



THE BLESSING WORD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



JUNE 2020

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 6



MSGR PETER E. BLESSING
L.L.D., D.D., V.G.

RI State Chaplain 1913-1957
Our Council's Namesake

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE OFFICERS MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 6/3/2020
TIME: 7:00PM

JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING
DATE: MONDAY, 6/8/2020
TIME: 7:30PM

JULY OFFICERS MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 7/8/2020
TIME: 7:00PM

JULY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING
DATE: MONDAY, 7/13/2020
TIME: 7:30PM

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



Grand Knight's Corner

My Brothers All,

I pray you and your families are well and staying as safe as possible.

Brothers, June has arrived and the new Fraternal Year begins July 1st. I have served two years as Grand Knight and our Council's next Grand Knight is Brother David Legault. Brother David has served as our Worthy Treasurer and has graciously accepted the position of Grand Knight for our Monsignor Peter E. Blessing Council #5273. I am sure that you will give Brother David your full support as you have given me over the past years in my position of Grand Knight.

I would like to give a heartfelt thanks to all our Brothers that have directed and/or took part in our many events held for Life, Faith, Family, Community and our new recruitment program. We have had a successful Fraternal year as we will be receiving the Columbian Award as well as the Founders Award. We have missed the Star Council Award by the need of two more recruited Brothers.

I hope that those who took directed and those who took part in our evens had an increase in their faith and respect for each other and those who we served.

This past Fraternal Year has been shortened by Covid-19 but let us continue to pray for an end to this pandemic with the hope of finding a vaccine soon. Also, please let us continue to pray for Peace in our Nation and the World and an end to abortion and Planned Parenthood.

We should be inspired by the fact that our Founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney, will soon be beatified by Pope Francis soon due to a miracle attributed to his intercession. May our Council continue to grow and prosper so that we can continue to serve our Lord, Churches, Priests, Families and Community.

Roberta and I pray that all our Brothers and their families stay safe and healthy.
Vivat Jesus!

Paul Lemek
Grand Knight

Supreme Knight

Carl A. Anderson

RI State Deputy

Michael Dziok

District Deputy (RI Dist. 6)

Michael Colvin

Insurance Agent

Stephen Del Deo

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

Rev. Paul Lemoi

Grand Knight

Paul Lemek

Financial Secretary

Neil Fidler

Deputy Grand Knight

Brian Mattias

Chancellor

Anthony Machado

Recorder

William Jakabek

Treasurer

David Legault

Warden

Frank Laiter, Jr.

Advocate

Patrick Hurley

Inside Guard

James Hall

Outside Guard

Stephen Kukulka

Lecturer

Edgar Brouillard

One Year Trustee

Earl Mahar

Two Year Trustee

John Pizzo

Three Year Trustee

Frank Laiter III



Chaplain's Corner

My Brother Knights!

We begin this month of June with two great feasts: The Most Holy Trinity and the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Both are mysteries not to be solved but to be experienced. Both speak to of of the love of our God and what he offers to each of us. We are in love relationship with God that demands our response when God says "I love you!" Most of the time we would simply respond, "And I love you!" But that is not enough our very actions in our daily lives must express our love. The month of June is dedicated to the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, from which pours forth the true love of God. Also, we will celebrate Father's Day this month. Let us pray that all of our fathers will imitate the love which St. Joseph had for the Christ Child.

We are still in the midst of COVID-19, and our churches are re-opening, but we still must be careful and follow the guidelines of our gatherings. Please continue to wear your face masks wash your hands often and keep socially distant. We are our brother's and sister's keepers. If you have been sick in the past few weeks or have a fever or are elderly with underlying illnesses, please do not go to church. Most churches are still live-streaming the Mass or you can watch it on TV. Be safe and be healthy.

Continue to pray the Rosary daily asking Our Lady to intercede to her son for His healing powers upon our world. Pray for our country in this time of unrest, that people may peacefully protest without violence. May we come to a true sense of listening to one another to bring about peaceful resolve to all of our unrest.

God bless you my Brothers and your families may you have a safe and healthy summer.

Vivat Jesus!

Father Paul Lemoi, Chaplain

PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Our Holy Father Pope Francis
- Our Bishops Tobin and Evans
- The Priests of the parishes we serve
- Father Richard Bucci
- Father Victor Silva
- PGK Angel Ferrer
- PGK/PFN Herb Knott
- PGK William Moskosky
- PGK Daniel Danis
- Chancellor Anthony Machado
- Treasurer David Legault
- Brother Alan Ogradnik
- Brother Len Denommee
- Brother Paul Lacroix
- Brother Bo Kenahan
- Brother Matt Parent
- Brother Tony Favata
- Lucille Ferrer
- Bernadette Favata
- Veronica Brouillard
- Nancy Giolitti
- Mary Deary
- Wyatt Canfield
- Eric Thatcher
- Robert Lemoi (recently deceased)
- All US military personnel
- The Unborn
- All who are affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic

"We were baptized into one body in a single Spirit, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as free men, and we were all given the same Spirit to drink." – 1 Corinthians 12:13

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee will be proposing a new slate of officers for the 2020-21 Columbian Year at the June business meeting as follows:

Grand Knight	David Legault
Deputy Grand Knight	Brian Mattias
Chancellor	Anthony Machado
Warden	Frank Laiter, Jr.
Treasurer	William Jakabek
Recorder	Thomas Gostomski
Advocate	Patrick Hurley
Inside Guard	James Hall
Outside Guard	Stephen Kukulka
Trustee, First Year	John Pizzo
Trustee, Second Year	Frank Laiter III
Trustee, Third Year	Paul Lemek

If any Brother Knight wishes to run for office, he may do so, and we will have an election for that office. If there are no counter nominations, then the entire slate will be elected at the June meeting.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following Brother Knights:

Fr. Christopher Mahar	June 2
Michael Emmett	June 6
David Manfredi	June 8
Ryan Switzer	June 8
Roger Cyr	June 13
James Kiley, Jr.	June 13
Peter Blais	June 15
Stanley Jendzejec	June 16
Edward Rice III	June 17
Adam Giolitti	June 21
Scott Cummiskey	June 23
Cornelius Fitton, Jr.	June 24
Vincent J Rinaldi	June 28
Matthew Piatek III	June 29

WELCOME BROTHER STEPHEN BERT

A big Blessing Council welcome to our newest Brother Knight, Stephen Bert. Brother Stephen attended the June 2 online exemplification, and achieved full Knighthood. Brother Stephen, we look forward to meeting you in person once we start regular meetings again, and we hope you can become active in some of the many program we have!

FOUNDERS AND COLUMBIAN AWARDS

The 2019-20 Columbian year has likely been the most challenging year our council has ever had. Yet, in spite of it, our council will be receiving two awards – the Founders Award and Columbian Award.

Normally, our council would have to achieve its quota of new insurance members to attain the award. However, due to revised guidelines, councils were given the opportunity to conduct a Fraternal Benefits Webinar to attain the award. We can thank our Worthy District Deputy Michael Colvin for setting up the webinar with our current Field Agent, Brother Jim Davis, for a district-wide webinar. Brother Knights of the Blessing Council attended this event, and Brother Jim put out some great information concerning the benefits that Knights of Columbus are entitled to. Because of our attendance in that webinar, Blessing Council has attained the Founders Award for the 2019-2020 Columbian Year.

Additionally, our council has attained the Columbian Award for the 2019-2020 Columbian Year. Supreme Council also modified the qualifications for the Columbian Award due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but Blessing Council attained the award by going above and beyond the modified qualifications. In fact, had the original qualifications remained in effect, Blessing Council would have attained the Columbian Award anyway because we met all those original qualifications. Special thanks go to our Program and Activities Directors – Frank Laiter III, Program Director; Paul Lemek, Faith Director; John Murray, Life Director; John Pizzo, Community Director and David Legault, Family Director. Also, thanks to you, Brothers, whose participation in these activities made the award possible.

“But whoever hates his brother is in darkness and is walking about in darkness not knowing where he is going, because darkness has blinded him.” – 1 John 2:11

FROM THE SUPREME KNIGHT

Dear Brother Knight,

Following the pain, outrage and violence resulting from the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd, I send this message in a spirit of reconciliation, asking you to join me beginning this Sunday — the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity — in praying our Novena for National Unity & An End to Racism.

We should take to heart the words of Pope Francis. No one should “tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism.” We must all “defend the sacredness of every human life.” And we must redouble our efforts to overcome the suffering and injustice which result from the sin of racism. As we celebrate the perfect unity of the Blessed Trinity, we call upon all Knights and people of goodwill to join in prayer. Let us remember that, as Pope Francis says, “nothing is gained by violence and so much is lost.”

Our prayers are inspired by our legacy as Knights of Columbus — may we carry on in the same spirit of unity that has inspired the Order to welcome Catholic men of all backgrounds, regardless of race, from our very beginning. This is especially important as we move forward as “Knights of Columbus: Knights of Unity,” which was the theme of last year’s Supreme Convention.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Time is cluttered with the wreckage of broken communities which have surrendered to hatred and violence. For the salvation of our nation and the salvation of mankind, we must follow another way.”

We pray that we all can follow this other way and come to understand that injustice to a black person is injustice to all; that regardless of race or culture, all people, without exception, are made in the image and likeness of God, and are deserving of our respect and love.

Please join me in offering this prayer for national unity and an end to racism. May we pray for the strength to learn from the courageous example of Dr. King and from the leadership of our Holy Father, and continue to work to build a society that recognizes the dignity and brotherhood of all.

As men of faith, let us together confidently turn to prayer during the nine days of this novena, beginning on Sunday, June 7, and concluding on Monday, June 15.

May God, through the powerful intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Civilization of Love, hear our prayer.

Faternally,
Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight

Note: A copy of the Novena for National Unity & An End to Racism can be found on Page 5 of this newsletter.

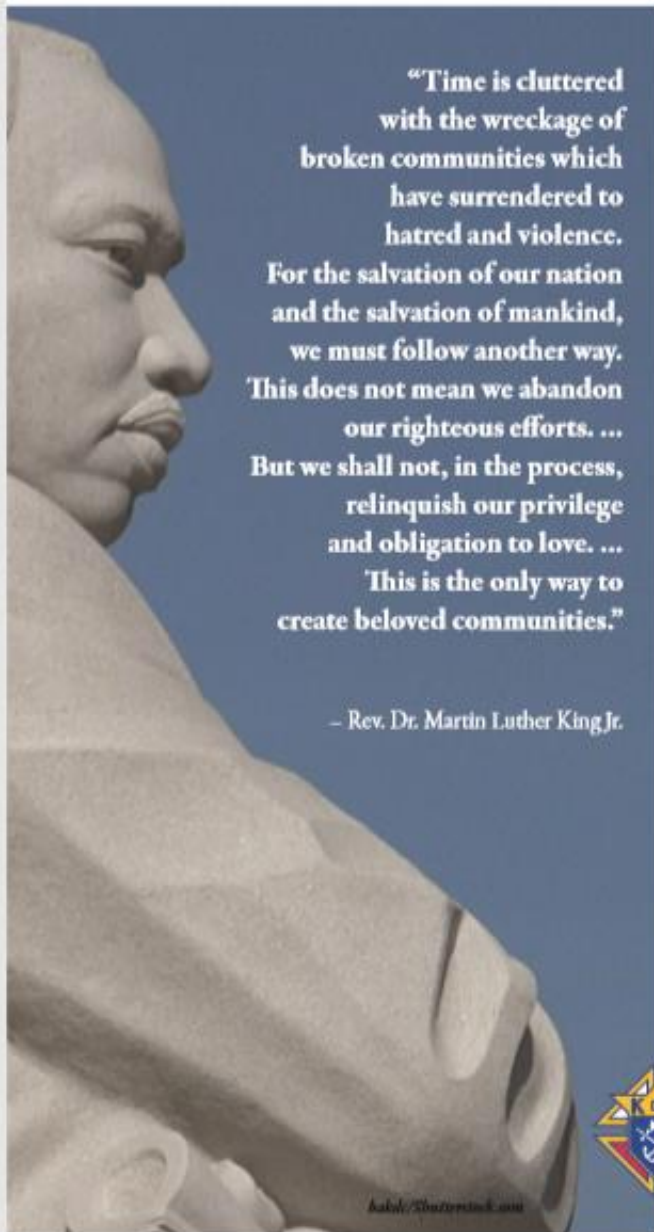


“Bear with one another; forgive each other if one of you has a complaint against another. The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.” – Colossians 3:13



NOVENA FOR NATIONAL UNITY & AN END TO RACISM

SUNDAY, JUNE 7 – MONDAY, JUNE 15



**"Time is cluttered
with the wreckage of
broken communities which
have surrendered to
hatred and violence.
For the salvation of our nation
and the salvation of mankind,
we must follow another way.
'This does not mean we abandon
our righteous efforts. ...
But we shall not, in the process,
relinquish our privilege
and obligation to love. ...
'This is the only way to
create beloved communities."**

– Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

PRAYER TO THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

Heavenly Father, you so loved the world that you sent us your only begotten Son as our Redeemer. The Holy Spirit rested upon your Beloved Son as he preached the Good News, cured the sick, and gave his life to break down each sinful barrier that separates us from you and from one another. With your Son, O Father, you sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church that she might extend your saving truth and love to every race and nation.

So it is that we praise you, O Glorious Trinity, One God in Three Persons, united in one Divine Nature yet distinct in each Person — Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. As you are united in one Divine Nature, we ask you to bring together in your love all whom hatred and racism have separated. Pour your love into our hearts, that we may speak the truth boldly and in a spirit of charity, and labor unceasingly for justice, peace and reconciliation in our divided nation and world. O Father, source of every blessing, O Son, Radiant Truth, O Spirit of Love, enable us to respect and love those who are different from ourselves and remove from our hearts, our homes, our Church, and our society every trace of racism.

Grant us, in your mercy, renewed and lasting resolve 'to mend our ways, to encourage one another, to agree with one another, and to live in peace.' (cf. 2 Cor 13:11) Grant us the wisdom to create a civilization of truth, justice and love, worthy of your Kingdom. Then we shall know that you are truly with us, O God of life, truth and love, living and reigning forever and ever. Amen.



hahol/Shutterstock.com

"There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" – Galatians 3:28

FATHER MCGIVNEY MOVES CLOSER TO SAINTHOOD!

Dear Brother Knight,

It is with particular joy that I write to share with you the news that, at Noon today in Rome, the Vatican [announced](#) the formal recognition of a miracle attributed to our founder, Venerable Father Michael McGivney.

With this announcement, a Mass of Beatification will soon be scheduled.

This joyful news is the culmination of many years of determined effort, and I ask for your continued and increased prayers as we prepare for the day when our founder will be known as “Blessed Michael McGivney.”

The Vatican announcement can be found below:

Decrees of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints

On May 26, 2020, the Holy Father Francis received in audience His Eminence Cardinal Angelo Becciu, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints. During the audience, the Supreme Pontiff authorized the same Congregation to promulgate the Decrees regarding:

[...] the miracle, attributed to the intercession of the Venerable Servant of God Michael McGivney, Diocesan Priest, Founder of the Order of the Knights of Columbus; born on August 12, 1852 in Waterbury (United States of America) and died in Thomaston (United States of America) on August 14, 1890; Venerable Michael McGivney was the founder of the Knights of Columbus, now the world's largest Catholic fraternal organization. After studies in Canada and the United States, he was ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop James Gibbons in Baltimore. He founded the Knights of Columbus as a mutual aid society, geared especially to working men and their families. He was known for his tireless work among his parishioners. He died at the early age of 38 from pneumonia.



I would ask each brother Knight to learn more about our founder at the newly updated Father McGivney Guild [website](#) where the Order will also regularly post news and updates related to the beatification.

And if you would like to learn even more about our founder's heroic life and continuing legacy, please consider reading Father McGivney's biography, [Parish Priest](#), and the newly-released book [The Knights of Columbus: An Illustrated History](#).

Sincerely,

Carl A. Anderson
Supreme Knight

“Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly.” – John 7:24

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro/M. Falconi.

O Mary,
you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,
you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,
the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill,
for those who are vulnerable,
and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,
O Holy Mother of God.
In our needs, despise not our petitions,
but deliver us always from all dangers,
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

KNIGHTS OF  COLUMBUS

"The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no greater commandment than these.'" – Mark 12:31