



# THE BLESSING WORD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



JANUARY 2016

# Happy New Year!

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1



**MSGR PETER E. BLESSING**  
L.L.D., D.D., V.G.  
RI State Chaplain 1913-1957  
Our Council's Namesake

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER  
DATE: MONDAY, 1/11/2016  
TIME: 7:30PM

### JANUARY SQUIRES MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY MEETING ROOM  
DATE: FRIDAY, 1/15/2016  
TIME: 7:00PM

### FREE THROW CHALLENGE

PLACE: FJVD GYMNASIUM  
DATE: SUNDAY, 1/31/2016  
TIME: 11AM TO 2PM

### FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER  
DATE: MONDAY, 2/8/2016  
TIME: 7:30PM

### FEBRUARY SQUIRES MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER  
DATE: FRIDAY, 2/12/2016  
TIME: 6:30PM

### URI BASKETBALL GAME

PLACE: RYAN CENTER, KINGSTON  
DATE: SUNDAY, 2/20/2016  
TIME: 7:00PM



## Grand Knight's Corner

My Brothers All,

I pray that you and your families are well and you all enjoyed a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Let's hope that this winter will not be as cold and white as last year.

Our Christmas Party was very successful and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thanks to all on the Fundraising Committee that helped in planning the party. Also, the TV Raffle was successful and the money raised will be used for the Knights in Need Fund. Soon we will be starting to plan for our St. Patrick Day Party to be held on Sunday, March 13.

Here are some of the upcoming Statewide events:

The Annual Respect Life Mass will be Saturday, January 16, 2016 at St. Paul Church in Cranston. The Annual Pro-Life Dinner will be Saturday, January 16, 2016 at St. Cecilia Church in Pawtucket. The 40 Days for Life 2016 Lenten Campaign will be from Wednesday, February 10 until Sunday, March 20. On Sunday, March 6 there will be a Providence Bruins Hockey Night. You can go to the K of C State website to get more information about these events.

Blessing Council will be conducting Membership Drives and an Exemplifications at both Saints John and Paul Parish and St. Vincent de Paul Parish in the coming months. Remember one new member per month per council. Ask a friend or family member to become a Brother Knight.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

Frank D. Laiter, III  
Grand Knight  
[fdlaiter3@gmail.com](mailto:fdlaiter3@gmail.com)

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL #5273 K OF C  
P.O. Box 1470  
COVENTRY, RI 02816  
[coventryknights@verizon.net](mailto:coventryknights@verizon.net)  
<http://www.coventryknights.org>  
Meeting Place: SS John and Paul Parish Center

**Supreme Knight**

Carl A. Anderson

**RI State Deputy**

Peter Lentini

**District Deputy (RI Dist. 5)**

John Pizzo

**Insurance Agent**

Stephen Del Deo

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

Rev. Jacek Ploch

**Grand Knight**

Frank Laiter III

**Financial Secretary**

Neil Fidler

**Deputy Grand Knight**

Edgar Brouillard

**Chancellor**

Angel Ferrer, Jr.

**Recorder**

Paul Lemek

**Treasurer**

Mark Giolitti

**Advocate**

Patrick Hurley

**Warden**

Tom Rossi

**Inside Guard**

James Hall

**Outside Guard**

Stephen Kukulka

**One Year Trustee**

Earl Mahar

**Two Year Trustee**

John Pizzo

**Three Year Trustee**

Herbert Knott

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

Rev. Paul Lemoi

**Chief Squire**

Michael Porter

**Deputy Chief Squire**

Caleb Delehant

**Notary Squire**

David Tardiff

**Bursar Squire**

Brennen Connor

**Marshal Squire**

Gabriel Delehant

**Sentry Squire**

William Connor

**Chaplain's Report****Nothing to report.****SSJP Membership Drive**

The membership committee is targeting April for a membership drive at SS John and Paul for the weekend of April 2-3 pending Father Grenon's permission. Brother Knights will be asked to pass out membership pamphlets after each Mass that weekend. The council will follow up the drive with an Open House on the evening of Wednesday, April 6, in the SSJP Parish Center where a membership and fraternal benefits presentation will be made as well as refreshments served. The following Sunday, April 9, after the 11:30AM Mass, the Degree Team will hold a combined 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Degree ceremony in the Parish Center. It is hoped that this drive will bring in a good amount of candidates to join Our Order. Also, subsequent membership drives will be planned at St. Vincent de Paul and Our Lady of Good Counsel. For any questions concerning this upcoming membership drive please contact our Worthy Chancellor and Membership Director, Angel Ferrer, at [chefange1950@yahoo.com](mailto:chefange1950@yahoo.com) or call 401-385-3186.

**Annual Dues**

By now, unless you are an Honorary Life member, you should have received a notice from the Financial Secretary to pay your annual dues for 2016. If you haven't already done so, please mail your payment to the Financial Secretary. You also have the opportunity to pay in person prior to the January meeting on Monday, January 11, as the Financial Secretary will be in the Parish Center at 7PM. Once paid, you will receive your 2016 Membership Card. Please be sure to sign the card prior to placing in your wallet!

**Brother Harry Munroe****1930-2015**

It is with deep sadness we announce that Brother Harry Munroe went to his final reward on December 30, 2015. Brother Harry was 85 years old. He was an Honorary Life member with 54 years as a Knight having joined the Order in May 1962. Brother Harry was also a SS John and Paul Parishioner and a retired Master Sergeant of the US Army having served during the Korean and Vietnam wars. *Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. And let the perpetual light shine upon him.*

*"The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him."  
— Daniel 9:9*



**Stephen Del Deo – Insurance Field Agent****K of C Insurance Q & A****Do I need life insurance?**

Yes, the chances are you do need life insurance, whether it's for paying funeral expenses, replacing income, providing for your child's education, protecting your home, or some other financial reason. Unfortunately, too many people don't know the value of a life insurance policy and either go without any or settle for inadequate coverage. Check out our life insurance calculator to see where you stand.

**Is the Knights of Columbus financially strong?**

Yes. There is simply no more highly rated life insurer in North America than the Knights of Columbus. As of August 2015, the Knights of Columbus has earned A.M. Best's highest rating for financial strength (A++, Superior) for 40 consecutive years. In addition, our margin of safety is among the best in the industry.

**What exactly are dividends?**

Dividends are the divisible surplus the Order has left over after paying expenses and setting aside the necessary amounts to assure that future benefits are fully funded. Dividends develop from favorable experience, such as people living longer than expected or from interest earnings higher than those guaranteed in their policy. Remember, the payment of dividends cannot be guaranteed.

**If I have questions about my insurance policy, or have an interest in learning more about the products the Order offers, whom should I ask?**

Your professional Knights of Columbus agent. Stephen Del Deo, can answer any questions you may have. Even if you are not currently a policyholder, a field agent, who is also a brother Knight is available to meet with you at your convenience the needs of you and your family.

**Remember When...**

In the summer of 2010, the Fr. Leo Anttil Circle of Columbian Squires ventured up to St. Theresa Shrine in Nasonville, RI. Pictured here are Chris Peloso, Josh Fidler, Matt Parent, Nick Parent, Zachary Farrell and Evan Patten. Three of these Squires are now 3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Knights in the Blessing Council and one Squire is now a 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Sir Knight in the Father Wallace Assembly. To show you how fast time flies, all six of these Squires are over 18 and have gone on to other endeavors.

**Free Throw Challenge**

**When: Sunday, January 31, 2015 11AM-3PM**

**Where: Fr. John V. Doyle School Gymnasium**

Blessing Council will be conducting a Free Throw Challenge on Sunday, January 31, from 11AM to 3PM in the Father John V. Doyle School Gymnasium. All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the local level of competition for the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. Participants are required to furnish proof of age and written parental consent. For entry forms or additional information contact: Neil Fidler @ 401-632-7922. Since its beginning in 1972, over 2.5 million youths have participated in the contest.

*"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."  
– Galatians 6:2*





# Squires News



## Saint of the Month: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton



"Mother Seton" was the name everyone knew her by when she died on January 4, 1821, in Emmitsburg, Maryland. A life full of surprises had led to that name. Elizabeth was born in New York City on August 28, 1774. Her father, Richard Bayley, was a well-known doctor. Her mother, Catherine, died when Elizabeth was very young. Elizabeth was Episcopalian. As a teenager, she did many things to help poor people. In 1794, Elizabeth married William Seton. He was a rich merchant who owned a fleet of ships. Elizabeth, William and their five children had a happy life together. But suddenly William lost his fortune and his good health within a short time. His wife heard that the weather in Italy might help him get better. Elizabeth, William and their oldest daughter, Anna, journeyed there by ship. But William died shortly after. Elizabeth and Anna remained in Italy as guests of the Filicchi family. The Filicchis were very kind. They tried to make Elizabeth and Anna's sorrow easier by sharing their own deep love for the Catholic faith. Elizabeth returned home to New York convinced she would become a Catholic. Her family and friends did not understand. They were very upset, but she went ahead with courage. Elizabeth joined the Church on March 4, 1805. A few years later, Elizabeth was asked to come and open a girls' school in Baltimore. It was there that Elizabeth decided to live as a sister. Many women came to join her, including her sister and sister-in-law. Her own daughters, Anna and Catherine, also joined the group. They became the American Sisters of Charity and Elizabeth was given the title "Mother Seton." Elizabeth became well known. She started many Catholic schools and a few orphanages. She made plans for a hospital which was opened after her death. Elizabeth loved to write, and she also translated some textbooks from French to English. But she was most famous for the way she visited the poor and the sick. Elizabeth was declared a saint by Pope Paul VI on September 14, 1975. Her feast day is celebrated on January 4.

## URI Basketball Game



VS.



**When: Saturday, February 20, 2015 7PM**  
**Where: Ryan Center, URI Campus, Kingston**

The Fr. Leo Ancil Circle, pending a vote during the January meeting, will be attending a basketball game between the University of Rhode Island Rams and the University of Duquesne Dukes on Saturday, February 20, starting at 7PM. All family and friends are invited as well as Knights from the Blessing Council. If there are 15 or more people who are going, the group rate of \$10 per ticket will apply. Squires are asked to have a head count ready to go for the January meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The Circle will be meeting at the Hopkins Hill Park and Ride at 4:30PM to drive down to Leo's Pizza in Narragansett for dinner prior to the game. RSVP for this event will be February 1. Please call Chief Counselor Neil Fidler at 401-632-7922 for more information about this event.



## Chief Squire's Corner

Hello All,

I hope you all had a blessed Christmas and had a great time with family and friends. I figured I would talk about New Year's Day since it's right around the corner. New Year's Day is a time for resolution. I know it's hard to start good habits or stop bad habits, but if you pray and try your best, God will help you fight the temptation to do what you are trying not to do. Even if it's a little thing like an addiction to chocolate by stopping that it will benefit you in the future. Everything in moderation.

Michael Porter, Chief Squire

*"Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause of the poor and the oppressed. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." – Psalm 82:3-4*

### Who Does It? – Brother Knights Skills List

Skill	Brother Knight	Phone	Email/Address
Construction/Roof Repair	Brian Smith	401-826-1725	BCS Contruction, 23 Holmes Rd., Coventry
Blueberry Farm	John Macomber	401-397-5079	macomerslueberryfarm.shutterfly.com
Certified Tutoring	Edgar Brouillard	401-354-9298	edbrou@gmail.com
Auto Repair	John Starziano	401-821-9887	Star Service Center, 53 Arnold Rd., Coventry
Plumbing/Electrical/Applicances	Tom Rossi	401-243-3767	tomr421@cox.net
Real Estate Referral Agent	Pat Hurley	401-339-5789	realephurley@verizon.net
Writing Instruments	Herb Knott	401-316-7230	knotth1@gmail.com
Computer Repair	Mike Colvin	401-641-6881	mikegcolvin@gmail.com
Delilah's Deli	Paul Bellavance	401-385-3483	780 Victory Hwy #10, West Greenwich

If you have a particular skill and would like to be included on this list, please contact FS Neil Fidler at [Narragansett55@yahoo.com](mailto:Narragansett55@yahoo.com) to be added.

### Blessing Council Year in Review 2015!

2015 was a great year for our Council with many good memories such as:

- Knight Out Dinners all year long
- St. Patrick's Day Fundraiser Dinner
- 40 Days for Life
- KANDI Drive
- Membership drives at our three churches
- First and Second Degree Ceremonies
- Providence Bruins Game with the State Council
- Day of Recollection
- Dick Belanger celebration dinner 60 years as a Knight of Columbus
- Squires' Pasta and Meatball Dinner for Erica Shea's family.
- Shining Armor Awards presented to five brother Knights
- Awarded Star Council for 2014-15 Columbian Year
- Veterans Memorial Park Maintenance
- St. Vincent de Paul Walk for the Poor
- Family Picnic at Goddard Park
- Little Flower Home Painting Party
- Prayer Vigil at Planned Parenthood
- Family nights w/ summer band concerts
- URI Football Game with tailgate party
- Silver Rose Prayer Service
- Awards and Donation Night with annual donations presented.
- Lasalette Shrine Visit
- Christmas Party with Toys for Tots and TV Raffle

*"By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me a prayer to the God of my life." – Psalm 42:8*



## CULTURE OF LIFE AND FAMILY COMMITTEE NEWS

## EMPTY MANGER PROTEST AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD



On Saturday, December 19, 2015, members of the COL Committee participated in the "Empty Manger Protest" at the Planned Parenthood Clinic at Point St. in Providence. Attendees from our council were GK Frank Laiter, Alan Ogrodnik and myself.

It was a bright sunny day and a comfortable 32 degrees. When we arrived the people were just beginning to arrive. The Planned Parenthood staff with their pink shirts and signs were out in force. There were many more than last time.

Most of the attendees were on the opposite side of the street than we were in the shadows with no sun, makes you wonder if it was Divine intervention. There were speeches by a priest and other lay people and caroling and we also prayed the Holy Rosary and Joyful Mysteries. Father had some direct comments and welcomed any conversions.

It was very peaceful, however we ignored the ice cold stares. I was pushed when trying to step onto the side walk next to a Planned Parenthood employee, however her 90 lb. body did not have enough stability to cause me any harm. I countered with a God Bless you and she left shortly after. Brother Alan Ogrodnik was told he could not lean on their building or stand on the sidewalk, Brother Alan's comments were very effective as nobody asked him to move again. The three of us were all very politically correct and by being so demonstrated that we were Catholic Gentlemen. If we caused anyone to drive past or not to enter it was worth our time and efforts and standing in the cold.

When the next protest is scheduled I would really like to see more of our Brother Knights from all councils make time to stand with us for the innocent as their voice. You will walk away feeling good knowing we were standing for a just and worthy cause.

God Bless  
Herb Knott, IPGK  
COL Committee

## FAMILY COMMITTEE UPDATE

On Friday, December 11, we had our Christmas Party. I believe there were around 120 people in attendance. There was music, raffles, and drawings for a 50" Flat Screen TV. The party was a success once again. Everyone seemed to have a great time.



We also collected many toys for the "Toys for Tots" for the US Marine Corps to give to needy children.



Thanks to the many of our brothers along with family members who helped in setting up, catering, preparing the buffet and helping in serving, selling tickets and performing the music live and cleaning up after the party.

We will resume our "Knight Out" in January, Wednesday, 27th. I will let you know the time and place during the month. Thank all of you who attend the Knight Out, you have made it a great success. It is a great way of gathering with our K of C families for an evening out. Don't forget if you want to include a friend or neighbor please feel free to do so.

God Bless,  
Herb Knott, IPGK  
Family Activities Committee



## Christmas Party, December 11, 2015



More photos from the Christmas Party will be posted soon on our website at <http://www.coventryknights.org/activities>