



# The Blessing Word

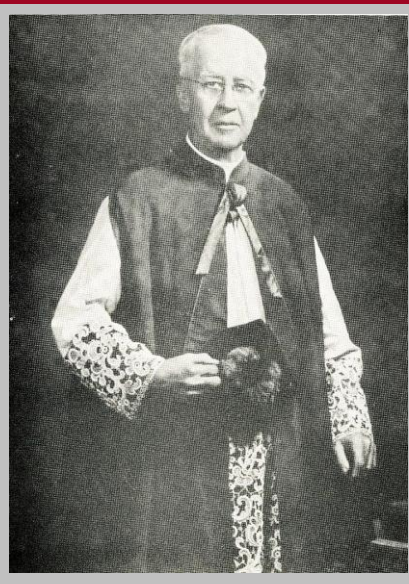
## 1962-2012 CELEBRATING OUR 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS  
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273  
COVENTRY, RHODE ISLAND

MARCH 2012

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 3



MSGR PETER E. BLESSING, L.L.D.,  
D.D., V.G.  
Our Council's Namesake

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### MARCH SQUIRES BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM  
DATE: FRIDAY, 3/9/2012  
TIME: 7:00PM

#### MARCH COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH HALL  
DATE: MONDAY, 3/12/2012  
TIME: 7:30PM

#### DONATION NIGHT

PLACE: SSJP PARISH HALL  
DATE: MONDAY 3/26/2012  
TIME: 6:00PM

#### APRIL SQUIRES BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM  
DATE: FRIDAY, 4/6/2012  
TIME: 7:00PM

#### APRIL COUNCIL BUSINESS MEETING

PLACE: ST. VINCENT DE PAUL PARISH HALL  
DATE: MONDAY, 4/9/2012  
TIME: 7:30PM

#### INFORMATIONAL NIGHT

PLACE: SSJP PARISH HALL  
DATE: TUESDAY 4/17/2012  
TIME: 6:30PM



## Grand Knight's Corner

Worthy Brothers, I pray you and your families are well.

I would like to provide you with an update as to our three major initiatives this year. You'll remember I spoke about them in my January GK Corner. The first initiative – the Informational Night followed with a 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Exemplification is coming along nicely. It is set for Tuesday, April 17, at the Saints John and Paul Parish Center starting at 6:30PM. I have invited the Worthy State Membership Chairman, David Bebyn to be the keynote speaker. Brother David is a very dynamic individual, and I just know with him speaking and with our efforts to recruit that we will gain some new Knights. Worthy PGK Dick Belanger is the Membership Chairman and has done a great job with the rest of the Membership Committee preparing for this event. The First Degree Team should be ready for the 1<sup>st</sup> Degree Exemplification on Monday, April 30 at the SSJP Parish Center. I pray all of you will be able to attend both events. We only need on more Brother Knight to achieve our quota for Star Council.

The second initiative is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner which will be held at Nino's on Lake Tiogue on Saturday, June 23. **SAVE THE DATE!** The Retention Committee chaired by DGK John Pizzo has done a great job planning for this event. I don't want to give too much away as there are going to be a few surprises, but we are planning a gala event to celebrate the Council's Golden Anniversary.

The third initiative this year is the Vocations Fair tentatively planned for mid-October. Our Worthy Chancellor John Deary is working with the SSJP Round Table and Father Grenon of SSJP to make this happen. More details to come as we get closer to the date.

Those are our three major initiatives, but we still have business as usual with our prayer vigil outside the abortion mill in Cranston on Thursday 3/23, the upcoming Donation Night on Monday 3/26, the upcoming KANDI Drive in May! It's a busy time brothers, but as you know, busy people get work done.

God Bless and Vivat Jesu!

Neil Fidler, Grand Knight  
401-632-7922

Narragansett55@yahoo.com

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COVENTRY, RI 02816  
coventryknights@verizon.net  
<http://www.coventryknights.org>

**Supreme Knight**

Carl A. Anderson

**RI State Deputy**

John Marcello

**District Deputy (RI Dist. 5)**

Mark Bamberg

**Insurance Agent**

Stephen Del Deo

**Msgr. Blessing Council  
Officers:****Chaplain**

Rev. Michael Kelley

**Grand Knight**

Neil Fidler

**Financial Secretary**

David Tanski

**Deputy Grand Knight**

John Pizzo

**Chancellor**

John Deary

**Recorder**

John Ball

**Treasurer**

Glenn Holt

**Advocate**

Patrick Hurley

**Warden**

Russell Maxwell

**Inside Guard**

James Hall

**Outside Guard**

Tim Maynard

**One Year Trustee**

Richard Belanger

**Two Year Trustee**

Earl Mahar

**Three Year Trustee**

James Woolley

**Fr. Leo Ancil Squires  
Circle Officers:****Father Prior**

Rev. Derek Puleo/Rev. Eddy Lopez

**Chief Squire**

Norman Francis, Jr.

**Deputy Chief Squire**

Joshua Fidler

**Notary Squire**

Zachary Farrell

**Bursar Squire**

Evan Patten

**Marshal Squire**

Neil Grant



# Chaplain's Report

Dear Brother Knights,

As we are in the grace filled season of Lent we are trying to be more aware of ways of Prayer, Fasting and Giving Alms. I know these are things that you Brothers do all the time but we try to do them with a greater consciousness and a greater fervor during Lent.

With regard to prayer, remember the sayings our parents used to tell us over and over again to help you grow as responsible men. Sayings like: "Tell me who your friends are and I'll tell you who you are." We may not have taken these sayings so seriously then but over time and through experience we saw the wisdom in what they said.

We can apply this to quotes from Jesus, Our Lord, from the Gospel. His sayings like "Whatever you do for the least of my brethren you do for Me" are packed with meaning which can be applied to frequent situations in our daily lives.

I hope that many of you are reading some of the Gospels from our daily Lenten Masses or at least listening closely to the Gospel and other readings at Sunday Mass. During Lent there is a fantastic selection of readings that have sayings of Jesus that can strengthen us more and more in our Catholic witness.

You know our times are filled with many media messages and sound bites that are not always leading us in the Christian ways. That's why we need to consciously and fervently chose to read, think and pray the truths of our faith, inspiring Christian stories and other things that really help us grow as Catholic men.

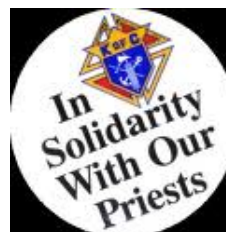
May you continue to have a blessed Lent leading to a greater joy in the Risen Christ,

May God Bless each of you!

**Rev. Michael Kelley**

**Chaplain**

**Msgr. Blessing Council #5273**



*"Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness."—James 3:18*



**Rhode Island K of C Charity Ball****When: Saturday, March 24 @ 6:00PM****Where: West Valley Inn, Bella Room, West Warwick**

The 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Charity Ball will take place on Saturday, March 24 at the West Valley Inn Bella Room. Cocktails start at 6PM and Dinner will be served at 7PM. Cost is \$40.00 per person and the deadline is March 17. This is the biggest fundraiser of the year for the State Council. Attire is Tuxedo or Business Suit for Knights. Music by Back Beat Sound. There will be a Silent Auction and raffles. The theme this year is "Mardi Gras." The Msgr. Blessing Council is donating a Starbucks-themed basket for the Silent Auction. The contact for tickets is Phil DePaolo 401-737-6616.

**New Deputy Grand Knight!**

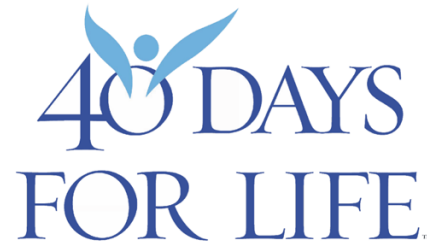
Congratulations to our new Worthy Deputy Grand Knight John Pizzo. As Brother David Tanski is now our new Financial Secretary, he could not hold both offices. Therefore, the Council held a vote during the February Business meeting and elected Brother John. Brother John will also assume chairman duties in the Retention Committee. Best of luck in your new position, Worthy DGK!

**This Month in Blessing Council History**

Blessing Council has traditionally shown its more celebratory side during the month of March. As the weather enters as a lion, we have celebrated numerous St. Patrick's Day parties and marched in parades. We have come together from all different cultural backgrounds to celebrate the lives and contributions of Saints, and March is a prime example of this. March is also a busy month as we have geared up for the Tootsie Roll Drive and other spring and summer events.

**Stephen Del Deo – Insurance Field Agent**

Worthy Brothers, if you didn't already know our Insurance Field Agent is Brother Stephen J. Del Deo and he is a member of our Council. For information about the excellent insurance benefits the Knights of Columbus has to offer, please contact Brother Stephen at the contact information below:


**Stephen J. Del Deo, Field Agent #14851****Cell Phone: 401-330-0118****Office: 401-826-2505****Fax: 401-826-2505****Email: [Stephen.deldeo@kofc.org](mailto:Stephen.deldeo@kofc.org)****Email: [sjdeldeo1@juno.com](mailto:sjdeldeo1@juno.com)****When: Thursday, March 22 @ 7:00AM-7:00PM****Where: Women's Medical Center, 1725 Broad St., Cranston**

The Monsignor Blessing Council will be joining the 40 Days For Life movement in front of the Women's Medical Center in Cranston for an entire day – Thursday, March 22. Please be sure to volunteer for a two-hour time period on that day. The first shift will be from 7AM to 9AM. Then 9-11AM, 11AM-1PM, 1-3PM, 3-5PM and 5-7PM. We would like to have at least two Knights per shift. We are praying that, with God's help, this effort will mark the beginning of the end of abortion in Rhode Island and throughout America.



*"Blessed are they who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart."  
– Psalm 119:2*



### Congrats Alex Cote!



On Sunday, February 26, a Third Degree Exemplification was held at Lincoln Council in Lincoln, RI. Msgr. Blessing Council was well represented by Alex Cote who made his Third Degree. Alex was accompanied by Grand Knight Neil Fidler and Inside Guard Jim Hall. Here's Alex pictured with State Deputy John Marcello after the ceremony. Lincoln Council also put on an excellent collation afterward.

### Donations Night

The Council and the Squires will be holding a Donations Night to be held at the Saints John and Paul Parish Center on Monday, March 26 from 6 to 9PM. Both the Council and the Circle will be presenting their donations derived from last year's KANDI Drive to those charities designated to receive. We are planning a pot luck dinner to be held in conjunction with the donations ceremony. Please RSVP Keith Parent at 249-8585 by 3/19 and let him know how many people are attending and what dish you plan to bring.

### Committees

Thanks to all the Brother Knights who signed up for committees to support our three major initiatives this year. The committees are comprised as follows:

#### **Vocations Committee**

John Deary, Chairman  
Neil Fidler, GK  
Jim Woolley, PGK  
Bill Moskosky, PGK  
Russell Maxwell  
Herb Knott  
Charlie Sweeney

#### **Financial Committee**

Keith Parent, Chairman  
Neil Fidler, GK  
Glenn Holt, PGK  
Jim Woolley, PGK

#### **Retention Committee**

John Pizzo, Chairman  
Neil Fidler, GK  
Glenn Holt, PGK  
Pat Hurley, PGK  
John Ball

#### **Membership Committee**

Dick Belanger, PGK, Chmn.  
Neil Fidler, GK  
Earl Mahar, PGK  
Glenn Holt, PGK  
Angel Ferrer

The Vocations Committee is going to lead the effort for our Vocations Fair in October. The Retention Committee is taking the lead on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner to be held during the summer. The Membership Committee is working on the Informational Night to be held in April. It is not too late to sign up for a committee. The newest members of our Council are especially encouraged to participate in at least one committee.

### Like Us" on Facebook!



The Msgr. Blessing Council and the Fr. Leo Anctil Squires Circle now have pages on Facebook. Just log on to Facebook and search on "Blessing Council" or "Anctil Circle" and you'll find us. We are posting daily bible verses, Catholic and Knights news and general information pertinent to the Knights of Columbus. So find us and don't forget to "Like Us" on Facebook.

*"Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked." – Psalm 84:10*



### 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.

### St. Katharine Drexel



Saints have always said the same thing: Pray, be humble, accept the cross, love and forgive. But it is good to hear these things in the American idiom from one who, for instance, had her ears pierced as a teenager, wore a watch, was interviewed by the press and traveled by train. These are obvious reminders that holiness can be lived in today's culture as well as in that of ancient Jerusalem or Rome.

St. Katharine Drexel saw the destitution of the native Indian-Americans and founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament to serve them. She opened nearly 60 schools and missions as well as Xavier University of Louisiana, at the time the only predominantly African-American Catholic institution of higher learning in the United States.

St. Katharine Drexel was beatified by Pope John Paul II on November 20, 1988, and canonized on October 1, 2000, one of only a few American saints and the second American-born saint. The Vatican cited a fourfold legacy of Drexel: A love of the Eucharist and perspective on the unity of all peoples; courage and initiative in addressing social inequality among minorities; her efforts to achieve quality education for all; and selfless service, including the donation of her inheritance, for the victims of injustice. She is known as the patron saint of racial justice and of philanthropists.



## Chief Squire's Corner

Squires this Friday, we will be welcoming another Squire into our Circle. We will also be welcoming two other young men from the newly formed Steven Mariano Circle into the Squires. I pray you all will attend this Investiture this coming Friday at 7:00PM at the SSJP Rectory Conference Room. This ceremony is also open to all Knights of Columbus, and we invite Knights from our sponsoring Council to join us. Let's pray this is not the last Investiture during the Columbian Year. We need to keep recruiting and letting young Catholic men know what the Squires are all about!

Sincerely,  
Norman A. Francis Jr.  
Chief Squire

### Yard Sale in May!



When: May – date TBD  
Where: TBD

The Circle will be holding a Yard Sale sometime in late May. The exact date and time and place to hold is to be determined. However, it would be appreciated if all Knights and Squires would start identifying items they would like to contribute to the yard sale.

### KANDI Drive



The Circle's 2012 KANDI (Tootsie Roll) Drive will be held at Stop and Shop on Saturday, May 12 from 10AM to 6PM. There will be two four hour shifts. Unfortunately, the Circle was not able to get the three days as in the past as the Stop and Shop has changed their policy and are not allowing multiple days in a week. However, we will be allowed to extend our hours on Saturday from six to eight hours.

*Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always try to be kind to each other and to everyone else.  
– 1 Thessalonians 5:15*





## Marching for Life

By Neil Grant

Knights and Fellow Squires,

I am beginning to believe that the culture of life is swinging back, back into focus, back into attention, and also, back into the crosshairs of those that would seek to destroy life. In January, I once again had the privilege of going to the March for Life, held annually in our nation's capital. My friends, never have I felt the movement was so strong, seeing the near 400,000 people was truly an astonishing inspiration. Yet, no secular media station had any report, not even an image of what occurred in the Capitol. The march streamed from the main streets, the massive groups of college students and diocesan groups following inside the immense crowd, a group that flowed towards the capitol like some great river of humanity. Yet one sees this, this great victory for life and can be begin to reflect on the loss, the continuing loss that is well over ten times the amount of those who marched. We wonder, we ask: why won't it change? Why hasn't it ended yet? The way our world is heading, it doesn't look like our answer will be clear. We point fingers, at God, at Satan, at saints, and at sinners, many of us don't look inward, don't think about changing ourselves before trying to change the world. We fall too easily into the traps of a God-less society; some lash out with too fiery passion, or turn away and dare not speak, dare not to "break the peace". But there is no peace really, not while children are being ripped from their mothers' wombs.

Many men were at the March for Life, men who were Knights of Columbus, perhaps some of the young ones were Squires. Many good men in this country, young and old have sat back, done nothing, let evil flourish throughout our land. America needs men, especially young men who are strong in their faith, steadfast in their conviction. We must seek, as people of faith, to finish this fight, with the help of our God.

I have seen the other side, the followers of the culture of death, men so willing to simply clench the ephemeral pleasures of this world. These people, the occupiers, the radical feminists, the so-called "intellectuals" they must see the measure of our resolve, the fight that we are prepared to lead in defense of the women and the unborn children of our nation. Justice, true justice that comes from God, will help us show the allies of the culture of death that women and children always deserve better than abortion. It must be shown that the victory of the pro-life cause, of the culture of life, is already a reality. May God bless you and your families.

Neil Grant  
Marshall and Spiritual Committee Chairman  
Father Leo Ancil Colombian Squires Circle

Photos by Neil Grant from the 40 Days for Life vigil at the abortion mill in Cranston.





**More photos from Neil Grant from the March for Life in Washington, DC, and the Diocesan pro-life procession and rally at St Paul's in Cranston**

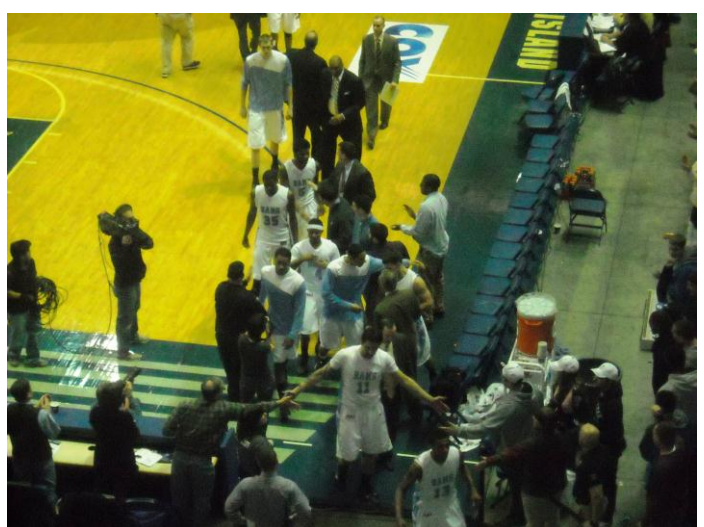
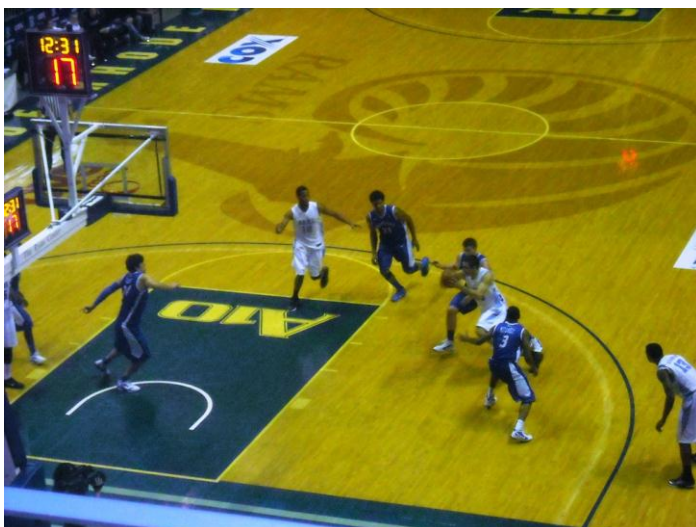


What we are up against.





### **Photos from URI Basketball Game 2/25/2012 – URI won!**



More photos can be found on the Council and Squires Facebook page. Search on "Monsignor Peter E. Blessing Knights of Columbus Council" or "Fr. Leo Ancil Columbian Squires Circle."