

**MEETING: October 1, 2015**

**Council was called to order at: 7:43 P.M. by: Grand Knight**

**Prayer was offered by: Grand Knight**

**The roll of officers was called and noted as follows (P – Present; A – Absent):**

<b>Chaplain: E</b>	<b>Financial Secretary: P</b>	<b>Inside Guard: A</b>
<b>Grand Knight: P</b>	<b>Treasurer: E</b>	<b>Outside Guard: #1: E #2: A</b>
<b>Deputy Grand Knight: P</b>	<b>Lecturer: E</b>	<b>Trustee (3<sup>rd</sup> Yr.): A</b>
<b>Chancellor: E</b>	<b>Advocate: P</b>	<b>Trustee (2<sup>nd</sup> Yr.): A</b>
<b>Recorder: P</b>	<b>Warden: P</b>	<b>Trustee (1<sup>st</sup> Yr.): P</b>

**The Minutes of the previous meeting were:** Minutes from the September meeting are available online. The minutes could not be approved as a quorum was not present. The minute's approval will be on the agenda for the November meeting.

**The Grand Knight read applications for membership approved by the Admissions Committee as follows:**

- The Deputy Grand Knight reported the membership count was at 113 with the addition of one member in September.
- The advocate has two form 100's filled out and will transfer them to the Deputy Grand Knight.

**The results of balloting were:**

- No balloting took place

**The Grand Knight reported as follows:**

- The Recorder was commended for posting the minutes from the previous meeting.
- At the close of the recent First Degree, the Chancellor announced that he and his wife are moving to Hilton Head.
  - The Chancellor, John Carroll, said he would be available for the membership drive on the weekend of October 11. He also offered to fulfill his football concession stand commitments.
  - The Chancellor usually serves as the membership chairman.
  - All members need to be involved in membership recruiting and help find a new chancellor.
- The First Degree team did a good job on September 20th. Will McDowell came into the council that day. He is a roommate of Alex Nguyen at USC.
- Two out of the seven football concession this fall have taken place.
  - Only 4 members showed up for the last game.
  - The weather was been cool at both games, which hurt sales.
  - Next concession will be on October 10. 5 people have signed up. 7-8 would be ideal.
- Grand Knight discussed the Pope's recent visit to both Cuba and the US and the good media coverage it generated.
- A First Degree will be held at 5 PM on October 18<sup>th</sup>.
- There will have to be a brief meeting before the start of the First Degree to approve all the candidates available, including those recruited at the drive on the weekend of October 11<sup>th</sup>.

**The Treasurer reported as follows**

Checking balance: \$7,297.90

Savings Balance: \$7,082.60

**The following communications were read:**

The Fall Newsletter from Birthright was received and mentions the billboards that are up.

**Financial Secretary report:****Vouchers:**

None

**Receipts:**

None

**The Auditors Trustees reported as follows:**

No Report

**The Chancellor reported on vocations:**

No Report

**The following committees reported:**

- Membership and Blood Drive on October 11<sup>th</sup>:
  - We are also committed to hosting the Welcome Sunday event that day.
    - We are supposed to provide donuts in the school lobby.
      - Someone needs to come by the Administration Building on Friday, 10/9, to pick up the donut check.
      - Grand Knight will ask John Carroll to get the donuts. If John cannot get the donuts, the Grand Knight will.
    - There will be plenty of OJ and coffee with the pancakes, so we don't need to worry about making extra preparations for them.
  - Advertising
    - The pancake breakfast and blood drive have been advertised in the bulletin - but not the membership drive.
    - The Advocate offered to write an announcement that Msgr. Harris can read after the Sunday Masses, encouraging parishioners to look into joining the Knights when they go over to the blood drive and pancake breakfast. He will send the announcement to the Deputy Grand Knight, who will forward it onto Msgr. Harris.
  - Knights of Columbus literature will be on the desk in lobby, including brochures and copies of the Columbia magazine.
  - Tom Militello is working on getting the Youth group to help with drinks at the breakfast.
- Football game concessions coming up on 10/10 and 10/17.
- Columbus Hope Foundation collection will take place after all the Masses on 10/24 & 25.
- We have plenty of form 100's at the moment. Knights are encouraged to have form 100's available when working these events.

**Unfinished business was taken up and disposed as follows:**

None.

**The following new business was brought up:**

- Memorial Mass and Reception on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - An Honor Guard is needed for this.
    - The correct procedure is to request an Honor Guard form the Navigator of 4<sup>th</sup> Degree, but he will probably suggest the Grand Knight recruit 4<sup>th</sup> degree members from the Council.
    - Grand Knight will send e-mail to all Council 12554 members requesting 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knights for the Honor Guard.
  - The Council needs to give the Women’s Society \$300 for the event.
  - Council volunteers will be needed as bartenders, ushers, Eucharistic ministers, Lecturers, etc...

**The Insurance Agent reported as follows:**

No Report

**The District Deputy reported as follows:**

No Report

**Under Good of the Order:**

- Solicitations made from prayers and prayers offered.
- Deacon Poole who had another stroke just before the September meeting. He is currently in Still Hopes rehab facility and would be appreciative of visitors.
- Good of the Order presented by the Advocate substituting for Lecturer:
  - Read from reflection on Pope Francis’s acceptance speech. He accepted in a spirit of penance.
  - The Recorder was asked to post the reflection with the minutes (see last page of these minutes).
- Grand Knight mentioned he would like the Council to go in a more spiritual direction and would appreciate any ideas for making this happen.

**Chaplains summation:**

No report

**Closing prayer was said by:** Grand Knight **at** 8:41

**Attest:** *John P. Staab*

**Recorder:** John P. Staab

Knights of Columbus Council #12554  
For the Good of the Order – October 1, 2015  
Prepared by: Tom Militello

Reflect for a moment on these words – “I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of our Lord Jesus Christ, and I accept in a spirit of penance.”

This was the response given by now Pope Francis to the cardinals when asked to accept his election as pontiff. He accepted his position in a spirit of penance. What message was he delivering to the cardinals? It would appear that he was not only humbled by his selection, but wanted all to understand that although Pope, he is still human, and he seeks to be reconciled with God and his fellow man when the separation brought on by sin does and will occur.

How might marriages be different if the spouses to be were to respond in the same way as Pope Francis? “I am a sinner, but I trust in the infinite mercy and patience of Jesus Christ to bless our marriage, and I accept your offer to be your lawful wedded spouse until death do us part, in a spirit of penance.” Perhaps the words “in good times and in bad” are suppose to lead us to write permanently on our hearts - a spirit of penance.

And so... how do we respond to God’s call to live a life of humility in a spirit of penance?

It is interesting to note that Pope Francis often recalls the story of St. Matthew’s call by Jesus to become one of his followers. As you know, Matthew was a tax collector for the Roman Empire, and was paid quite well for his services. However, he was shunned by the Jews and was indeed an outsider in his community. To say it another way, he had very few friends. Jesus saw beyond all of this, Matthew’s sin, his greed and his loneliness. Jesus saw Matthew’s need for love and belonging. Jesus responded with mercy and love. Jesus forgave Matthew for his short-sighted focus on wealth and guided him to a much more fulfilling mission.

How is Jesus calling you to a spirit of penance? Have you been completely healed? Have you truly embraced a new life in Christ? What is holding you back?

Take a moment this week to gaze upon the Eucharist. Ask Jesus to heal any potential short-sightedness. Ask Him to help you reach deeply into your heart to see the dignity of all. And if necessary, whether desirable or not, take the important step of attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Ask God for complete forgiveness and a lasting spirit, like Pope Francis, a spirit of penance.