

THE BLESSING WORD



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



Grand Knight's Corner

BRIAN MATTIAS, GRAND KNIGHT

Greetings Brothers!

I'm typing this during Holy Week, which is the busiest week of the year for devout Catholics – especially for clergy and those of us planning, directing or performing music programs, etc. For years, I have worked out of town tuning organs in the weeks leading up to Easter, then adding all the Holy Week responsibilities made it a real challenge. When people would ask my wife, "Heather, what'd you give up for Lent?" her response was, "My husband!" It was absolutely true! I hope your season of Lent was a time for prayer, reflection and renewal. Our Into The Breach sessions have been a wonderful addition to my Lenten reflection time. My girls and I wish you all a blessed, joyful Easter!



Now for a homework assignment (don't worry, it's easy....) –

As Knights, we not only help at our own Council events, but most of us volunteer at our own parishes. It is important to keep track of these hours not just for our own Council records, but Supreme also reports our activity as a worldwide organization. In the 2021 Annual Report, Supreme noted that Knights performed over half a million volunteer hours. Imagine what the real number would be if everyone reported their time! Last week I began keeping a log of my own hours by creating a simple table in my iPhone Notes. When I did so, I immediately realized how much I forgot to report last year! Fr. Doyle School just had their annual auction & I played in the band. When I tallied up all the rehearsal time and equipment moving, etc., I had over 20 hours invested in that single event. Even if you never attend a Council event, if you help at your kids' schools, at a parish event, soup kitchen...whatever....please keep track and we'll document it the end of the year. Our charitable service to others is one of the best parts of being a Knight! Let's not put that lamp under a bushel basket, gentlemen!

As we all look forward to being in church for the Triduum, be sure to really take it all in. I need to remind myself of this often. I'll leave you with this thoughtful quote from G.K. Chesterton: "Just going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than standing in your garage makes you a car."

Vivat Jesus!



Upcoming Events

April Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 4/5/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

April Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 4/10/2023
Time: 7:30 PM

May Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 5/3/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

KANDI Drive

Place: Our Lady of Good Counsel
Date: Weekend 5/6-7/2023
Time: After All Masses

May Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 5/8/2023
Time: 7:30 PM

KANDI Drive

Place: Our Lady of Czenstochowa and St. Vincent de Paul
Date: Weekend 5/20-21/2023
Time: After All Masses

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 Chaplain's Challenge

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LORI

April 2023 Challenge



While he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him. (Gospel for April 23, Lk 24:30-31)

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus had been walking and talking with the two disciples all along, but they did not recognize him until he broke bread with them. Do we recognize Jesus in our midst — in the Eucharist, in Scripture, among the poor and those in need, in the face of every person? Do we help others, particularly our friends and family, to do the same?

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, remind yourself and others — particularly your family and those closest to you — that Christ is present by speaking about your faith in everyday conversation (perhaps simply by thanking God for some blessing he has bestowed). Second, I challenge you to participate in the Faith in Action Family Fully Alive program..

Questions for Reflection:

Do you sometimes lose sight of God or become distracted with other things? Are there times in your life when God's presence is easy to recognize? What are some specific things you can do to more regularly remember God?



Prayer Intentions

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





April Birthdays

E. J. Robinson (57)	April 1
Shawn Corcoran (55)	April 1
Joseph Fleury (85)	April 3
Maxwell Laiter (23)	April 3
Stelvio Cordeiro (90)	April 12
Richard Denningham, Jr. (68)	April 14
John Pizzo (56)	April 19
Robert Chartier (80)	April 20
Tom Rossi (57)	April 21
Bill Jakabek (70)	April 24
Alan Ogradnik (78)	April 26
Rudy Cirelli (77)	April 28
Gerard Heroux (94)	April 30



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.

Vivat Jesus!

Financial Benefits Webinar



Brothers, please mark your calendars for April 26th at 7:30 PM as Supreme Council is hosting another Fraternal Benefits Webinar. Jim Effner will be presenting "Importance of Whole Life as part of a Retirement Plan." Here is the link to register for the webinar:

<https://tinyurl.com/KofCEffnerApril26>

Copy and paste the above in your browser and register. Our council needs at least 12 Brother Knights to attend in order to get credit for two Fraternal Benefits Webinars which will fulfill our insurance requirement for Star Council. Please make every effort to attend.



KANDI Drive 2023

Brothers, get ready to help out for our upcoming KANDI Drive which will take place during the following weekends after each of the Masses:

May 6-7: Our Lady of Good Counsel Church (2 Masses)

May 20-21: Our Lady of Czenstochowa (3 Masses) and St. Vincent de Paul (2 Masses)

June 3-4: Saints John and Paul Church (4 Masses)

Sign-up sheets will be available starting with the April Membership Meeting on Monday, April 10. You are highly encouraged to sign up for at least one Mass to help out. This will take approximately 30 minutes of your time for each Mass.

All you need do is put on an apron, grab a can and give a Tootsie Roll for each donation. It's a lot of fun and for a great cause. Please contact KANDI Drive Chairman John Murray at jmurray3477@gmail.com or Financial Secretary Neil Fidler at Narragansett55@gmail.com for more information.

AWARDS AND DONATION BANQUET

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 2023
SS JOHN AND PAUL PARISH CENTER



Our Awards and Donation Banquet was another rousing success! Thanks to the fundraising committee for organizing, food prep and clean up! Thanks to Fr. Woolley for granting his permission to hold the event at the SSJP Parish Center. Thanks to the Original Italian Bakery and Roch's Market for their donations! Our council presented over \$8,000 in donations to our worthy recipients, and recognized our exemplary Brother Knights including Worthy Treasurer Bill Jakabek who is our 2022 Knight of the Year! Congratulations, Brother Bill! More photos from the event can be seen on our website at: <http://www.coventryknights.org/activities.htm>