

THE BLESSING WORD



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

Happy Independence Day!



Grand Knight's Corner

WILLIAM JAKABEK, GRAND KNIGHT

Hello Brothers All!

As always, I hope you, and your families are doing well. June is always a fun-filled, beautiful month ... We have warmer weather, flower blossoms, graduations, weddings, BBQ's, and the official start of Summer. Besides all of these wonderful distractions, our Council remained busy ...

- At our Officers Meeting on June 4th, the Nominating Committee announced their recommendation for the 2025-26 council slate of officers. Also, I appointed our Faith in Action Program Directors, Round Table Chairmen, Lecturer, and Chaplain.
- At our Membership Meeting on June 9th, after a fine collation, we held our election of officers, and the council voted for the new slate of officers as recommended by the Nominating Committee. Also, I introduced the council to those Brother Knights I appointed to the positions noted above. Brother Knight Neil Fidler will stay on in the Supreme appointed position of our council's Financial Secretary.
- Our council appears to have achieved Star Council Designation again this year by fully satisfying participation requirements for the Columbian Award (Faith in Action), the Father McGivney Membership Award (nine new Council Members), and the Founders Award (our council's promotion and participation in insurance and Fraternal Benefits events). I'm so proud of this Council, and I sincerely thank all Brother Knights who participated!
- Our Finance Committee continues to successfully manage our transition from the long-standing Vanguard Wellington Fund to the Knights of Columbus Global ETF (exchange-traded fund) with the symbol KOCG which will ensure that our council's investments are in Catholic-friendly endeavors. Also, earlier in the 2024-25 Fraternal Year, the council established our own Knights of Columbus Charitable Fund (KCCF) which helps us to send our donations to Catholic-friendly charities. Also, with the outstanding help and hard work provided by Worthy Advocate John Murray, the Finance Committee is well on its way to creating a formal budget that will help our council better manage our revenue outlays and receipts. Stay tuned for a new format for our monthly financial report provided by the Treasurer which will better reflect all this work.
- Our council is looking into revitalizing our Fundraising Committee, and we will be seeking interested Brother Knights to participate in upcoming fundraising opportunities and events. Member participation and logical budgeting is essential to operating as a financially viable Council that provides significant, annual charitable giving. More information and a future committee meeting date will be forthcoming.

A new fraternal year is just around the corner, and I can really feel the excitement and anticipation from our council. I want to give a big shoutout to all the Brother Knights who show up and contribute every month. Your ongoing efforts mean a lot to me. I also want to encourage all our other Brother Knights, especially those who can, to step up and join your fellow brothers in making the Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273 one of the most active and successful councils in Rhode Island. Please think about coming to our Monthly Membership Meeting, which happens every 2nd Monday of the month in Room #3 at the old Our Lady of Czestochowa School. We kick things off with a pre-meeting collation at 6:30 pm, and the meeting starts at 7 pm. It usually lasts about 60-75 minutes. Have a great idea you want to share with the council? Feel free to reach out to me directly to chat about it! If it fits, I'd love to invite you to our monthly Officers Meeting to present your idea to the Officer Staff. All good ideas will be included in our Membership Meeting agenda.

Finally, July marks the midpoint of the calendar year. It's a time to reflect on your faith and take a moment to rest in God's promises. Bible Verse: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28, NIV). Use this month to spiritually recharge. In the Catholic Church, July is dedicated to the Precious Blood of Jesus. This devotion emphasizes the importance of Christ's blood shed for humanity's salvation, especially as it is present in the Eucharist. **Here's a short daily prayer: "Thank You, Lord, for shedding Your Blood for us. May the Water and Blood that came from the side of Jesus create a protecting fountain of grace, one which flows directly from the throne of God to us. Come, Lord, and fill us with Your Holy Spirit."**

Vivat Jesus!
William Jakabek – Grand Knight

Upcoming Events

July Officers Meeting

Place: OLC School Classroom 3
Date: Wednesday, 7/9/2025
Time: 7:00 PM

July Membership Meeting

Place: OLC School Classroom 3
Date: Monday, 7/14/2025
Time: 7:00 PM with collation at 6:30 PM

August Officers Meeting

Place: OLC School Classroom 3
Date: Wednesday, 8/6/2025
Time: 7:00 PM

August Membership Meeting

Place: OLC School Classroom 3
Date: Monday, 8/11/2025
Time: 7:00 PM with collation at 6:30 PM

Men of St. Joseph - COR Meeting

Place: SSJP Rectory Chapel/Conf. Room
Date: Every Last Thursday of the Month
Time: 6:30 PM

Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council Holy Hour

Place: SSJP Rectory Chapel
Date: Every Thursday
Time 1:00 - 2:00 PM

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HTTP://WWW.COVENTRYKNIGHTS.ORG
MEETING PLACE:
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445 WASHINGTON STREET, COVENTRY



Chaplain's Message

FATHER PAUL LEMOI

The month of July is already upon us! Children are out of school and vacations are being planned. Be alert and watch out for children playing in the streets, especially those riding bikes—they can pop up out of nowhere!

Don't forget that summertime does not mean it's time away from God and Church. Enjoy your parish family during these summer months. In July, let's especially pray for our nation and all elected officials, hoping they honor the dignity of all of God's creation. Don't forget to pray the rosary daily, asking our Blessed Lady to look over the families across our nation.

Also, keep Pope Leo and our Bishop Bruce in your prayers, that through their service, they may draw those who have fallen away from the Church to return back to the family of God.

Be safe this summer in all you do with your families enjoying one another.

Father Paul Lemoi, Chaplain

Supreme Chaplain's Challenge

ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM LORI

July 2025 Challenge



"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always."
(Gospel for June 8, Jn 14:15-16)

Last month, we reflected on how Jesus probed Peter three times with the question "Do you love me?" Here we have an answer to what it means to truly love Jesus — by keeping his commandments, as expressed in Scripture and in the teachings of the Church. The monthly challenge for March underscored how our faith bears fruit in what we do. Let us remember that to keep the commandments for love of Christ is to allow the Holy Spirit to bear good fruits in our lives.

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to use the Catholic Information Service® resource *A Guide to Confession*, which is organized around the Ten Commandments, to examine your conscience and then go to confession.

Questions for Reflection:

What is your response to Jesus' question, "Do you love me?" Do you show your love for Christ in how you live? In what ways do you need to become more attentive to the commandments and the teachings of the Church?

MONTH OF JULY

IS DEDICATED TO THE
MOST PRECIOUS
BLOOD OF JESUS



THE BEAUTY OF MY CATHOLIC FAITH



Prayer Intentions

Our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV
Bishop Lewandowski
All Bishops and Priests
GK William Jakabek
PGK/PFN Herb Knott
PGK/PFN Frank Laiter III
PGK David Legault
Brother Anthony Machado
Brother Len Denomme
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
Brother Devin Favino
Brother Henry Giolitti
Lucille Ferrer
Diane Belanger
Mary Deary
Shirley Laiter
Sue Rossetti
Doris Legault
Mary Lawlor
Michel Brouillard
Eric Thatcher
Charles Gemmell
John Dolan
Joe McCarthy
Matthew Mahar
Robert Firth
Nancy Whitaker
Ellen Deck
Julia Sottnik
Karen Clark
Jessica Maynard
Anita Laporte
Robert Brodeur, Sr. (recently deceased)
Richard and daughter (Just Prayers)
Jovantey (Just Prayers)
All US military personnel active and former
The Unborn



July Birthdays

Paul Lemek (75)	July 6
Joseph Murphy (64)	July 9
Lee Rossetti (67)	July 14
Henry Giolitti (68)	July 17
Walter Williams (76)	July 18
Thomas Carroccia (69)	July 23
Michael Laiter (59)	July 30

Father Wallace Assembly Cookout



In place of their regular July business meeting, Father Wallace Assembly #1055 will be holding a cookout consisting of hamburgers and hot dogs on Thursday, July 10, at 6 PM. The location for the cookout is St. Mary's Mission, 70 Church Street, West Warwick. All are welcome, and goodwill donations to support the Assembly's activities will be greatly appreciated!

Adoration at SSJP



Brothers, Saints John and Paul had all-day Adoration every Thursday. This summer, Adoration will be held in the SSJP Rectory Chapel, not the church. One of the requirements for having Adoration is that someone must be in Jesus' presence at all times. Our council originally pledged to cover the hour between 1 and 2 PM, but that has expanded from noon to 2 PM. Brother John Murray normally covers the noon to 1 PM slot, and we are looking for Brother Knights to cover the 1 to 2 PM slot. If a Brother Knight can do the noon to 1 PM slot, Brother John may be able to switch. We have coverage up until Thursday, July 24. There will be a sign-up sheet Brother John will be circulating at the July Officers and Membership Meetings. This is a great opportunity to spend time with Our Lord and make Adoration part of your spiritual journey. Please contact Worthy SSJP Round Table Chairman John Murray at jmurray3477@gmail.com or 401-447-9581 if you have any questions or for more details.

Blessed Michael McGivney Novena

Starting Tuesday, August 5, our council will participate in a nine-day novena to our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney. Be on the lookout for an email requesting your participation. The nine-day novena ends on Blessed Michael McGivney's feast day - August 13,

Above and Beyond



Brother Lucien Laporte was recently appointed as Faith Director of Blessing Council by Grand Knight Bill Jakabek. This isn't the first Brother Lucien has stepped up in his spiritual life. He has led the local chapter of **The Men of St. Joseph** for quite a while now, and he has done a fine job of it. The Men of St. Joseph meet every last Thursday of the month at the SS John and Paul Rectory Chapel at 6:30 PM for prayer and meditation as well as putting forth prayer intentions. Afterward, they retire to the Rectory Conference room for spiritual group conversation on Bible passages and other Catholic topics. Recently, our council has partnered with The Men of St. Joseph for our Cor program. Brother Lucien is also involved with The Men of St. Joseph on a state level. Well done, Brother Lucien, and keep up the great work!

New Faith in Action Directors

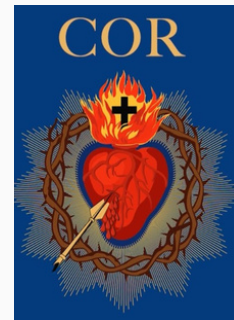


During the June Membership Meeting, the Worthy Grand Knight Bill Jakabek announced the new Faith in Action Directors for the 2025-26 Fraternal Year as follows:

Program Director - Paul Lemek
 Faith Director - Lucien Laporte
 Community Director - John Pizzo
 Family Director - William Jakabek
 Life Director - Jerry McEvoy

Brothers, you are asked to support each of these directors by choosing a category you are interested in and letting the director know you are willing to help. Thank you!

The Men of St. Joseph - Cor



Our council partners with the local chapter of The Men of St. Joseph for our Cor program. You are cordially invited to join us on the last Thursday each month starting at 6:30 PM at the SS John and Paul Rectory Conference Room. The mission of Cor is to refocus Catholic men on Jesus Christ and to form and strengthen them in faith and virtue through a brotherhood committed to prayer, formation, and fraternity, and this aligns nicely with the mission of The Men of St. Joseph.

New Slate of Officers and Appointments



During the June Membership Meeting, the council membership voted for a new slate of officers for the 2025-26 Fraternal Year as follows:

Grand Knight - William Jakabek
 Deputy Grand Knight - Richard Legault
 Chancellor - John Pizzo
 Treasurer - Jerry McEvoy
 Advocate - Geoffrey Aptt
 Recorder - Johann Donall
 Warden - Daniel Tolentino
 Inside Guard - James Hall
 Outside Guard - Stephen Kukulka
 Trustees - Frank Laiter III, Paul Lemek, Brian Mattias

The following appointments were made by the Worthy Grand Knight:

Chaplain - Father Paul Lemoi
 Lecturer - Edgar Brouillard

Congratulations to our new slate of officers, and please keep them in your prayers.

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Brothers, going forward, the final page of the newsletter will be one for free advertising for your business or any business that you may work for or know that might benefit from Brother Knights patronizing it. Please contact FS Neil Fidler if interested.