



The Blessing Word

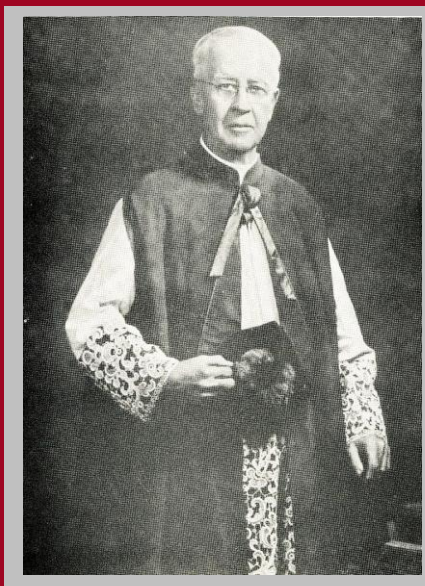
1962-2012 CELEBRATING OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273
COVENTRY, RHODE ISLAND

FEBRUARY 2012

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2



MSGR PETER E. BLESSING, L.L.D.,
D.D., V.G.
Our Council's Namesake

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY SQUIRES BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM
DATE: FRIDAY, 2/3/2012
TIME: 7:00PM

FEBRUARY COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 2/13/2012
TIME: 7:30PM

MARCH SQUIRES BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM
DATE: FRIDAY, 3/9/2012
TIME: 7:00PM

MARCH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 3/12/2012
TIME: 7:30PM

DONATION NIGHT

PLACE: SSJP PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 3/26/2012
TIME: 6:00PM



Grand Knight's Corner

Worthy Brothers, I pray you and your families are well.

I was reading the paper the other day, and there was a photo from the Right to Life rally in Providence. The photo was of a counter protestor who was holding a sign that said "Anti-Abortion" is "Anti-Woman." Brothers, I must tell you when I first saw that photo, I struggled with my composure as a Catholic gentleman. What I would like to say to that misguided individual is that we PRO-LIFE people are PRO-BABY people and by extension PRO-WOMAN. How many future women have been killed due to abortion? TOO MANY! I will pray for that protestor and all who believe like her that they will finally see the light and turn away from the culture of death.

Brothers, there is much work to do with regard to our Pro-Life efforts. Coming up in later this month is Ash Wednesday and Lent. This coincides with the "40 Days for Life" which will conduct prayer vigils at the abortion mills in Providence and Cranston during Lent. As Grand Knight, I will be selecting March 22 as the day for the Blessing Council to hold vigil at the Cranston abortion mill from 7AM to 7PM. It would be great if our Council could provide two Knights for each two-hour shift. With six shifts, we would need at least 12 Knights for that day. I will be asking for volunteers at our February business meeting. We need to show our support for PRO-LIFE!

Thanks to all the Brother Knights who came out for the Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service at St. Vincent de Paul Parish on January 23. It was truly a blessed event. Special thanks go out to our Worthy Chaplain Father Kelley for his support for this event and leading the service in prayer. We are a truly blessed council to have Fr. Kelley as our Chaplain.

Lastly, as I mentioned at the last business meeting, we have three big events scheduled for 2012 – an Informational Night for recruiting, our 50th Anniversary Dinner and a Vocations Fair. We have three committees set up to take care of these events. If you haven't done so, please sign up for at least one. We need your help and ideas, Brothers!

God Bless and Vivat Jesu!

Neil Fidler, Grand Knight

Narragansett55@yahoo.com

MSGR. BLESSING K OF C COUNCIL

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Supreme Knight

Carl A. Anderson

RI State Deputy

John Marcello

District Deputy (RI Dist. 5)

Mark Bamberg

Insurance Agent

Stephen Del Deo

**Msgr. Blessing Council
Officers:****Chaplain**

Rev. Michael Kelley

Grand Knight

Neil Fidler

Financial Secretary

John Tally

Deputy Grand Knight

David Tanski

Chancellor

John Deary

Recorder

John Ball

Treasurer

Glenn Holt

Advocate

Patrick Hurley

Warden

Russell Maxwell

Inside Guard

James Hall

Outside Guard

Tim Maynard

One Year Trustee

Richard Belanger

Two Year Trustee

Earl Mahar

Three Year Trustee

James Woolley

**Fr. Leo Ancil Squires
Circle Officers:****Father Prior**

Rev. Derek Puleo/Rev. Eddy Lopez

Chief Squire

Norman Francis, Jr.

Deputy Chief Squire

Joshua Fidler

Notary Squire

Zachary Farrell

Bursar Squire

Evan Patten

Marshal Squire

Neil Grant



Chaplain's Report

Dear Brother Knights,

As you may recall from my column last month (Pro-Life Month) I raised the concern about the growing threat to our religious liberties. As of January 20th, 2012 the threat became even more real. You may have been reading in other Catholic news sources (like "The Rhode Island Catholic", our Diocesan Newspaper) that all institutions including Catholic hospitals, schools and charitable organizations have one year to "adapt " to the new rule that they must provide insurance coverage to their employees that include coverage for sterilization and contraception (which includes those which are also cause abortion in the very early stages). This is a very serious confrontation that has developed. For the first time in United States history the Catholic Church (and everyone else) is being forced to provide services that conflict with her moral teachings and beliefs!

With the help of the USCCB website I have already written a letter to our federal senators and my representatives about this. The "Respect for Rights of Conscience Act S.1467" is what we need to ask Congress to pass so that we as The Catholic Church can be exempt from this immoral mandate. I encourage all of you Brother Knights to send your letters, as well. It is very easy and quick to do by e-mail.

We Knights have always been an outspoken pro-life voice. Now we seem to be under attack in one area after another. We cannot pass this off as something someone else will do. We must speak up now, each of us. We must let the powers to be know that we will not stand for this. We are guaranteed the freedom to practice our religion by the First Amendment. How can this mandate have gotten this far?

One final word. May we never forget the power of prayer. It was great to be with some of you at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Holy Hour for defense for life! With God's grace and Mary's intercession we must increase our prayer and work for this cause.

May God Bless each of you!

Rev. Michael Kelley

Chaplain

Msgr. Blessing Council #5273

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! – Philipians 4:4 (NIV)

Our Lady of Guadalupe Marian Prayer Service



Our Council sponsored a Marian Hour of Prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday, January 23. Worthy Chaplain Father Kelley led the ceremony in prayer. On display and pictured above was the icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe on loan from the State Council. On hand were a nice mix of Knights and SVP Parishioners. After the service, the Council held a collation with plenty of food and drink for all.

New Financial Secretary!

Worthy Brothers, congratulations to our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight David Tanski for stepping up and becoming the Council's new Financial Secretary. He and our Worthy FS John Tally are in the process of a turnover. Our gratitude goes out to Brother John Tally for his service as FS! Brother John has been our FS since 2001 and has done an outstanding job!

This Month in Blessing Council History

February can be a dreary time, especially in New England. The Christmas festivities are over, the trees are bare, and the cold is like an unwelcome houseguest that simply won't leave. However, Msgr. Blessing Council has been active in celebrating life and salvation by holding many Valentine's Day dances and attending Ash Wednesday Masses. We have kept these events, lively and solemn respectively, as signs that life blossoms and the days grow longer, even in the dead of winter.

Stephen Del Deo – Insurance Field Agent

Worthy Brothers, if you didn't already know our Insurance Field Agent is Brother Stephen J. Del Deo and he is a member of our Council. For information about the excellent insurance benefits the Knights of Columbus has to offer, please contact Brother Stephen at the contact information below:



Stephen J. Del Deo

Stephen J. Del Deo, Field Agent #14851

Cell Phone: 401-330-0118

Office: 401-826-2505

Fax: 401-826-2505

Email: Stephen.deldeo@kofc.org

Email: sjdeldeo1@juno.com

40 DAYS
FOR LIFE™

When: Thursday, March 22 @ 7:00AM-7:00PM

Where: Women's Medical Center, 1725 Broad St., Cranston

The Monsignor Blessing Council will be joining the 40 Days For Life movement in front of the Women's Medical Center in Cranston for an entire day – Thursday, March 22. Please be sure to volunteer for a two-hour time period on that day. The first shift will be from 7AM to 9AM. Then 9-11AM, 11AM-1PM, 1-3PM, 3-5PM and 5-7PM. We would like to have at least two Knights per shift. We are praying that, with God's help, this effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in Rhode Island and throughout America.



*LORD, I wait for you; you will answer, Lord my God.
– Psalm 38:15 (NIV)*

Richard Blade 1944-2012



It is with deep sadness that we bid farewell to our Brother Knight Richard Blade as he has gone on to his final reward on January 27, 2012. Brother Richard had been a Third Degree Knight since 1970. He was also a 36-year veteran of the US Air Force having retired as a Master Sergeant. We will miss him and pray for him and his family. Thanks to all the Brother Knights who answered the Wake Call!

Donations Night

The Council and the Squires will be holding a Donations Night to be held at the Saints John and Paul Parish Center on Monday, March 26 from 6 to 9PM. Both the Council and the Circle will be presenting their donations derived from last year's KANDI Drive to those charities designated to receive. At current time, the Council is planning a pot luck dinner to be held in conjunction with the donations ceremony.

"Like Us" on Facebook!



The Msgr. Blessing Council and the Fr. Leo Ancil Squires Circle now have pages on Facebook. Just log on to Facebook and search on "Blessing Council" or "Ancil Circle" and you'll find us. We are posting daily bible verses, Catholic and Knights news and general information pertinent to the Knights of Columbus. So find us and don't forget to "Like Us" on Facebook.

Committees

Thanks to all the Brother Knights who signed up for committees after the January Business Meeting. The committees are comprised as follows:

Vocations Committee

John Deary, Chairman
Neil Fidler, GK
Jim Woolley, PGK
Bill Moskosky, PGK
Russell Maxwell
Herb Knott
Charlie Sweeney
John Pizzo

Financial Committee

Keith Parent, Chairman
Neil Fidler, GK
Glenn Holt, PGK
Jim Woolley, PGK

Retention Committee

David Tanski, Chairman
Neil Fidler, GK
Glenn Holt, PGK
Pat Hurley, PGK
John Ball

Membership Committee

Dick Belanger, PGK, Chmn.
Neil Fidler, GK
Earl Mahar, PGK
Glenn Holt, PGK
Angel Ferrer

The Vocations Committee is going to lead the effort for our Vocations Fair in October. The Retention Committee is taking the lead on the 50th Anniversary Dinner to be held during the summer. The Membership Committee is working on the Informational Night to be held in April. It is not too late to sign up for a committee. The newest members of our Council are especially encouraged to participate in at least one committee.

A "Knight" with the Providence Bruins



When: Sunday, March 4 @ 4:05PM
Where: Dunkin' Donuts Center, Providence

The State Council is holding a "Knight with the Providence Bruins" on Sunday, March 4. The P-Bruins are playing the Bridgeport Sound Tigers at the Dunkin' Donuts Center. Tickets are \$25 each, but will also include a Clam Cakes and Chowder Dinner to follow at the Cranston Council at 1047 Park Ave. in Cranston. Deadline to buy tickets is Feb 17. Contact either Peter Lentini at 401-944-2613 or Ron Ross at 401-568-6179.

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." – Revelation 4:11 (NIV)



SAINT OF THE MONTH

Catholic saints are holy people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint. For the Columbian Year 2011-12, we will honor a Saint each month in our Newsletter.

St. Jerome Emiliani



St. Jerome Emiliani was born in 1481, the son of a noble family of Venice, Italy. He was a good soldier and was put in command of Castelnuovo, a fortress high in the Italian mountains. While defending this post from an invasion by the Venetian troops of Maximilian I, he was taken prisoner and thrown into a dungeon. Chained in prison, he began to regret the choices he had made in his life. He was sorry that he had thought so little about God and for wasting several years in immoral living. Jerome promised the Blessed Mother that he would change his life if she would help him escape this imprisonment. His prayers were answered and he escaped to safety. It is said that Jerome, with grateful heart, went straight to a church in Treviso where he hung his prison chains in front of Mary's altar.

St. Jerome was true to his promise to the Blessed Mother and was eventually ordained a priest in Venice. He was devoted to works of charity. His special concern was for the many homeless orphan children he found in the streets. Jerome rented a house for these orphans, and gave them clothes and food, and instructed them in the faith. St. Jerome intensified the care for the orphans, establishing orphanages in several Italian towns and started a religious congregation of men called the Company of the Servants of the Poor with the mission to care for the poor, especially orphans.

St. Jerome died while caring for plague victims in 1537. He was proclaimed a saint by Pope Benedict XIV in 1767. He is known as the patron saint of orphans



Chief Squire's Corner

Squires, another month has passed in the new year of 2012. We have to remember our number one priority, get new members. My younger brother Isaiah has found several potential Squires and I hope all of you will do the same. Let's continue to talk to others about the good things that our Circle does and help each other reach our goal of attaining several new members in the next few months. We pray that the good Lord will guide us in our effort and that we be successful. God bless.

Sincerely,
Norman A. Francis Jr.
Chief Squire

URI Basketball Game



When: Saturday, February 25 @ 1:00PM
Where: Ryan Center, URI Campus, Kingston, RI

The Fr. Leo Ancil Circle will be holding its 2nd annual trip to see the Rhody Rams take on the Saint Louis University Billikens on Saturday, February 25. Tickets are \$11 each. This event is open to family and friends. The Circle is also inviting Knights from our sponsoring council to join us! Deadline to buy tickets is Feb 12. Contact Chief Counselor Neil Fidler at 401-632-7922 or Counselor Nick Parent at 401-206-2254.

KANDI Drive



The Circle's 2012 KANDI (Tootsie Roll) Drive will be held at Stop and Shop on Saturday, May 12 from 10AM to 6PM. There will be two four hour shifts. Unfortunately, the Circle was not able to get the three days as in the past as the Stop and Shop has changed their policy and are not allowing multiple days in a week. However, we will be allowed to extend our hours on Saturday from six to eight hours.

*Lazy hands make for poverty, but diligent hands bring wealth.
— Proverbs 10:4 (NIV)*

Photos from Our Lady of Guadalupe Prayer Service 1-23-2012



More photos can be found on the Council Facebook page. Search on "Monsignor Peter E. Blessing Knights of Columbus Council."