



THE BLESSING WORD

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



DECEMBER 2015

Merry Christmas!

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 12



MSGR PETER E. BLESSING
L.L.D., D.D., V.G.
RI State Chaplain 1913-1957
Our Council's Namesake

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LASALETTE SHRINE VISIT

MEET AT: SSJP RECTORY
DATE: FRIDAY, 12/4/2015
TIME: 5:30PM

CHRISTMAS PARTY

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER
DATE: FRIDAY, 12/11/2015
TIME: 6:30PM

DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER
DATE: MONDAY, 12/14/2015
TIME: 7:30PM

JANUARY SQUIRES MEETING

PLACE: SSJP RECTORY MEETING ROOM
DATE: FRIDAY, 1/8/2016
TIME: 7:00PM

JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

PLACE: SSJP PARISH CENTER
DATE: MONDAY, 1/11/2016
TIME: 7:30PM

FREE THROW CHALLENGE

PLACE: TBD
DATE: TBD
TIME: TBD



Grand Knight's Corner

My Brothers All,
I pray that you and your families are well.

The Annual Blessing Council Christmas Party will be on Friday, December 11th. The members of the Fundraiser Dinner Committee have been planning for a few months, I would like to thank all of the Brothers for their time and dedication. I hope that many of you and your families will attend this year's event.

There is still time to purchase raffle tickets for the RCA 48" Smart HDTV 1080p that will be drawn at the Christmas Party. The proceeds from this raffle will help our Knights in Need Fund to assist Brother Knights in the Council. I would like to thank Worthy Treasurer Mark Giolitti for all of the work that he has done in organizing this raffle and all of those who have helped to sell tickets.

The Holy Year of Mercy begins on December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. There will be an Opening Mass for the Jubilee Year of Mercy on this date at 9:00am at Our Lady of Mercy in East Greenwich. On December 13th, Bishop Tobin will open the Holy Door at the Cathedral of Saints Peter and Paul at 1:00pm. You can learn more about the Year of Mercy on the Diocesan website dioceseofprovidence.org/jubilee-of-mercy.

During this busy time leading to Christmas, I pray that we are able to take time to pray and reflect on the Reason for the Season, the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sue and I would like to wish all of you and your families a Blessed and Merry Christmas.

God Bless and Vivat Jesus!

Frank Laiter III, Grand Knight
fdlaiter3@gmail.com

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COVENTRY, RI 02816
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Supreme Knight

Carl A. Anderson

RI State Deputy

Peter Lentini

District Deputy (RI Dist. 5)

John Pizzo

Insurance Agent

Stephen Del Deo

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

Rev. Jacek Ploch

Grand Knight

Frank Laiter III

Financial Secretary

Neil Fidler

Deputy Grand Knight

Edgar Brouillard

Chancellor

Angel Ferrer, Jr.

Recorder

Paul Lemek

Treasurer

Mark Giolitti

Advocate

Patrick Hurley

Warden

Tom Rossi

Inside Guard

James Hall

Outside Guard

Stephen Kukulka

One Year Trustee

Earl Mahar

Two Year Trustee

John Pizzo

Three Year Trustee

Herbert Knott

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

Rev. Paul Lemoi

Chief Squire

Michael Porter

Deputy Chief Squire

Caleb Delehant

Notary Squire

David Tardiff

Bursar Squire

Brennen Connor

Marshal Squire

Gabriel Delehant

Sentry Squire

William Connor

**Chaplain's Report****Nothing to report.****Move to SS John and Paul Parish Center**

During our October meeting, the council voted to move our monthly meetings to the **Saints John and Paul Parish Center, 341 South Main Street, Coventry.** The reason for this is that the SSJP Parish Center is wheelchair accessible and easier to access for Brother Knights who have difficulty going up and down stairs. **Thank you Fr. Grenon for granting us permission to hold our meetings in the SSJP Parish Center!**

Also, if you haven't been to a meeting recently, we would like to take this opportunity to invite you back to join us at our new location on the **2nd Monday of each month.** Our council has been one of the more active councils in Rhode Island since our move out of our old council home five years ago. There are plenty of programs underway that may interest you. Also, every Brother Knight brings something to the table, whether it be ideas, experience or labor. We'd love to see you back, and we pray you do!

Also, we would be remiss if we did not take this opportunity to thank our Council Chaplain, Fr. Jacek Ploch, and also Past Chaplain Fr. Michael Kelley, for granting us permission to hold our meetings since 2010 at the St. Vincent de Paul Parish Hall. We enjoyed holding our meetings in the original hall where we held our meetings prior to moving into our council hall in 1967. **Thank you Fr. Jacek, Fr. Kelley and St. Vincent de Paul Parish!**

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." – Luke 2:14

Stephen Del Deo – Insurance Field Agent



Knights of Columbus
INSURANCE
YOUR SHIELD FOR LIFE

Stephen J Del Deo, FIC, FICF
20 Hickory Rd
Coventry, RI 02816
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K of C Insurance Program Milestone

The Knights of Columbus surpassed \$100 billion of life insurance in force this week, marking an important milestone in the Catholic fraternal benefit society's mission to protect the future of Catholic families. This milestone was achieved despite continuing adverse conditions affecting the insurance industry.

Established in 1882 by a young Catholic priest, the organization — which offers its line of top-rated products exclusively to its members and their eligible family members — manages \$21 billion in assets and ranks 939 on the 2015 Fortune 1000 list, placing it among the largest life insurers in North America.

"The \$100 billion milestone is not simply a number," said Supreme Knight Carl Anderson. "It highlights the fact that each year we are protecting the future of more Catholic families, continuing the mission of our founder, Venerable Father Michael J. McGivney. With each dollar of top-rated insurance in force that our professional agency force adds, additional, meaningful security is provided to the families whose livelihoods we protect."

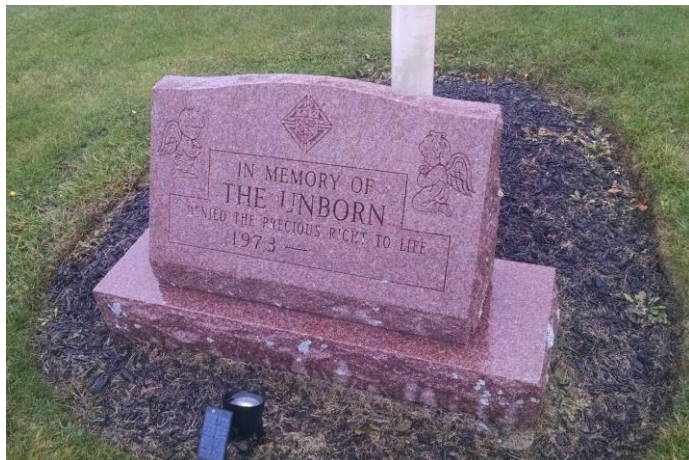
The Knights of Columbus offers insurance to its members and their families through a network of more than 1,500 dedicated, professional agents in the United States and Canada — all of whom are members of the Knights of Columbus. The \$100 billion milestone caps a year in which the Knights of Columbus set a new record for insurance sales with \$8 billion sold, earned the top rating of A++ Superior from AM Best for the 40th consecutive year, and was named a "World's Most Ethical Company" for the second consecutive year by the Ethisphere Institute®.

Remember When...



It's the Blessing Council Christmas Party in 2000 at the old council hall! Santa Claus is sitting on the lap of Pat Marsella who is the wife of the late Fred Marsella who was Grand Knight during the 1974-75 Columbian Year. It wasn't that long ago that the council held both a children's Christmas Party and an adult Christmas Party. We look forward to our Christmas Party this year that will be held at the SSJP Parish Center on Friday, December 11. Hopefully, you and your family can join us!

Did You Know?



Did you know that some years ago, Blessing Council installed a monument at St. Joseph's Cemetery, West Greenwich, in memory of the Unborn? Not sure of the exact year, but the monument pictured above stands at the entrance of the cemetery in front of the flagpole. Check it out some time!

"For unto you in born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord"
— Luke 2:11



Squires News



Saint of the Month: St. Nicholas



St. Nicholas was a Christian bishop who provided for the poor and sick, and is the basis for the popular character of Santa Claus.

St. Nicholas was born sometime circa 280 in Patara, Lycia, an area that is part of present-day Turkey. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as Bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre. Nicholas spoke out against the pagan gods of the Romans in favor of Christianity. He went as far as initiating the destruction of the Temple of Artemis.

Saint Nicholas is the patron of serfdom and of Russia. Because he protected the weak against the strong, the oppressed against the oppressor, the poor against the rich; of travelers, sailors, and merchants.

Why is Saint Nicholas associated with Santa Claus? Nicholas was famous for his generous gifts to the poor, such as the three purses of gold as detailed above. He is also associated with kindness towards children. The images of Saint Nicholas usually show an old man with long, grey hair and a beard.

The Feast Day of Saint Nicholas is December 6th. The origin of Feast Days: most saints have specially designated feast days and are associated with a specific day of the year and these are referred to as the saint's feast day. The feast days first arose from the very early Christian custom of the annual commemoration of martyrs on the dates of their deaths at the same time celebrating their birth into heaven.

Lasalette Shrine Visit!



The Columbian Squires of the Fr. Leo Anctil Circle #5211 made the trip up to the Lasalette Shrine on Friday, December 4. The Circle had last been to the Shrine in 2012. Also going along was the Circle's Father Prior, Fr. Paul Lemoi, Pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish as well as Counselors Neil Fidler, Stephen Kukulka and Jim Hall. The photo above shows the Circle right after a candle was lit and a prayer was said for the Unborn. Prior to going up to the Shrine, the Circle stopped in at House of Pizza on Division Street in Pawtucket for dinner. A great time was had by all, and the Circle plans to make the trip up again next year.



Chief Squire's Corner

Hello All,

As we all know, Advent is here once again. Advent begins on Sunday, November 29th. It is a time we can get closer to God by praying daily and going to confession weekly or even going to adoration at your church. Those practices help us to get closer to God by being more open and able to hear His word in prayer. Advent ends December 24th, but that's not an excuse to stop getting closer to God. These practices can be done at any time. God loves us all we should feel close to him like He is our best friend. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas.

Michael Porter, Chief Squire

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder. And his name shall be Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" – Isaiah 9:6

Who Does It? – Brother Knights Skills List

Skill	Brother Knight	Phone	Email/Address
Construction/Roof Repair	Brian Smith	401-826-1725	BCS Contruction, 23 Holmes Rd., Coventry
Blueberry Farm	John Macomber	401-397-5079	macomerslueberryfarm.shutterfly.com
Certified Tutoring	Edgar Brouillard	401-354-9298	edbrou@gmail.com
Auto Repair	John Starziano	401-821-9887	Star Service Center, 53 Arnold Rd., Coventry
Plumbing/Electrical/Applicances	Tom Rossi	401-243-3767	tomr421@cox.net
Real Estate Referral Agent	Pat Hurley	401-339-5789	realephurley@verizon.net
Writing Instruments	Herb Knott	401-316-7230	knotth1@gmail.com
Computer Repair	Mike Colvin	401-641-6881	mikegcolvin@gmail.com
Delilah's Deli	Paul Bellavance	401-385-3483	780 Victory Hwy #10, West Greenwich

If you have a particular skill and would like to be included on this list, please contact FS Neil Fidler at Narragansett55@yahoo.com to be added.

Awards and Donation Night!



On Friday, November 20, Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council and Fr. Leo Anctil Circle held our fourth annual Awards and Donation Night. This is the event where we take the opportunity to disburse our donations for the year from the dividend on our Vanguard Wellington Fund as well as the moneys collected from the KANDI Fund as well as give out awards to those Brother Knights who have done great works over the past year. The night started out with a cookout-style dinner complete with burgers, dogs, chili and all the fixins. Then the Fr. Leo Anctil Circle of Columbian Squires presented donation checks to two Seminarists – Nathan Ricci and Jorge Rocha – and to the SPRED Program, Project Friends Coventry, Coventry High School Transitions to Success Program and Meeting Street School. After the Squires presented their donations, Blessing Council presented donation checks to each of the three parishes we serve, two Seminarists – Nathan Ricci and Jorge Rocha, the Our Daily Bread Program, the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Coventry Food Bank, The Senior Priest Retirement Fund, and the Bishop's Keep the Heat On Fund. Also, Blessing Council presented a \$2,000 Scholarship Check to the Fr. John V. Doyle School. After that it was time to present awards. The Fr. Leo Anctil Circle presented each Squire with a Certificate of Appreciation for all the hard work they did during their KANDI Drive and Pasta and Meatball Dinner. Deputy Chief Squire Caleb Delehant was honored as 2014-15 Squire of the Year. During the Blessing Council portion of the awards presentations, our Pastors received a Certificate of Appreciation for all they accomplished during the year. Immediate Past Grand Knight Herb Knott received a certificate for his tenure as Grand Knight for 2014-15. Numerous Brother Knights were cited for their participation in the various council programs. At the end of the awards program, Treasurer Mark Giolitti and his family received the Family of the Year Award, and Brother Mark was chosen as Blessing Council's Knight of the Year for 2014-15. Congratulations to all!

“And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.” – Luke 1:14

Christmas Party!



Please join the
Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273
Knights of Columbus
for food and Christmas cheer on
Friday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m.
SS John and Paul Parish Center
341 South Main St., Coventry, RI

Music by
"Common Thread"

Cash bar for
beer and wine

Buffet-Style Menu:

Cheese & Crackers Tray

Pasta Primavera
Sausage, Peppers,
Mushrooms & Onions
Chicken Marsala
Chicken Cacciatore
Meatballs

Vegetables
Pizza Strips
Rolls
Garden Salad/Dressings
Coffee, Soda, Water
Dessert

Raffle Drawing for RCA 48" Smart LED LCD 1080p HDTV

50/50 Raffle – Proceeds to go to the "Keep the Heat On" fund

Tickets are \$15 per person and \$10 for children 12 and under.
Also, attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped new toy for
"Toys for Tots"

For tickets please contact Richard Belanger at 821-1405
Please RSVP by November 28, 2015

Awards and Donation Night, November 20, 2015



Lasalette Shrine Visit, December 4, 2015

