

THE BLESSING WORD



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



Grand Knight's Corner

BRIAN MATTIAS, GRAND KNIGHT

Happy New Year, Brothers!

The Feast of the Holy Family took place this past weekend. The prayers for consecration were said at all of our parishes. Thank you to our Worthy Family Director Bill Jakabek for handling that. In today's world, it's no secret that the nuclear family is becoming increasingly rare. I'm not sure if my old friend G.K. Chesterton had any idea how prophetic he was when he said, "The most extraordinary thing in the world is an ordinary man and an ordinary woman and their ordinary children." The Holy Family is the perfect model for all of us. We can only imagine what the world would be like if everyone strived to live like they did. **Jesus, Mary and Joseph – pray for us!**



Our Italian "Knight" is fast approaching on Saturday, January 27. Our Worthy Financial Secretary Neil sent an email on Jan 4 with details and the flier. Please spread the word, and please jump in and help! We'll be making meatballs and setting up on Friday the 26th. We'll be making sauce, etc. on Saturday afternoon.

Last summer, I discovered a podcast called 'The Exorcist Files'. It recounts actual case files from Fr. Carlos Martins. Besides the 'entertainment' factor of the reenactments, it is EXTREMELY educational and it truly illustrates the spiritual war in which we are all engaged. Fr. Martins talks about his fascinating conversion to Catholicism when some friends invited him to retreat. He began the retreat as an atheist, but after completing his assigned hours of Eucharistic Adoration, he became Catholic. It is available on Apple podcasts, iHeart radio & Spotify, Here is the main link: www.exorcistfiles.tv. iHeart link: www.iheart.com/podcast/1119-the-exorcist-files-107227777/ This podcast sent me down a 'rabbit hole' and I'll share more about that next month.

Finally, if you're looking to 'up your spiritual game', consider this new K of C Spiritual Planner. It's a pocket-sized prayer book designed to help develop & maintain a daily prayer routine. Knightsgear.com has it for \$15.99. But THIS link has it for just \$7.99: <https://shopcatholicinfo.com/products/vivat-jesus-spiritual-planner-2024?variant=46930624250164>.

Vivat Jesus!



**We pray you
are abundantly
blessed in the
New Year.**

Upcoming Events

January Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 1/3/2024
Time: 7:00 PM

January Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 1/8/2024
Time: 7:30 PM

Italian "Knight"

Place: Our Lady of Czenstochowa School Gym
Date: Saturday, 1/27/2024
Time: 6:30 PM

February Officers Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Wednesday, 2/7/2024
Time: 7:00 PM

February Membership Meeting

Place: OLC Meeting Room
Date: Monday, 2/12/2024
Time: 7:30 PM

TAKE NOTE OF OUR NEW ADDRESS:
MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL #5273
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
445 WASHINGTON STREET
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 column this month.



The Epiphany of Our Lord

January 6th

catholicnewsagency.com

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LORI

January 2024 Challenge



“Jesus rebuked him and said, “Quiet! Come out of him!” The unclean spirit convulsed him and with a loud cry came out of him. All were amazed and asked one another, “What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” (Gospel for Jan. 28, Mk 1:25-27)

The unclean spirit immediately recognizes Jesus as the Christ and is aware of his power. As St. James tells us, “You believe that God is one. You do well. Even the demons believe that and tremble” (Jas 2:19). We must not take for granted who Jesus is, his presence in our midst and the power he has to help us. Let us always recognize that Jesus is actively working in our lives and seek him daily in our prayer.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to attend Mass and receive holy Communion more often than just on Sunday — daily if possible — to grow in awareness of Jesus’ presence and power in the Eucharist.

Questions for Reflection:

Do you take the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist for granted? Does the way you dress for Mass reflect that Jesus is present? Do you remain conscious throughout each day of Jesus’ activity in your life and turn to him frequently in prayer?

Prayer Intentions

Our Holy Father Pope Francis
 Bishop Henning
 The Priests and Deacons of the parishes we serve
 Father Patrick Ryan
 Seminarian Nicholas Whitaker
 FDD/PGK Harold Trafford
 Treasurer William Jakabek
 PGK/PFN Herb Knott
 PGK Earl Mahar
 IPGK David Legault
 Brother Anthony Machado
 Brother Len Denommee
 Brother Paul Lacroix
 Brother James Kmon
 Brother Matt Parent
 Brother Jim Hall
 Brother Gerard Legault
 Brother Frank Laiter, Jr.
 Brother Chester “Skip” Wendoloski
 Brother Lucien Laporte
 Brother Peter Blais
 Lucille Ferrer
 Diane Belanger
 Nancy Giolitti
 Henry Giolitti
 Mary Deary
 Shirley Laiter
 Sue Rossetti
 Doris Legault
 Mary Lawlor
 Michel Brouillard
 Michelle Legault
 Eric Thatcher
 Matthew Mattias
 Charles Gemmell
 Barry Smith
 Eleanor Smith
 John Dolan
 Joe McCarthy
 Marc Pelletier
 Emmanuel (Just Prayers)
 Richard and daughter (Just Prayers)
 Jovantey (Just Prayers)
 All US military personnel active and former
 The Unborn



JANUARY
Month of the Holy Name

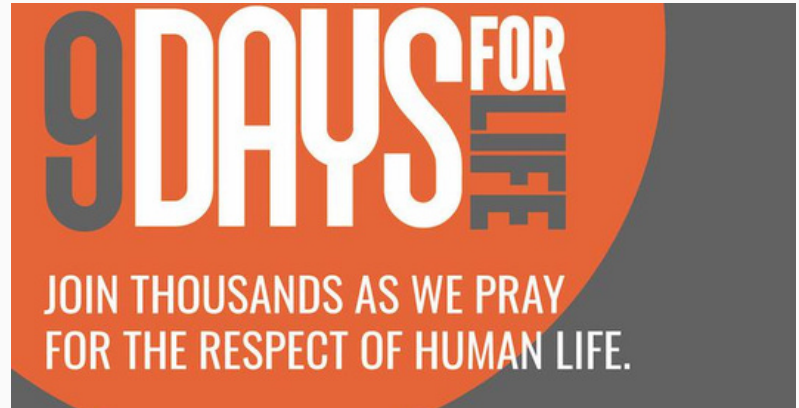




January Birthdays

Thomas Gostomski (81)	January 1
Stephen Kukulka (61)	January 7
Patrick Hurley (84)	January 12
Dale Cross (72)	January 18
Earl Mahar (86)	January 21
Anthony Machado (72)	January 24
Anthony Favata (79)	January 25
Philip Vanasse (75)	January 27
David Boudreau (27)	January 27
Richard Sullivan (86)	January 31

Novena for Life



PAUL LEMEK,
LIFE ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

On Wednesday, January 10, we will be conducting a Novena for Life. Be on the lookout for my email, which I plan to send around January 2, inviting you to join us for this very important Novena.

Coats for Kids



The coats are in! In fact, there are more coats than we've ever had thanks to working with State Council and their two for one offer! For every box of coats we purchased, we received one free, so we spent enough for eight boxes of coats and received sixteen! The coats were delivered from St. Joseph's in Natick to the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the OLC School by your Worthy Grand Knight and Worthy Financial Secretary and are currently being distributed to the children of the region who need them.

We're very grateful for our partnership with our friends at the St. Vincent de Paul Society. We worked with them to pull off a very successful Funny4Funds Comedy Night to fund the purchase of the coats, and now they're doing the wonderful work of distribution. Praise God!

Dues and Membership Cards



2024 dues notices have gone out to the billable members of our council. Unless you are an Honorary Life Member, you should have received your notice in the snail mail. Thanks to all the Brother Knights who have sent in their dues! For those who haven't, please do so by January 31.

Unfortunately, Membership Cards will be delayed in being mailed to you because we ordered card stock from Supreme, and they currently have a backlog. There is no indication when they will be shipped, but once they are, the cards will be prepared and sent to you ASAP. Your 2023 card will suffice for now until the new cards are received. Thank you for your understanding!

Assisting the Knights of Malta



In early December, Blessing Council Knights Jerry McEvoy, John Murray and Tim Maynard (also a Knight of Malta) assisted the local Knights of Malta Chapter in assembling and distributing bags filled with sandwiches, energy bars, water, hand and foot warmers, warm hats, gloves and socks to the homeless of downtown Providence. Both Knights of Columbus and Knights of Malta in action together!

New Arrival!



Congratulations to our Worthy Warden Geoff Aptt, his wife Jessica and the entire Aptt family on the birth of Grayson Michael Aptt born on December 8, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. Young Grayson weighed in at eight pounds even and measured at 21 1/4" tall. Welcome to the planet, Grayson, and God bless you and your family!

Family Program Activities



BILL JAKABEK,
FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR

On Sunday, December 31, our council hosted "Consecration to the Holy Family" at all four of our associated Churches. The Priests at all Churches were requested to recite the Prayer at all Masses.

Also, we are continuously running the "Food for Families" Program. Volunteer hours can be accumulated by participating in several of the local food banks and soup kitchens. The "Elder Delivery" and "Grab & Go" meal program that the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Coventry holds is a very popular one. There are five cooking teams that take turns cooking on Saturday mornings throughout the year between 8 am and 12:30 pm at the Kitchen located in Our Lady of Czenstochowa's school gymnasium. The comradery is great, and the cooking and dishwashing is always tons of fun. Consider volunteering at the venue of your choice and help our council accumulate the hours that will let us successfully meet our program goals. Call Bill Jakabek at 401-269-9811 for details.

Raffle Tickets for Seminarians



Blessing Council will once again conduct a raffle ticket drive to fund our Refund Support Vocations Program (RSVP) to support Seminarians and Postulants. Tickets will be available starting at the January Membership Meeting. Last year, we were able to provide two seminarians with checks of \$1,000 each because of raffle ticket sales funding. Our prayer is to at least match that this year.



Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273
Knights Of Columbus
presents



Italian "Knight"!



MENU

Pasta with Meatballs and Sausage
Salad
Bread and Butter
Assorted Desserts
Coffee/Soda/Water

Saturday, January 27, 2024

Doors open at 6:30 PM, Dinner served at 7:00 PM

Our Lady of Czenstochowa Gymnasium

445 Washington Street, Coventry

\$15.00 per person

\$10 for children 8-12, under 8 free

Proceeds raised for Knights of Columbus Charities

RSVP January 19, 2024

Neil Fidler, Phone: 401-632-7922. Email: coventryknights@verizon.net

PayPal to coventryknights@verizon.net

Make checks payable to Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273 K of C
And mail to: Neil Fidler, 72 Columbia Ave., Coventry, RI 02816

Christmas Party with Our Lady of Good Counsel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2023
CRANSTON COUNTRY CLUB



Once again, our council partnered with our Worthy Chaplain Father Paul Lemoi's parish of Our Lady of Good Counsel to hold an annual Christmas Dinner Party at the Cranston Country Club. The food and drink were awesome as always, and plenty of great raffles to take part in including one for a Smart HDTV which our council donated. Many thanks to Father Paul for agreeing to partner with us and especially to our Worthy Family Director Bill Jakabek for taking care of all the logistics and making it happen!