

THE BLESSING WORD



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



Grand Knight's Corner

BRIAN MATTIAS, GRAND KNIGHT

My Brothers All!

Despite the not-so-great weather, I hope you enjoyed a restful and fun 4th of July! Happy Birthday, America! I often remind my girls that they hit life's lottery by being born in the USA.

Let us continue to pray for our country - may God bless and protect her now and always.

There was a good showing at SSJP parish as brother knight Fr. Patrick Ryan celebrated his first Mass on Sunday June 25. The number of priests who attended was glorious to see. Following the Mass, there was a collation in the parish hall where people lined up for a blessing from Fr. Patrick. We passed along the gift of the chasuble and stole. Please continue to pray for Fr. Patrick as he settles in to his new life in the priesthood.



By now, you may have heard about our newest RI Diocesan Catholic high school - Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope. President John F. Kennedy Council used to meet at St. Francis on Jefferson Blvd, the school's new home. They are thrilled that the property will be used as a Catholic school once again and have volunteered to help prepare the property for the August opening. Please scroll down to page 6 of this newsletter to read the letter to all Brother Knights. If you're able to assist in some way, visit the school website, or contact me: 401-477-4144; bamattias@gmail.com. I dare say it's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help launch a brand new Catholic school! There have been many folks with no connection to the school who have volunteered their time simply because they believe in the school's mission and in Catholic education. It's both humbling and encouraging.

Finally, one of our brother knights, Jim Kmon, has set up a Go Fund Me page. A separate email will be sent about this. Please follow the link for details and help if you can: <https://gofund.me/b144c8af>.

I'll close with an amusing and 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

July Officers Meeting

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

July Membership Meeting

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

July Knight Out

Place: Braza Brazilian BBQ
Date: Wednesday 7/19/2023
Time: 6:00 PM

August Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 8/9/2023
Time: 7:00 PM

August Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 8/14/2023
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

Pope Francis' Message for July 2023

For July 2023, we join the Holy Father in praying for:

A Eucharistic life

- We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Daily Offering Prayer

God, our Father, I offer You my day. I offer You my prayers, thoughts, words, actions, joys, and sufferings in union with the Heart of Jesus, who continues to offer Himself in the Eucharist for the salvation of the world. May the Holy Spirit, Who guided Jesus, be my guide and my strength today so that I may witness to your love. With Mary, the mother of our Lord and the Church, I pray for all Apostles of Prayer and for the prayer intentions proposed by the Holy Father this month. Amen.

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LORI

July 2023 Challenge



"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves." (Gospel for July 9, Mt 11:28-29)

Rest often seems to be in short supply in our busy modern world, for our culture finds it hard to slow down and be still. We can and should spend time in leisure to refresh our bodies and spirits, but we need to go even deeper and take time to find true rest. Let's always keep in mind St. Augustine's words: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to turn to our Lord to find rest by spending at least one hour each week in eucharistic adoration. Second, I challenge you to support the Faith in Action Holy Hour program.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you turn to Christ to find rest amid your labor and burdens? Do you observe Sunday as a day of worship and rest? Do you regularly spend time in prayer, seeking that interior peace that Christ has promised us?

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
 Mary Ellen Murray (recently deceased)
 Thomas Senerchia (recently deceased)
 All US military personnel active and former
 The Unborn
 All who are suffering from war in Ukraine

MONTH OF JULY
 IS DEDICATED TO THE
MOST PRECIOUS
BLOOD OF JESUS



THE BEAUTY OF MY CATHOLIC FAITH





July Birthdays

Paul Lemek (73)	July 6
Joseph Murphy (62)	July 9
Lee Rossetti (65)	July 14
John Ludka (63)	July 15
Walter Williams (74)	July 18
Thomas Carroccia (67)	July 23
Alexander Cote (31)	July 28
Michael Laiter (57)	July 30



The Patriotic (Fourth) Degree

PAUL LEMEK, FAITHFUL NAVIGATOR,
FATHER WALLACE ASSEMBLY #1055

Fourth Degree Sir Knights from the Father Wallace Assembly marched in the North Kingstown Memorial Day Parade on Monday, May 29. In the above photo from Blessing Council are Faithful Navigator Sir Knight Paul Lemek and Faithful Sentinel Sir Knight Stephen Kukulka. Also pictured from Wallace Assembly are Worthy Supreme Director Sir Knight Michael Benson and Sir Knight Jim Italiene and numerous Brother Knights from the St. Francis Council, North Kingstown. There were many members of Armed Services groups who marched the two-and-a-half-mile route.

New Slate of Officers for Fraternal Year 2023-24

During the June Membership Meeting, our council voted to elect the following slate of officers for a second term for the 2023-24 Fraternal Year.

Grand Knight
Deputy Grand Knight
Chancellor
Warden
Treasurer
Recorder
Advocate
Inside Guard
Outside Guard
Trustee, First Year
Trustee, Second Year
Trustee, Third Year

Brian Mattias
Richard Legault
John Pizzo
Peter Blais
William Jakabek
Jerry McEvoy
Patrick Hurley
James Hall
Stephen Kukulka
Frank Laiter III
Paul Lemek
David Legault

Congratulations to our Worthy Officers serving another term. Please pray for these outstanding Brother Knights as they serve the council one more year in their current position. As a reminder, the Chaplain and Lecturer are not voted positions, they are appointed by the Grand Knight. Also, the Financial Secretary serves a term of three years as appointed by Supreme Council.



July Knight Out!

Wednesday, July 19 @ 6 PM

Braza Brazilian BBQ, 15 Sandy Bottom Rd., Coventry, RI

All Brothers Knights and family members are invited to our July Knight Out at Braza Brazilian BBQ on Wednesday, July 19, starting at 6 PM! The food at Braza is excellent, and the owners have sponsored our Funny4Funds night for the past three years!

Please consider joining us! RSVP Worthy Treasurer Bill Jakabek at biljak53@gmail.com or 401-269-9811. Seating is limited to please reserve your seats today!

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ORDINATION, FATHER PATRICK W. RYAN!

GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR MINISTRY FROM YOUR COUNCIL BROTHER KNIGHTS!



Photos from Father Patrick W. Ryan's ordination weekend at the Cathedral of SS Peter and Paul in Providence and his first Mass at SS John and Paul Church in Coventry. Father Ryan is pictured with His Excellency Bishop Richard Henning and blessing SSJP Pastor Father Michael Woolley. The last two photos are of Father Ryan blessing our Worthy Field Agent Brother Brian Lawlor and with our Worthy Grand Knight Brian Mattias.

KNIGHTS IN ACTION!



Prior to the June Membership Meeting, awards were presented to Brother Knights. Worthy Trustee David Legault was presented a certificate for his tenure as Grand Knight for his two terms. Also, Brother Knights Brian Mattias, David Legault, Paul Lemek and Neil Fidler were presented with Shining Armor certificates and lapel pins for achieving that status in the 2022-23 Fraternal Year. During the same ceremony, Brother Lucien Laporte was presented his Full Knighthood Award, but unfortunately the photo didn't come out.



BBrothers John Murray and Neil Fidler power-washed the back of the Gabriel's Trumpet building. You can see the difference where the power washing happened! The staff were very appreciative.



CHESTERTON ACADEMY OF OUR LADY OF HOPE

Brother Knights,

We write to you today to introduce you to Chesterton Academy of Our Lady of Hope. We are a new co-ed Classical Catholic High School opening in the fall on Jefferson Blvd in Warwick RI. Our classical curriculum combines a broad, liberal arts education with a strong emphasis on the development of Christian virtues and an appreciation of beauty. With tuition set at a comparatively low \$8,000 our goal is to provide an authentically Catholic education option to students and families that would not otherwise have been able to afford a Catholic education.

“Right is right even if nobody does it. Wrong is wrong even if everybody is wrong about it.” -
G.K. Chesterton

As a member of the Knights of Columbus you are no doubt aware of the perilous times we live in and the need for men of faith to lead our families, our parishes, and our communities. **We join you in a desire to pass on the great truths and beauties of our Catholic faith to your children or grandchildren; a task essential for the survival of our families, our state, and our country.** We come to you today first to thank you for your work as leaders within your parish and local communities. Having received the canonical blessing of Bishop Thomas J. Tobin in November, and more recently, having acquired the St. Francis church and school property in Warwick, we are energized and excited to begin the endeavor of launching a school. Yet, as a group of volunteers we know that we cannot do it alone. Therefore we humbly ask for your help as we begin this mission. You can participate in 3 critical ways:

- 1) Prayer. Please pray for the success of our efforts and most importantly for our students, families, faculty, and newly hired headmaster.
- 2) Spread the word. Please consider us for your sons, daughters, and grandchildren at or approaching high school age. Please tell other faithful families and friends about us.
- 3) Donations. We rely solely and humbly on the generosity of people like you that recognize the need for a Chesterton Academy in Rhode Island. We are currently blessed with an anonymous matching donor, a brother Knight from a neighboring state, doubling monies received of up to \$30,000 in the month of June. Gifts of any and all sizes are greatly appreciated. Donors of \$1,000 or more will have their names on a plaque permanently placed in our school.

To learn more please review our brochure and visit our website at chestertonri.org. If you're interested in sharing your time and talents please visit chestertonri.org/volunteer

Sincerely In Christ,

Chesterton Academy Board Members & Parents

Michael Casey (St. Mark Council #9197), Jason Coddling (Fr. John Feeny Council #7110), Brian Mattias (Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273), and Deacon Jason Gardner (Lincoln Council #4005)