

# A Blessed Advent season and a Merry Christmas!



## THE BLESSING WORD KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONSIGNOR PETER BLESSING COUNCIL #5273



DECEMBER 2020

VOLUME 11, 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

#### DECEMBER OFFICERS MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM MEETING  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 12/9/2020  
TIME: 7:00PM

#### DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PLACE: ZOOM MEETING  
DATE: MONDAY, 12/14/2020  
TIME: 7:30PM

#### JANUARY OFFICERS MEETING

PLACE: OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA  
DATE: WEDNESDAY, 1/6/2021  
TIME: 7:00PM

#### JANUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

PLACE: OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA  
DATE: MONDAY, 1/11/2021  
TIME: 7:30PM

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL #5273 K OF C  
P.O. Box 1470  
COVENTRY, RI 02816  
coventryknights@verizon.net  
<http://www.coventryknights.org>  
Meeting Place:  
SS John and Paul Parish Center



## Grand Knight's Corner

My Brothers All,

I pray you and your families are well and staying as safe as possible.

On Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Advent bringing in the Christmas season. During Advent, we light a candle on the Advent wreath every Sunday to symbolize hope, love, joy and peace. We celebrate The Immaculate Conception on December 8<sup>th</sup> which states that the Virgin Mary was free of original sin from the moment of conception. The next few weeks gives us time to prepare the way of the Lord for his coming as our king and savior. In this season of giving may we find it in our hearts to share with those who need help during this difficult time.

This year the council will again participate in the ROVAC collection to help our local veterans. Check the email sent out on November 28<sup>th</sup> for all the details. These donations will provide a happier holiday season for our Rhode Island veterans. The deadline for donations is Friday, December 11. All items can be dropped off at the Grand Knight's residence, 132 Pawtuxet Terrace, West Warwick.

The Faith in Action Programs are underway and will continue throughout the year as planned. I cannot stress enough; these programs are an important part to help spread the teachings of the church. If you know of Catholic gentleman that would be interested in becoming a member please let an officer know. Bringing in new members will help bring in new ideas to the council.

In the midst of the pandemic and the guidelines set by our Governor, all meetings will remain virtual until all restrictions have been lifted.

Please pray for peace in our country during this trying time and for an end to this pandemic.

Join us Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm via zoom meeting.

Carolyn and I hope you and your families have a blessed Christmas and a Happy & Healthy New Year!

Thank you, brothers, for the work you do.

God Bless & Vivat Jesus,  
David Legault  
Grand Knight

**Supreme Knight**

Carl A. Anderson

**RI State Deputy**

David Quinn

**District Deputy (RI Dist. 6)**

Michael Colvin

**Insurance Agent**

Jim Davis

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

**Chaplain**

Rev. Paul Lemoi

**Grand Knight**

David Legault

**Financial Secretary**

Neil Fidler

**Deputy Grand Knight**

Brian Mattias

**Chancellor**

Anthony Machado

**Warden**

Frank Laiter, Jr.

**Treasurer**

William Jakabek

**Recorder**

Thomas Gostomski

**Advocate**

Patrick Hurley

**Inside Guard**

James Hall

**Outside Guard**

Stephen Kukulka

**Lecturer**

Edgar Brouillard

**One Year Trustee**

John Pizzo

**Two Year Trustee**

Frank Laiter III

**Three Year Trustee**

Paul Lemek



# Chaplain's Corner

**My Brother Knights** We begin our Advent with the darkness and the cold of the Winter Season upon us.

Advent is a Season of Hope in the coming of Christ. This season leads us to celebrating the First Coming of Christ in history, but most especially it leads us to the Second Coming of Christ in our lives. The words of Advent: Be watchful! Be Alert! call us to examine our lives in the light of our Advent readings.

We may have seen more Christmas lights and decorations this year earlier than other years. I believe that many are using these decorations to provide for others in this time of pandemic a sign of Hope and Joy in the midst of despair and sadness. Even though December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which is normally a Holyday of Obligation this year because of the pandemic is not a Holyday. We can still celebrate it as a special day by attending Mass in person if possible, by watching Mass on TV provided by EWTN. Also, to pray the Rosary on that day asking our Lady to intercede to her Son for an ending to this pandemic.

This pandemic has caused us to celebrate days that are special for us, but it cannot take away the Blessing that we receive when we in our hearts remember those special events in the salvation of humankind. Prepare your homes but do not forget to use this time of Advent to prepare your hearts for Christ. Pray the Rosary daily for all those affected by this pandemic; the victims, the health care workers in our hospitals and unrig homes. Especially pray for all those who have lost a loved one to this pandemic. Pray that they will realize that their faith is a source of strength that can guide them beyond this time in history.

My prayer this Advent Season is that our Blessed Lady will intercede to her Son on our behalf to guide, strengthen and bring healing to our families and our nation. She is not only the patroness of our nation, but also the Mother of all humankind.

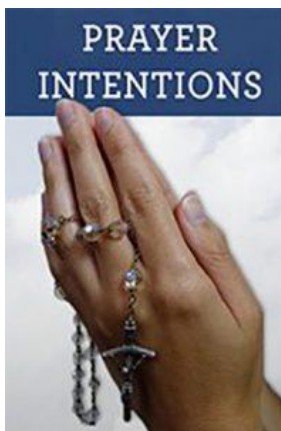
May you have an Advent Season filled with God's blessing and a Christmas filled with with the Joy and Hope that comes from the Christ Child. May Blessed Father Michael McGivney guide you and your family.

Vivat Jesus!  
 Father Paul Lemoi  
 Chaplain

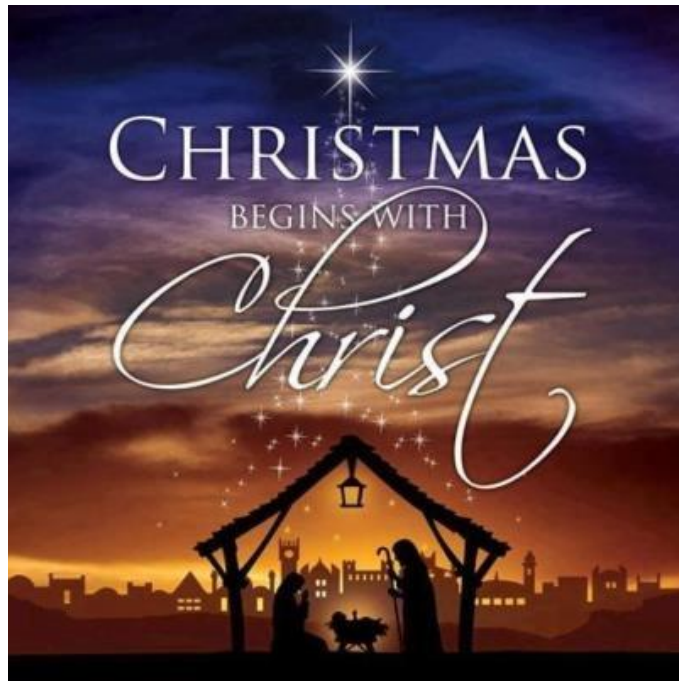


*“So Joseph set out from the town of Nazareth in Galilee for Judaea, to David's town called Bethlehem, since he was of David's House and line, in order to be registered together with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.”*

*– Luke 2:4-5*



- Our Holy Father Pope Francis
- Our Bishops Tobin and Evans
- The Priests of the parishes we serve
- DD Michael Colvin
- PGK Angel Ferrer
- PGK/PFN Herb Knott
- PGK William Moskosky
- PGK Daniel Danis
- GK David Legault
- Chancellor Anthony Machado
- Brother Matthew Piatek III (recently deceased)
- Brother Alan Ogrodnik
- Brother Len Denommee
- Brother Paul Lacroix
- Brother Bo Kenahan
- Brother James Kmon
- Brother Tony Favata
- Brother Matt Parent
- Lucille Ferrer
- Bernadette Favata
- Veronica Brouillard
- Nancy Giolitti
- Mary Deary
- Stephen Mattias
- Michelle Legault
- Wyatt Canfield
- Eric Thatcher
- The Doucette Family
- All US military personnel
- The Unborn
- All who are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**



Happy Birthday to the following Brother Knights:

David Brodeur	December 3
Kenneth Jackson	December 5
Russell Maxwell	December 6
James Kiley	December 7
Chester Wendoloski	December 7
John Cook	December 15
Russell Michael	December 17
Paul Trainor	December 20
David Simonelli	December 22
Guy Lasorsa	December 25
Robert Champagne	December 28
Rev. Robert Forcier	December 30

*“The Word was the real light that gives light to everyone; he was coming into the world.” – John 1:9*

**FAITH ACTIVITIES - INTO THE BREACH**



We are nearly halfway through our Into the Breach series, and I do not think it could have gone any better. The Brothers who have attended have contributed lively discussion and great perspectives on the topics presented. There's still time to get in on the discussion! Our next session will be on Life on Thursday, December 10, via Zoom meeting. I will send out the meeting details via email to the Council membership. Please feel free to join us. We would love to hear from you and get your thoughts.

Here is the remaining schedule of sessions which kick off at 7PM each night:

- Dec 10 – Spiritual Warfare
- Dec 17 – Evangelization
- Jan 7 – The Cornerstone

At current time due to COVID-19 restrictions, I will be conducting these sessions via online Zoom meetings. However, if restrictions change over the course of the sessions, I will investigate conducting these sessions in person.

Also, as you may have seen in last month's newsletter, we donated \$500 to two seminarians – Patrick Ryan and Aidan Blanchette – fulfilling our RSVP program obligation. I'm very proud to say our council has taken part in the RSVP program for many years going back at least 30 years

Vivat Jesus!  
Neil Fidler, Faith Director

**FAITH IN ACTION LIFE ACTIVITIES**

My Brothers All,

A Novena for Life will be prayed beginning on January 23 and ending on January 31. More information will be forthcoming. Please remember in your prayers to pray for the respect of life at all stages from conception to natural death. Have a blessed Christmas.

Vivat Jesus!  
Paul Lemek  
Program and Life Director

**FAITH IN ACTION – FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

My Brothers All,

We have completed the Food for Families Program via our donations to local food banks ... \$500 to Our Daily Bread, and \$200 to Coventry Food Bank.

We are actively working towards completion of the Consecration of the Holy Family Program ... Hand out brochures and prayer cards have been ordered and received. My focus is on the OLC AND SVDP Parishes as they are the most receptive given the COVID-19 limitations. My proposal is now being reviewed by Father Jacek ... Includes brochure and prayer card distribution to parishioners, bulletin & verbal altar announcements on Dec. 19 & 20, and recitation of the Consecration Prayer by Father Jacek on Dec. 26 & 27 ... The feast of the Holy Family.

I'm formulating plans for the Good Friday Family Promotion ... Prayer Cards have been ordered and received, and my plan is to invite families from all 4 associated parishes to attend the "Living Stations of the Cross" which is usually performed at OLC on Wednesday evening (3/31) just before Good Friday (4/2). I will focus more on this after Christmas, and a lot of my planning will depend on where we are at with regard to COVID-19 limitations at that time.

Vivat Jesus,  
William Jakabek  
Family Director

*"But when the completion of the time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born a subject of the Law, to redeem the subjects of the Law, so that we could receive adoption as sons." - Galatians 4:4-5*

**BROTHER MATTHEW J PIATEK III**  
1959-2020



Brother Matt Piatek III went to his final reward on the night of Friday, December 4, 2020, after suffering a heart attack. He is reunited with his mother Dorothy who passed away a year ago. Brother Matt had just celebrated his 20<sup>th</sup> year anniversary as a Knight of Columbus in November having joined the order and our council on November 14, 2000. The past few years Brother Matt had gotten more active by attending and helping at many council events. He was a parishioner of Our Lady of Czestochowa Church and was a very popular man around Coventry having forged many friendships through his bakery business. Please pray for the repose of Brother Matt’s soul and for his family, especially his father, who are grieving.

**SUPREME CHAPLAIN’S CHALLENGE**  
December 2020



**Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” (Gospel for Dec. 20, Lk 1:38)**

Mary’s fiat, her “yes” to the angel Gabriel at the Annunciation, models perfect discipleship. It was a total acceptance of and submission to the will of God. What faith and trust our Blessed Mother exemplified! Because Mary unreservedly said yes to God, Jesus became man in order to redeem the world from sin. God worked wonders in her life and the world through her trust in him. May each of us strive to place our unconditional trust in the will of God, so that he may work wonders in our own lives.

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

This month, I challenge you set up a Nativity scene in your home and pray before it, meditating on Mary’s fiat. Second, I challenge you to join with your brother Knights in the Faith in Action Keep Christ in Christmas program to help your parishes and communities celebrate the Son of God and Son of Mary.

**Questions for Reflection:**

Looking back over your life, are there things that happened that you didn’t understand at the time, but later saw that God was at work? Are there currently things in your life God is asking you to answer fiat to? How can the life of Mary help you to better understand how to submit your will to God’s?



*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is CHRIST THE LORD” – Luke 2:11*

## A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro M. Falconi.

O Mary,  
you always brighten our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain  
while remaining steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother,  
you know what we need,  
and we are confident you will provide for us  
as at Cana in Galilee.

Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,  
the Divine Physician,  
for those who have fallen ill,  
for those who are vulnerable,  
and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with  
protecting the health and safety of others  
and for those who are tending to the sick  
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who took upon himself our  
sufferings and carried our sorrows,  
so as to lead us, through the Cross,  
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,  
O Holy Mother of God.  
In our needs, despise not our petitions,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

*Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis*

KNIGHTS OF  COLUMBUS

*“Turn to me and you will be saved, all you ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is no other.” – Isaiah 45:22*