



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

August 24, 2026

Minutes for the Greater Austin Chapter Meeting

Location: St Mary's Catholic Church, Lampasas, TX

Opening

- **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Ramiro Balli
- **Opening Prayer** was offered by Dcn Phuc Phan
- **Pledge of Allegiance** was led by President Ramiro Balli
- **Recognition of Host Council:** President Ramiro Balli thanked Council #6978 for hosting the meeting and preparing the meal.
- **Guest Speaker:** Dora Tobar, Ph.D., Director of Hispanic Ministry, Diocese of Austin discussed how we as the local Church should prepare for the 500th Anniversary of the Appearance of Our Lady of Guadalupe. She mentioned that the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is the only image of Our Lady given directly from heaven via San Juan Diego. Our Lady of Guadalupe's message to us in the Americas, she said, focuses on how to be the Church and disciples of Christ.
- **Roll of Officers:** The roll of officers was called and noted as follows (P=Present, A=Absent, E=Excused):

President (WCP)	Ramiro Balli	P
Vice President (WCVP)	Michael D'Antonio	P
Treasurer (WCT)	Mike Hyzak	P
Secretary (WCS)	Lee Fracker	P

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the July 27, 2026 meeting were posted on the Chapter website at <https://kofcaustin.org/home/about/meeting-minutes>. The minutes were approved.

Officer Reports

Chaplain's Report: WCC Fr Charlie Garza encouraged everyone to promote in our Parishes the Diocesan Conference of Our Lady of Guadalupe scheduled for September 11 and 12.

Vice President's Report: WCVF Michael D'Antonio reported that we now have 8 councils and assemblies who have joined the chapter. That is a small fraction of all the councils and assemblies in the Diocese and accordingly encouraged more councils to join.

Treasurer's Report: WCT Mike Hyzak distributed his report online via the kofcaustin.org website. The report was discussed and approved. The report is available on the chapter website: [Treasurer's Report Augyst 24, 2026](#). See the Summary below.

Beginning balance:	10,198.95
Income:	250.00
Expenses:	650.00
End balance::	9,798.95

President's Report:

- The Baby gala is coming up, Saturday, Oct 10 at the Renaissance Hotel. Registration is now open.
- Our next meeting on September 28 will be hosted by Council 8156 at St Catherine of Sienna Catholic Church in Austin.
- Several future months are still open.

Diocesan Deputy's Report

Worthy Diocesan Deputy (WDioD) Michael D'Antonio reported.

- We had a good July re: membership. We have more work to do to make our August membership goal.
- The State Deputy has given us a lot to do this FY: ASAP, RSVP, Coats for Kids, etc. He invited all the DD's to attend a Zoom meeting this coming Sunday afternoon to develop a strategy for achieving these challenging goals
- He has more charity pins to sell.
- The couple who has provided the Hospitality Suite at the State Convention will do it once more this year. WDioD Mike is looking for another couple to shadow them this year and then take over next year.

Program Director's Report:

Worthy Program Director Mike Hyzak noted the many substantive changes to program requirements. He also mentioned that Boxes of Joy will again be available this year starting at the September meeting..

Chapter Committee Reports

Membership: WTL Mike McLaughlin reported two CUFs are currently scheduled in September. We need to focus on clearing our Prospect Tabs.

Clergy & Religious Appreciation Dinner: WTL Mike McLaughlin reported this FY's CRAD is scheduled for Feb 11, 2027.

RSVP Report: WTL Ramiro Balli reported that Seminarians are back in school.

Special Olympics and Wheelchair Reports. WTL Bill Boiko reviewed his current Special Olympics and Wheel Chair reports.

Sacred Heart Icon Report: WTL Ricardo Renteria reviewed the current status of the Sacred Heart Icon.

Silver Rose: WTL Blake Krass reported that most weekends are still available for the Silver Rose program.

Safe Environment Coordinator: WTL Lee Fracker reported that those whether Councils are SE compliant largely depends on the Grand Knight. Accordingly, he encouraged DD's to focus on getting the Grand Knights SE-compliant. WDioD Mike D'Antonio mentioned that State Deputy Bob Goss intends to remove non-compliant officers from their positions.

Emergency Response Coordinator: WTL Lee Fracker reported we have had no Emergency Response incidents in the Austin Diocese this summer.

State Charities and Star Councils: WTL Kevin Martinez reported we need to keep motivating councils to make their charity contributions.

Free Throws: WTL Mike Hyzak reported that the Diocesan Free Throw Competition is scheduled for Feb 21 at San Juan Diago.

Culture of Life: WTL Michael Rush reported that the annual gala for the JPPI center is October 10. Tickets are now available for purchase. Early Bird tickets sell for \$150. The regular price is \$200.

Ceremonial Team: WCVP Michael D'Antonio reminded us that we need to have 1 district CUF per month. He reported there have been no recent requests for ceremonial support. He remains available to help with whoever needs assistance.

Spanish Council Coordinator: WDioD Mike D'Antonio reported for Christo Rey.

Spiritual Director's Report: Deacon Phuc followed up on the Guest Speaker's topic. It is our mission to bring people to Christ, he said, and then encouraged councils to start COR if they haven't already.

Communication/Newsletter/Website: No report.

Unfinished Business

- None

New Business

- CRAD Team Lead Michael McGloughlin noted the need for an improved AV system for CRAD. A good quality Surround Sound system will cost \$1500 to lease but it will absolutely solve the audio problems we have encountered in past years. Rather than treat the AV lease as a separate line item, it will be rolled into the overall cost of the CRAD.
- Sponsorship for the JPPII Gala for \$2,000. \$1,500 for a table for 10. Plus a \$500 donation. Several members of the Chapter indicated they would attend the Gala with their wives or guests.

State Committee Reports

Coats for Kids: Leo Saenz reported. Six councils purchased boxes of coats under the BOGO offer, which has now concluded. Councils can still purchase boxes, however.

Financial Secretary Training: Pete Donahoe is retiring from his role as Diocesan Financial Secretary Trainer. A replacement is being sought.

State Office: SK Carlos reported.

District Deputies Reports

- Lee Fracker (District 152) reported that at least two district Councils (14943 and 12642) are supporting the **Pathways Women and Family Center** (formerly Bastrop Pregnancy Resource Center) annual Golf Tournament to be held at Colovista Golf Course on Friday, October 9. Player fee: \$150, Foursome: \$600.
- Taylor St Mary Catholic Church: Mass relics of St Francis & Claire

Patriotic Order Report: WDioD Mike D'Antonio shared Worthy District Master Blake Krass' report available online at [District 6 Newsletter](#). Note that the next exemplification will be on October 17th at St Paul Catholic Church in Austin TX.

Evangelization and Faith Formation (EFF): No Report

Good of the Order

- The Closing Prayer was led by Deacon Phuc.
- The Closing Blessing was given by Deacon Phuc.
- The meeting was adjourned by WCP Ramiro Balli at 8:55 pm.

Attest:

Secretary: **Lee Fracker**