

# THE BLESSING WORD



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



## Grand Knight's Corner

BRIAN MATTIAS, GRAND KNIGHT

Brothers!

The more I see on social media and in the news, I think perhaps next year I should give up the internet for Lent! A few weeks back, a news article reported *"an agency of the federal government flagged Bible purchases as an indication of 'extremism' in communications with banks...."* Apparently if you buy a Bible these days, you'll be put on a government watch list. Could any of us have ever dreamed that in our lifetime by exercising our 1st Amendment right to Freedom of Religion we would be called an "extremist" by the same government that is supposed to be protecting that fundamental right?? Rest assured that this Orwellian madness, which pervades our culture today, will NOT stop me from visiting Gabriel's Trumpet bookstore any time soon!

As a follow-up to my January GK Corner, here are a few more links to a fascinating interview series. After discovering Fr. Carlos Martins, I found Fr. Chad Ripperger. If you've never heard of him, this collection is well worth your time. His stories are simply incredible and very educational about our faith. Search his name on YouTube and you can do plenty of listening and learning. Fr. Chad is mainly associated with Sensus Fidelium: [www.youtube.com/@SensusFidelium/videos](http://www.youtube.com/@SensusFidelium/videos).

Q&A with Fr. Chad Ripperger on the Chris Stefanick Show

- Part 1 - <https://youtu.be/feifSF7lvxw?si=YOMoZzRPetp7jKWB>
- Part 2 - <https://youtu.be/b65maySJEmc?si=xqbxY2SHE13QDBtF>
- Part 3 - <https://youtu.be/TjvDjJCruQU?si=CKGjliCRnrUIOPcf>
- Part 4 - [https://youtu.be/L4A7xtj6br0?si=3rt\\_LSeESWaiBPiO](https://youtu.be/L4A7xtj6br0?si=3rt_LSeESWaiBPiO)
- Part 5 - <https://youtu.be/5TtOyknCRko?si=Fprb57etVaOA7qrk>
- Part 6 - <https://youtu.be/GSznvN0wiRg?si=U1Ax6tLOgYU016z6>

These interviews remind me of a Fr. Martins quote: "There's no such thing as neutrality. You're either on God's team, or you are not. And if you are not, then you are de facto in the devil." As Joshua 24:15 reads, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

**Vivat Jesus!**



## Upcoming Events

**March Officers Meeting**  
Place: OLC Meeting Room  
Date: Wednesday, 3/6/2024  
Time: 7:00 PM

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

**April Officers Meeting**  
Place: OLC Meeting Room  
Date: Wednesday, 4/3/2024  
Time: 7:00 PM

**April Membership Meeting**  
Place: OLC Meeting Room  
Date: Monday, 4/8/2024  
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](http://WWW.COVENTRYKNIGHTS.ORG)  
MEETING PLACE:  
OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA MEETING  
ROOM  
445 WASHINGTON STREET, COVENTRY



## Chaplain's Message

FATHER PAUL LEMOI

March is the month of St. Joseph. March is also where the long cold days of winter are slowly coming to an end. Spring is just around the corner. Lent is about its midway point. We will celebrate St. Patrick's day on the 17th, and the Solemnity of St. Joseph, the Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the 21st.

So how are you doing this Lenten Season? It's time to reflect on the Lenten practices of Prayer, fasting and Almsgiving. Are you doing more than the usual? Are you taking advantage of the Lenten activities offer in your parish or at nearby parishes? Have you tried to attend daily Mass and pray the Rosary daily? Spring and Easter are just a few weeks away. Are you prepared to celebrate Easter with mind and heart renewed?

Lent is more than just a time of sacrifice, it is a time of spiritual renewal. Strive to attend the special services of Holy Week as a family in your parish community. My prayer at Easter will be that you and your family rejoice in the newness of life offered to us through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.



## Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LORI

March 2024 Challenge



**"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me."** (Gospel for March 17, Jn 12:26)

Next to Our Lady, what greater model of faithful service to Jesus do we have than St. Joseph, the Lord's own adoptive father? In humble obedience to God, Joseph protected Mary and Jesus under the most difficult of circumstances. Although he says not a word in Scripture, the "silent" Joseph speaks volumes through his faithful actions. He is a model of manhood and discipleship for all Knights today.

**Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:**

This month — in which we celebrate the feast of St. Joseph — I challenge you to pray a novena or another prayerful devotion to this great saint.

**Questions for Reflection:**

What virtues do you see in St. Joseph as you read the Gospel narratives about the nativity and early life of Jesus? How well do you practice these virtues in your own life, not only as a husband or father, but as a faithful disciple of Jesus? What specific, concrete things can you do to grow in these virtues in your day-to-day life?

## Prayer Intentions

Our Holy Father Pope Francis  
 Bishop Henning  
 The Priests and Deacons of the parishes we serve  
 Father Patrick Ryan  
 FDD/PGK Harold Trafford (recently deceased)  
 Treasurer William Jakabek  
 PGK/PFN Herb Knott  
 PGK/PFN Frank Laiter III  
 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 Lucien Laporte  
 Brother Peter Blais  
 Brother Nicholas Delfino-Whitaker  
 Lucille Ferrer  
 Diane Belanger  
 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  
 Arlene Lemek  
 Daxton Sanita  
 Emmanuel (Just Prayers)  
 Richard and daughter (Just Prayers)  
 Jovantey (Just Prayers)  
 All US military personnel active and former  
 The Unborn







## March Birthdays

James Dacey (84)	March 3
Michael Greene (68)	March 3
Paul Lacroix (85)	March 6
Stephen Bert (66)	March 11
Richard Legault (66)	March 11
Christopher Dyl (76)	March 15
Leonard Denommee (80)	March 21
Joseph Da Silva (90)	March 22
John Tally (79)	March 30
Michael Byrne (63)	March 30
Jaroslaw Lewkowski (59)	March 31

## Patriotic Degree



The Father Wallace Assembly Color Corps will be accompanying our Bishops to various Confirmations in the area in March and April.

Also, the Rhode Island Patriotic Degree Biennial will be taking place on Thursday, April 4, at Lincoln Council starting promptly at 7 PM. The address for Lincoln Council is as follows:

171 Jenckes Hill Rd.  
Lincoln, RI 02802

## Faith in Action



BILL JAKABEK,  
FAMILY ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR



**Preparation for Good Friday.** A Family Prayer will soon be distributed to all active Council Members via email. A Good Friday Prayer handout, as well as a "Steps to Prepare" handout will be distributed at all four associate Churches on the weekend of 3/9-10.

JOHN MURRAY,  
FAITH ACTIVITIES DIRECTOR



**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. **We will be selling tickets at our churches at all Masses during the following weekends: March 2-3 - Our Lady of Good Counsel; March 9-10 - Our Lady of Czenstochowa/St. Vincent de Paul; March 16-17 - SS John and Paul. Sign-up sheets to help will be at the February Membership Meeting.**

# Helping Our SVdP Society Friends

FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2024  
OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA SCHOOL



Where there's a need there's a Knight! Our friends at the St. Vincent de Paul Society gave our council a call for help, and we responded! Our Worthy GK Brian Mattias, Worthy Treasurer Bill Jakabek and Worthy Financial Secretary Neil Fidler helped the Society move a big truckload of items and then some from the Society's home at the OLC School to Savers in Warwick. There were over 3,000 pounds of household items and clothing moved. Knights in action, indeed!