



THE BLESSING WORD • VOLUME 17 ISSUE 8 • AUGUST 2026



My Brothers All,

As August begins, we have continued our momentum from last year and have had an excellent start into our new Columbian year. I will begin by congratulating the Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273 for earning Star Council for a sixth straight year. This amazing accomplishment is the result of the outstanding participation our council has with our many faith and action programs throughout the year.

We will be holding an Exemplification Ceremony on August 10th with a collation immediately following prior to our August Membership Meeting. There are four potential new brother knights being exemplified that evening. Please attend and show them your support.

I'm pleased to announce that The Columbiettes Auxiliary held an organizational meeting on July 20th with 22 members in attendance. They will be holding their first meeting on September 20th. This has been an initiative several of us have been working on for three years and is already paying dividends. At the organizational meeting, two new Columbiettes handed Brother Neil and me signed cards for their husbands to join our council.

The Faith and Action program director and chairmen met on July 20th and began planning upcoming events for this coming year. If anyone has an activity you would like the council to participate in, please mention it to myself or one of the officers to get it on the agenda at the next Officers meeting.

Our council continues to be one of the most active councils in the state. I encourage you to attend our monthly meetings, and to commit to participating in one of our many charitable and faith programs.

Vivat Jesus!

Richard Legault
Grand Knight

Upcoming Events

August Officers Meeting

Place: OLC School Room 3
Date: Wednesday, 8/5/2026
Time: 7:00 PM

Exemplification of Charity, Unity and Fraternity

Place: Our Lady of Czenstochowa Church
Date: Monday, 8/10/2026
Time: 6:00 PM

August Membership Meeting

Place: OLC School Room 3
Date: Monday, 8/10/2026
Time: 7:00 PM with collation at 6:30 PM

Men of St. Joseph One Day Retreat

Place: SS John and Paul Church
Date: Saturday, 8/22/2026
Time: 7:30 PM Check-In (See Page 6)

September Officers Meeting

Place: OLC School Room 3
Date: Wednesday, 9/2/2026
Time: 7:00 PM

September Membership Meeting

Place: OLC School Room 3
Date: Monday, 9/7/2026
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 #5273
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
445 WASHINGTON STREET
COVENTRY, RI 02816

COVENTRYKNIGHTS@VERIZON.NET
HTTP://WWW.COVENTRYKNIGHTS.ORG
MEETING PLACE:
OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA SCHOOL
222 MACARTHUR BLVD., COVENTRY



No Message This Month



He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." (Gospel for Aug. 30, Mt 16:23)
Who knows the mind of God? God is beyond human understanding, yet he has revealed himself to us most perfectly in the person of Jesus Christ. Through prayer we can come to know God more fully, and we grow in understanding of his plan when we make a habit of conforming our will to his holy will. We follow Christ in discipleship when we pray daily to the Father as he did: "Not my will but yours be done" (Lk 22:42).

Challenge by Supreme Chaplain Archbishop William E. Lori:

This month, I challenge you to study the life and example of our founder, Blessed Michael McGivney, whose feast day is Aug. 13. Use the Blessed Michael McGivney Cor Session Guide (freely available at kofc.org/shopcis), noting in particular how Father McGivney always sought to align his will with that of God.

Questions for Reflection:

How can you strive to better understand things from God's perspective? How can you discern when your thoughts are merely human thoughts and not of God? What virtues of Blessed Michael McGivney can you imitate in order to submit yourself more fully to God's holy will?

CATHOLIC DEVOTION
for the Month of
AUGUST



The IMMACULATE HEART of MARY

Anast/paul



Our Holy Father Pope Leo XIV
Bishop Bruce Lewandowski
All Bishops and Priests
PGK William Jakabek
Brother Rob Brodeur
Brother Louis Pinga
Roberta Lemek
Mary Lawlor
David Firth
John Dolan
Karen Clark
Anita Laporte
Diane Cayouette
James Sorensen
Patricia Kendall
Dr. John F. Thompson
Hallie Sorenson and Family
All US military personnel active and former
SSJP Church receives a good and Holy Senior Priest
Success of SVP Church Yard Sale
The Unborn

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING
COUNCIL #5273

Happy BIRTHDAY!

TO OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS
celebrating in August

BROTHER KNIGHT	BIRTHDAY
Frank Laiter (62)	August 1
Nicholas Votta (21)	August 1
Ying Khang (38)	August 3
Kevin Peloquin (36)	August 4
Dathan Belanger (51)	August 6
Father Doan Nguyen (41)	August 8
Leodore Charpentier Jr. (92)	August 14
Kenneth Tata (76)	August 15
James Sartell (77)	August 18
James O'Connor (76)	August 22
Edmund Hathaway (46)	August 23
Angel Ferrer Jr. (76)	August 25
John Mulholland (91)	August 30
Nicholas Delfino-Whitaker (24)	August 30

Wishing you a blessed day and a wonderful year ahead!

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING
COUNCIL #5273

Has Received the Distinction of

STAR COUNCIL

OUR ORDER'S TOP AWARD FOR LOCAL COUNCILS

The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of:

- MEMBERSHIP
- PROMOTION OF FRATERNAL INSURANCE BENEFITS
- SPONSORSHIP OF FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS
- SERVICE-ORIENTED ACTIVITIES

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR BROTHER KNIGHTS FOR MAKING THIS ACHIEVEMENT POSSIBLE!

TOGETHER IN CHARITY, UNITY, FRATERNITY & PATRIOTISM

Come join us!!!

HAMBURGER AND HOTDOG Cookout

THE 4TH DEGREE FATHER WALLACE ASSEMBLY invites all Blessing Council Members to a **Hamburger and Hotdog Cookout**

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13TH | 7:00 PM

THERE HAS BEEN A VENUE CHANGE ...
THE EVENT WILL BE HELD ON THE GROUNDS OF **SACRED HEART CHURCH**
820 PROVIDENCE ST. • WEST WARWICK, RI

Spouses, family members, and any Catholic men you may know who might be interested in joining a Council or Assembly are all welcome to attend. Please note that this is a social event which replaces our Assembly's regular monthly meeting ... **No Official Assembly Business will be conducted.**

While there is no formal admission cost, a "Goodwill Donations" canister will be available for donations.

This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with Sir Knights from our local Wallace Assembly, and Knights from our Council, and other local Councils.

TO HELP US PREPARE THE CORRECT AMOUNT OF FOOD, PLEASE RSVP SK BILL JAKABEK (401-269-9811 or biljak53@gmail.com) BY THURSDAY, AUGUST 6TH.
Kindly let him know only if you plan to attend, and if you would volunteer to bring a side dish or dessert.

FAITH • FAMILY • FRATERNITY • PATRIOTISM

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING

COLUMBIETTES AUXILIARY

Our First Meeting!

The first meeting of the Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Columbiettes Auxiliary took place on **THURSDAY, JULY 16** in the SS John and Paul Parish Center.

The meeting was led by Territorial Director Lisa Roberts who went over the Auxiliary bylaws and established temporary officers.

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, AUGUST 20

Time and place to be determined.

Come share in friendship, faith, and service as we grow together in Christ!



Name: Johann Donall

Council Role: Deputy Grand Knight

Years as a Knight: 3

Parish: Our Lady of Czestochowa

Faith Formation: I was raised Protestant (Episcopal/Anglican), but was never confirmed. I began attending Catholic Masses more regularly when I started dating my now wife Kim. Her family was and remains very involved in the parish. I completed OCIA and was confirmed in the Catholic faith a year before my wife and I married. I love the history of the one church founded by Christ rooted in sacred scripture and traditions. My conversion has led and continues to lead in a more complete understanding of my faith.

Inspiration to join the Knights: A suggestion from my cousin who was also my confirmation sponsor her father (my great uncle) and my grandfather were active members of Gibson council. After I had attended an Annual Italian Knight, she suggested I join citing the organization's good works and opportunity to grow my new Catholic faith.

Profession: I am an Attorney. I currently serve as Legal Counsel for the Department of Environmental Management.

Favorite Catholic Film: Although it is not specifically characterized as Catholic, The Lord of the Rings Trilogy. JRR Tolkien was a devout Catholic, and his faith heavily inspired the books and the films that followed.

Misc. tidbits most people don't know about me: I am a huge history buff, I often drag my wife to at least one historically themed attraction while on vacation. My wife and I are also members of a Duck Pin bowling League and enjoy spending time at a local brewery from time to time.

Knights of Columbus

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL #5273

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

— Yard Sale Preparation —

	DATE: August 22nd (Saturday, Feast of the Queenship of Mary)
	TIME: 6:00 AM – 7:30 AM
	PLACE: St. Vincent de Paul grounds
	EVENT: “Yard Sale”
	REQUEST: Set up tables and move donation items from storage to the tables
	REQUIRED: 4-5 Knights (additionally, Confirmation kids who need service hours)

YOUR HELP MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN OUR PARISH AND COMMUNITY!

HISTORY:
This event has been an annual rummage sale, but the volunteers have “aged out” and can’t drive around and pick up donations. **Cathy Barden** has reached agreement with organizers to abandon that, replacing it with a one-time yard sale this year.

CHARITY • UNITY • FRATERNITY • PATRIOTISM

MSGR. PETER E. BLESSING COUNCIL LIFE COMMITTEE

will be collecting

DIAPERS and WIPES

Your Donation helps the Mother of Life Center

AT THE AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING, MONDAY, AUGUST 10TH

or

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE THE MEETING AND WOULD LIKE TO DROP OFF YOUR DONATION, WE WILL BE COLLECTING DIAPERS AT THE **OUR LADY OF CZENSTOCHOWA PARKING LOT** WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12TH BETWEEN 6:00 AND 7:00 PM

Thank you for your generosity and support!

See Page 7 for Mother of Life Open House



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FAITH IN ACTION

In service to one. In service to all.

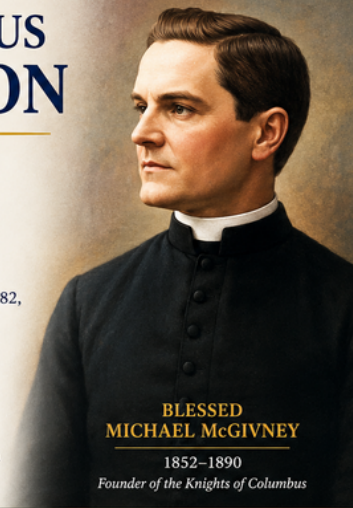
For more than 140 years, the Knights of Columbus have answered the call to put faith into action through charity, unity, and fraternity.

Through programs such as:

-  Support for our parish and clergy
-  Aid to the sick, elderly, and disabled
-  Assistance to families in need
-  Pro-life initiatives
-  Community outreach and volunteer service
-  Spiritual formation and prayer

Knights throughout the world continue the mission begun by **Blessed Michael McGivney** in 1882, serving their communities while strengthening their faith and supporting one another as brothers in Christ.

Today, the Order stands as one of the world's largest Catholic fraternal organizations, united by a commitment to charity, faith, fraternity, and service.



**BLESSED
MICHAEL MCGIVNEY**
1852–1890
Founder of the Knights of Columbus



“Together, we can accomplish far more than any one man alone.”

— Blessed Michael McGivney



CHARITY 

UNITY 

FRATERNITY 

PATRIOTISM 

Living our Catholic faith through service to God, our Church, our families, and our communities.

LIFE

FAITH



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS LIFE PROGRAM

NIGHT OF PRAYER for the SICK AND DYING

An evening of prayer, intercession and hope for those who are suffering from illness, facing the end of life, and for their families and caregivers.

*“Pray for one another,
that you may be healed.”*
— James 5:16

JOIN US IN PRAYER



WHEN:
**FIRST FRIDAY
OF EVERY MONTH**



TIME:
6:30 PM



WHERE:
**ST. VINCENT
DE PAUL CHURCH**
6 St. Vincent de Paul St.
Coventry, RI 02816

THE PRAYER SERVICE INCLUDES:



The Holy Rosary



The Chaplet of
Divine Mercy



Other litanies
and prayers



PROGRAM DIRECTOR **PAUL LEMEK**
will lead the Holy Rosary.

ALL PARISHIONERS, FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS
AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MEMBERS ARE WARMLY INVITED.



*Come spend an hour in prayer for those most in need of
God's healing grace, strength and peace.*



MEN OF ST. JOSEPH &

COR

A KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PROGRAM

Msgr. Peter E. Blessing Council #5273
partners with the local chapter of
THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH
for our Knights of Columbus Cor program.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN US



**LAST
THURSDAY**
EACH MONTH



STARTING AT
6:30 PM



SS JOHN AND PAUL
RECTORY CONFERENCE ROOM
341 South Main Street, Coventry, RI 02816

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.



THIS ALIGNS NICELY WITH THE MISSION OF
THE MEN OF ST. JOSEPH.



BROTHERS IN CHRIST. STRENGTHENED IN FAITH.

*Come be part of something that will
transform your faith and your life.*

“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.”
— Proverbs 27:17



Regional Men's One Day Retreat

Saturday August 22, 2026

Sponsored by
The Men of St Joseph International



Saints John and Paul Church

341 South Main Street, Coventry, RI



Retreat Theme: Prayer Retreat Scripture: John 3:16

"For God so loved the world He gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him would not perish, but have eternal life."

Check in 7:30 AM

Retreat begins at 8:00 AM and ends at 3:00 PM

Includes Rosary, Mass, Presentations, Praise and Worship,
Discussion Group Sharing, and Reflection Time

A light breakfast and Lunch will be provided

Cost: \$35.00 Make checks payable to: MOSJI

Mail to: MOSJI 209 Ridge Rd, Smithfield RI 02917

For more information call Lucien Laporte at 401-447-9399

or visit our website www.mosji.org/Events.php

To register online, scan this QR code



Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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Home (____) _____ Cell (____) _____

Email _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Special needs: _____

Please describe

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Rhode Island
State Council

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FAMILY PICNIC

**CAMP KER-ANNA
CUMBERLAND, RI**

❖ **BEGINNING WITH MASS AT NOON** ❖

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 2026

— **RSVP BY AUGUST 17, 2026** —

 RSVP USING THE
EVENT FORM ON OUR WEBSITE | kofcri.org/events/state-picnic

GREAT FOOD	MUSIC & GAMES	FAITH & FELLOWSHIP
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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®
RHODE ISLAND
STATE COUNCIL

ANNUAL *Mother of Life* OPEN HOUSE

CO-SPONSORED BY THE
REV. RICHARD A. DONNELLY COUNCIL NO. 322



AUGUST 15, 2026 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM
400 ATWELLS AVENUE, PROVIDENCE, RI

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<https://motheroflife.org/>

- ✓ What We Do
- ✓ What to Expect
- ✓ Stories
- ✓ Get Involved / Volunteer

WHY SHOULD YOU AND YOUR COUNCIL CONSIDER ATTENDING?
WE BELIEVE THERE ARE **3** REASONS!

1



You will take a tour and learn what the Center does to help young pregnant women in need.

2



Your donations will help the center and their staff do their important LIFE work each day.

3



You can use your council's participation as program credit for FAITH IN ACTION / LIFE / PREGNANCY CENTER SUPPORT helping your council to reach Columbian Award & STAR Council.

4



WELL, THERE IS A 4TH!
Come socialize with us and enjoy a delicious Sausage and Peppers or hotdog sandwich before or after your guided tour!



DIAPERS, BABY WIPES AND CLOTHING
are always welcome when you come. Thank you!!

HOSTED BY: **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®
RHODE ISLAND STATE COUNCIL**

CO-SPONSORED BY:
REV. RICHARD A. DONNELLY
COUNCIL NO. 322

— IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL. —



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State Council

SAVE THE DATE CHAPLAIN NIGHT

Honoring
Fr. Christopher Mahar,
Ph.D., S.T.D.



RECIPIENT OF THE STATE
BLESSED MICHAEL MCGIVNEY AWARD



Join us as we honor Fr. Christopher Mahar for his outstanding service to the Church and his faithful priestly leadership.

Pastor of St. Augustine Church in Providence and Chaplain of St. Augustine Council No. 10557



**WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 30, 2026**



**RHODE ISLAND STATE COUNCIL
ANNUAL CHAPLAIN
NIGHT DINNER**

HOSTED AT:
REV. JORDAN J. DILLON COUNCIL NO. 3563
1675 Douglas Ave, North Providence, RI 02904



Knights of Columbus®
Rhode Island
State Council

IMMEDIATE PAST STATE DEPUTY TESTIMONIAL DINNER

*HONORING OUR LEADERSHIP.
CELEBRATING OUR LEGACY.*



SK JOSEPH R. CARRIGNAN
— Immediate Past State Deputy —



Date:
Monday, October 12, 2026 (Columbus Day)



Time: Cocktail Hour — 5:00 PM · Dinner — 6:00 PM



Price: \$40.00 per person

RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 21, 2026






FAITH CHARITY UNITY PATRIOTISM

WHAT'S GOING ON AT OUR CHURCHES

Saints John and Paul

Join us for the 17th Annual Apple Tree Project!



Once again, we are seeking your support:
Donations of supplies for students attending
Parochial schools, including our own

Father John V. Doyle School

- #2 Pencils
- 3 ring binders
- Scissors, 3-4"
- Book bags
- Comp books
- Crayons
- Erasers
- Gluesticks
- Notebooks
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Colored Pencils
- Pens
- Pocket Folders
- Highlighters
- Colored Markers
- Lined Index Cards

Please place your donations in the marked bins
at the doors of the church on
the following weekends:

August 15-16 & August 22-23

Our Lady of Czenstochowa and St. Vincent de Paul

2026 GOLF CLASSIC

FOSTER COUNTRY CLUB

67 Johnson Road, Foster, RI 02825

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

• Registration at Noon

• Shotgun Start
at 1:00 PM

• Dinner Will Be
Served Around 5:30 PM



**REGISTRATION & ENTRY FEES
DUE BY AUGUST 30, 2026**

Please scan the QR code for
online registration!

SCAN TO REGISTER

For more information about this years Golf
tournament to benefit the Coventry Council of the
Saint Vincent de Paul Society use the QR code or
take one of the tournament flyers which are near
the entrance of both churches.

Harvest Bazaar Updates!

We have now begun planning
this years Harvest Bazaar. **The
Harvest Bazaar will take place
on Saturday, November 14th
8:30am to 4:00pm**



-After many years of being a part of our
Harvest Bazaar the committee has decided to
discontinue Grandma's Attic. Unfortunately, it
has become increasingly difficult to transport,
set up, and store items for this booth.

-This year we will hold a **ONE-TIME Parish
Yard Sale on Saturday, August 22nd from 8am
to 3pm to offer our remaining Grandma's Attic
items.** We will use Sunday, August 23rd as our
rain date. The event will be advertised locally
and is open to the public. We hope, this special
event will help us find homes for all donated
items while raising funds for our parish. It will
also be a nice way to bid farewell to our
beloved Grandma's Attic booth that has been a
tradition here at Saint Vincent's Harvest Bazaar
for many decades. We invite everyone to stop
by, enjoy some food, and maybe find a good
deal on something for your home. Anyone who
would like to help us with the yard sale should
call Cathy @821-8719.

-For information on volunteering or donate to
the Harvest Bazaar in November please call
Norman Charron @ 481-6014.

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What Do You Need Done?

Phil Wells
Owner

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.