



# THE BLESSING WORD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



AUGUST 2020

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 8



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

**RI State Chaplain 1913-1957**  
Our Council's Namesake

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

### **AUGUST OFFICERS MEETING**

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 8/5/2020  
TIME: 7:00PM

### **AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING**

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING  
DATE: MONDAY, 8/10/2020  
TIME: 7:30PM

### **SEPTEMBER OFFICERS MEETING**

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 9/9/2020  
TIME: 7:00PM

### **SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING**

PLACE: ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING  
DATE: MONDAY, 9/14/2020  
TIME: 7:30PM



## **Grand Knight's Corner**

My Brothers All,

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

As we continue to deal with this terrible pandemic, we must strive to keep our council working toward our goals. During Monday's Membership meeting I will discuss several suggestions and goals for our council that meet state guidelines with the ongoing Covid-19 crisis.

Our mission as knights is to promote charitable, religious and social welfare works. The knight's most important task is supporting the Catholic church's position on various issues.

I can't stress the importance of providing our services to our four parishes with their needs throughout the year. By supporting our churches hopefully this should help to recruit new members in this council.

Please pray for peace in our country during this trying time and for an end to this pandemic.

Please join us Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30PM via Zoom meeting.

God Bless & Vivat Jesus,  
Vivat Jesus!

David Legault  
Grand Knight

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

**Supreme Knight**

Carl A. Anderson

**RI State Deputy**

David Quinn

**District Deputy (RI Dist. 6)**

Michael Colvin

**Insurance Agent**

Jim Davis

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

Rev. Paul Lemoi

**Grand Knight**

David Legault

**Financial Secretary**

Neil Fidler

**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

**Lecturer**

Edgar Brouillard

**One Year Trustee**

John Pizzo

**Two Year Trustee**

Frank Laiter III

**Three Year Trustee**

Paul Lemek



## Chaplain's Corner

No Chaplain's Corner this month.

### FROM THE SUPREME CHAPLAIN ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM E. LORI

**"And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it." (Gospel for Aug. 23, Mt 16:18)**

That's quite a promise! Christ established Peter as the head of his Church on earth, with his teaching authority and the guarantee that hell itself would not defeat it. How we practice our faith in word and deed influences the moral and spiritual formation of others — our family, friends, fellow parishioners and neighbors. With the help of God's grace, fathers have a sacred role to protect their families from the devil's assaults. May we all take seriously this responsibility to be a "rock" of the Catholic faith in our domestic churches, parishes and communities.

### **August's Challenge:**

This month, I challenge you to join with others — family, friends, brother Knights — in praying the rosary for the intention of remaining steadfast in the faith. Second, I challenge you to encourage members of your parish to stand firm in the faith by starting or promoting the Faith in Action Building the Domestic Church Kiosk program at your church.

### PRAYER INTENTIONS

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| • Our Holy Father Pope Francis         | • Brother James Kmon                            |
| • Our Bishops Tobin and Evans          | • Brother Matt Parent                           |
| • The Priests of the parishes we serve | • Brother Tony Favata                           |
| • Father Richard Bucci                 | • Brother Francis Perry Jr. (Deceased)          |
| • Father Victor Silva                  | • Stephen Mattias                               |
| • PSD/FM Normand Charpentier           | • Lucille Ferrer                                |
| • PGK Angel Ferrer                     | • Bernadette Favata                             |
| • PGK/PFN Herb Knott                   | • Veronica Brouillard                           |
| • PGK William Moskosky                 | • Nancy Giolitti                                |
| • PGK Daniel Danis                     | • Mary Deary                                    |
| • GK David Legault                     | • Michelle Legault                              |
| • Chancellor Anthony Machado           | • Wyatt Canfield                                |
| • Brother Alan Ogradnik                | • Eric Thatcher                                 |
| • Brother Rob Brodeur                  | • All US military personnel                     |
| • Brother Len Denommee                 | • The Unborn                                    |
| • Brother Paul Lacroix                 | • All who are affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic |
| • Brother Bo Kenahan                   |   |

### SCHEDULED MASSES

- Gina Rossetti – 9AM Mass, Friday, August 14 at OLGC

*"Seek out Yahweh, seek his strength, continually seek out his presence!" – 1 Chronicles 16:11*

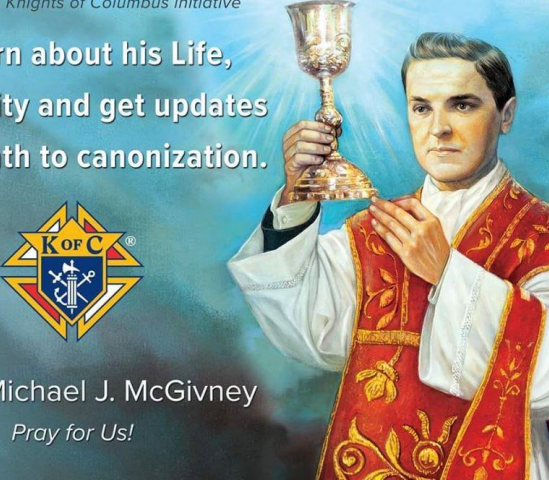


**SIGN UP!**

To be  
Beatified on  
October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020

For the newsletter of the  
**Fr. Michael J. McGivney Guild**  
*A Knights of Columbus initiative*

To learn about his Life,  
Spirituality and get updates  
on his path to canonization.



Father Michael J. McGivney  
*Pray for Us!*

### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday to the following Brother Knights:

Frank Laiter III	August 1
William Moskosky	August 8
Stephen Smith	August 9
Bernard Bernatonis	August 10
Raymond Byrnes	August 10
Leodore Charpentier, Jr.	August 14
James Sartell	August 18
Joseph Lavoie	August 20
James O'Connor	August 22
Mark Giolitti	August 23
Steven Bailey	August 24
Angel Ferrer, Jr.	August 25
John Mulholland	August 30

### FROM SUPREME – FRATERNAL ACTIVITIES DURING PANDEMIC CONDITIONS

Although many jurisdictions are slowly reopening, the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to present a significant risk, especially to persons who are vulnerable due to age or medical condition. Because the health and safety of our members and guests is of paramount concern, council officers and members are advised to proceed cautiously as they resume ordinary fraternal activity.

The Order's policy for fraternal activity during current pandemic conditions has been updated as follows:

1. In order to prevent inadvertent spread of COVID-19 by asymptomatic carriers, travel for Knights of Columbus fraternal activity should be limited to that which is necessary and required.
2. Councils, assemblies and circles should use electronic tools and procedures as much as possible for fraternal activity, particularly meetings.
3. In-person meetings should be avoided unless personal interaction is essential and local pandemic orders and regulations permit. If you decide to resume in-person meetings, it would be ideal that they be conducted outside. Please note that you must offer all members the opportunity and means to participate remotely, so that members who are concerned about their health may avoid possible exposure to the coronavirus. Until further notice, no member may be required to attend any meeting in person.
4. Councils officers should exercise prudent judgment when planning to resume in-person meetings and events. They must research and obey all diocesan rules, as well as the current orders and regulations issued by civil authorities. Any activities planned at local parishes must be coordinated in advance with pastors. The Supreme Council has created an inventory of resources to assist council officers as they consider whether and when to resume in-person meetings and events. Go to "Fraternal Operations Webinars" at [kofc.org/training](http://kofc.org/training).

This policy is subject to change in response to new developments in the pandemic.

*"All who are guided by the Spirit of God are sons of God" – Romans 8:14*



**MESSAGE FROM THE SUPREME KNIGHT**

Brother Knights: We are all aware of the troubling events that are occurring today, including attacks on statues of historical figures such as Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass and our Order's namesake, Christopher Columbus. Statues of saints have also been vandalized, including those honoring St. Junípero Serra, St. Louis and even the Blessed Virgin Mary, and houses of worship and other religious symbols have been attacked. These are not merely attacks on statues and history. They are increasingly attacks on Catholics and people of faith.

In the late 19th century, the Knights of Columbus took its name at a time of intense anti-Catholicism. Our founding members wanted to show that Catholics played an essential role in the exploration and development of America since its earliest days, and that a Catholic could be both a good citizen and a good Catholic.

However, anti-Catholicism persisted. In the 1920s, the Ku Klux Klan tried to stop Columbus Day celebrations and opposed Columbus statues simply because Columbus was a Catholic. We opposed the KKK then and have continued to stand up against bigotry directed at Catholics and others. We stood up against the persecution of Catholics in Mexico in the 1920s, spoke out for the Jews of Germany in the 1930s and worked for religious freedom behind the Iron Curtain during the Cold War. Today, we are rebuilding Christian communities in the Middle East that were targeted for genocide. Each of us can be proud of our history of standing up for the most vulnerable among us.

While our faith calls us to be respectful of different perspectives, acts of vandalism are crimes against all who cherish democracy and mutual respect. The Knights of Columbus remains firm in its condemnation of all forms of racism and violence, including political violence. With churches, statues, and religious symbols subject to vandalism and attack, we call upon elected officials and leaders at every level to defend the religious freedom of all.

Vivat Jesus!  
Carl A. Anderson  
Supreme Knight

**FAITH IN ACTION PROGRAM DIRECTOR**

FAITH



COMMUNITY



FAMILY



LIFE

As Faith in Action Program Director, I will be hoping to have a meeting soon to get ideas on how we can plan getting events accomplished during the coming months. The meeting will either be virtual or in a group "in person" meeting. To be discussed. Thank you for all you do.

Vivat Jesus!  
Paul Lemek

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

COMMUNITY

My Brothers All, I pray this finds you well, you are all staying safe and enjoying your summer.

The upkeep of the Veterans Park on the corner of Tiogue Ave and Arnold Rd continues. On that note I have news. Eagle Scout Candidate Chris Godfrey of Troop 11 will be improving the Veterans Park as an Eagle Project. Troop 11 will be cleaning, raking, weeding the park as well as removing and relocating plants and flowers and planting new flowers and shrubs. This will be taking place on Saturday August 22 and Sunday August 23 beginning at 9 am. If any Brother Knight would like to be there to help and support this young man's project, I am sure he would appreciate it. In addition as part of his Eagle project he is required to show how he plans to pay for equipment and supplies etc. and on that note he has asked me to request a donation from the council to help offset the cost, so under new business I will make that request for him since we are meeting remotely via Zoom.

Vivat Jesu!  
John Pizzo  
Community Director

*"Kindness and faithful love pursue me every day of my life. I make my home in the house of Yahweh for all time to come." – Psalms 23:6*

**FROM DISTRICT DEPUTY MICHAEL COLVIN**

Greetings Worthy Officers and Brother Knights of Msgr. Peter Blessing Council!

I pray you are all well. I want to begin by saying your council is off to a fast start! Worthy GK David has been diligent in his efforts to get the council moving forward. Worthy FS Neil has quickly ensured that the required reporting forms have been submitted, and 75% of your Safe Environment requirement is complete. In addition, Msgr. Blessing Council already has one new member this year! While several other councils in our district have only achieved a fraction of this, your council is on a fast track to the Columbian award, and Star Council, great going!

The State Jurisdictional Meeting was held on July 18th. Although it was marred by technical difficulties, the main points were clear. Supreme want to convey to all members and councils that they are doing their best to listen, and implement suggestions coming from the bottom up. One of their goals is to increase the flow of communication in both directions. Fraternal webinars are available for you to watch online, and on demand. They are more informative than they've ever been before, and you can find them at <https://www.kofc.org/en/for-members/our-webinars.html>.

There will be a 4th Degree Exemplification on Sunday August 23rd at St. Theresa's Shrine in Burrillville. I've identified 3rd degree members from your council, and have submitted a list to the council leadership. If you are a 3rd degree Knight, I urge you to become a 4th degree, which includes Knighting with a sword and the right to wear the uniform as a color corps member.

Virtual Exemplifications are not only online, they are also on demand 24/7. So now you can join online, and once you've completed the online membership, you can connect to an on-demand exemplification. It's almost too easy! There are several new incentives this year too.

One of them, in celebration of Venerable Fr. McGivney's upcoming beatification in October, is that any brother who recruits 5 new members will receive a commemorative Fr. McGivney medallion.



Two final points; retention is key, so let's reach out to our brothers and ask how they are doing during this crisis, and see how we can help. This isn't the work of a retention committee, it's the first three principles of our order combined, and speaks to the promises we all took! It's the job of every one of us as Knights, and as good disciples of our Lord Jesus. In this same vein, all councils are urged to implement the "Leave no neighbor behind", and the "Into the Breach" Faith in Action programs.

In Closing, please support your Grand Knight and council officers by assisting, and participating in the council's activities and programs this year. They need your help! Thanks for all you do!

Michael Colvin, DD/PGK, District 6



*"Hatred provokes disputes, but love excuses all offenses." – Proverbs 10:12*



## 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 nearer you go to God, the nearer God will come to you. Clean your hands, you sinners, and clear your minds, you waverers." – James 4:8*