

St. Thomas Council Meeting Minutes - June 1, 2026

Meeting Called to Order

The regular St. Thomas Council # 13861 meeting was called to order by Grand Knight Gregory Cyr at 7:00 pm on Monday, June 1, 2026. 22 knights were present.

Decade of the Rosary

Life Director Mike Alexandre led the council in a decade of the rosary to lead our country to a culture of life.

Pledge of Allegiance

Grand Knight Gregory Cyr led the council in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officer Roll Call

The officer roll call was taken and recorded by Recorder Jonathan Brock. Attendance was as follows:

Grand Knight, Gregory Cyr:	Present
Deputy Grand Knight, Nate Libbey:	Present
Chancellor, Ron Robichaud:	Present
Chaplain, Fr. Bill Labbe:	Excused
Financial Secretary, John Greenlee:	Present
Recorder, Jonathan Brock:	Present
Warden, Bob Demers:	Present
Treasurer, Matthew Pettine:	Present
Advocate, Richard Caroti:	Absent
Outside Guard, Rene Robichaud:	Present
Inside Guard, Gerry Newport:	Present
Lecturer, Kevin Neely:	Present
3rd Year Trustee, Ray Sargent:	Present
2nd Year Trustee, Rick Southwick:	Present
1st Year Trustee, Brian Theriault:	Present

Lecturer's Presentation

Lecturer Kevin Neely made a presentation to the Council:

"Worthy Grand Knight, distinguished guests and Brother Knights;

I got a phone call from a friend recently, telling me that he and his wife had been in a rollover car accident on I495 in Massachusetts. They both walked away, but the car was totaled. It left them both shaken. I too had a motor vehicle accident a few weeks ago. A deer decided to attack my truck and leaped into the side of it. I am waiting to have it repaired and thankfully neither the deer nor I or the truck was incapacitated.

Life can change in an instant! Hopefully, when we are each called home to meet our Lord, we can do so in the state of grace.

Today is the feast of St. Justin Martyr. He was one of the early Church Fathers, those who took up after the apostles died to preserve and carry the faith of Jesus Christ forward. He was the first apologist, a word that comes from the Ancient Greek term *apologia*, which means a formal "speech in defense" or "reply to an accusation." He was a fierce defender of the faith. He wrote, "For, impelled by the desire of the eternal and pure life, we seek the abode that is with God, the Father and Creator of all, and we hasten to confess our faith, persuaded and convinced as we are that God exists." Justin Martyr died defending the faith. He knew and told all who would listen that Jesus was the Son of God and that when we profess our belief in him, we will share eternal life with him.

What does all of this have to do with car accidents or a deer in the headlights? When we were all inducted into the Knights of Columbus we heard the phrase, "Memento Mori" remember your death.

Like anything worthwhile, we must plan for success. We must plan for a successful death. Am I living in the state of grace? Am I prepared to defend my faith in Jesus, even if it means giving my life over like St. Justin Martyr and countless other saints? Have I prepared to take care of my family if I am called from this life tonight? There is a Knights sponsored seminar tomorrow evening entitled "Guard Grow Give" at 7pm. Will you attend it to help you ensure that your family and loved ones are fully protected?

Lastly, something else to think about. Do you pay any bills by phone or on your computer? If so, does your executor know how to access the details? Do you have an executor? It's no longer just passwords. Some applications require two factor authentication, i.e. a password and a code sent to another phone or device. Have you shared that information with your executor? Do you have a will, a medical proxy? If not, your loved ones may spend months trying to settle your affairs after you die.

All of these things and more are covered in this book, "Everything They'll Need, passwords, accounts, access, all in one place" by Lamorial. It's something to think about looking into.

Preparation for death isn't just about life insurance, or preparing your will. Think about your family. Think about your faith. Think about your eternal life in heaven. Think about the Apostle's creed; "I believe in God...I believe in Jesus Christ...He will come to judge the living and the dead...I believe in the forgiveness of sins...and (I believe in) life everlasting! The Boy Scouts have a great motto; it is Be prepared! Add to that, Memento Mori! **Vivat Jesus!**

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Matthew Pettine reported for May 2026:

Beginning	7825.22
Disbursements	
T Sylvanus	326.33
B Demers - Bikes	336.55
J Chando - Cards	58.36

St Thomas	1077.44
Odyssey of the Mind	250
Receipts	
Reimburse Lit Pub	364
Dues	30
Donate	15
50/50	14
Donate	15
Ending	6214.54
Christmas Party	600
General	\$5,614.54

Financial Secretary's Report

Financial Secretary John Greenlee reported:

147 Total Membership
83 Associate Members
55 Insured Members
9 Inactive Members
3 Honorary Members
30 Honorary Life Members
7 Exempt Members

Old Business

Bob Demers reported that we presented the profit from the bean suppers and extra money from budget to make a \$5,000.00 total donation to St. Thomas School. Following a meeting with the school about next year, we may serve some personal pan pizzas and mac and cheese in the future. Will also likely decide a kids's meal and a price to correspond. Time will be 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. We may have a bean supper in November. November 7 is the first Saturday in November, which leaves time for a turkey dinner later in the month if our Council wants to have one. Jonathan and Catherine Brock will be the bean supper coordinators in the PTO.

Grand Knight's Report

Grand Knight Gregory Cyr thanked those who came to put flags on graves at St. Ignatius cemetery before Memorial Day. GK Greg will confirm the day to pick up the flags and send out a notice.

Sanford Mainers concession stand work starts this Thursday, June 4, at 5:30 pm. Games we are scheduled to work at are:

Thursday, June 4
Monday, June 8
Monday, June 22
Tuesday, June 30

Monday, July 6
Monday, July 13
Monday, July 20
Monday, July 28

Normally, our Council Meeting would July 6, but the Mainers concession stand work is a conflict. We can have the meeting Tuesday, July 7 or Monday, June 29. GK Greg to check with school office to see if one of the nights is available and will send a notice regarding the meeting time and date change.

GK Greg thanked those who helped pass out baby bottles and Mother's Day flowers.

The upcoming Sacred Heart Holy Hour will be on Sunday, June 12, at 7:30 am.

The Novena for Life will be held June 7 - 15. Knights will lead the rosary and introduction of each decade. It will be at the church during the evenings (times in the bulletin). We will need brother Knights to help pass out prayer cards at this coming weekend's Mass.

Novena of the Sacred Heart, sponsored by the Supreme Council, will take place June 3 - 11. Brother Knights received email from Supreme Council regarding how to participate.

Our Council received the Columbia Award. GK Greg thanked Terry Sylvanus for his special help with tracking the criteria for our Council to get the award.

New Business

Bob Demers reported that this Friday, June 5, is St. Thomas School Olympic Day. Mrs. Walker is asking us to help, the school could use five volunteers. Would need volunteers about 11 am -1 pm, including setup and cleanup.

Bob Demers stated that on June 14 there is an eighth grade graduation breakfast after the 10 am Mass, but at this time no further support is needed.

Bob Demers reported that the parish block party will be on Sunday, July 19 after 10 am Mass, rain or shine. Volunteer help for this event will be requested (likely setup, serving food, and cleanup).

Bob Demers said that there is a party being arranged for Fr. Auger's 75 years in the priesthood on June 28 at the St. Thomas School cafeteria. It will be after the 10 am Mass. The party is not being coordinated by the Council but there will be a notice for any requests for volunteer help.

GK Greg reminded the Council of the upcoming Guard, Grow, and Give Webinar. This is a Fraternal Benefit Event being held tomorrow night at 7 pm, online. If brother Knights can sign up (at least eight), we get credit toward Star Council.

John Chandonnet said that on an upcoming Saturday and Sunday in July or August we will be selling raffle tickets for prizes to help fund the Children's Christmas Party.

Terry Sylvanus motioned that the Council make donation of \$168 to the DAV Golf Tournament (split with Fourth Degree and Springvale Council to make \$500 total). Kevin Neely seconded. The motion passed.

Ray Sargent reminded the Council that on Father's Day, June 21, help will be needed collecting baby bottles at all Masses for the Alpha Pregnancy Center fundrasier.

On Saturday, June 20, at the 4pm Mass there is a first communion/confirmation. Honor Guard is requested, and all members of the council are requested to attend to hand out gifts (wear formal attire).

Ray Sargent reported that there will be a special Fourth Degree Exemplification on Saturday, August 15 after 4 pm Mass in Portland at the cathedral. Bishop Ruggieri will be making his Fourth Degree.

Ray Sargent will be in Bangor this weekend for Maine Special Olympics representing the Knights of Columbus.

GK Greg received a request from another charity golf tournament. The decision on if and how much we should spend will be considered by the trustees.

Installation of Officers

The officers for the new fiscal year were installed:

Grand Knight	Greg Cyr
Deputy Grand Knight	Nate Libbey
Chancellor	Ron Robichaud
Recorder	Jonathan Brock
Financial Secretary	John Greenlee
Treasurer	Matt Pettine
Lecturer	Kevin Neely
Advocate	Richard Caroti
Warden	Bob Demers
Inside Guard	Ray Sargent
Outside Guard	Rene Robichaud
3rd Year Trustee	Rick Southwick
2nd Year Trustee	Brian Theriault
1st Year Trustee	George Kanelos
Chaplain	Fr. Bill Labbe

50/50 Drawing

John Chandonnet won the 50/50 drawing. The amount was \$19, which John donated to the council.

Good of the Order

The following prayer petitions were presented:

Paul Cunningham
Pat Demers
Robert Lavigne
Elaine Melanson
Gerry Newport
Dennis Roy
Ray Sargent
Christie Southwick
Rick Southwick
Joe Sylvanus
Terry Sylvanus
Ray Wallace
Kevin Welch

Closing Prayers

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

Next Council Meeting

The next council meeting will be either Monday, June 29 or Tuesday, July 7 at 7:00 pm. Notice to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jonathan T. Brock
Recorder*