



## MEETING: 5 DEC 2024

**Council was called to order at:** 6:30 pm by GK Robb McBurney

**Prayer was offered by:** Robb McBurney

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**The Minutes of the previous meeting:** Minutes were delivered late and have not been posted. We will approve at the next meeting.

**Faith Director Report:** by Dan Wagner (see attached)

**The Grand Knight reported as follows:**

- We will have Confessions and Craft on December 12 at 5:30 in the church, followed by fellowship at Columbia Craft.
- We bought an allotment of coats for kids and worked with the school's Families Helping Families event. We donated the coats to that event.
- We had a successful dinner for the Youth Group – Dan and Robb attended and made a presentation to the group. We intend to repeat the event in the spring.
- Robb asks us to help collect bags for St. Vincent de Paul at the Masses this weekend.
- There is a need for more participation in the Giving Tree and we are asked to help.
- Robb reminded us of the need for extra help, especially greeters and ushers, for the extra Christmas Masses, especially the 4 and 4:15 Masses. No experience needed.
- Robb encourages us to personally do something for Advent, such as acts of Penance or other spiritual growth.

**Financial Report:** by Dan Wagner/Robbie Wiggs (see attached)

- Checking balance: \$7,877.39
- Savings balance: \$1,108.06
- 6 month CD balance: \$2,138.63
- 12 month CD balance: \$2,118.03
- 12 month CD balance: \$2,123.54
- Vouchers: vouchers for total of \$563.16
- Receipts: receipts for total of \$500.00, which is our reimbursement from the Food for Families collection.
- Our food collections for St. Vincent de Paul collect enough food to meet our Food for Families donation
- Dan made a motion to donate the \$500 Food for Families reimbursement to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The motion was voted on and passed.
- We intend to roll the 6 month CD over into a 12 month CD this month.
- Robbie wrote a check to Tunnels to Towers for \$4200 and expects another \$1000 check.

**Membership Report:** by Robb McBurney

- We have one transfer, Andrew Klimkowski.
- There are several men in the parish who have expressed interest in joining the Knights.

**Youth Report:**

- n/a

**Pro-Life Report:** by Robb McBurney

- We are reminded to donate if we can to the purchase of tables for the Proudly Pro-Life Dinner, which is the big fundraiser for SC Citizens for Life. The dinner will be on Friday, January 10. The March for Life is on January 11 at 11AM, from the Russel House to the State House. Our participation makes an impression on lawmakers.



**Report of Fourth Degree:** by Robbie Wiggs

- Robbie spoke about the 4<sup>th</sup> degree and encouraged interested members to join.
- Robbie reported on the successful Tunnels to Towers event and said it will be an annual event. He would like to have tickets available at our Council meetings prior to the event.
- The Christopher Towers Thanksgiving dinner was well received. A change was made this year to have tables without chairs for the handicapped; this went over well as they didn't have to wait in the hall to be served.
- December 26<sup>th</sup> will be the Soldiers' Dinner at Our Lady of the Lake in Chapin. Volunteers are welcome.
- January 15 will be the First Responders' Dinner at the KoC Hall at 1623 Marion Street.
- Robbie has an effort to provide bicycle helmets and safety equipment for kids. He invited anyone who wants to help to contact him and participate

**Trustees' Report:**

- n/a

**The Insurance Agent reported as follows:**

- n/a

**The District Deputy reported as follows:**

- n/a

**Chaplain's Message:**

- n/a

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

- n/a

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

- Dan reminded us that we will receive a notice for dues (\$36) and raffle tickets (\$20). He suggested we round up our contribution to \$60. We will also receive a survey of service hours, etc. This is very important to fill out so we can report how much we actually serve our community. This information is sent up to National for reporting.

**Lecture Reflection:** by Bob Nerbun (see attached)

**Knights in Distress:**

- Please keep the attached list of Brothers and family members in your prayers.
- Dan spoke with Ron Childress again and it sounds like he's doing well and believes he's in remission from his cancer.
- Robb mentioned that Dr. Todd Crump's father passed away recently. The parish will have a memorial service (not a funeral) and a reception for his father on 12/6. Volunteers are welcome.

**Closing prayer was offered by:** Robb McBurney at 7:25pm.

Attest,  
*Mitch Michaelis*  
Mitch Michaelis  
Recorder

Knights of Columbus Council #12554  
5 December 2024

## Faith Director's Report

Dec 1 First Sunday of Advent  
Dec 5 Business Meeting; 6:30 PM  
Dec 6 First Friday - Mass 7:30 AM  
St. Nicholas Day  
Dec 7 First Saturday - Rosary 8:00 AM, Mass 8:30 AM  
Dec 8 Second Sunday of Advent  
2nd Collection: Retirement Fund for Religious  
Advent Food Drive  
Dec 9 **Immaculate Conception - Holy Day of Obligation**  
-- Masses: 7:30 AM, 12:15 & 6:00 PM -- Office Closed  
Dec 14 Confession 3-5 PM (extra hour)  
Dec 15 Third Sunday of Advent  
Gaudate Sunday  
Dec 18 School Christmas Music Program 6:00 PM (Gym)  
2nd Collection: Solidarity with the Church in Africa  
Dec 21 Confession 3-5 PM (extra hour)  
Dec 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Dec 23 Parish Office Closes at 12:30 PM  
(reopens on Monday, Dec. 30)  
Dec 24-25 **Nativity of the Lord – Holy Day of Obligation**  
Christmas Eve - Masses: 4:00, 4:15 (Gym), 6:30 & 10:00 PM  
Christmas Day - Masses 9:00 & 11:00 AM  
Dec 29 Holy Family Sunday  
2nd Collection: St. Vincent de Paul Society  
Dec 31 Parish Office Closes at 12:30 PM  
(reopens on Thursday, Jan 2)  
Dec 31-Jan 1 **Mary, Mother of God - Holy Day of Obligation**  
Vigil Mass (New Year's Eve) 6:00 PM  
New Year's Day Mass: 10:00 AM  
Jan 2 Business Meeting 6:30 PM



# Good afternoon, **ST JOSEPH K OF C COUNCIL .**

Today is **Dec 5, 2024**. | Last accessed: Nov 20, 2024 5:34 PM ET.

## Banking

	Available Balance	Today's Beginning Balance	Pending Transactions
<b>TD BUSINESS CONVENIENCE PLUS</b> > x3606	<b>\$7,877.39</b>	\$7,877.39	\$0.00
<b>BUSINESS SAVINGS</b> > x8694	<b>\$1,108.06</b>	\$1,108.06	\$0.00
<b>BUSINESS 6 MONTH CD</b> > x8147	<b>\$2,138.63</b>	\$2,138.63	--
<b>BUSINESS 12 MONTH CD</b> > x7436	<b>\$2,118.03</b>	\$2,118.03	--
<b>BUSINESS 12 MONTH CD</b> > x0670	<b>\$2,123.54</b>	\$2,123.54	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$15,365.65</b>		

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## Financial Secretary's Report

**Receipts:**

1. Food for Families Reimbursement	\$500.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>

**Vouchers:**

1. Rob McBurney Youth Group Dinner (Lowe's Foods)	\$ 10.59
2. Sam's Club Youth Group Dinner (Check #1018)	\$ 52.57
3. St. Vincent de Paul Society Annual Contribution (to be voted on at December Meeting – Check #1019)	\$500.00
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<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$563.16</b>

## Membership Report

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Comments</u>
<u>New Members:</u>	NA		
<u>Prospective Candidates:</u>	NA		
<u>Transfers:</u>	Andrew Klimkowski		Should be submitting Form 100
<u>General/Other:</u>			

## **December 2024 Lecture for the Knights of Columbus Chapter 12554 -**

### **St. Perpetua's Purgatory (The Catholic World Report, November 21, 2024**

David G. Bonagura, Jr.) The *sensus fidelium* (sense of the faithful), keenly aware that the dead need the help of our prayers, has Purgatory right and the Reformers, departing from Tradition and from the Church, have it wrong.

Awaiting her execution in jail, Vibia Perpetua (see Eucharistic Prayer #1 ... Peter, Felicity, Perpetua, Lucy, ...), a young mother and spiritual leader of a group of Christians in Carthage, had a vision while in prayer. She saw her brother Dinocrates, who died of cancer at age seven. In a dark place with several others, he was "burning hot and thirsty, his face dirty and complexion pale." The tumor that caused his death marked his face.

Narrating her own story, Perpetua writes, "Immediately, I knew I was worthy and that I must pray for him. So I began to pray profusely concerning him and I wailed to the Lord." Recalling his horrific death that "was repulsive to all observers," she repeats, "therefore, I prayed on his behalf."

(In a dream,) Perpetua, not(ed)ing a huge gulf between them, next (she) saw Dinocrates stretching in vain to drink from a pool whose rim was above his head. (Upon waking up she ... ) "knew (her) brother was suffering. But (she) was confident that (she) (c)ould aid his suffering. She related "I was praying for him every day until we were transferred to the military jail... And I prayed for him day and night, wailing and crying that he might be given to me."

On a subsequent day, as her execution was drawing near, Perpetua had another vision. She saw the same place as before, except now Dinocrates was clean, well-dressed, and refreshed; a scar marked the spot where the tumor had been. The rim of that same pool now reached his navel; Dinocrates was drinking freely from it with a golden cup. "Satisfied, he approached to play with the water, rejoicing as infants would."

Perpetua woke from her vision. “Then I understood that he had been freed from punishment.” This narrative in her notes then moves elsewhere, but the implication is clear: Perpetua’s fervent prayers catalyzed Dinocrates’ transition from suffering to paradise.

Perpetua describes perfectly what the Church would later articulate as Purgatory: a place of suffering before entering heaven, which souls may approach after the living have offered prayers for their deliverance. Martyred in 203, Perpetua’s narrative long predates all speculative theology about Purgatory. It echoes 2 Maccabees 12:41-45, where Judas Maccabeus and his army, having discovered their fallen Jewish brethren had concealed idols under their tunics, “turned to prayer, beseeching that the sin which had been committed might be wholly blotted out.”

Perpetua’s vision is not considered divine revelation, of course. There are two ways to think of it. One could be a vision *ex nihilo*; Perpetua could be speaking for God, introducing the Church to Purgatory, and the need to pray for the dead for the first time. Another contends that her vision reflects already existing beliefs and practices of the first Christians. That is, Perpetua and her contemporaries already prayed for the dead and believed their prayers were efficacious; the vision confirms, rather than introduces, a practice already in place. Given what we know about Christians praying for the dead from the very beginning, the latter reading is likely the correct one.

In this light, we can better see Protestantism for what it was (and still is): a disruption, a break, a severing of millennia-old Christian practice. The disturbance Martin Luther created in 1517 fermented for a generation before charting a new course. Luther’s 95 Theses express a firm belief in Purgatory. But by the time he died in 1546, he called, in his lectures on Genesis, Purgatory - along with the sacrifice of the Mass - an abomination. His contemporary John Calvin (1509-1564) went further: “[P]urgatory is constructed out of many blasphemies and is daily propped up with new ones.”

Could Calvin have counted Perpetua’s visions among his perceived blasphemies? What



about the Christians carving exhortations in the catacomb walls to pray for the dead buried there? Were they blaspheming? If these first Christians got Purgatory wrong, what else could they have gotten wrong?

Against the extra-Biblical principle of *Sola Scriptura* that Protestants use to challenge Purgatory and the practice of praying for the dead, Vatican II's *Dei Verbum* captures the interplay between the witness of Scripture and the witness of the first Christians known as Tradition, it states:

[T]he Apostles, handing on what they themselves had received, warn the faithful to hold fast to the traditions which they have learned either by word of mouth or by letter (see 2 Thess. 2:15), and to fight in defense of the faith handed on once and for all (see Jude 1:3). Now what was handed on by the Apostles includes everything which contributes toward the holiness of life and increase in faith of the peoples of God; and so the Church, in her teaching, life and worship, perpetuates and hands onto all generations all that she herself is, all that she believes. This tradition which comes from the Apostles develops in the Church with the help of the Holy Spirit. For there is a growth in the understanding of the realities and the words which have been handed down.

Scripture and Tradition are united in the Church, where Tradition illuminates Scripture and Scripture measures Tradition. As Joseph Ratzinger put it: Tradition “means above all that the Church, living in the form of apostolic succession with the Petrine office at its center, is the place in which the Bible is lived and interpreted in a binding way.”

In Ratzinger's view, the practice of St. Perpetua and the first Christians of praying for the dead's repose would interpret 2 Maccabees and the other fleeting New Testament references that point to a cleansing beyond the grave (Matt 12:32, 1 Cor 3:12). They were not blaspheming. They were living the faith that they received from the apostles, and that faith, in the words of *Dei Verbum*, “develops in the Church with the help of the

Holy Spirit.” Purgatory is nothing other than a development of an understanding of how we each play a role in the once and for all redemption wrought by Christ’s salvific death. The *sensus fidelium* (sense of the faithful), keenly aware that the dead need the help of our prayers, has Purgatory right, and the Reformers, departing from Tradition and from the Church, have it wrong.

Each November is the month dedicated to the holy souls in Purgatory, let us continue to invoke St. Perpetua’s intercession in praying for our loved ones who need help to complete their journey home to God. May they move from boiling torment to refreshment and may the cancer of sin be expunged so they can rejoice before almighty God.

Important point to remember for NEXT NOVEMBER:

Elizabeth: I asked for the effusion of the graces of the Flame of Love of the Most Holy Virgin on the suffering souls. The Lord Jesus allowed me to sense that, in that moment, a soul was freed from Purgatory. I felt in my soul an indescribable relief. At that moment, by a pure grace of God, my soul was plunged into the immeasurable bliss of a soul that comes into God’s presence. Then I prayed with all the strength of my soul for the dying priests. Meanwhile, a great feeling of anguish filled my inner being which is the suffering the Lord gives in order for me to reap souls along with Him. During my deep meditation, a delicate sigh, like a breath of the blessed Virgin, surprised my soul.” (Spiritual Diary, November, 1962)

Then, Our Lady spoke:

“My little one, your compassion for the poor souls has so moved my motherly heart that I grant the grace that you sought. If at any moment, while invoking my Flame of Love, any of you pray in my honor three Hail Mary’s, a soul is released from Purgatory. During November, the month of the deceased, ten souls will be released from Purgatory for **EACH Hail Mary recited**. The suffering souls must also feel the effect of grace of the Flame of Love of my maternal heart.”

Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art Thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of Thy womb Jesus, Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, **spread the effect of Grace of Thy Flame of Love over all humanity**, now and at the hour of our death. Amen

What is this Flame of Love? It is the fire of the Lord, Jesus himself. See Luke 12:49. "I came to cast fire upon the earth; and would that it were already kindled!" Now see Acts 2:3-4: "And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit (the fire of the Lord) and began to speak in other tongues ..."

Sick or Distressed Members

Ron Childress

Bernie Corbett (brother of PGK Jim Corbett)

Laddy Gatling

Bill Jones

James Kinard

Mitch Michaelis

Bob Nerbun

Paul Osemene

Frank Toth

Terry McWaters

Bob McBurney (father of GK Robb McBurney)

Robb Wiggs