob Davis**
 - No report this week
- **Culture of Life Director: Bro. Mark Court**
 - Indiana March for Life is still going as scheduled
 - Motion made and passed for supplying \$750 in funding for attending March for Life in Washington D.C.
- **Vocation Director: Bro. Greg Brodfehrer**
 - No report this week
- **Faith Director: Bro. Ben Wissel**
 - No report this week
- **Health and Service Director: Bro. Ron Webber**
 - No report this week
- **Public Relations Director: Bro. Chris Gahagen**
 - No report this week

Report of the Fourth Degree:

- No report this week

Insurance Field Agent Report – Bro. Phillip Weise

- No report this week

District Deputy Report – Bro. Greg Brodfehrer

- district35@indianakofc.org
- Attended the KofC Conference in French Lick
 - Excellent weekend of meetings
 - Was able to promote Council #1221 activities to the state
 - Brought home two awards for the council
 - Santa Maria Award
 - Vocation Awards for support of our seminarians
 - Big push for membership growth at the state level
 - Programs:
 - Food for Families – met the requirement through the Thanksgiving Basket event

Good of the Order

- Prayers for the good of the order
 - Bro. Mike Albers
 - Mary Worden (wife of Bro. Mike Worden)

Closing Prayer

- The Hail Mary was said by all.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 P.M.

Submitted by: Recorder, Dustin Jones, December 14th, 2023
Attested to by: WGK, John Vernia, December 14th, 2023