

St. Thomas Council Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2021

Meeting Called to Order

The regular St. Thomas Council #13861 meeting was brought to order by Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus at 7:01 p.m. on Thursday, June 10, 2021. There were 28 members present.

Warden's Report

Acting Warden Ray Sargent attested all in attendance were in possession of a current membership card and rosary.

Decade of the Rosary

Chancellor Ron Robichaud led the council in a decade of the rosary for Pro Life.

The Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus led the council in reciting the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officer Roll Call

The Officer Roll Call was taken and recorded by Recorder John Chandonnet. Attendance was as follows:

Grand Knight	Terry Sylvanus	Present
Deputy Grand Knight	Rick Southwick	Present
Chancellor	Ron Robichaud	Present
Chaplain	Fr. Bill Labbe	Excused
Financial Secretary	John Greenlee	Present
Recorder	John Chandonnet	Present
Warden	Kevin LaChapelle	Absent
Treasurer	Matt Pettine	Present
Advocate	Don Leeman	Present
Outside Guard	Rene Robichaud	Present
Inside Guard	Rob Martin	Present
Lectorer	Br. Jerome Lessard	Present
One Year Trustee	Ray Sargent	Present
Two Year Trustee	Herb Littlefield	Present
Three Year Trustee	Gerry Newport	Present

Recognition of Distinguished Guest

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus recognized:

- Brother Jerome Lessard
- Brother Henry Monday
- Jon Dientes, Limerick Council Grand Knight
- District Warden Ray Sargent

Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Don Leeman made a motion to accept the May 13, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Manny DeAmaral seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The meeting minutes were accepted as presented.

Admissions, New Members and Transfers

Membership Chair Don Leeman reported that the St. Thomas Council has met its membership quota for the 2020-2021 fiscal year and is eligible to receive a Star Council award.

Treasurer Report

Treasurer Matt Pettine stated the following disbursements and receipts:

Starting Balance: \$10,168.08

Disbursements:

Family of Month	50.00
Postage	11.00
Knights Gear	29.03
KC Council Accounts	86.78

Receipts:

Dues	30.00
50/50	15.00
Reimburse	209.33
Food for Families Reimburse	<u>100.00</u>

Ending Balance:	\$10,547.93
Less Bells:	2,367.00
Raffle:	<u> .00</u>
General:	\$ 8,180.93

George Kanelos made a motion to accept the Treasurer report as presented. Don Leeman seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Financial Secretary Report

Financial Secretary John Greenlee reported:

- 149 Total Members
- 68 Insured Members
- 75 Associate Members
- 6 Inactive
- 2 Honorary Members
- 35 Honorary Life Members
- 4 Disability Members

Don Leeman made a motion to accept the Financial Secretary report as presented. Manny DeAmaral seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The Financial Secretary report was accepted as presented.

Chaplain Report

None given.

Grand Knight Report

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus reported:

- The Knights of Columbus manned the concession at this past Friday and Sunday Sanford Mainers games. The concession activity on Friday was especially brisk, as the hot food vendor was not present. Most of the food had sold out early. Sunday Activity was not as brisk, despite the hot food vendor also not being present that day. The warm weather kept several people from attending Sunday afternoon's game. The Knights of Columbus has secured an additional date for Wednesday, June 9th. Current upcoming dates, excluding the June 9th date include:
 - Friday June 11th, arrive at 5:00pm, game at 6:30pm
 - Saturday June 19th, arrive at 5:00pm, game at 6:30pm
 - Friday July 9th, arrive at 5:00pm, game at 6:30pm

- Friday July 30th. Arrive at 5:00pm, game at 6:30pm

If interested in helping out, contact Dennis Guay at 632-2945.

- Father Bill has requested that the Knights of Columbus organize a Welcome Back Barbeque after the 4:00 Saturday Mass and after the 11:00 Sunday Mass the weekend of June 12th and 13th.
- There will be an Installation Ceremony for the new officers at the July 8th Council Meeting. Wives will be invited.
- There will be a Charity, Unity and Fraternity Exemplification following the 11:00 Mass on Sunday, July 18th.
- The St. Anselm's Road for Hope walkers will arrive in Sanford on Tuesday Afternoon, August 17th. The St. Thomas Council will serve a spaghetti dinner and breakfast the following morning.
- There will be a 4th Degree Exemplification in Frenchville, Maine on September 11th.
- The St. Thomas Council received the following recognition certificates at the 126th Annual Maine Knights of Columbus Convention on May 21-23, 2021:
 - Rosary Program
 - March for Life Program
 - People with Disabilities Program
 - Leave no Neighbor Behind Program
 - Family of the Month Program
 - Family of the Year Program
 - Knight of the Month Program
 - Food for Families Program
 - Keep Christ in Christmas Program

Program Director Reports

- Faith Program Director Kevin Neely reported:
 - The Into the Breach Program is still active. There are three remaining sessions.
 - The Feast of the Sacred Heart will occur on June 11th.
 - The Consecration of St. Joseph will occur in July.

- Community Program Director John Chandonnet reported:

174	Faith service hours
672	Family service hours
623	Community service hours
5	Life service hours
1,474	Total Surge service hours

- Life Program Director Ray Sargent reported:
 - There will be a Right of Life walk around Number-One Pond in July. Donations are encouraged.
- Family Program Director Dennis Guay was absent.

Deputy Grand Knight

- No report given.

Old Business

Brother Knight Ray Wallace reported the progress of refurbishing the shrines at the Brothers in Alfred, Maine:

At the May 13th council meeting, Brother Henry gave a brief chat including the conditions of the shrines at the Brothers. There are five shrines that are in questionable condition. Toward the end of the meeting, it was decided that volunteers would focus on just two of the shrines on site in Alfred.

Following that meeting, Kevin Neely and I (Ray Wallace) met with Brother Jerome to further discuss and clarify what the Knights of Columbus were being asked to do. Brother Jerome asked us to focus on the Sacred Heart shrine.

On the weekend of June 5th and 6th, some of the St. Thomas Council knights worked very hard to restore the Sacred Heart Shrine area. Work included weed-wacking a path from the entry of said area – right through the Stations of the Cross and approaching to the shrine as needed. The structure housing the shrine was painted brown. The shrine itself was painted. To complete the endeavor:

- The roof structure will need white paint.
- The concrete work is pending, as a brother knight has fully assessed the work and brought materials to make it happen.

If there is leftover paint, some of the smaller shrines in that area may benefit from what is left – if time and resources allow.

There has been mention made of the Our Lady of Grace shrine. The work required has been fully assessed. There is a plan in place for the concrete work to be done accordingly by a brother knight. There is a potential to paint the shrine itself with the remainder of the paint we have. Beyond that, what would be ideal is a walkway/path that leads from the street to the shrine. The shrine is 50 to 75 feet from the road. A second path leading from the blueberry patch to the shrine would be optimal as well. However, with the rising cost of lumber, these tasks may have to wait for a later date to be discussed and determined.

As for the other three shrines in question, there is a possibility that the students of St. Thomas School may be of help. There has been a brief discussion with the Principal Jessica Rice about this matter. Boy Scout Troup 327 is another group who may be of assistance.

New Business

The following items of New Business were conducted:

- District Warden Ray Sargent motioned that \$150 be allowed to cover refreshments for the upcoming July 8th council meeting/officer installation. George Kanelos seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- District Warden Ray Sargent motioned that \$100 be allowed to cover cost of food for the St. Anselm Road for Hope walkers, who are due to arrive in Sanford on August 17th. George Kanelos seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- Deputy Grand Knight Rick Southwick motioned that the council take out a full page add for the upcoming 4th Degree exemplification in Frenchville, Maine on September 11th. District Warden Ray Sargent seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- Kevin Neely motioned that the council reimburse for expenses, in the amount of \$123.28, incurred in refurbishing the shrines at the Brothers in Alfred. District Warden Ray Sargent seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.
- Kevin Neely motioned that the council contribute \$1.00 per knight for the Maine State Council's Voluntary Religious Fund. Inside Guard Rob Martin seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

District Warden

District Warden Ray Sargent reported:

- There will be an installation ceremony for the new St. Thomas Council officers and the new W. Robert Bachelder 4th Degree Assembly officers during the St. Thomas Council July 8th meeting. Dress will be formal. Refreshments will also be served.
- The Knights of Columbus Limerick Council will have a lobster roll sale on July 10 and 11, 2021 during the Sunshine Trail event.
- St. Matthews Parish will resume its bean suppers, starting in July.
- There will be a "live" 4th Degree Exemplification in Frenchville, Maine on September 11, 2021.
- St. Matthews Parish in Limerick, Maine will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in November 2021. Bishop Deely will be present. Honor Guard will be needed.

- There will be a memorial mass for all our deceased knights. Honor Guard will be needed. Date to be determined.

Lector Presentation

Brother Jerome Lessard delivered the following presentation:

Frank Cunningham, editor & publisher of Ave Maria Press, Notre Dame, IN On *GRATITUDE* (The 4TH of five chapters.)

Gratitude is a virtue. In fact, it is the first movement of a spiritual life. This virtue is a difference maker. It is the parent of all virtues (Cicero). It helps with living the major command: to love

How can we exercise the command to love everyone, even our enemies?

- Try being grateful for them, starting with parents, community, teachers, caregivers, colleagues, friends. We cannot love what you do not appreciate.
- And to love others we need to love ourselves.
- We can start by appreciating who we are and for our God giver gifts.
- We can even be grateful for our mistakes...they made us wiser.
- In old age: revisit your successes and the right decisions made. Be grateful for your life's experiences.
- Gratitude can be practiced in every setting, gain or loss, even in the most challenging of adversities.
- We must first learn to seek the good in every moment, every person.
- This means that we should STOP and LOOK at the elements in our life.
- A major defect: taking for granted persons and events.
- Benefits of possessing a grateful heart: one feels better emotionally with less stress, anxiety and depression. One gets sick less often and can tolerate losses well.

A favorite poster states: *Joy adds life to your years & years to your life!*

Gratitude is the way to pray... starting with the Eucharist (the Mass), which is, as the word says, a prayer of gratitude. Notice how spontaneously we often say "Thank God". Gratitude comes naturally. In prayer we ought to praise God for the wonders around us signs of his presence. We can pray the Canticle of the three young men in the 3rd chapter of the Book of Daniel, 40 verses enumerate items in the heavens, weather events, nature, animals, humans. "Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love is everlasting."

This causes a "virtuous cycle": appreciation begets gratitude begets appreciation begets gratitude. This will enable us to experience the fulfillment of Jesus' promise:

"I have come that they may have life to the full." Not only in eternity but in this life.

VIVAT JESUS!

Maine State Council Spiritual Advisor of the Year Award

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus recognized Brother Jerome Lessard, who received Maine State Council Spiritual Advisor of the Year award at the 126th Annual State Convention.

Maine State Council Right to Life Award

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus recognized the St. Thomas Council for receiving the Maine State Council Right to Life award at the 126th Annual State Convention. District Warden Ray Sargent had organized a march around Holy Family Church, earlier this year, to remember the 48th anniversary of Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision in 1973.

New 3rd Degree Knights

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus presented 3rd Degree Certificates to Michael Roy and John L'Heureux. Michael Roy took his Charity, Unity and Fraternity degrees during a ceremony on February 28, 2021. John L'Heureux took his Charity, Unity and Fraternity degrees during a ceremony on April 25, 2021.

Knight of the Month for May

- Jim Sanger was named May Knight of the Month. Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus had the following to say about Jim:

Jim Sanger is a true Man of Action! In that short time, he has made a large impact as a leader and doer. He volunteers as a Eucharistic Minister, serves at masses and funerals, takes the Eucharist to homebound parishioners, and works many hours each month volunteering at the St. Thomas Food Closet.

During our recent Meat Raffle, he was the first to call and ask for tickets to sell. Did he ever sell! Approximately 600 tickets! Whenever there is a call for volunteers, he answers YES! He is also active in the That Man is You program.

It gives me great pleasure in presenting Jim Sanger, knight of the month for May!

Knight of the Month for June

- Michael Roy was named June Knight of the Month. Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus had the following to say about Michael:

Michael has been a knight for less than a year; but has made a large impact in such a short time. Mike Roy is a man of action. He told me when he joined us that he planned to be active. True to his words, he has begun training as an altar server, has joined our sanitizing team, as well as volunteering at the Sanford Mainers concession stand. He also volunteered at our drive-by fish dinners.

Jim, along with his wife Carlene, is extremely involved with the St. Thomas Food Closet. They volunteer many hours each week to ensure proper food storage and rotation of food, as well as the arduous process necessitated during the COVID-19 protocols.

Congratulations to our June Knight of the Month, Mike Roy!

50/50 Raffle

- Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus won the 50/50 drawing. The amount was \$19. Terry Sylvanus donated his winnings back to the council.

Good of the Order

Prayer petitions included:

- Joe Sylvanus
- Joe Garant
- Adrienne Fontaine
- Doug Cantin
- Solance LaMontagne
- Rick Bragg
- Dennis Breton
- Jesus Zuniga
- Joe Hanslep
- Marie Martin
- Heather Lawrence

Grand Knight's Closing Remarks

Grand Knight Terry Sylvanus expressed the following closing remarks:

Brother Knights, earlier we listened to our Worthy Lector, Brother Jerome, speak to us about gratitude.

I am extremely grateful to all of you. These past two years have been very remarkable. Our council, you Brother Knights, have answered the call and responded during changing COVID-19 PROTOCOLS with a willingness and dignity as a team.

Every time our council has been asked the answer has been a resounding yes. I can't remember us ever saying no to any request. WE found a way to make things happen.

Our council has achieved STAR council in 2019-20 and again in 2020-21. No one person, not your Grand Knight, your Deputy Grand Knight, no one person can, Our Team Did!

I am grateful to, My Brothers, for all your support. You have shown our council to be "Knights of Action".

YOU have made this Grand Knights job easier. I thank each one of you from the bottom of my heart.

Thank you so much,

Fraternally,

Terry Sylvanus/GK

Closing Prayers

Both the Father J. McGivney prayer and the Bill Sheehan prayer, which were recited by the council, were dedicated to the above prayer petitions.

Blessed Michael J. McGivney Prayer:

God our Father, protector of the poor and defender of the widow and orphan, you called your priest, Blessed Michael McGivney to be an apostle of Christian family life and to lead the young to the generous service of their neighbor. Through the example of his life and virtue may we follow your son, Jesus Christ more closely in fulfilling his commandment of charity and building up his body which is the church. Let the inspiration of your servant prompt us to greater confidence in your love so that we may continue his work of caring for the needy and outcast. We humbly ask that you glorify Blessed Michael J. McGivney on earth according to the design of your Holy Will. Through his intercession, grant the favor I now present (here we make our request) through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bill Sheehan Prayer:

Glory be to you Father, Creator of the world. Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ, Savior of the world. I exalt you Holy Spirit, Sanctifier of the world. Please bless, heal and save all those on our K of C prayer line.

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Next Council Meeting

The next Officer's zoom meeting will be held on Monday, July 5, 2021

The next council meeting will be held on Thursday, July 8, 2021. An installation ceremony for the new St. Thomas Council officers and the new W. Robert Bachelder 4th Degree Assembly officers will take place. Refreshments will be served following the meeting.