

The Newsletter of the Rhode Island State Council Knights of Columbus

formed in 1893 as the first State Council

Serving the Church and Community through Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism since 1893

March 2019

Council News

We are about to embark on the most important 7 weeks of the Christian calendar, beginning with Ash Wednesday on March 6th and culminating on April 21st with the commemoration of Easter. May it be a holy and spiritually productive time for each of you and your loved ones. Toward this end I urge you to participate in some spirit reflection program. The State Council Day of Recollection, hosted by PC/Friar Council to be held on March 16th, is one such (more on this below). A Dominican-run program will be an educational & rewarding one (but then, I am biased – Class of 1982). Or, your parish may be holding a Lenten Mission. We are, after all, Catholics first and it is incumbent upon us to nourish our Souls.

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Below is an exhortation from my favorite saint, may we all heed his words:

"If, then, you are looking for the way by which you should go, take Christ, because He Himself is the way." (St. Thomas Aquinas)

On another note, we should all be preparing for the 126th Annual RI State Council Convention. It will be here before you know it. May 3rd -5th are the dates, The Radisson Hotel is the place. If you plan to stay at the hotel, be sure to tell them it is for the Knights of Columbus Convention in order to get the discounted rate. Friday will be the night for Hospitality Suites, Saturday for the States Banquet, Charity Raffle drawing on Sunday. Resolutions and Delegate selection should be prepared now. Names of deceased for the Memorial Mass should be submitted this month with emphasis on the following: Clergy, PSD, FDD, PFN, PGK. Send your list to Ernie Pennine at memorialmasskofcri@yahoo.com.



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More on the Convention in the April Newsletter.

Membership News

March 29th is the Anniversary of the founding of the Order. Hold a Recruiting Drive this month, schedule a degree soon after, and then get them engaged in your programming.

Making Councils Stronger

Strong Councils through Membership Growth & Engagement

NOW is the time to recruit younger members (middle-age & older members are still okay too)! And, a perfect opportunity to employ the new on-line membership tool www.kofc.org/JoinUs. Once we have them,

Volume 2, issue 8 we then need to ensure they are **engaged in our programming** and wish to further its aims of **Charity**, **Unity**, **Fraternity and Patriotism**. Without new blood, we will eventually die out, and so will our good works.

Following are the upcoming degrees scheduled (so far):

March 6th – 1st at Newport/Middletown Council @ 6 pm, candidates at 5:30

March 13th – 1st/2nd at St. Gregory the Great @ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

March 19th – 1st at Delaney/St. Teresa @ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

March 19th – 1st/2nd at Holy Ghost (Prov) @ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

March 20th – 1st at E. Providence Council @ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30

March 27th – 1st at Warwick Council @ 7 pm, candidates at 6:30



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Degrees and Ceremonials Director Bob Lynch would like to see more on the calendar, let's help him out.

Remember! One member per Council per month!

Message from the State Deputy

Brothers,

The month of March has us (hopefully) looking at the winter season fading in our rear-view mirror with the vision of spring drawing nearer.

This March also sees the start of the Lenten season, a period when many Christians observe a period of fasting, repentance, moderation, self-denial and spiritual discipline, beginning on Ash Wednesday March 6th.

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Hopefully we set aside time to develop a closer relationship with God.

To assist us during this period, the Annual K of C Day of Recollection will take place on Saturday, March 16th. It will take place at St. Dominic Chapel on the Providence College campus. Coffee 'an at 8:30 with the speaking program starting at 9:30 AM. This event is not limited to Knights. Please invite your families, neighbors and fellow parishioners to participate. Additional information can be found in this newsletter.

March is the month when traditionally many Councils conduct their Membership Drives. Please schedule these events with your local pastors and don't forget to order your membership supplies/handouts at the Supreme



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Council website – www.kofc.org and hit the Supplies Online icon. It is only through ongoing recruitment efforts that the life of our Council be maintained and the continuation of our charitable efforts, and support of the Church and to the local communities be assured.



Vivat Jesus!

Mike Dziok

Patriotic (4th) Degree News

From the District Master

Sir Knights and Brothers,

I am in the process of setting up the next exemplification of the Volume 2, issue 8

4th degree. I've asked Wallace Assembly #1055, led by Faithful Navigator Frank Laiter, to co-chair this event with me and my staff. The date will be May 19, 2019. Pending confirmation, it will be held at SS John and James Church in West Warwick. More specific information as to time etc. will be forthcoming. So, at this time, I am asking councils to promote their 3rd degree members to think seriously about joining the Patriotic Degree and fill out a form #4. I am also asking for Sir Knights throughout the jurisdiction to help me with this exemplification as escorts and color guards. This may be the last double outfit exemplification, i.e. tux, cape & chapeau plus new uniform. So, let's all get involved and show it before it's too late.



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In addition, there will be a "New England Exemplification" in Manchester NH, on Saturday June 15, 2019. Richard McDermott, the NH District Master is asking for Sir Knights from all the New England jurisdictions to send candidates and Color to this event. More information on this will follow as it becomes available.



Vivat Jesus!

Robert (Bob) Gallant

From the State Advocate

A reminder: all resolutions to be presented at the State Convention are due in to the Advocate ASAP.

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Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Programming Activities

All our State sponsored and promoted activities can be used to satisfy requirements of the Columbian Award. Note also that some of our biggest State initiatives began as a local Council activity (e.g. – Operation R.O.V.A.C.). Supporting the causes of other Councils will also get them to reciprocate and support your causes.

- Fraternity begets Unity and together lead to an increase of Charity.

Events of Note

March 6th – Ash Wednesday



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- March 7th KANDI Drive Kickoff Dinner, 7 pm at St. Cecilia's Pawt.
- March 9th Irish Night at Newport/Middletown Council at 6 pm
- March 10th Feeney Council Game Dinner to benefit their scholarship fund at 12 noon
- March 15th Clam Cake & Chowder Dinner at John Paul II Council (St. Cecilia) at 6 pm
- March 16th Day of Recollection at PC/Friar Council (St. Dominic Chapel) 8:30 am to 2:30 pm
- March 16th Feeney Council St. Patrick's/St. Joseph's Dinner Dance at 7 pm
- March 18th Little Sisters of Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner at the Old Grist Mill starting at 1 pm.
- March 22nd State Meeting at Bristol Council at 7:30 pm.
- March 23rd "Great Bowls of Fire" Chili Cookoff at E. Providence Council beginning at 2 pm.
- March 23rd SS. John & James Spaghetti Supper to support our Seminarians 5 to 8 pm.
- March 24th State Basketball Freethrow at Bishop Hendricken beginning at Noon.

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 March 29th – 137th Anniversary or the founding of our Order



Check the State Website regularly for details and new listings.

State & Local Happenings

Below are just a few of the many activities held by Councils around the State. Many of our functions build a spirit of Fraternity......



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The Newport/Middletown Council Kitchen crew at Portuguese Night

.....while doing good works.

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? (Jas 2:14)

So also Faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead. (Jas 2:17)

On 16 Feb, Newport Council held its annual Portuguese Night. The night is held to provide funding for the council's charitable gifts. The night was a success and we had the pleasure of having IPSD

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Michael and Lee Ann Benson. We also had DD Bob Moniz, (the Portuguese Prince) and his wife Sue. We had a special Guest working the Kitchen, Lt. Gen Michael Flynn USA (ret). Grand Knight Greg Huet stated this was best food yet. We thank Mario Ferreira and his crew in the kitchen. (see photo facing left).



Some of the patrons at Portuguese Night (Nwpt/Mdtwn Council)



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Life Activities



Pro-Life rallies continue against legislation allowing late-term abortions and even disallowing medical treatment for babies who survive such abortion attempts (called NY/VA style abortions) and must continue to be held. Pro-Life supporters rally at the State House from 3:15 to 4:15 every T-W-TH to oppose this legislation being considered by our Legislators. We work with Barth Bracey of RI Right to Life, Father Bernard Healey, Carol Owens and the Diocese of Providence on stopping Bills at the

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Rhode Island State House, Please help us as much as you can.

Additionally, the Lenten 40 Days for Life vigil program of the Diocesan Office of Life & Family Ministry begins on March 6th (Ash Wednesday) with Mass at the Cathedral at 12:05 pm before proceeding in peaceful vigil outside Planned Parenthood. This program is heavily supported by Knights from Councils around the State. consider joining for a few hours, days or more as your schedule allows.

Community Activities

The RI Knights of Columbus State Free Throw Championship will be held on Sunday, March 24th, 2019, at 12:00pm at Bishop



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March 2019 Hendricken High School in Warwick.

Note: Please enter the gym from the parking lot off Oakland Beach Ave.

Please provide the winners completed forms, from your Council, to Walter Sebastianelli at bmw11904@cox.net before Sunday, March 17th, 2019.

Email subject to Walter should be:

2019 RI KofC Free Throw - Council # (your Council here).

Also, bring your forms on the day of the event as a backup.

Woonsocket Council held its 4th Annual COPS Walk fundraiser to benefit families of Officers who fall in the line of duty. The Council has raised \$15,000 over the past 4 years for this cause.

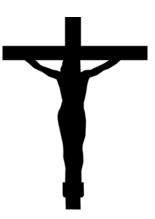
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(above) WPD Officers in attendance and (below) a view of the 200 supporters at the fundraiser



Faith Activities





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Lent is here (March 6th)! As you know, the word lent is derived from an Old English word meaning "Spring". Spring, of course, is the time of planting and nurturing. So let us use this Lent to renew our spirituality and "plant some new seed" in our hearts & community to further the Kingdom of God. Toward that end, the State Council under the direction of State Chaplain Fr. Joe Paquette is once again sponsoring a Day of Recollection. Our hosts for the day will be PC/Friar Council Knights of Columbus. It will be on Saturday, March 16th beginning at 8:30 am at St. Dominic Chapel on the Campus of Providence College.

Theme: Knowing and Loving: The Life of Grace

Schedule for the day:

8:30-9:30 Coffee and donuts 9:30–10 Opening Prayer 10–10:40 The Doctrine of Grace St Paul and the Angelic Doctor, St Thomas Aquinas

10:40-11:10 small group discussion 11:10–11:30 break

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11:30-12:30 lunch

12:30-1:30 Holy Hour Exposition and Benediction

1:30-2:15 The Practice of Grace Our Lady and the Seraphic Doctor, St Bonaventure

2:15-2:30 closing prayer

2:45-4 tours of PC by Knights

4:30pm Vigil mass at St Pius

We all need to refill our spiritual wells from time to time if we are to continue to water our corner of the Kingdom of God. I can guarantee the experience will be rewarding and uplifting if you allow it to nurture you.

There are also many smaller opportunities throughout our Diocese during Lent. I urge you to take advantage of one, either the one at PC or one near you.

Each first Saturday of the month, East Providence Council sponsors a Family Rosary at the Council home, 3200 Pawtucket Avenue.

St. Augustine is conducting First Saturday Devotions beginning with the Sacrament of



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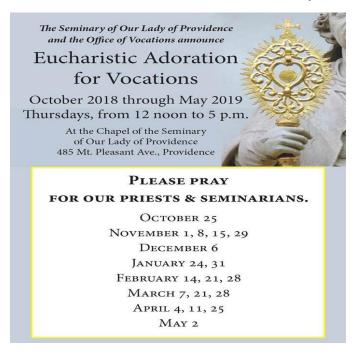
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Reconciliation 3:45 PM (continuing until 5:00 PM), the Holy Rosary in song at 4:00 PM, private meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary at 4:30 PM and Mass with Holy Communion beginning at 5:00 PM.

In our ongoing prayer efforts for the increase of Vocations, please be mindful of the events on the below flyer:



Family Activities

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The State Council will award its 2nd Annual Youth of the Year at the Convention in May. Nominations for this award are now closed and in the hands of Family Director Mike Guerra's ace committee for judgement.

Feeney Council is sponsoring 2 events to support their Scholarship Fund. The 1st is a Game Dinner on March 10th at St. Maria DiPrata hall in Cranston at noon. Cost is \$35 per person. The 2nd is a St. Patrick's/ St. Joseph's Dinner Dance on March 16th at 7 pm in St. Joseph's Church Hall. Cost is \$20 per person. A good follow-up to the Day of Recollection

Fraternal Training and Communication

Training

There are many training opportunities throughout the year (see the Supreme Website – www.kofc.org), they are open to any Brother Knight who may be interested. The next such webinar will be held



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Thursday, January 10th at 8:30 pm. The theme is Building Fraternal Momentum. You can register from the Home Page of the supreme website. You must register to participate, but once registered, you do not have to view it live. Rather, you can view it later at a time of your convenience.

Additionally, the State Council has a Training Officer available to assist with any topic. PSD FM Steve Ciolfi is here to help. You can reach him at stevec618@aol.com.

State Website

Check out the State Website at www.kofcri.org. It is connected to UKnight Interactive (kofcknights.org) and allows connection to any local Council website that is also a part of the UKnight family. There are also links to other sites of interest such as Fathers for Good, the Supreme Council et alia.

State Newsletter

News items for the newsletter can be sent to me at rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com, through your DD, who will forward it to me, or the various

Volume 2, issue 8 program Directors. I also welcome photos from the event itself.

State Meeting

Remember! these meetings allow interaction between local Councils, and allow information to be exchanged between the local and State Councils (in *both* directions). Each Council should ensure that it is represented at these meetings.

The next State Meeting will be held March 22nd at Bristol Council at 7:30 pm.

Please Note: the 22nd IS the 4th Friday of the month



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Fraternal Concern

Brothers, as noted previously, our membership is older, with an average age of 64. Implicit in that average is the fact that we have many older Brothers. These Brothers often are unable to regularly attend meetings and functions. This can lead to Councils losing track of them and, unfortunately, should they pass away we fail to recognize their significance and membership in our Order. I am asking that the word be spread among your membership and families to be vigilant to the passing of a Council member or Council family member and relay the information to the Grand Knight. In my home Council, I have designated a member to scan the newspaper obituaries. However, with fewer people utilizing the newspapers obits we must now add word of mouth or social media methods of communication.

Regardless, we must be informed to properly **Honor the Dead.**

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Prayers Requested

Prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of:

Donald DelMastro of St. Lawrence Council

Carolyn DaPonte, wife of Anthony DaPonte

and God's comfort to their families.



Prayers are also requested for Bishop Louis Gelineau, Fr. Dennis Reardon, Fr. Robert Bailey, Nancy Forest (wife of PGK Richard Forest), Pat Logan (wife of PGK Greg Logan), Cheryl Tedeschi (wife of FDD Anthony Tedeschi), PSD/FVSM Sav Giusti, FDD Ray Riel, PFN Rick Regan, Roger Depot, Executive Secretary Mike Krzywonos, PGK PFN Ernie Pennine, PGK/PFN Walter Jalbert, DD Bud



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Garceau, PGK/PFN Stanley Eason (Woon. Council/ Moylan Assembly), GK Jerry Marra, Ellen and PSD Normand Charpentier, Pat DeMello (wife of recently deceased FDD Bob DeMello), Bob Jackson (St. Francis Council), Mike Magill, DD Alan Lamake, David Riendeau (John Paul II Council), DD Dave Lucas, and FDD George Plante as they each deal with various health concerns.

I am sure I am missing others, and for that I apologize. Please feel free to add them to this list of those we pray for and remember.

(to have someone mentioned, contact me @ rikofcnewsletter@gmail.com or ask the state to add to the prayer list on the website)

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Contact information of subcommittee chairmen and other State Staff can be found on the State website www.kofcri.org

Remember, these men are here to help you and your Council. Don't be afraid to contact them for help or with any questions you may have.





