



**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
GALVESTON-HOUSTON CHAPTER**

CHAPTER PRESIDENT JD GUTIERREZ
Meets at the Northside Columbus Club
607 E Whitney St
Houston, TX 77022



MinOutes of the Regular Business Meeting: March 12, 2024

Monthly Pro-Life Rosary - 6:30pm: Fr. Paul Chovanec led the Rosary for Life before the Chapter meeting.

Meeting: Called to order by Chapter President JD Gutierrez at 7:30pm.

Opening Prayer: Rev. Paul Chovanec Chapter Chaplain lead all in prayer

Pledge of Allegiance: led by the Master of the 1st District of Texas, SK James Hatcher

Opening Ode sung by all.

Memoriam for Deceased Brothers

A moment of silence was held for our Brother Knights: SK H.K. Hogans and Luis Garcia Council 803/Assembly 1094, Don Swift Council 6813, Jeff Heinrichs Council 3910, Don Berkshire Sr. Council 7067, Larry Macy Council 14700 and any Brother Knight that has passed on to their eternal rest during the period from the previous meeting until today. Chapter president called for a moment of silence. Robert Alcalá, Chapter Vice President moved the memorial chair to its place of honor at the head table.

Chaplain's Report: Fr. Paul Chovanec

Shakespeare said brevity is the soul of wit, and not wanting to be witty, but I will be brief.

1. Congratulations to our new Brother Sir Knights, who experienced the Exemplification back in February in Lake Jackson. That was really an inspiring moment. I got to listen to the presentation and proclamations, it was really touching and inspiring. I salute those of you that are new and those who presented the exemplification.
2. Clearly we are still within the National Eucharistic Revival. It started some time ago, and I get a sense it may be running out of steam and losing some of the early momentum. I really hope that all of us in our councils and parishes are doing things to be creative in calling the World's attention and calling our Parish's attention to the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Let's not let this wonderful revival fledge, we got to see that it stays vigorous and productive.
3. We know the procession of the Juan Deigo route will come through the Archdiocese of Galveston Houston on May 30 – June 2, 2024. The Office of Worship is being guarded on the exact route as it comes through Houston. Let's all pray for security for that effort. Let's not fear the work of the "evil one" but let's be as wily as serpents and innocent as doves. Let us prayer for the security and safety of the Priest carrying the Blessed Sacrament, the men, women and pilgrims walking along the way with them. Let's prayer earnestly for God's protection and blessing on that effort.
4. Let me call your attention to the patron of Fr. Emil Kapaun Assembly 2721 Their name sake, of course, was a Cech farm boy from Plisson, Kansas, and his cause for Canonization is creeping along. So in addition to praying for the canonization of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, let's also prayer for the canonization of Fr. Emil Kapaun, Basically, Fr. Kapaun was an Army Chaplain who died in a military prison hospital in Korea and was finally moved to and buried in his home parish in Plisson, Kansa. I have with me tonight a number of booklets about Fr. Emil Kapaun and hoped to give them to the Assembly. The booklets are a "Way of the Cross" taken for sermons given by Fr. Kapaun. If you would like one of the booklets, to use them during Lent and afterwards, come see me after the meeting.
5. Lent: Fasting, Pray and Alms Giving. It strikes me that there are two authentic approaches to Lent, like January 1st, where we all resolve to improve, maybe lose weight and such. Lent can be very similar, as we start out with good intentions and high hopes, and by the fourth week, well who knows how we are doing. There is other approach, may be more useful and sure of success. The question is not what I can do during Lent, but "what the Holy Spirit can do in a person who is open to His work. Maybe that is the task of Lent, to be "radically" open to the Holy Spirit in our minds and hearts. After all, the work of God will always do more than the work of the smartest and strongest among us. If your resolution are weaking or you have yet to make, think about this. The last days of Lent, what we need to do is to be radically open to the work of the Holy Spirit in our minds and hearts. This will give us the strength to accomplish

AGH Chapter Meeting Minutes March 2024



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whatever He inspires in us. Please think about that, as we only have a couple of weeks to go, So let's see what the Holy Spirit can do within us. AMEN,...

Secretary's Report: Chapter Secretary - Vincent Stasio

Fr. Paul, State Dignitaries and Brother Knights.

- Report on tonight's attendance: twelve (12) State, Archdiocesan and Chapter Dignitaries, sixteen (16) District Deputies, Thirty-nine (39) Council Delegates and two (2) dedicated visitors who always attend. I thank you all.
- The Chapter website is now "up" and we were able view the information. Chapter President JD had forwarded e-mail notice of that fact and also attached the January and February meeting minutes for your review as will be voting on approval of the minutes this evening, I now turn the meeting back to JD and I thank you for your attention.
- Chapter President JD noted the meeting minutes for January and February were distributed via e-mail and also posted on the Chapter website about a week and a half ago.
- We will start with the January minutes; I ask if there any corrections to the meeting minutes in January as posted? Any corrections, hearing none, called for a motion to accept the January meeting minutes. Motion made to accept the January meeting minutes as posted, seconded and minutes are approved.
- We go to the February meeting minutes. I ask if there any corrections to the February meeting minutes as posted? Any corrections? Any corrections? Hearing none, called for a motion to accept the February meeting minutes. Motion made to accept the February meeting minutes as posted, seconded and minutes are approved.
- Communications: The Chapter received two such communications:
First: from Brother Russel Stockton with INLAND FOOD. if you remember awhile back he provide a sales flier from his company about fish for our Lenten Fish Fry's. He has again contacted the Chapter regarding a price reduction on Catfish, originally at \$3.99/lb. reduced to \$3.49/lb. If interested come see me and I will provide his contact info.
Second: received a phone call from Mr. Armonda Marsilius with Houston Grand Opera. He has some shows coming up in May on the "Sound of Music" and is offering 20% discount pricing to the Knights of Columbus Councils and Individuals to come out and see the show. I have placed fliers on the back table with his contact information and 20% off tickets for Knights of Columbus members. You have to call him to get the discount.
Third: Receive an e-mail from Terry Waters with Cross Catholic Outreach. His organization helps to feed the Hungry around the world with their "Box of Joy" food distribution system. They are looking for Councils that might organize to help pack the Box. They bring the food and you provide the labor effort. If you are interest come see me and I will get you his contact information. We have a council from Sts. Simon and Jude, who participated last year with great success.

No other communications. So we will be moving on to our Chapter Treasures Report

Treasurer's Report: Chapter Treasurer - Charles Cantrell

Recognizing Fr. Paul, State Offices, Diocesan Deputy, dignitaries to my left, officers to my right and Brothers Knights.

1. I want to thank Jerry "G" Gingrich and Robert Alcala for assisting me in filing the Chapter's 2023 IRS 990 tax form. It was officially filed and accepted by the IRS on March 6, 2024.
2. Chapter Audit: yesterday we conducted the Chapter Audit. I'll say I received an A- so that's pretty good. Does that mean I get to keep the job got the next few months? We will see
3. Membership and Pre-Capita: we have 72 councils that have paid membership dues totaling \$4,967.00 and 71 councils included Hospitality funds for a total of \$3,550.00. So, together we took in \$8,517.00. We had 26 member councils that have not paid and we have 24 councils in the Archdiocese that have not yet joined the Chapter. I will be contacting them and inviting them to join.
4. Paid members and non-paid members, for you District Deputies, if you want to know which of you councils have paid or not paid, I have copies of this report by District. If you are a GK and want to know if your council has paid, I have copies of that too. If you want a copy. please come see me after the "show." You can become a member of the Order this coming Tuesday along with twelve other candidates.



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5. If you review my form, one side shows the February 2024 activity and the opposite side has the beginning numbers for March 2024. I'll explain this as go on with my report.

GH Chapter Checking Account (ending February 2024)

- Checking: Starting Balance of \$159,320.36, had Deposits of \$12,181.00 less Debits of \$34,897.74. Leaving an ending balance of \$117,304.22. The largest payment was to Carabba's for Clergy Night \$23,240.00, also a transfer to Right for Life Savings Account of \$4,714.93. We have since closed the Saving Account and moved it into the Chapter Checking Account for future investment.
- Checks in Transit: seven (7) check in transit; totaling \$2,300.00.

GH Chapter Savings Account

- Savings: beginning balance of \$10,586.00. Balance transferred to CD, identified as Chapter Savings Account

Total Chapter Funds balance of \$135,004.22 account at 3.95%.

Chapter Earmarked Funds

- **Emergency Relief Fund:** No activity. Balance remains at \$5,072.12.
- **Knights for Life Account:** Beginning balance of \$19,557.06, plus transfer from Chapter Checking Account of \$4,714.93 plus interest of \$5.83. Ending balance \$24,277.83.
- **Galveston-Houston Convention Committee:**
Checking account: Beginning balance of \$30,937.36, plus deposit of \$12,578.56 and debits \$8,835.24, leaving a balance of \$34,680.68.
Savings Account: Beginning balance of \$6,381.01 plus interest of \$0.05. Equaling \$6,381.06

Combined balance = \$41,061.06

Total of Earmarked Funds of \$70,411.68

Beginning of the March 2024 Report (the first half of March)

- Checking Account: beginning balance of \$137,304.22. We transferred funds of one dollar (\$1.00) to the Emergency Relief Funds to keep the account active.
- We also transferred funds to the Chapter Savings account to purchase two CD's, one for \$25,000.00 and the other for \$10,000.00. The CD for \$25,000.00 is a 10-month contract which will earn +/- \$319.00. The CD for \$10,000.00 is a 7-month "no-penalty" account, which will allow us to get to it if needed and will earn +/- \$100.00 in the seven months.
- We closed the Emergency Relief Account which had \$5,073.12 and purchased a 7-month "no-penalty" CD which will earn \$50.51. This account has been opened for almost 8 years and has not earned one penny.
- The Right for Life Account, we took out \$15,000.00 and purchased a 10-month CD which will earn \$191.31

Total: when you add all that together we have \$55,000.00 worth of CD's earning \$660.00 vs \$74.00 in all of 2023.

Question: What is the term and percentage? **Answer:** The 10-month CD is at 5.06% (5.15% yield) and 7-month CD is 3.95%. When the 7-month CD matures we will probably roll it into a 10-month CD to rotate the maturity dates.

Everyone follow along. Everything is good. We went from making little money to making a bit more money and still have access to our funds.

Thank you

Chapter President asked for a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion was made and seconded. Then asked if there is any discussion, discussion, discussion. Hearing none, Vote to accept the treasurer's report was approved.

President's Report: Chapter President, JD Gutierrez

Recognize: Fr. Paul, Worthy State Officers, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers, and Brothers All.

- Chapter Meal: Let's thank and give a round of applause to St. Fastina Council 16103 and GK Jason Natt for providing tonight's meal. Thank you Brothers. Next month we are in need of a Council. If available, please come see me.



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- Chapter website: this past month we have had some issues with the Chapter website in terms of posting information. We have found the issues are caused by the website being outdated. We have our Webmaster currently looking at needed upgrades, either with a new platform or a more modern upgrade to the current platform. I'm told we have completed one major hurdle, which is moving all our profiles from the existing to the new platform, without having to go back and have you redo it all over again. Right now, you will see the website is active and operating allowing you to download information, fliers and such. but you may or may not be able to post information. If you have information that needs to be posted, please contact Stanley Ybarra by e-mail: stanleyybarra@att.net and he will pass it along to the Webmaster who is designing the new site and he will get it posted. The Webmaster can access and load information, I have tried to access the site myself, but cannot post. If you have any issues please contact Stanley.
- Next month we have Sara Cortez, President and Founder of Catholic Literary Arts coming to speak. I ask you to please make it a point to be here early, around 6:00pm so we can allow her to speak and begin the meeting on time.
- State Convention Advertising. Hopefully, you saw my e-mail about advertising, which included some of the forms for advertising in the Convention Program. If you have yet to submit the form, you need to get this completed and submitted as soon as possible. Due date is **March 23, 2024**. This is a hard deadline as I have to get all the images compiled, bound together and over to the Diocesan Deputy for approval, and then on to the State office for approval before it can go to the printer. March 23, 2024, is the hard deadline. Submittal must include artwork and payment for the ad. Please allow enough time for mailing or make arrangements with Chapter officers for hand delivery. I have also placed forms for advertising on the information table. Pick one up, get this done and submitted very soon.
- Chapter Elections: As required by the Chapter Bi-Laws, Article Two–Elections, I have placed excerpts of the Bi-Laws on the information table, to inform everyone on the rules of Elections. The annual election of officers will take place in the regular business meeting in June, and new officers take office on July 1. During this time in March and April, we are soliciting nominations, so if you are interested in becoming a Chapter Officer and running for an office, this will be the time to make your intentions known. You have until April 15 to submit your nomination in writing to me. There are some things you are allowed to do, but many things you cannot do when running for office. Those are listed on the sheet. The complete copy of the Bi-Laws are posted on the Chapter website. You do have to be a registered member of the Chapter to access a secure page on the website. The other thing is pertaining to dues, you have to be a member in good standing with your council dues paid. So, your Council also has to be member in good standing with Chapter with dues paid up to date. If you have any questions about Chapter dues please see Charles Cantrell, Chapter Treasurer.
- Nominating Committee: I will again, as I did last month, announce the nominating committing members. I ask you to stand when announced, DD Joaquin Perez, ADD Tony Scarpa, ADD John Williams. This is the nomination committee and if you are interested in running for office please inform them that you are going to run for office.

Are there any questions pertaining to the Presidents Report? Hearing none, we will move on to Committee Reports

Chapter/Diocesan Committee Reports:

In the interest of time, we ask you to please try to keep reports short and to the point.

George Brooks – Culture of Life (the complete transcript as published by Dr. Brooks)

Recognize: Fr. Paul, Worthy State Officers, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers, and Brothers All

If you would like to receive a copy of my report, my business cards are on the back table. Please take my card and contact me.

You can also visit my website: buildingacultureoflife.org for the latest information.

As we observe Lent, repenting and rededicating ourselves, it is a good time to include a reaffirmation of our dedication to respect the life and dignity of all persons. Herein, I provide cause to celebrate and opportunities to carry forward those ideals.

1. The Satanic Golden Medusa: To follow-up on our discussion last meeting at which time I announced that the statue was in place on the University of Houston campus. I wrote a post on my web site concerning the whole matter and encouraging all of you and all my subscribers to contact U of H personnel with your objections.



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- The Houston Coalition for Life had a rally at the site, and the campus pro-life group “Coogs for Life” also demonstrated there. I added my own letter to the commentaries of numerous pro-life groups, and I actually got a reply from a senior administrator who said she would pass along my letter to others in the administration.
- U of H then announced that the program on February 28 at which the creator of the statue will speak was canceled.
- Recently, I made contact with David Bartlett, a brother Knight in U of H council #15105, and president of Coogs for Life. He led the on-campus demonstration. I look forward to getting to know him better. We need more young men like that.

2. The Women’s Center of Houston

Where they previously did surgical abortions and then helped women get the abortion pills, is permanently closed. Thank God for an answer to our prayers at innumerable prayer vigils at that locations.

3. 40 Days for Life Spring Campaign

Underway since February 14 and concluding March 24. Please see if you can take a group of Knights to at least one event during this campaign. This is how we shut down a celebration of satanic art and close abortion clinics. But we must continue to be proactive...Do not become complacent. Visit the 40 Days for Life website.

4. Helpers of God’s Precious Infants

This group sponsors a Mass for the Unborn and prayers at a Planned Parenthood clinic every month. Attending both events counts as 2 ACE Wings events. Please see the schedule on my website listed under “Upcoming Pro-Life Activities.”

5. Texas Rally for Life 2025

In January 2025, let us plan for representation in Austin from every district. That requires discussion and planning, possibly some budgeting and some targeted fund raising. If you can get the cost down to \$20 per seat, you can easily fill a bus. If there is a need for suggestions, ask them to contact me.

6. ACE Wings Program

Once again, I encourage every council to have an ACE Wings program. This is the way we conduct formation of our new members and get them involved with something more important than themselves. All officers and directors must qualify to wear the ACE Wings and provide leadership with respect for life and the dignity of all persons. That is what underlies the basic principle of charity in the Knights of Columbus. If we connect the dots for new members, they will know that they are part of something fundamental and very important. Please ask Grand Knights or Life Directors to contact me if any help is needed or for questions about qualifying events.

6. Chapter Project Gabriel

In most cases, councils are making budgeted donations later in the fiscal year, especially as the fiscal year is winding down in June. Most donations to pregnancy centers or maternity homes will be made under the ASAP program. If your councils do not have contributions for the Gabriel Project in the budget, please ask for consideration to do so out of any funds received in excess of the budgeted donations. If any council needs information on how the ASAP program works or how Project Gabriel works, or if there is a request for a list of those parishes with Gabriel Projects most in need, please have them contact me.

7. The Alabama Supreme Court Ruling on Frozen Embryos being Children

There is no room here to discuss that issue. For that reason, I will post a commentary on my web site under Current Events. I invite you to read it and be informed.

8. Upcoming Pro-Life Activities

March 6 - April 15: Diaper drive for Adria Women’s Health, 10000 Emmett F. Lowry, Suite 1240, Texas City, TX 77591, call Aubrey (409) 945-2888 (but diapers and other items are always needed for their clients).

March 8: International Women’s Day, look for ways to empower women to choose life for her child and embrace motherhood.

March 23: Helpers, Mass for the Unborn, 8:30 AM, St. Christopher, 8150 Park Place Blvd. Followed by Rosary and prayers at the grave sites of the unborn, Forest Lawn, 8601 Alameda Genoa Rd.

March 25: International Day of the Unborn Child. Parish-based activities.

April 12: PACN Spring Gala “Arise”, 7:00PM, The Woodlands Waterway Marriott, 1601 Lake Robbins Dr., The Woodlands, TX. 77380. Featuring Charlie Kirk as keynote speaker. <https://pacncommunity.org/gala/> <https://pacn.ejoinme.org/register> <https://pacn.org/>

April 20: Helpers, Mass for the Unborn, 8:00 AM, St. Ambrose, 4213 Mangum Road. Followed by Rosary and prayers at Women’s Reproductive Services, park and assemble at Lyndon’s BBQ, 5320 Hollister.

April 20: LifeFirst 2024 Dinner for Life, 5:00 PM, Mims Baptist Church, 1609 Porter Road, Conroe. Keynote speaker Dr. George Delgado, main developer of the Abortion Pill Reversal medical protocol. <https://lifefirst.org/2024-dinner-for-life/>



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May 10: Houston Coalition for Life Annual Benefit Dinner, 6:00-9:30 pm, Bayou City Event Center, 9401 Knight Rd, Houston, TX 77045, <https://files.constantcontact.com/b8a0abae201/6a803f07-bd41-4984-a821-e0333f2743bd.pdf?rdr=true>

May 12: Mother's Day. Celebrate our mothers who chose to give us life.

Respectfully: George A. Brooks, MD, PhD. Culture of Life Director Knights of Columbus, Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
drgabrooks@comcast.net 832-814-2718. Website <https://buildingacultureoflife.org>.

Chris Perales - VA Visitation Coordinator

Recognized Fr. Paul, Worthy State Deputy, Worthy State Officers, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers and Brothers All.

1. As of tonight, our Dioceses has total hours equates to 1,500 hours of member participation recorded on Form 1728..
2. This past Sunday, we had about twenty (20) Brothers that visited the VA, some even brought their families. I want to advise and remind you, if you bring your children they should be over the age of 15 years old. If your Church has a Catholic Daughters council, they are also welcome to attend.
3. Due to low attendance numbers in February, I do not have a certificate to present tonight.
4. I would like to thank those who are spreading the word, and those who are making the effort to encourage and participate in the visitation. Our veterans love us and Fr. Innocence loves us

Thank you very much. I hope to see you at the visitation very soon. God Bless. Vivat Jesus!!!

Larry Massey - Seminarian Vocation / RSVP Report

Recognizes Fr. Paul, worthy Knights all. You will find a copy of my report on the information table.

1. Vocations are doing great. If you picked up the report, you would see that we are \$50.00 shy of \$72,000.00 donated and \$18,000.00 short of our goal of \$90,000.00. I know of \$6,500.00 in donations that is coming in.
2. Right before tonight's meeting, Fr. McNeilly sent me a text saying he wanted to thank you all for the support on Vocations, and support of Andrew Dinners and also supporting the tailgating at the Priest vs Seminarians. I understand the Priests are doing daily practices, as they lost the last two years and trying not to be embarrassed again.
3. RSVP Support: we are doing great. Here is the best news of all. Fr. McNeilly noted he has twenty-five new applicants to the seminary for this coming Fall. Which is a 57% increase over the 44 seminarians we currently have. This is a great step in the right direction as a lot of hard work went into building vocations. We did an analysis which shows we need a hundred (100) seminarians to achieve the number of Ordinations to meet the demand within the Archdiocese
4. Remember, your donation checks have to be made payable to the Seminarian and mailed to the Archdiocese Office of Vocations. at 1700 San Jacinto Street, Houston, Texas 77002. There has been some concern about how to do it properly. Choose your seminarian and the check has to be made out to the name of that Seminarian.
5. Lately, would someone; you, your council please help donate to seminarian John Paul Nguyen from St. Mary's Church in LaPorte. He is the only seminarian with no financial support. To date, he has not yet received any financial support.

Anyway, thank you all for the great work ...

Old Business:

At this time I ask if there is any Old Business to come before the Chapter, any old Business. I move to New Business

New Business:

Chapter President ask if there is any New business to come before the Chapter members.

Chapter President: there is one piece of new business, I wanted to make sure everyone was aware that the St. Jude relic, is coming to the Archdiocese. You can find information in the latest edition of the Texas Catholic Herald. Viewing starts this Friday.

Chapter President ask if there is any other New business. Hearing none, he asked the Worthy Diocesan Deputy for his report,



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Diocesan Deputy Report – Ron Frerich

Recognized Fr. Paul, Worthy State Officers, Chapter Officers and Brother Knights

1. Tonight's the night we get to thank a lot of people. You guys are doing phenomenal.
2. Texas State Officers and Directors had their annual meeting in Houston this past weekend. In conjunction with that, the Galveston-Houston Convention Planning Committee Heads met with them at their Hotel to explain what we had planned. To all my Committee Heads, you all did fabulously. I want to mention that the Hospitality Suite is going to "Hit it out of the Park." It is going to be great.
3. The Country Store: Items from Convention shirts to writing pens. DD Tony Scarpa has all items selected and ready for sale. You can find everything on-line now; It is good quality stuff at good prices. Go online to order, pay and you pick up the items at the convention. In this way you avoid waiting in line at the convention. Get your stuff now before it sells out.
4. Friday Night Event: Brother Jay Roussel is in charge of that, he has it all planned and ready to go. We are bussing people to and from the Convention Hotel to the Chancery. With live music, dancing, food and photo booth. Fun for all.
5. I believe we did a great job in planning and prepping every event. The Convention Treasurer is on board, our Secretary Merv Albertis doing good, We have a lot of great people working on this event. It is going to be grand. All I can say is, if you want to join in the festivities just come on out and have a good time.
6. I want to thank Council 11023 Holy Rosary "Star Council" and Grand Knight Brian O'Rourke for helped us out during the State Officer's meeting. He put on a fantastic Fish Fry, outdoors. You couldn't have asked for better weather or a better night. I gave Brian all kinds of grief and he came through like a champ. I really appreciate it.
7. State Charities: I thank you guys for that. Galveston-Houston is at 100.55%. We made "Quick Start" Dioceses for the second year-in-a-row. This represents \$168,726.45, Anything over 100% goes straight to the Cardinal, Right now, the Cardinal will receive \$117,793.00. Last year we gave the Cardinal \$133,000.00. We have some council's kicking in a bit more now, and we still have a little over a dozen councils that have not yet contributed. We will be contacting them, as we want every council to be a part of this. If your Council or Parish has a Catholic School, you may want to give a bid more, as 100% of that donation will go back to Catholic Schools.
8. Programs: Galveston-Houston is just "killing-it" on programs this year..
 - o Star Councils: we had Forty (40) Star Councils last year. We are on track for Fifth-seven (57) Star Councils. Forty Star Councils was a record. So, Fifty-seven is going to "kick-butt and take names."
 - o We may have a couple of issues standing in the way of this:
 - Fraternal Benefits we got to get our Fraternal Benefit completed. So, on April 2, 2024, there will be an on-line Fraternal Benefits event and this will be a good one. So plan ahead and get your numbers lined up. Moving forward, future ones will be recorded and you will be able to view them for thirty (30) days or so. I recommend you get you members to watch the April 2nd presentation. Remember you need fourteen (14) different guys to participate, or if your council has less than 100 members you need ten (10) members to participate.
 - Save Environment. You have to get the required Officers and Directors Safe Environment training. May 1st is the absolute deadline to get this completed. If your council does not get this done by May 1st, Come May 2nd. it will not matter if you got everyone certified you will not make Star Council. Your members have to be "Certified" by May 1st. May 1st is coming up quick, plus it will take several weeks to get the access code and your members scheduled to take the training. So, you will have to get going really soon.
9. SP-7: Do those NOW. I have one council that turned this in several weeks ago. Show of hands that have has gotten this in already (a few hands raised). Please get these in now, so if you have a mistake, there is a chance to correct it. This year, Supreme will acknowledging receipt. If you submitted, keep tract and make sure you received acknowledgement,
10. Recruiting: many of you need to do some recruiting. Schedule a CUF before you schedule Recruiting Drives. Work with Juan Perez and the Dream Team. Do what Merv Albert and Juan Perez teach you to do and you will make your numbers.
11. IRS 990 Forms. I am getting very few sent to me. So District Deputies please get you Councils to send them to me. As stated before, I am finding Councils that have not submitted a 990 in three years, which means they are out of the system and their tax-exempt status is gone. So come on guys and get these done.



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- Awards: I got the awards with me tonight; they filled the back of my truck. I got the Lone Star Award for Excellence, and Lone Star Award with Distinction, last year. I also have the “Quick Start” Awards for the first half of this fraternal year. They are laid out on the front tables, sorted by Districts and Councils. If you are a District Deputy please take them to distribute. If your DD is not here, you Grand Knights can pick them up
 - State Essay Contest, Galveston-Houston had two members in 3rd Place. Those trophies will be handed out at the State Convention on Friday afternoon.
 - State Poster Contest we had three (3) 1st place, one (1) 2nd place and one (1) 3rd place. These trophies will also be handed out at the State Convention.
 - State Soccer Challenge: we had six (6) 1st.place, Five (5) 2nd place and one (1) 3rd place. These trophies will also be handed out at the State Convention.
 - Please note **you have to be there to pick them up**. Grand Knights and District Deputies, you can pick them up for the contestants and take them back to the winners. But you have to be there for the entire award ceremony to get them or they will be gone. So please be there.
12. Dr. George Brooks, Our Life Director, did not get the chance to talk about the UofH Coog's For Life. The president of UofH Googs for Life, just joined the Council there when attending a CUF last Monday. Now he is a Knight. He wants to organize another protest on campus. He lead one before, he got the required \$1,000 fee from Texas Right to Life. UofH requires \$1,000 for any campus event to help cover the cost of campus protection, security and clean up. He is a fabulous speaker, very motivated on Life issues and would like to do another protest in front of the Medusa. I hope he will be here to speak at the April Chapter meeting. I will propose we “pass-the-hat” to raise the \$1,000 fee required by UofH. ADD Sam Gonzales, is working really hard at it and has a wonderful Council going at UofH.
- That's all I have. Thank you for your time..

State Officers, State Committeemen and Worthy Master Reports

Chapter President called for State Committeeman Reports. Please come up to the podium. State Committeemen,

While waiting for the Committeemen to come up, I am reminded of the Hospitality Suite. If you remember about a year ago, I asked for a council to step up and lead the Galveston-Houston Hospitality Suite at the State Convention. So, we are looking for a Council to do this next year. I ask you now, so you have time to go back to your councils and see if your members are willing to do this for the 2025 Texas State Convention in Corpus Christi. If interested please come see me.

• **David Keating – State Charities Committee**

Recognized Fr. Paul, State Deputy, State Treasurer, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers, and Brothers All, My council has adopted a resolution supporting my candidacy to State Office for the Office of State Warden. Every council has received a copy of this resolution by e-mail. I am available to speak to anyone who would like to visit “one-on-one” about my qualifications.
Thank you Brothers. Vivat Jesus...

• **Antonio “Tido” Perales - State VA Visitation**

Recognized Fr. Paul, Worthy State Officers, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers, and All Brothers
A message from the State Program Director, Brother Pat Hanson.

1. The Worthy State Program Director wants to express appreciation to all the council for submitting their program for awards, and to say Thank You.
2. Please don't forget to submit your Family of the Month by March 15th which is only two or three day away.
3. The State Bowling Tournament is coming up on April 13 and 14 and April 20 and 21, 2024.
4. He is proud of everything the councils in Galveston-Houston are doing. As you heard, Diocesan Deputy Ron Frerich mentioned that our councils are on top of our Programs. Director Hanson and I are very pleased with that.
God Bless you all. Vivat Jesus ...



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- **Merv Albert – State Membership Chairmen**

Recognized: Fr. Paul, State Deputy, State Treasurer Diocesan Deputy, Chapter Officers and Brothers All,

1. I have some Good News and Not So Good News

- The Not So Good News: In the First District of Texas, Galveston-Houston is in 4th Place? Now following suit, Texas is also in 4th Place. This is just unheard of...
- The Good News: In my hand I hold 437 E-Members, who have not been converted to council members. What a great opportunity we have. you can do it. Every one of you in the room here tonight we have to depend on you to get this done. How many of you were at the Diocesan Conference? I talked about gaining membership and how to do it quickly, There is an easy way to convert the e-members to council members and to attend a CUF. Do it tonight, not tomorrow. Don't wait for your next council meeting or next week, Go to your membership director and have him select four brother nights that he can depend on and make then the telephone committee. Get your e-member list from the Financial Secretary and call these men. We have two weeks remaining in Lent and invite these men to help you at your fish fry's. Tell him that every Friday you have more families come in for dinner and you really need his help. When there talk to him about coming in to help the guys. The asking him to bring his wife and kids to the upcoming CUF and provide a social with a meal.
- You can get with Juan Perez and talk to him about e-members and getting them into the Council. You can make this happen and Galveston-Houston will not be in 4th place anymore and we will put Texas over the top.

Thank you. Have a very Happy Easter. Vivat Jesus

Chapter President then announced all to welcome the Master of the First District, SK James Hatcher for his presentation.

- **SK James Hatcher – Master of the First District of Texas**

Recognized Fr. Paul, State Offices, Diocesan Deputy, Chapter dignitaries and Brothers All,

Thank you, guys. I hope you are having a great Lent. It is a special time of the year for all of us to get closer to our Lord and the opportunity to become better Catholic gentlemen.

I put eight flyers on the informational table. So whether you are a Sir Knight or Brother Knight, I know you will find something interesting that you can relate.

1. First of all, I want to thank everyone that made it down to Lake Jackson for our winter exemplification on February 24, 2024. We had a beautiful weekend, and we were honored to have Father Paul as our Honoree and honored guests as our State Deputy and Vice Supreme Master. Thanks again to everyone that came.
2. I would also like to thank all Sir Knights that made the trip down to Beaumont last Saturday, March 9, 2024, for the Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate. We had a great turnout and beautiful day in the life our seminarians.
3. Our Chapter President already mentioned it, but I wanted to mention we have the relics of St. Jude coming to Houston this Friday with 5 stops around the diocese. Find locations in the Texas Catholic Herald,
4. We have the St. Patrick's Day Parade this Saturday in Downtown Houston. Weather forecast lists a 60% chance of rain. This is an event for everyone. For those that can't walk the route there will be limited space on the Santa Maria float. With the forecast for rain, Sir Knights don't have to wear your uniform, but come in your Knights of Columbus Shirt, so everyone knows you are a Knight and bring an umbrella.
5. Palm Sunday is just in a couple of weeks from this coming Sunday, and we have a turnout scheduled for the vigil mass at St. Mary's Basilica in Galveston with the Cardinal.
6. Up-Coming Activities
 - March 26, 2024, is the Chrism Mass both at the co-Cathedral in Houston with the Cardinal and at the Basilica in Beaumont with Bishop Toups.
 - March 31, 2024, is the Easter Day Mass at the Basilica in Galveston.
 - April 13, 2024, Our Biennial Meeting is just a month away on April 13, 2024, and will be held at St. Jerome's on



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Kempwood. All Sir Knights are welcome, everyone must have an up-to-date 3rd and 4th degree membership card. Any Sir Knight that would like to put his name up for District Master, please contact me and I will provide you with the information to get the process rolling, Also, if you have resolutions to submit to the committee, make sure you have review to get all the “i’s” dotted and the “t’s” crossed and get those in.

April 13, 2024, there will also be a mass with Cardinal DiNardo at the Co-Cathedral for the Solemnity of the Cathedrals and the Ribbon cutting for the new Fiorenza Plaza. This is the same day as our biennial meeting, but for Sir Knights not going to the biennial meeting, plan on attending this mass.

April 26-29. Do I really need to tell anyone the Texas State Convention is the last weekend in April? There are many opportunities to serve this weekend both with our Diocesan Deputy and the 4th Degree. I hope everyone will come and help make this a great weekend for all in attendance.

7. Summer Exemplification: It is not too soon to go out and start recruiting for our Summer Exemplification on June 22, 2024, at Sts. Simon and Jude in the Woodlands. Our Vice Supreme Master spoke on recruitment in Lake Jackson and his thoughts are all Sir Knights should join with our councils in bringing good Catholic gentlemen into the Order. This helps our councils grow as well as giving our assemblies the opportunity to bring these gentlemen into the 4th degree ranks.

Have a Blessed Easter. Thanks for all you are doing and God Bless!

Chapter President announced, at this time, I call upon our State Treasurer Bob Goss.

- **Bob Goss – State Treasurer**

Recognizing Fr. Paul, Worthy State Deputy, Officers and Brothers All

First and foremost, thank you for all you are doing. It is amazing to hear all the activities and programs you are doing.

1. Let me bring it back to what I have preached about before. “People are watching.” They watch everything you do,. I told the State Officers the other day, my fiancé made a comment to me about the Knights. She was Baptist when we first met, She told me, “I have watched the Knights for many years now and you guys really do what you say.” They do the Charities; they do the Programs and not just talk about doing it. She came from a “hard-core” different religion, and in a few weeks she will take her confirmation with Fr. Mark and become Catholic. That is why I tell you; people watch. She told me that was the key for her. I didn’t press her. I didn’t say you have to do this. I believe the wives and you brothers lead her by your actions. That is why I tell you “people watch.”
2. That leads to our Councils. Invite people by inspiring others in you Parish. You keep your council active. The Knights of Columbus have things that are wonderful, Bring in people by telling them about our insurance programs. One of the gentlemen I mentioned earlier when we did the in-memory was Louis Macy, a former City Councilmen. When you park downtown you are paying him, that was his stuff. He passed away two weeks ago, and his family was financially protected. By bringing people into the Knights, they have access to our Insurance programs. When I was State Advocate, I hated the calls that started, “my husband died, what can you do? So when they had insurance they were financially okay. Even if you are just a member, you have some protection. So these next couple of weeks ask people to join the Knights, get them active into the council and into the insurance programs. Get them into the Knights by asking, “wouldn’t you like to help Father.”
3. Fraternal Benefit Nights: This is where you can bring Catholic families. They don’t have to be in the Knights of Columbus to learn about our insurance protection. Bring them in and let them listen to the Insurance presentation, Let the wives know about the insurance and learn about other benefits like annuities and long-term care insurance.
4. Safe Environment: If you have a Council Officer or Program Director who objects to doing that, that one person is taking it upon himself to say this council does not have to be protected. If there is a person that is required to take the training but refuses, it’s okay, but he will have to be replaced. You have to protect the people and the Council. Simple as that.



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5. State Convention: This is the time to ask your members to come to the Convention, This is a time when we come together, hear what is going on throughout the Order and the State. You as members carry out the business of the State, If you are a council delegate, you approve the state budgets and resolutions. Keep inspiring people by just being the great people you are. God Bless and Happy Easter

Chapter President asked all to join him in welcoming our State Deputy, Terry Frugé

• **Terry Frugé - Texas State Deputy**

Recognized Rev. Fr. Paul and all you leaders... Thank you!

1. To many of you that were there this weekend that were representing Galveston Houston Convention Committee at the State Meeting it was impressive. To Holy Rosary Council Thank you for the great job you did there. To Annunciation Church at Mass, walked just a few blocks from the Hotel, it was great. It was a really good weekend. You were well represented by the Diocesan Deputy and the Team who came to the meeting. All were impressed.
2. Educational Grants. We received 160 requests across the State this year. That is the most we ever received. We are still in the process of reviewing all of them. Hopefully, we can be complete this Wednesday.
3. The National Eucharistic Procession It will probably be the "Eleventh Hour" before we get all the details. I was speaking to the Chancery and advised that they completed their part and it has been passed on to Jim Merrith and Adam Brille. I will be speaking with them to get more detail on what is happening in Galveston Houston. As originally determined, The Procession will begin in Brownsville, on to Corpus Christi, Victoria and on to Houston. and maybe to Galveston, but do not know exactly where it will go from there. We know locations and we know there will be prayer services, but we do not know all of the other details. As soon as I hear, I will let you know,
4. Galveston-Houston did a great job last month in reaching 100% of your membership goal for February, We helped the State get over 505 new members. So thank you for that. We are now only about 25% of the March goal, but I believe you will get there.
5. Convention Registration: April 2, is the deadline for registering to attend. Packets have be mailed out and all should have received by now. So please get that done.
6. Clergy and Seminarian Luncheon, also has a cut-off date of April 2nd.As of end of the month we may have as many as 6 or 7 Bishops attending. We know that Cardinal DiNardo will be attending and doing one of the Masses, Also Bishop Sis our State Chaplain will do the Memorial Mass on Sunday morning. I know we will have a 4th Degree turn-out at the masses.
7. There will not be an Exemplification Competition from Districts. But we will be doing a 4th Degree Color Guard competition. We will have representatives from all six Districts in Texas. In fact, the competition will be done in the main ballroom on Saturday afternoon. That should be pretty good.
8. Membership: Texas membership wise is 4th in the Order for Division 1, unfortunately right where we were last year. This is based on percentages; other Jurisdictions just do not have the population or size of Texas. Our goal is over 4,450 new members, whereas others may need 800, 900, 1,000 or 1,500 membership as a goals, it is going by percentages. As of now, out of our goal of 4,452 we have brought in 3,440. So, we need a little over 1,000 more new members in the next three months. So I believe it is a question of "when and not if." We also have a friendly competition going with the Diocesan Deputies on the date when Texas will meet its membership goal.
9. I received some information from Supreme, which I will posting on Constant Contact. There are several miracles that Supreme has being checked and scrutinized about Fr. McGivney. So, hopefully and not much longer, and he will not be "Blessed" but will be canonized as a Saint.
10. Reminder that we should not be using Form 100's any longer. If you have them, us them as little as possible. Do not mail them. You should scan them and e-mail them on to Supreme. There is a chance they could be lost in the mail and may not get to Supreme until the next Fraternal year and we don't want that to happen. If you scan them send each one separately, do not group them in one e-mail, as they may not see all the attachments, and the cut-off date for this is June 21, Don't not mail them, forward by e-mail, if you are doing it electronically, the cut-off is

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before June 30 and do not attach more than 10 or 15 forms, Due to the time difference you must send before 11:00pm Central Time.

11. **Safe Environment:** the council safe environment is so important. May 1st is a hard deadline for submitting. You can have everything else right, but if you don't meet Save Environment training, you will not make Star Council.
 12. **Star Council:** we are told the requirements for Star Council will not change next year. Everything we have to do this year will be the same next year. That may change, but this is what we are told now.
 13. **Fraternal Leader:** Everyone here should be receiving the Fraternal Leader by e-mail. Is there anyone here that does not receive this? Hopefully, you will see everything I say here we covered in the Fraternal Leader. Please take your time in reading this, as there is much that is important, like on March 21, there is a webinar that discusses Leadership Role Training. Let your Council Officers, and especially those seeking future Officer positions, let them know about all of that.
 14. At this year's State Convention, Supreme wants us to "pass-the-hat" in support of the ASAP (Aid and Support After Pregnancy) program. Last year they gave us notice about one week before our convention that they wanted us to do this. We decided to put baskets at the back of the Ballroom to collect donations, we raised about \$6,000.00. Michigan found out that this would be going on and held all ASAP funds until their state convention. I suspect they wanted to win the \$1,500.00 prize. So, as a heads-up please share with your councils that we will be "passing-the-hat" for the ASAP Program at the convention. So far, and not quite two years into this program and have raised Ten Million dollars (\$10,000,000.00). Thank your guys for doing that. So at the Convention, there will also be a pass-the-hat for College Councils, where they can win prize money (\$1,500.00 / \$2,000.00 etc.).
 15. **Fraternal Benefits:** We now have the opportunity to allow the councils, instead of our Insurance Field Agents, to let us do it on-line. February 2024 was the first opportunity to do that. So, hopefully we will have more of them scheduled this year and have the Grand Knight report the attendee within a certain timeframe.
- Guys are doing an incredible job. Thank you for all you do. Keep up the good work. God Bless...

Chapter President called for District Deputies to give reports.

District Deputy Reports

- Rudy Ordaz – District 100
 - April 23, Council 5077 Our Lady of Guadalupe is hosting a CUF on April 23, Register Candidates at 7:00pm. Anyone on the East Side, North Side or Downtown area is welcome to attend.

Chapter President asked for any other DD reports. Seeing none called for Grand Knights reports.

Grand Knight Reports

- Clay Evans, GK Council 8482 Prince of Peace
 - Merv Albert is a member of our Council and has spurred on our membership, and we are moving to Double Star.
 - Saturday, March 23, we are having an Easter Egg Hunt for children ages 2-12, We are providing all the plastic easter eggs. We have incredible Parish support on this and will set up a membership recruiting table.
 - Family Fund Day at our Spring/Fall Festival. We added a "KC Family Fun Day" where we bring in huge blow-ups for the kids to play on, have a "dunk the Deacon" booth and other events. We get a lot of your families in attendance and our membership chairmen and recruiting table will also be there.
 - Priest and Seminarian Basketball game on April 19 at Rice University's Field House. Our council is participating in the tail-gate before the game. Our council is very involved as Fr. Ryan Stawaisz was Parochial Vicar at our Church. The Council is also supporting the documentary movie about Fr. Ryan Stawaisz life titled "Love God's Will" now with special showings in local theaters and has paid the cost for our parishioners to attend two showings.



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- Rex Roeger GK Council 6878 St. Mary Magdalene in Humble
Saturday, March 23, we will be hosting a CUF. Candidate registration at 9:30am. Exemplification begins at 10:00am.
- Keith Labrie GK Council 4550 St. Jerome Catholic Church,
Monday, March 18, we will be hosting a CUF. Candidate registration at 6:30pm
- Henry Kahlich - GK Southwest Council 3910 - St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 - Continuing our Lenten Fish Frys every Friday beginning at 4:30pm to 6:30pm, So if you are in Southwest Houston please come join us for dinner.
 - Tuesday, March 19, the Parish will be holding a Penitential Service beginning at 7:00pm. We will have 15 - 20 Priests hearing confessions in multiple languages. The Knights will be doing crown control and directing people to stations to keep the lines even.
- Dale Charpentier GK Council 15512 St. Edwards the Confessor in Spring
 - Saturday, March 16, we will be hosting the St. Joseph's Icon Pilgrimage and Altar at the 8:30 am Mass followed by a morning Brunch, Everyone is invited to come and join us.
 - Sunday, March 17, We will be hosting a CUF in our Chaple beginning at 1:00pm.
 - Saturday, April 20, we will be having a Spaghetti Dinner benefitting Loving Choice Pregnancy Center following the 5:30 Vigil Mass.
- David McManus GK Council 17653 Sts. Simon and Jude–
 - This Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16, we will be having a Food Packing Event, for Cross Catholic Outreach, Beginning Friday afternoon from 3:00–5:00pm and Saturday we will have three shifts at 9:00am, 12:00 noon and 3:00pm. So, if you are interest in learning a how this is done, please come see me or sign up on the St. Simon and Jude website. We have been doing this for a couple of years now. We still need more help, as our goal is to package One Hundred Fifty Thousand (150,000) meals. Last year we did 120,000 meals.
 - Tuesday, March 19, we will be hosting a CUF, candidate registration at 7:00pm. Exemplification begins at 7:30pm
- Rene Garza GK Council 9310 St. Mary in League City
 - Saturday, March 23, hosting a CUF in Corgi Hall. Candidates sign-in at 8:30pm Exemplification begins at 9:00am
 - Saturday, April 20 we will be having a Casino Night from 6:00-11:00pm at St. Mary of the Expectation Catholic Church, Annunciation Hall at 1612 E. Walker Street in League City, Texas. You are all welcome to join in the fun, I have fliers on the table. Scan the QR Code for more information and to purchase tickets. Hope to see you there.
- Frederick Sunderman PGK Council 6557 St. James Church in Spring
 - Sunday, March 18, 2024, is the 50th Anniversary celebration of our Council, and we will be selling tickets for this event at \$15/person, limited to the first 175 people. If interested in attending see me after the meeting.
 - Friday, March 29, Good Friday, we sponsor a youth event called "Walk the Cross" which is a seven-mile walk beginning at 6:00am at the Catholic Charismatic Center. The youth take a cross or two and walk to the Cathedral, then to Planned Parenthood and then back to the Charismatic Center, So, on Good Friday If you want an experience of a lifetimes come join us in the walk or you can drive along.
- Mike Melacon, Delegate Council 8960 in Pearland
Saturday, March 16, Feast of St. Joseph, after the 5:00pm Mass, followed by a Meatless Pasta dinner.
- Bill Hoff GK Council 9708 St. Claire of Assisi in Clear Lake
Friday, March 28, on Good Friday we will have a Living Cross where we erect a cross and invite brother Knights and parishioners to take turns on the cross for ten minutes. We rotate this throughout the day, beginning at dawn and lasts until 3:00pm. If interested stop by St. Claire's throughout the day.

Chapter President asked of there any other GK Reports. Hearing none, we are moving on to the 50/50 drawing,

The 50 - 50 Drawing: The winning ticket #6714124. Amount \$115.00



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Sick and Distressed Prayer List. I will call our Chapter Vice President, Robert Alcala, to read the sick and distressed list. I invite you to take a moment, bring ourselves down, listen to these names and put them in our hearts and prayers tonight.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Council/Assembly</u>	<u>Reason</u>
• H.K. Hogans	803/1094	Rest In Peace
• Luis Garcia	803/1094	Rest In Peace
• Josh Alderete	8293	Renal Failure
• Bob & Shatze Sullivent	8293	Heart Issues
• Braxton Sullivent	8293	Severe Asthma
• Bryon Morriss	2917	Stroke / Health Issues
• Matt Maciejeski	8482	Health Issues
• DD Bob Schmidt	12320	Fighting Liver Cancer
• James Urbanovsky	2917	In the Hospital / Heart and Health Issues
• Miguel Navarro	2917	In the Hospital / Health Issues
• Wayne Berger	2917	Rest In Peace
• Steven Vaeza	2917	Rest In Peace
• Able Garcia	2917	Rest In Peace
• Paul Heidbreder	2917	Heart Issues
• Dan Swift	6812	Rest In Peace
• SK Philip Gonzalez	14512	Terminal Cancer
• SK Andrew Garcia	14512	Brain Bleed
• Ann Thompson	14512	Presently in the Emergency Room
Wife of Deacon Nick Thompson		
• Vincent Miyochi	9708	Health Issues
• PGK Joey Palmero	6878	Brain Aneurism and Blood Clots
• PGK David Grazio	4577	Rest In Peace
• Thomas Bansal	14700	Cancer
• Charles Pipkins	Memorial	Cancer
• SK Lee Meister	7382	Cancer
• Vincent Viachia	9708	Rest In Peace
• Margie Fick		Pneumonia
Aunt of J.D. Gutierrez		

Closing Prayer: Fr. Paul led all in closing prayer: For those intensions for which we have been asked to pray, for the intension of Life and those quietly in our own hearts. Let us prayer for the Canonization of Blessed Michael McGivney,

Closing Ode, all sang the Closing Ode

Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm. Next Chapter meeting is Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Attested: JD Gutierrez, Knights of Columbus Galveston-Houston Chapter President

Attested: Vincent Stasio, Knights of Columbus Galveston-Houston Chapter Secretary