



Fr. Leo Anctil Columbian Squires Circle #5211

November 2011 Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 12

Sponsored by Msgr. Blessing K of C Council #5273

December 2011

SAINT OF THE MONTH

Catholic saints are holy people who lived extraordinary lives. Each saint the Church honors responded to God's invitation to use his or her unique gifts. God calls each one of us to be a saint. For the Columbian Year 2011-12, we will honor a Saint each month in our Newsletter.

Mexican Martyrs



The Mexican Revolution in the 1920s brought persecution to Catholics. Missionaries were expelled. Seminaries and schools were closed. The Church was forbidden to own property. Priests and laymen who refused to denounce Jesus and their faith publicly were tortured and murdered. Six Knights of Columbus—all priests—were martyred for refusing to renounce the faith: Fathers Miguel de la Mora de la Mora, Pedro de Jesus Maldonado Lucero, Jose Maria Robles Hurtado, Rodrigo Aguilar Aleman, Luis Batiz Sainz and Mateo Correa Magallanes. The Knights did not retreat in Mexico but grew dramatically. As a result, the Order in Mexico is vibrant today. Mexican Knights annually perform nearly 300,000 hours of volunteer service in support of Church, community and young people.

Inside this issue

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Merry Christmas!



Eternal God, this joyful day is radiant with the brilliance of your one true light. May that light illuminate our hearts and shine in our words and deeds. May the hope, the peace, the joy, and the love represented by the birth in Bethlehem fill our lives and become part of all that we say and do. May we share the divine life of your son Jesus Christ, even as he humbled himself to share our humanity. Bless us and the feast that You have provided for us, let us be thankful for the true gift of Christmas, your Son. Amen.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM

DATE: FRIDAY, 12/2/2011

TIME: 7:00 PM

BLESSING COUNCIL CHRISTMAS PARTY

PLACE: SSJP PARISH HALL

DATE: MONDAY, 12/5/2011

TIME: 6:30 PM

LASALETTE SHRINE VISIT

LEAVE FROM: HOPKINS HILL PARK AND RIDE

DATE: FRIDAY, 12/9/2011

TIME: 6:00 PM

DINNER: HOUSE OF PIZZA, PAWTUCKET

JANUARY BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM

DATE: FRIDAY, 1/13/2012

TIME: 7:00 PM

LaSalette Shrine Visit



The Circle will be making our annual visit to the LaSalette Shrine on the night of Friday, December 9th. We will be leaving from the Hopkins Hill Park and Ride at 6PM getting to the House of Pizza in Pawtucket for dinner and then onto the Shrine. This is our third year visiting the Shrine so let's make a good showing! Family and friends are invited!

New Newsletter Format Next Month

Beginning in January, the newsletters of the Msgr. Blessing Council and the Fr. Leo Ancil Squires Circle will be combined into one Newsletter called "The Blessing Word." In the new newsletter, there will be a Squires section which will contain the same comprehensive coverage of the Circle that you have become accustomed to in the old format. The advantage of this new format is that you also be kept informed of the goings on of our sponsoring Council, especially the events that we both participate in.



Blessing Council Christmas Party

When: Monday, December 5 @ 6:30PM

Where: Saints John and Paul Parish Center

The Msgr. Blessing Council will be holding a Christmas Party with a pot-luck dinner at the Saints John and Paul Parish Center. The Council would like to invite the Squires Circle and their family and friends. Squires, let's make this a recruiting opportunity. If you know of a Catholic young man between the ages of 10 to 18 who you think would make a great addition to our Circle, invite him and his family to join us for this celebration. You should have received a flyer for the Christmas Party in the mail, and one is attached to the back of this newsletter.

Chief Counselor's Note

Worthy Squires!

First let me take this opportunity to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and blessed holiday season.

I'll always remember the words of our Past Father Prior, Father Forcier, when he said that "Christ is the Reason for the Season." How very true that is. Many of us get so caught up in the commercialization of Christmas what with Black Friday, Cyber Monday, and the endless sales of material goods that it is so easy to forget exactly what we are celebrating and why. The Knights of Columbus have a campaign which is entitled "Keep Christ in Christmas." The purpose of this is to remind people that Christmas is above all a holy day celebrating the birth of Christ. Please try and remember that and attend Mass on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day with your family. Please try and remember that when you are all gathered around the table for a Christmas meal to say Grace and thank the Lord for this glorious day.

Well, now that the Christmas season is upon us, that means that the calendar year is drawing to a close. 2012 is less than a month away. Remember at the beginning of the year what I told you the theme would be? "MEMBERSHIP! MEMBERSHIP! MEMBERSHIP!" And what a successful year it has been with regard to membership. In 2011, we welcomed four new Squires to our Circle - Noah Chantharangsy, Isaiah Francis, Neil Grant and Michael Porter. However, we have also said farewell to three Squires - Matt Parent, Nick Parent and Stephen Smith, all who have turned 18 and have become Knights of Columbus.

I would like to say that we have a new theme for 2012, but unfortunately, we are expecting to say farewell to even more Squires in the coming year - Evan Patten will be turning 18 and Norman and Isaiah Francis are expected to move out of state. We must begin to act now to recruit new Squires into our Circle. In 2012, we will be conducting membership drives at Saints John and Paul Parish, St. Vincent de Paul Parish and Our Lady of Good Counsel, but what the Circle needs you to do is identify Catholic young men between the ages of 10 and 18 and ask them to join us. The Circle has come a long way since 2007 when we first started up. The Circle has also accomplished quite a bit - three Corps d'Elite Awards the last three years in a row. Squires, we need to keep this going and your help is definitely needed!

Lastly Squires, I have a commitment on January 6th which is our regular meeting night for January. I will ask for a vote this Friday to switch it to the following Friday - the 13th.

God Bless,
Mr. Neil

Photos from Christ the King Mass at the Cathedral – 11/20/2011



Squires and Knights who attended



The Cathedral Altar



Msgr. Jacques Plante speaking to the Knights



RI 4th Degree Master Ron Parenteau speaking



Cathedral of SS. Peter and Paul

Christmas Party!



**Please join the Msgr. Peter E. Blessing
Knights of Columbus Council #5273
for food and Christmas cheer on
Monday, December 5, at 6:30 p.m.**

Family and Friends Welcome!

Pot-Luck Dinner

50/50 Raffle

DJ: B&N Music

**Please bring one canned good per
person for Coventry Food Bank.**

SS John and Paul Parish Center

341 South Main St.

Coventry, RI

Please R.S.V.P. by 11/30 calling

Herb Knott at 828-7359 or

Alan Ogradnik at 822-5617

Please leave a message if no answer.