

THE BLESSING WORD



Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273 Knights of Columbus



Grand Knight's Corner

BRIAN MATTIAS, GRAND KNIGHT

Happy New Year, everyone!

Looking back on 2022, I'd say that Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council had quite a year!! We had a number of successful fundraisers, added new members to our ranks and provided a plethora of volunteer hours to the churches we serve and beyond. I am very proud to be a brother in this Council! Let's keep the momentum going, gentlemen!!

Something I've learned this past year was to put more trust in God. They say God doesn't give us more than we can handle, but I don't believe that's true...at least not if we try to handle it alone...without Him. Lately (during this past year especially) my endurance has been tested beyond anything I've ever expected with the closing of my business and all that has entailed. I'm trusting there's a greater plan, but it's NOT easy to do that! We've all been in personal situations where we're left wondering – can I really handle this? How will I get through it? Whether it's facing impossible financial challenges, relationship problems, work stress, or the worst kind of loss – the loss of a loved one. We've all been there.

A month or so ago, I gave my work problems to God. I was at my shop feeling totally overwhelmed mentally, physically & emotionally. I stopped what I was doing, looked to the sky and said simply, "It's yours. It's all yours. Take it." Now, my life is still very difficult and stress-filled, but I'm not plagued with constant worry about what's going to happen next. I'm trusting in God – a LOT!!

New Year's Day is always an excuse for people to begin new resolutions...kicking old bad habits and/or picking up better ones. I've already been telling myself to lose weight, hit the gym & try to be healthier for my girls, blah, blah, blah. We'll see... If you haven't picked a resolution yet, I strongly encourage brothers to volunteer at our events! We have approximately 100 members and the same dozen or so men show up to make things happen. A number of our brothers are physically unable to help, but we should certainly be able to do better than we have been. The fundraising committee is hoping to plan dates for the entire year, so we'll all have plenty of advance notice. So please consider adding this to your resolution list.

I hope this New Year brings abundant joy for you and your families!

Vivat Jesus!

Upcoming Events

January Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 1/4/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

January Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 1/9/2023
Time: 7:30 PM

Into the Breach

Place: Zoom Meeting
Date: Thursdays 1/12-3/30/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

February Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 2/8/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

February Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 2/13/2023
Time: 7:30 PM

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL
#5273
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
P.O. BOX 1470
COVENTRY, RI 02816

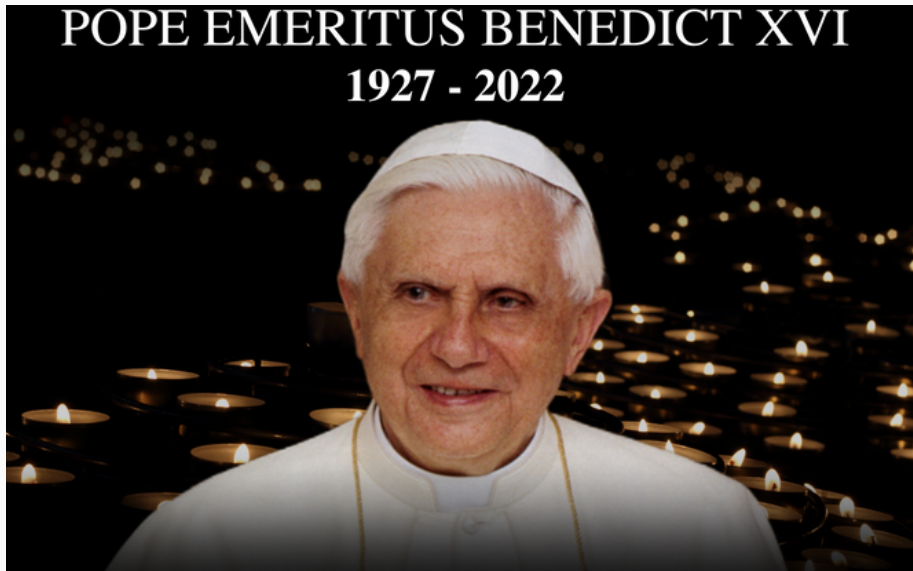
COVENTRYKNIGHTS@VERIZON.NET
HTTP://WWW.COVENTRYKNIGHTS.ORG
MEETING PLACE:
OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA
MEETING ROOM
445 WASHINGTON STREET, COVENTRY



Chaplain's Message

FATHER PAUL LEMOI

No message this month.



Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly statement on the death of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

"Pope Benedict XVI's encyclicals, books, homilies and other writings form a theological treasury and profound testimony to Jesus Christ and His Church, which he served with such humility and fidelity.

"The late Pope, who attended all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965) as a priest, theological expert and advisor, went on to serve for nearly a quarter century as Prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith under Pope John Paul II, before himself leading the Church as the Vicar of Christ.

"In both roles, the Knights of Columbus were grateful beneficiaries of the wisdom and teaching of the late pontiff, including by his interventions at several symposia and gatherings sponsored by the Knights through the years. His first encyclical, *Deus Caritas Est*, remains a guiding light for the world — and for the Knights of Columbus specifically, since one of our founding principles is charity, and our global charitable work is at the heart of our activity as Knights.

"In 2008, during his pastoral visit to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI recognized 'the remarkable accomplishment of that exemplary American priest, the Venerable Michael McGivney, whose vision and zeal led to the establishment of the Knights of Columbus.' The decree of heroic virtue, which Pope Benedict approved in March of that year, opened the way for our Founder's eventual beatification in 2020.

"As we continue to be confirmed and strengthened by Pope Benedict's teachings about the eternal truths of our faith, Knights of Columbus throughout the world join in prayer for the repose of his soul."

Prayer Intentions

Our Holy Father Pope Francis
Our Bishops Tobin, Evans and Henning
The Priests and Deacons of the parishes we serve
Transitional Deacon Patrick Ryan
Seminarist Nicholas Whitaker
PGK/PFN Herb Knott
PGK Harold Trafford
IPGK David Legault
Brother Anthony Machado
Brother Bo Kenahan (recently deceased)
Brother Alan Ogradnik
Brother Len Denommee
Brother Paul Lacroix
Brother James Kmon
Brother Matt Parent
Brother Jim Hall
Brother Joseph Murphy
Brother Jaroslaw Lewkowski
Brother Frank Laiter, Jr.
Brother Chester "Skip" Wendoloski
Lucien Laporte
Lucille Ferrer
Bernadette Favata (recently deceased)
Joyce Criscione (recently deceased)
Veronica Brouillard
Nancy Giolitti
Henry Giolitti
Mary Deary
Shirley Laiter
Sue Rossetti
Diane Burke
Mary Lawlor
Michel Brouillard
Roberta Soucy
Lori Bullock
Michelle Legault
Nancy Blais
Eric Thatcher
Andrew Whitaker
Ellen Deck
John Dolan
Joe Rossi III
All US military personnel active and former
The Unborn
All who are suffering from war in Ukraine





January Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Tom Gostonski (80) | January 1 |
| Steve Kukulka (60) | January 7 |
| Pat Hurley (83) | January 12 |
| Dale Cross (72) | January 18 |
| Earl Mahar (85) | January 21 |
| Tony Machado (71) | January 24 |
| Tony Favata (78) | January 25 |
| Philip Vanasse (74) | January 27 |
| Richard Sullivan (85) | January 31 |



The Patriotic (Fourth) Degree

PAUL LEMEK, FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR,
FATHER WALLACE ASSEMBLY #1055

Current Patriotic Degree Sir Knights are encouraged to join the Assembly Color Corps. Father Wallace Assembly will give \$250 towards a new uniform. Additionally, Blessing Council will contribute \$150. Our Color Corps are the visible arm of the Knights of Columbus.



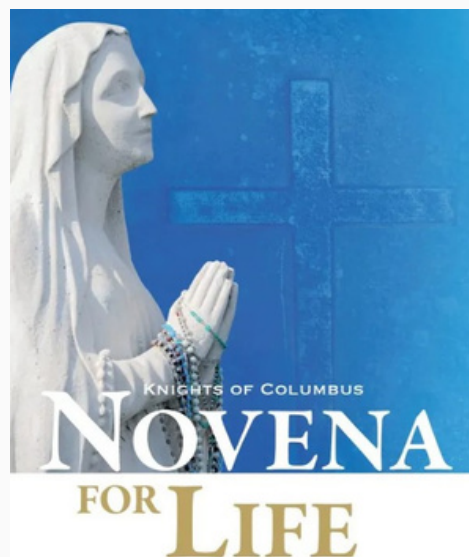
Step Into the Breach

NEIL FIDLER, FAITH DIRECTOR

As Faith Director, I will be presenting each of the 12 episodes on a weekly basis on Thursdays starting on Thursday, January 12, and ending on Thursday, March 31, via Zoom meeting. Prior to each session, we will view each video, and during the session, discuss the topic using the Into the Breach study guide. We will try to keep these sessions to an hour as best we can. Schedule as follows:

- January 12 – Masculinity
- January 19 – Brotherhood
- January 26 – Leadership
- February 2 – Fatherhood
- February 9 – Family
- February 16 – Life
- February 23 – Prayer
- March 2 – Suffering
- March 9 – Sacramental Life
- March 16 – Spiritual Warfare
- March 23 – Evangelization
- March 30 – The Cornerstone

For those interested in joining us, please contact me at Narragansett55@gmail.com or call/text 401-632-7922.



January Life Activities

PAUL LEMEK, PROGRAM/LIFE DIRECTOR

AI will be conducting a nine-day Novena for Life via email. It will begin on January 11. Each email will consist of a prayer intention and a few prayers for the protection of Life from birth to natural death. This Novena will end before the weekend of the March for life in Washington D.C. Please contact me at palemek@cox.net if you would like to join us.

There will be a Pro-Life Mass which we be held on January 14 and Pro-Life Dinner at the St John Paul II Church (formerly St. Cecilia) at 750 Central Ave. Pawtucket. Mass at 4:30 pm followed by dinner.

Also, if you are interested in attending the March for Life via bus from Rhode Island, reserve your seat now by emailing or texting Tyler Rowley: t3rowley@gmail.com or 401-290-7201.

Our Lady of Good Counsel/Blessing Council Christmas Dinner

CRANSTON COUNTRY CLUB
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2022



More photos can be found on our website at coventryknights.org/activities.htm