



The Blessing Word



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 2013

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 11



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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SVP PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 12/9/13
TIME: 7:00PM

CHRISTMAS PARTY

PLACE: SSJP PARISH HALL
DATE: FRIDAY, 12/13/2013
TIME: 6:00PM – 9:00PM

SQUIRES FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER
DATE: FRIDAY, 12/27/2013
TIME: 6:00PM

JANUARY SQUIRES MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM
DATE: FRIDAY, 1/3/2014
TIME: 7:00PM

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SVP PARISH HALL
DATE: 1/13/2014
TIME: MONDAY, 7:00PM



Grand Knight's Corner

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

Merry Christmas, I cannot believe that we are almost done with 2013. For those of you who attended our Christmas party, you know what a resounding success it was and so you all know we filled a car full of toys for the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. On Friday December 20th the Knights of Columbus hosted a Christmas concert at Master Ecclesiae College in Greenville, my wife and I along with my children and Mother in Law attended and all had the same reaction, **WOW!** The consecrated women of the College put on a spectacular concert.

I would like to ask you to keep all those in your prayers who may not have any family or friends to share the holiday ask that God's love and joy fill their hearts so they may enjoy the wonderful gift which he bestowed upon us.

The next big thing for us at the Blessing council is our second annual St Patrick's Day dinner and to possibly host a 3rd degree exemplification. Our next business meeting is Monday January 13th at 7:30 PM at St. Vincent De Paul.

Finally I would just like to say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I pray that 2014 is a blessed one for all of us, not only the Knights but also our whole Catholic family. Keep faith in God and let the Holy Spirit guide you.

God Bless and Vivat Jesu!
John Pizzo, Grand Knight

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Supreme Knight

Carl A. Anderson

RI State Deputy

James Gilchreast, Jr.

District Deputy (RI Dist. 5)

Neil Fidler

Insurance Agent

Stephen Del Deo

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

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John Pizzo

Financial Secretary

David Tanski

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Chaplain's Report

An article from the National Catholic Register, submitted by Fr. Jacek for your consideration.

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — The cause for sainthood for Father Michael McGivney, a parish priest in Connecticut who founded the Knights of Columbus, has taken another official step forward.

At the fraternal organization's 131st Supreme Convention in San Antonio earlier this month, Supreme Knight Carl Anderson reported "there is good news concerning Father McGivney's cause. A possible miracle attributed to his intercession is now under investigation in Rome. "If the miracle is approved, Father McGivney would be beatified and receive the title of "Blessed." "If he were beatified now, he would be the first United States-born parish priest to be beatified."

"The Vatican is now gathering a medical commission to study the possible miracle and determine if it is beyond medical explanation."

If the commission approves, "then it goes to a theological commission, which will decide whether to send a recommendation to the Holy Father for approval," noted Brian Caulfield, the vice postulator for Father McGivney's cause for canonization. "Then this would be the miracle for the declaration for the beatification."

"Even though he didn't use the word evangelization, he certainly was a great evangelizer," Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore, the supreme chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, told the Register. "He helped the men and the families of the parish to embrace the faith. His life and example remain luminous for all of us who are part of the family."

"He continues to teach us," said Archbishop Lori. "He left behind four principles at the heart of the Knights of Columbus: charity, unity, fraternity and patriotism. These core principles taught to us by Father McGivney inspire and undergird all the works of the order and, indeed, all its spirituality."

This latest step in the cause for the order's founder has given a new burst of energy to members

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"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Matthew 24:42-44

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Answered Prayers

Because Father McGivney's cause did not open until just over a century after he died, Caulfield said it is considered a "historical cause," since none of the virtuous priest's contemporaries were alive to testify about him. The vice postulator clarified that, leading to the title "Venerable," "the recognition of heroic virtue is mainly based on human testament, human sources about what he did, what he wrote, what others wrote about him. The Church makes their judgment on those sources."

"To get to the level of beatification, the Church looks for God to act — to get a confirmation from God by requiring a miracle which only God can perform through the intercession of the venerable servant of God," Caulfield said. "There really has to be evidence that God has worked and said Yes. The Church is saying: 'We want God to speak in the matter.' As vice postulator, I find this very comforting that the Church requires this high standard to be met."

While this miracle awaits confirmation by the Holy See, Caulfield also works with the Father McGivney Guild, where he constantly sees reports of favors and answers to prayer coming after people pray for Father McGivney's intercession. Reports, testaments and thanks come from people praying to find a job or a better job or parents praying to Father McGivney for their sons and daughters to return to the Church, particularly mothers reporting adult sons and daughters are now back in the faith.

All the answered prayers do not surprise Caulfield. "Those are two things Father McGivney was concerned about in his lifetime," he said, "keeping his Catholic flock within the Church, despite the many anti-Catholic challenges in society, and making sure the Catholic family was provided for through decent employment of the breadwinner."

Fr. Jacek



"John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!' It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." - Matthew 3:1-3

Prayer Intentions



Please keep the following Knights and family members in your prayers.

PGK Jim Kiley and wife Angie, John Derry, Matt Parent, Don Oat, Lucille Ferrer, Mike Colvin, Katie Fidler, Lauren Belanger, Donna Knott, Pat Hurley, Moskowsski, Jeanne Giroux, Robert Firth, victims of the Philippines typhoon, Ernie Pennini.

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, Field Agent #14851
 Cell Phone: 401-330-0118
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November & December Birthdays

Blessing Council #5273

Happy Birthday to our Brother Knights born in November.

Joseph Bailey Sr, Richard Belanger, James Brouillard, John Deary, Neil Fidler, Richard Masterson, Leland Mello, Timothy Roy, Rev Peter Sheehan, John Simonelli, John Southland, Patrick Sullivan, David Tanski, Mark Trainor

Happy Birthday to our Brother Knights born in December.

Robert Champagne, Robert Conisidine, John Cook, Rev . Robert Forcier, Kenneth Jackson, Joseph Kane, James Kiley Sr, Russell Maxwell, Russell Michael, Brian Moffitt, Matthew Offiler, Ernest Quagliere, David Simonelli, Paul Trainor J, Chester Wendoloski

“When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus said to them in reply, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them.” - Matthew 11:2-5

What Is That KofC Office?



Financial Secretary



The financial secretary is appointed by the supreme knight, upon recommendation of the council. His main area of responsibilities is maintaining all financial and membership records. He collects and receives all moneys from all sources, including annual dues from council members. He also handles supply orders for the council officers and members, filing the Report of Officer (#185), and submitting all membership transactions to the Supreme Council. *For more specific duties and responsibilities, refer to the Financial Secretary Handbook (#1410).*

The Br. Matt Parent Van Fund

As many of you know, earlier this year Br. Matt Parent's accessible van saw its demise and he was in need of a replacement vehicle. The Blessing Council has tried to assist in that effort and has donated funds to help Br. Matt. Well in November Matt was able to get another van. Thanks to all of you for helping out a brother in need. That is what we are all about!



"But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." - Matthew 1:20-21

Blessing Council November "Knight Out"

On Friday, November 15th, Brother Knights and their wives and or friend met for dinner at Coventry Dragon Palace. We arrived there at 6:00pm and they had prepared a small corner of the restaurant for us. It was a good turnout, 17 people attended. Dinner was excellent. I guess by its name you know that it is Chinese. Everyone had a great time once again. The food and the service was excellent, everyone enjoyed. The place was very busy it was hard finding a parking space, but God provided. I had originally told the owner 12 -14 people and he was surprised when I arrived and said 18 people had signed up. I told him I would help to serve or do dishes if need be. He asked me where I would be sitting in case. Lucky for me or (maybe lucky for him) I wasn't called to help. Once again this has been a great activity for the council; I hope in the future more of you brothers will join us. There will not be a Knight Out in December due to the many functions taking place during the month, but we will continue in January. God Bless, Herb Knott. DGK



"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be." - John 1:1-3

BLESSING COUNCIL “ADOPTS” COVENTRY VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK

As many of you know, Blessing Council has adopted the veteran's memorial park at the corner of Arnold Rd. and Tiogue Ave. The park was in need of attention and with the astute initiative of Br. Edgar Brouillard it soon became a project for the Blessing Council. With the town of Coventry providing landscaping materials, Br. Edgar, DGK Herb Knott and others contributed to bring some luster back to this worthy little memorial. Now a sign attesting to the stewardship of the location by the KofC Blessing Council proudly marks the spot! Great job Br. Edgar and all the knights who helped make this happen.



2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser Dinner

The Blessing Council is tentatively planning a 2nd annual St. Patrick's dinner fundraiser to be held at Club Jogues on Sunday, March 15. Currently the committee members are DD Neil Fidler, GK John Pizzo, Warden Angel Ferrer and Brother Don Oat. If anyone is interested in being a part of this committee, please contact Br. Neil. For you new Brother Knights, remember that one of the requirements to earn [the Shining Knight award](#) is to participate in at least three council service programs. So please consider being a member of this committee.



“And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father’s only Son, full of grace and truth.” – John 1:14



SAINT OF THE MONTH

St. Lucy



Feast Day: Dec. 13

The moral virtue of courage, or fortitude, enables us to stand firm in times of difficulty and to persevere in doing good. It is that virtue which allows us to resist temptations, overcome obstacles and conquer fear.

St. Lucy (283-304) shows us what this virtue looks like. Legend provides us with an account of her courage in defense of the faith. She had vowed to live a life of service committed to Christ. However, her mother had other plans and arranged for St. Lucy to marry a pagan. Although St. Lucy convinced her mother to relent – after praying for the cure of her mother's long illness at the tomb of St. Agatha, which was miraculously granted – her problems with the bridegroom were just beginning.

According to the story, the rejected bridegroom, acting out of anger, reported that Lucy was a Christian (a crime during the Diocletian persecution) to the governor of Syracuse, Sicily. The governor ordered her to sacrifice to the emperor's image. When she refused, she was sentenced to be defiled in a brothel. When the guards came to get her, she was stiff and heavy as a mountain and could not be moved. A dagger was then plunged through her throat and she was finally killed.

St. Lucy's life and death witness to us the importance of developing the virtue of courage. On the path to holiness, we see once again that what is impossible for humanity is only possible with God.



Chief Squire's Corner

Brother Squires,

As we come to the liturgical season of Advent, Saint Josemaria Escriva can help us to remember what the season is about. "Advent is here. What a marvellous time in which to renew your desire, your nostalgia, your real longing for Christ to come – for him to come every day to your soul in the Eucharist. The Church encourages us: *Ecce veniet!* – He is about to arrive!" St. Josemaria helps us to remember to prepare for the coming of Jesus our saviour.

Peter Tardiff
Chief Squire

St. Theresa's Shrine Visit

On October 9th the Squires Circle had the opportunity to visit the beautiful shrine dedicated to St. Theresa (Therese) in Nasonville, off of route 102. The shrine and adjoining parish were first opened in 1923 and this is the oldest shrine dedicated to St. Theresa IN THE WORLD! A wonderful feast day is celebrated on the third Sunday of August each year and I can personally tell you it is always a wonderful celebration. Mark it on your calendar for a 2014 resolution!



"Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged."
- Colossians 3:18-21

St. Theresa's Shrine Visit (Continued)



*"As proof that you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son and if a son then also an heir, through God."
— Galatians 4:6-7*