



THE BLESSING WORD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



JANUARY 2014

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1



Portrait of Christopher Columbus

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY SQUIRES MEETING

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

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SVP PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 1/13/2014
TIME: 7:30PM

PRO-LIFE MASS

PLACE: ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, CRANSTON
DATE: SATURDAY, 1/18/2014
TIME: 9:00AM

FEBRUARY SQUIRES MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER CLASSROOM
DATE: FRIDAY, 2/7/2014
TIME: 7:00PM

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SVP PARISH HALL
DATE: MONDAY, 2/10/2014
TIME: 7:30PM

SQUIRES URI BASKETBALL GAME

PLACE: RYAN CENTER, KINGSTON
DATE: SATURDAY, 2/15/2014
TIME: 6:00PM – 9:00PM

SQUIRES STATE HOUSE TOUR

PLACE: STATE HOUSE, PROVIDENCE
DATE: TBD
TIME: TBD



Grand Knight's Corner

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

Welcome to the New Year, I pray you all had a blessed Christmas and New Year. If you made resolutions make sure they are realistic and attainable. Our next meeting is Monday January 13, 2014.

For those who attended the Christmas party thank you for making it an overwhelming success again we had so many toys the Marines had to come back because their car wasn't large enough. We are planning our 2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner I pray that will be another home run.

Some upcoming events are the Annual Pro Life dinner on January 18th at Dillon Council on Douglas Pike, North Providence beginning at 6PM. A Knight with the P-Bruins followed by Clam Cakes and Chowda at State Council in Cranston. And finally the Annual Charity Ball on April 5th 2014 at the Quonsett O'Club.

The major things on the calendar for the Blessing Council is to conduct a 3rd degree exemplification in February as well as hold a membership drive at Our Lady of Czestahova in the near future, so if you are a parishioner or just want to help out please be at the next business meeting where it will be discussed.

Finally I would just like to say I pray that this year is a blessed as this past one has been for us. Pray for our Pope, our Order and our whole Catholic family. Keep faith in God and let the Holy Spirit guide you.

God Bless and Vivat Jesu!
John Pizzo,
Grand Knight

MSGR. BLESSING K OF C COUNCIL
P.O. Box 1470
COVENTRY, RI 02816
coventryknights@verizon.net
<http://www.coventryknights.org>

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**

Rev. Jacek Ploch

Grand Knight

John Pizzo

Financial Secretary

David Tanski

Deputy Grand Knight

Herb Knott

Chancellor

Alan Ogrodnik

Recorder

Michael Colvin

Treasurer

Glenn Holt

Advocate

Patrick Hurley

Warden

Angel Ferrer Jr.

Inside Guard

James Hall

Outside Guard

Stephen Kukulka

One Year Trustee

Richard Belanger

Two Year Trustee

Earl Mahar

Three Year Trustee

Neil Fidler

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

Rev. Paul Lemoi

Chief Squire

Peter Tardiff

Deputy Chief Squire

Michael Porter

Notary Squire

Caleb Delehant

Bursar Squire

David Tardiff

Marshal Squire

Brennen Connor



Chaplain's Report

Nothing to Report This Month

Knight's Corner

By DD Neil Fidler

The recent Knight's Corner article by Past Grand Knight Jim Woolley mentioned that Boston Red Sox right fielder **Shane Victorino** is a Knight of Columbus as well as his father, **Michael Victorino**, who is currently the State Deputy of the Hawaii Knights of Columbus. Jim's article got me to thinking of some of the famous men who have graced our ranks over the years.



K of C Founder, Venerable Servant of God Fr. McGivney
Babe Ruth around the time he joined the K of C.

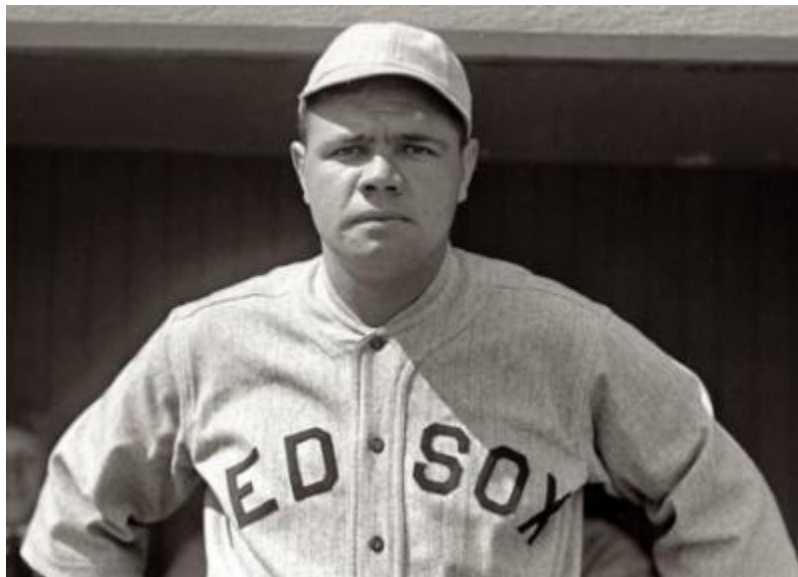
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"Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD."

- Isaiah 60:6

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Our Order was founded by a member of the clergy, Venerable Servant of God **Father Michael Joseph McGivney**, at St. Mary's Parish in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882. We are most blessed to be able to include seven Saints as Brother Knights. One bishop, martyred in Mexico and canonized in 2006: **Saint Rafael Guizar Valencia**, Archbishop of Jalapa. Six priests, also Mexican Martyrs, canonized in 2000: **Saint Miguel de la Mora de la Mora**, **Saint Pedro de Jesus Maldonado Lucero**, **Saint Jose Maria Robles Hurtado**, **Saint Rodrigo Aguilar Aleman**, **Saint Luis Batiz Sainz** and **Saint Mateo Correa Magallanes**. Cardinals: **Cardinal Francis George**, Archbishop of Chicago; **Cardinal Sean Patrick O'Malley**, Archbishop of Boston; **Cardinal Justin Ragali**, Archbishop of Philadelphia and **Cardinal Donald Wuerl**, Archbishop of Washington. The Archbishop of Baltimore, **Archbishop William Lori**, is our Supreme Chaplain. Here in Rhode Island, **Bishop Thomas Tobin** and **Bishop Emeritus Louis Gelineau** are Brother Knights. The Blessing Council is proud to be home council to **Father Jacek Ploch**, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish and our Council Chaplain. Also, **Father Paul Grenon**, **Father Eddy Lopez** and **Father Thomas Woodhouse** of SS John and Paul Parish; **Father Paul Lemoi** of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish and Father Prior to our Columbian Squires; **Father Robert Forcier** of St. Paul's Parish in Cranston and **Father Peter J. Sheehan** of St. Joseph's and St. Patrick's Parishes in Burrillville.



Babe Ruth around the time he joined the K of C.

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“And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage.” - Matthew 2:9-11

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From the sports world, baseball players **Babe Ruth**, **Connie Mack**, **Joe DiMaggio**, **Gil Hodges** and **Ron Guidry** were all Knights of Columbus. The Babe joined the Knights when he was still with the Red Sox. His home council is Pere Marquette K of C Council #271 in South Boston. We can also count two of the greatest NFL head coaches among our ranks – **Vince Lombardi** and **Mike Ditka**. Mr. Lombardi, a fourth-degree Knight, was a very devoted Catholic. I had occasion to visit Green Bay recently, and was honored by going to Mass at St. Willebrord Parish where he was a daily communicant. Former heavyweight boxing champions **James J. Braddock** and **Floyd Patterson** were Knights as well as professional wrestler “Captain” **Lou Albano**. Providence College fans will be pleased to know that **Lenny Wilkens**, a point-guard for the Friars from 1957-1960, and the 2nd winningest NBA coach of all-time, is a Knight of Columbus.



JFK (right) wearing the tuxedo and sash of a 4th Degree Knight of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus are no strangers to the political arena. The only Roman Catholic President of the United States, **John Fitzgerald Kennedy**, was a fourth-degree Knight of Columbus. President Kennedy's home council is Bunker Hill Council #62 of Charlestown, MA, where he joined our ranks in 1946. President Kennedy's brother-in-law, **Sargent Shriver**, also a Knight, was the first Director of the Peace Corps, an Ambassador to France, and a Vice-Presidential candidate running mate of George McGovern in 1972. The current Supreme Knight, **Carl A. Anderson**, was a Special Assistant to President Reagan. Other famous Knights in politics include Speaker of the House of Representatives **John Boehner**, former New York governor and Presidential candidate **Al Smith**, former US Senator and Presidential candidate **Rick Santorum** and former Florida governor **Jeb Bush**. Current Associate Justice of the US Supreme Court **Samuel Alito** is a Knight of Columbus. Here in Rhode Island, who could ever forget former Governor **J. Joseph Garrahy** and his famous flannel shirt during the Blizzard of '78? Governor Garrahy was a Knight. Dr. Daniel S. Harrop, currently a candidate for Mayor of Providence, is a Knight. And right here in our own Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council, we can claim **Victor Moffit**, a former candidate for Governor of Rhode Island, as a Brother Knight.

“Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying: “In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.” - Acts 10:34-35

Prayer Intentions



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

FDD/PFN/PGK Al Giroux, Len Denommee, PGK Jim Kiley and wife Angie, John Derry, Matt Parent, Lucille Ferrer, Katie Fidler, Lauren Belanger, Pat Hurley, Jeanne Giroux, Robert Firth, 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

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



January Birthdays

Blessing Council #5273

Happy Birthday to our Brother Knights born in January.

Dale Cross, Anthony Favata, Richard Houle, Patrick Hurley, Stephen Kukulka, Earl Mahar, Anthony Paone, Richard Sullivan, Scott True.



2nd Annual St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser Dinner

As announced last night at our council meeting, we will be hosting our 2nd annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner Fundraiser on Sunday, March 16, at Club Jogues on Boston St. in Coventry. Please pencil in the date and purchase your tickets. This event will sell out fast as there are a limited number of tickets we can sell due to the seating capacity at Club Jogues. Last year's event was a huge success, and we're looking to do even better this year.

"After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, saying, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.'" - Matthew 3:16-17

What Is That KofC Office?

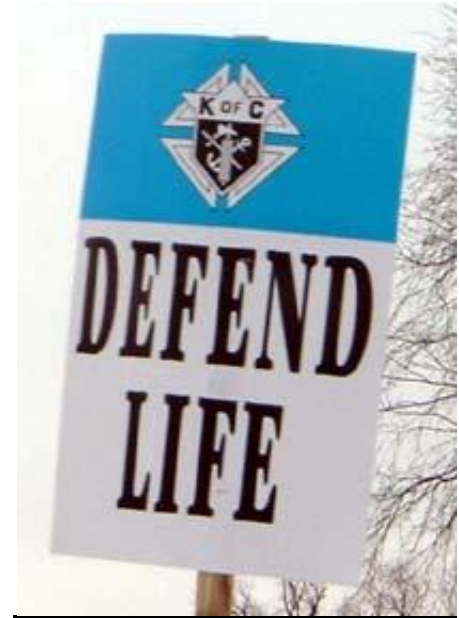


Treasurer



The treasurer is responsible for the safe-keeping and maintaining records of all council funds and accounts. He is responsible for depositing money into the council's accounts and provides a certificate of such monies to the grand knight. He is also responsible for payment of all ex-penses.

RI March for Life



Brothers:

On Tuesday, January 28, 2014 from 3 PM to 4 PM RI Right to Life will be holding their annual Rally for Life in the State House Rotunda. I recommend arriving starting around 2 PM to get through security at the State House. If you would like to be kept update on the Pro Life issues at the State House you can sign up for RI Right to Life action alerts at their website <http://www.rirtl.org>

Vivat Jesus,

Mike Krzywonos - Culture of Life Director RI
Knight of Columbus

"It is too little, the LORD says, for you to be my servant, to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and restore the survivors of Israel; I will make you a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.." - Isaiah 49:6

Blessing Council Christmas Party

On December 13th, Brother Knights with their families and, or friends met for our annual Christmas party at SS John and Paul Parish Center. The Christmas Party committee and Chairman Dick Belanger did a great job in putting it all together. Worthy Warden Angel Ferrer and his great crew also came through as is usual. Our dignitaries from the State Council were very impressed with the party and had a wonderful time as well. They were extremely thankful for inviting them.

We took in a little over \$1,000 at the door, before expenses. The 50/50 raffle took in \$472. Of that amount, \$236 was won by Brother Jim Martin, and he requested that his winnings be put back into the Bishop's "Keep the Heat On" fund. Along with the \$472 from the 50/50 raffle, we received \$150 in donations so a total of \$622 went directly to Bishop Tobin's "Keep the Heat On" fund from Blessing Council.

The toys brought in for "Toys for Tots" made for some very happy children on Christmas morning due to your generosity! The first principle of Our Order is Charity, and you all certainly came through. Everyone had a great time once again. The food was excellent and everyone enjoyed. Below and on the following page are photos from the evening. Once again this has been a great activity for the council. Vivat Jesus!



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"To you who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be holy, with all those everywhere who call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." – 1 Corinthians 1:2-3

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“John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, ‘A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.’ I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel.” – John 1:29



SAINT OF THE MONTH

St. Sebastian



[Click the picture to hear his story](#)

Feast Day: Jan. 20
Patron Saint of: Athletes

Almost nothing is historically certain about St. Sebastian except that he was a Roman martyr, and was buried on the Appian Way, probably near the present Basilica of St. Sebastian. Devotion to him spread rapidly, and he is mentioned in several martyrologies as early as a.d. 350.

Sebastian entered the Roman army because only there could he assist the martyrs without arousing suspicion. Finally he was found out, brought before Emperor Diocletian and delivered to Mauritanian archers to be shot to death. His body was pierced with arrows, and he was left for dead. But he was found still alive by those who came to bury him. He recovered, but refused to flee. One day he took up a position near where the emperor was to pass. He accosted the emperor, denouncing him for his cruelty to Christians. This time the sentence of death was carried out. Sebastian was beaten to death with clubs.

As has been said, legends may not be literally true. Yet they may express the very substance of the faith and courage evident in the lives of these heroes and heroines of Christ.



Chief Squire's Corner

Brother Squires,

We are now past Christmas and into the month of January. The first day of January was important not because it is the first day of the New Year, but because it is the feast of Mary the Mother of God. It is important to remember how special Mary is to Catholics. She intercedes for us with the Father. This year, let us entrust ourselves to her care.

Peter Tardiff
Chief Squire

RI State House Tour (Date TBD)



[Click the picture to see a video](#)

The Squires are planning a tour of the RI State House probably in February. The tour stops usually include the Bell Room, where Rhode Island's replica of the Philadelphia Liberty Bell is displayed; the State Room, where Gilbert Stuart's famous portrait of George Washington hangs; and the Rotunda, where you can gaze upward at one of the world's largest, self-supported marble domes. This is a great experience for any who haven't had a chance. Come on and join us!

"I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD with courage; be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD." - Psalm 27:13-14

MSGR. PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273
IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THEIR 2ND ANNUAL

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

Fundraiser

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2014
COCKTAILS 5:00PM, DINNER 5:30PM

CLUB JOGUES
184 BOSTON ST., COVENTRY
Buffet-Style Menu:

USDA Choice Corned Beef	Cheese and Crackers
Steamed Cabbage	Rolls
Potatoes	Salad Bar
Whole Baby Beets & Onions	Coffee
Roasted Chicken	Dessert
Baked Stuffed Scrod	Cash Bar

\$20.00 PER PERSON
PROCEEDS TO BE DONATED TO THE MOTHER OF LIFE CENTER

Knights of Columbus

Charity • Unity • Fraternity • Patriotism

For tickets, please make checks out to: Msgr. Peter E. Blessing K of C Council #5273
Mail checks to Neil Fidler, 72 Columbia Ave., Coventry, RI 02816 by 3/7/2014
Email: Narragansett55@yahoo.com (Limited number of tickets available)

“As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, “Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.” At once they left their nets and followed him.” – Matthew 4:18-20