

CONNECTICUT STATE DEPUTY MONTHLY MESSENGER

Volume 5, Issue 10 APRIL 2021

Two Month Calendar

Date/Time	Event/Program	Place/Location
May 1, Sat. 8:30AM	State Convention	Hartford Marriott
May 2, Sun. 1:30 PM	Fourth Degree Exemplification	St. Mary's New Haven
May 16, Sun 2PM	Living Rosary	Enders Island, Mystic

Future Events to Mark on Your Calendar

Oct. 24, Sun. 4PM	Blessed Fr. McGivney Banquet	Plantsville-Aquaturf Club
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**More Details are available on State Council Website at:
ctstatecouncil.org**

Membership Director's Message

March Membership Madness Tournament

The Quarter Rounds of March Membership Madness end on Tuesday. Two more rounds to go. Imhof vs Gimmelli, Randall vs Baker, Ribellino vs Flagello, Coffill vs Pacanowski make up the groupings at this time.

Brackets are updated several times during the day as new member notification come in.

Follow by clicking: [CT State March Membership Madness Tournament](#)

We are at 87.98% of our Membership Goal of 574 with just under 3 months to go. Our net membership goals are 93.16% of 380. Start those membership drives!! Now is the perfect time to have a membership drive. People are going back to Church. Get out and greet them, welcome them back!!



LIVE EXEMPLIFICATIONS EVERY THURSDAY @ 7PM ON THE CT STATE COUNCIL NETWORK CHANNEL

CT State Council Network Channel

Please join our meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/368929381>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(408\) 650-3123](tel:+14086503123)

Access Code: 368-929-381

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

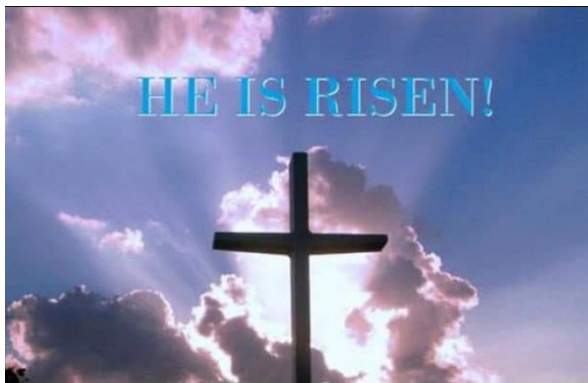
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/368929381>

GK Monthly Townhall Meetings

The next GK Townhall Meeting is April 27th at 7pm.

MCGIVNEY2020 JOIN FREE CODE

IS BACK TO STAY UNTIL JUNE 30th 2021!!



Live your Faith, become a Knight and spread the word;
Christ has Risen, he has risen indeed!



Use Promo Code: MCGIVNEY2020

visit www.kofc.org/joinus

Free One Year Membership



Questions?
Visit www.ctstatecouncil.org
Follow us at Facebook.com/ConnKofC
Email membership.west@ct.statecouncil.org



Ads on Facebook and Instagram will continue. Continue to sign new members up online just like before, because the Join Us Free for a Year code MCGIVNEY2020 IS BACK. This code is good until June 30th 2020. New ad campaign for Easter is out and will be sent out again to all DDs, GKs and FSs with the suggestion to put it in their Parish bulletin.

FIND A WAY TO MEET AND HAVE PROGRAMS

Meeting inside in person with masks is allowed. Schedule your Exemplifications for your Council and your District. We are here to help. Continue to use the generic landing page (<https://info.kofc.org/>) during your membership drive to sign up prospects that would like further info. Also, bookmark the www.kofc.org/joinus on your phone to create a shortcut or as I like to call it, "The App".

Program Director's Message

The Program Team will continue to move forward in the fraternal year offering our programs and adapting in accordance with state and local guidelines. Please rise to the challenge and serve your communities!!!!

Blessed Michael McGivney. As we continue to pray for our beloved founder's elevation to sainthood, the **Father Michael McGivney Guild** serves as a source for information about the life, works and spirituality of Father McGivney. The Guild distributes informational materials about him, receives reports of favors granted through his intercession and oversees the distribution of relics. Guild members receive regular updates on the progress of Father McGivney's cause for canonization and are invited to participate in promoting devotion to this Servant of God. It takes but a few minutes to join on-line or through the mail and there is no cost. You can use the form provided in the Columbian magazine or enroll on-line at www.fathermcgivney.org. If you have any questions, contact Paul Sirois at hod1usa@yahoo.com.

Family of the Month. For the month of February, the Supreme Office selected the **Hugh Plunkett** family submitted by Council 10, Branford. **Congratulations.** This program costs nothing to participate in and is a wonderful way to recognize a family in your parish. With the many challenges facing families and our church, this simple recognition can go a long way in building up and supporting our families. Please consider participating in this worthwhile program. If you have any questions, contact Scott Laporte at scottlap@yahoo.com.

Food for Families. As cold weather subsides to Spring, there are still many in our communities struggling through hardships and unable to provide food for their families, the need for this program continues. The goal of **Food for Families** is to ensure as few as possible go to bed hungry each night. Your Council can help by conducting a food drive to support the local organizations distributing food to those in need in your community, especially during this time of hardships for many through no fault of their own. Let us all help end hunger in our communities and assist those struggling during this pandemic to feed their families.

Spiritual Reflections. The **Into the Breach Virtual Mini-Retreat** is a short spiritual retreat you can do from the comfort of your home. The series is 12 one hour sessions on the 4th Monday of each month at 8 pm. Preregistration is required as an email invitation is required to attend. The next session is on April 26th and the topic will be Sacramental Life. Refer to our State website for additional information for all of the above. To pre-register for any or all of these events, contact David Imhof at imhofda@aol.com.

Blessed Michael McGivney Prayer Hour. This Program is centered on the Rosary, with reflections based on the life of Blessed Michael McGivney and the writings of recent popes. It is our hope that this resource will help Knights across the world continue to grow in their devotion to Mary our Mother and closer to our Blessed Founder. For the remainder of the 2020-21 fraternal year, this prayer hour can be used as a substitute for the Pilgrim Icon program in the Faith category of *Faith in Action*. This is an easy program to plan and host, especially virtually. Like all Faith in Action programs, this program is designed to be held in person or remotely. All support information can be found on the Supreme website.

Marian Icon Program. The new Icon introduced at the Supreme Convention “**Saint Michael, The Archangel**” will not be released to the states until after the 2021 Supreme Convention. We will continue with our present Icons until the new ones are received. Contact PSD Joe Murphy at 860-536-1431 for more details.

Basketball Free Throw. This year the State Finals will be an Outdoor Event at Henry Park, 120 South Street, Vernon 06066 on Sunday, April 25th. Registration will begin at 12 noon and competition will start at 1 pm. **Please ensure all forms are complete with all required signatures.** For additional information, contact James Wilson at lark72power@yahoo.com.

Living Rosary. Our next Living Rosary will be held on May 16th at Ender’s Island, Mystic, CT beginning at 2 pm. Please refer to the State website for details.

State Council Program Awards. Over **60** programs were submitted for consideration for the State Awards. Awards will be presented for the best programs in the **Faith, Family, Community and Life** categories at the State Convention on May 1st.

Annual Father Michael J. McGivney Banquet. This event has been rescheduled to October 24th, 2021 at Aqua Turf in Plantsville. Our honoree will be **Archbishop Leonard Paul Blair**. Please consider attending along with your Chaplain and/or Pastor to support Archbishop Blair. Refer to our State website for all details including a reservation form.

Faith in Action 2020-2021 Program Incentive. The details and requirements are available on the State website or from your District Deputy. All entries must be received by the **State Program Director** prior to **June 30th, 2021**.

Columbian Award - Form SP7. The requirements for the 2020-2021 fraternal year has been changed to **10 Program Credits** in place of the usual 16 Program Credits. Two (2) Credits are required in each of the categories - Faith, Family, Community and Life for a total of Eight (8) credits. The remaining Two (2) credits can be attained in any of the categories. Featured Programs when conducted in accordance with the requirements provide for Two (2) credits. Additional information can be found on the Supreme website or from the specific Program Chairman listed on our State Website. All entries must be received by the **Supreme Office** prior to **June 30th, 2021**.

Ultrasound Van. Your support is needed to keep it rolling as well as for new ultrasound projects that truly save hundreds of babies. Refer to the State’s Life webpage for further details and information on all these key projects.

Hope to see you all at our State Convention in Hartford on May 1st.

Communications. Does your Council have an upcoming activity within our Faith In Action Program model? Is your activity a legacy Council event? Do you want help in publicizing? Contact our Public Relation Director, George Ribellino at public.relations@ctstatecouncil.org for assistance.

Programs Attract Members - Members Enhance Programs

For additional information on these or any other program activities, please check the State Website www.ctstatecouncil.org/, Supreme website www.kofc.org or contact the Program Director: Ted Pacanowski at 203-376-7050 or program.director@ctstatecouncil.org.

State Deputy's Message

Easter and spring are upon us and what a difference a year makes. Last year at this time we were not in Church, a lot were not at work, Councils were shut down and we were looking at a dark future. Though we are not at the end of the pandemic it appears that the future is bright, and the tide is turning. I pray that we all remain safe and continue working together to end this pandemic.

Convention May 1, 2021 - Hartford Marriott Downtown

Please join us on May 1 as we meet for the 128th State Convention. We are meeting live and a new slate of Officers will be presented. All COVID protocols will be met and we will be split among three rooms to allow for proper distancing. All 3 rooms will be connected by audio and video and we will have complete control of the meeting floor level of the hotel. A boxed lunch will be provided for the Delegates as well as coffee and pastries in the morning before the meeting. There will be a lot to accomplish during the meeting since we will not be having a Banquet or Sunday event, so the meeting will start at 8:30 and last until 4:30 with a working lunch. I understand that this is not ideal but compared to what we had to do last year, this will be much better and hopefully in 2022 we can be back with a normal Convention. Once again please join us.

McGivney Banquet October 24, 2021 - Aquaturf

The annual McGivney Banquet has been rescheduled again due to the pandemic. Originally scheduled for March of 2020, then Sept of 2020 and again for March of 2021, it now looks as if we will be able to hold the event in October of 2021. Our Honoree is Archbishop Blair, please put this on your Council calendar and plan on joining us in October. For the Councils who purchased tickets for the March 2020 event, the tickets will still be good for the 2021 event.

Star Council

I hope by now your DD has relayed the message that the requirements for Star Council have been eased due to the pandemic. The membership goal has been reduced by 20% and there are now only 10 program requirements instead of 16. Fraternal benefit night requirement is still 2 but if a Council "HOSTS" a benefit night they get double credit. The only requirement that has not changed is the need for Safe Environment compliance. With these new guidelines for Star and 3 months left in the Fraternal year, the only reason a Council should not receive Star is because they don't want it...I am not sure why a Council would not want Star??? To achieve this goal in a year of pandemic would be an accomplishment second to none and show your Councils dedication to the Church and the Order.

Fraternal Benefit Nights

The Ruffo agency is hosting a virtual benefit night on Monday May 3 at 7PM. For Councils who need credit for Fraternal Benefit nights, consider hosting a Council event and show the virtual event at the Council meeting place or in the Church. By hosting this event the Council will receive credit for 2 Fraternal Benefit nights. To receive credit the Council must advertise the night (ads on social media are good), send out invitations to the night (email invites are good) and have participation in the event (open to members and non-members). Once that is complete the Council must file the Fraternal Benefit form with Supreme (your DD or any State Officer can get you this form). For more information reach out to either of our General Agents, John.Ruffo@KofC.org or Jon.Starr@KofC.org

Finally, I hope this Easter season brings you a sense of renewal, renew your commitment to Christ, our Church, our families, our communities, our Councils and each other. Happy Easter

Vivat Jesus

*Gary McKeone
State Deputy
Connecticut State Council
Knights of Columbus
860-989-5252*

State Secretary Message

Necrology. Report of Deaths for Memorial Mass

All councils are asked to report on the deaths of members that have occurred since April 1, 2020. Deceased members will be remembered at the Memorial Mass. Many councils have reported already. If you have not, please do so now, even if it is to report no deaths.

Convention Credential Cards

Credential Cards for the 2021 Annual Meeting and Convention were sent out some time ago. The completed cards are sent to me. Many have been received to date. If your council has not sent in its card yet, please notify me immediately.

State Council Per Capita

There are still a few councils that are in arrears on State Council Per Capita. These councils have been contacted several times already. Although Supreme has waived Supreme Per Capita and other charges, the CT State Council is not in a position to do that. State Council Per Capita revenue is needed to cover our program and other expenses throughout the year. Councils that are in arrears on State Council Per Capita are not permitted to have voting Delegates at the State Council meeting.

Liability Insurance through Lockton Affinity

All councils and assemblies should have adequate insurance coverage. Councils are NOT covered by their parish's insurance policy. Councils that use home corporations should NOT rely on the home corporation's insurance policy. The policy may not adequately cover council events,

and if there is a claim involving the council and home corporation, the insurer may refuse to cover the claim due to the "insured versus insured" exclusion. Also, more and more parishes and dioceses are requiring K of C councils to provide evidence of insurance to use parish facilities. The insurance provided by Lockton Affinity has the broadest coverage, at the lowest premium cost, of any insurance I am aware of. If your council or assembly needs insurance, contact me and I can provide information on the Lockton program. If your council has a Lockton insurance policy and needs an insurance certificate to prove insurance to the parish or for an event, contact me and I will send you a short form to fill out. Lockton usually produces the certificate within two business days.

Formal Agreements between Councils or Assemblies and Parishes

Several councils have been asked by their parish to enter into formal agreements in order to use parish facilities. This will become more common as time goes on. If your council is asked to sign an agreement like this, please send it to the State Deputy and me, so that we can review it and discuss with the Supreme Advocate's office if necessary. These agreements are usually created by the parish's insurer. Usually these agreements are not a problem, but sometimes a council is asked to sign something that does not fit the unique structure and status of a K of C council relative to its parish.

Closing

It is an honor to serve as your State Secretary. If there is anything that I can do for you or your council, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 860-878-0158 or state.secretary@ctstatecouncil.org.

Fraternally,

Matt
Matthew C. McGrath
State Secretary
Connecticut State Council, Knights of Columbus
state.secretary@ctstatecouncil.org
www.ctstatecouncil.org

State Treasurer Message

Form 185s still outstanding (6)

District 7 – 3, 14017

District 9 – 15991

District 23 – 2087

District 27 – 125

District 29 – 34

Form 365s still outstanding (36)

District 1 – 10705, 16253

District 2 – 53

District 3 – 3961

District 5 – 6801, 14326
District 7 – 2, 3, 12289, 14017
District 8 – 3901, 6305
District 9 – 15991
District 10 – 3037, 9358
District 13 – 10865
District 14 – 28
District 20 – 11436, 14014
District 23 – 49, 2087, 2336
District 25 – 32, 35, 4376
District 27 – 125, 1943
District 28 – 27, 31, 8011, 13862
District 29 – 34, 2364, 12705
District 30 – 2968
District 31 – 25

Form 1728s still outstanding (16)

District 2 – 53, 14198
District 7 – 3, 14017
District 8 – 11405
District 10 – 9358
District 20 – 2616
District 23 – 49, 2087
District 24 – 11, 11010
District 25 – 32
District 27 – 125, 4314
District 28 – 8011
District 31 – 25

State Advocate Message

To help ensure that your council is compliant for Fraternal Year End, be sure to have all safe environment appointments made no later than May 1, 2021, as ALL safe environment requirements must be completed within 30 days of appointment. **IN ORDER TO BE SAFE ENVIRONMENT COMPLIANT:**

1. Grand Knight must have submitted his form 185 with an email address that is unique to him and have completed the Praesidium Training.
2. Must have submitted Form 365 with the 3 required for Safe Environment positions: Program Director, Family Director, Community Director. Membership and Retention Directors are required only as part of a MINIMUM COMPLETED FORM 365. Too many Councils have not completed a form 365 correctly.
3. All 3 Directors have to go through the Praesidium Training. Family and Community Directors have to have the additional background check.

4. Program, Family and Community Directors MUST BE DIFFERENT PEOPLE.

5. Members have 45 days after confirmation emails have been sent to complete the training. Separate emails will be sent for the background checks. Notify your brothers to be on the lookout for these emails. Sometimes they end up in the spam folder. If the training has not been completed in the 45 days, that filled position will be vacated. Once what appeared to be a valid Form 185 and/or Form 365 will no longer be valid and your council will be in non-compliance. Worse your council will not be eligible for STAR Council.

6. Check your status with your DD.

7. If you are unsure, please reach out to me. State.advocate@ctstatecouncil.org

Other notables

- Praesidium is moving to a new training platform on April 1, 2021
- Email addresses will be mandatory for every member to retain access, and to be counted towards a council's compliance for Fraternal Year End 2020-21
- Please have your District Deputies check the Safe Environment Member Status Report in Officers Online and reach out to any members who don't have an email listed and assist them in adding a valid email address, unique, personal to him, to his membership profile with the Knights of Columbus. o PLEASE NOTE: generic emails will no longer work, e.g., gkcouncil1@gmail.com will no longer work
- Guidance on how to use the Safe Environment Member Status Report and the Safe Environment Participation Report, which are both updated each week in Officers Online:

The Safe Environment Member Status Report shows the compliance of each member appointed into the roles that require training and background checks.

- o DDs may view each member's due date and then follow up if a member doesn't complete all assigned requirements by their due date; if a member does not complete their training by their due date, they will switch to a status of Non-Compliant.
- o Directors and counsellors are automatically removed from their roles once they become non-compliant; this means that the council has to submit an updated form 365 (for program, family, and community directors) or 468 (for counsellors) to restart the process. This is a lot of work all around so it's best for members to complete their assigned training and background checks when they're first assigned.
- o Also, please remind everyone that, once the training or background check is completed, compliance is valid for 3 years; so if a council appoints members into the same roles the following year, it is likely that those members will still be fully compliant.

The Safe Environment Participation Report ONLY details whether or not the required roles are filled and does NOT address members' compliance status. When you view that report, you'll see a member number listed if a role is filled, and a zero if it is not filled.

- o This report helps everyone to focus in on those councils that need to fill or refill roles.
- o You may see councils listed that have all zeros which means that not even a grand

knight is appointed.

Additionally, councils in which a grand knight holds all 4-council level required roles even if he has completed the training and the background check will NOT be considered compliant with the Knights of Columbus Safe Environment Program. This practice, which only a tiny minority of councils have employed, has never met the standard of having at least 2 fully compliant members at all events where youth or other vulnerable persons may be present. This standard is in effect for the current 2020-21 Fraternal Year. Grand Knights of councils who fall into this category are strongly advised to recruit members willing and able to step up and into each of these key leadership roles as soon as possible. For more information go to www.kofc.org/safe. If you have questions, contact the State Advocate Bill Macnamara at state.advocate@ctstatecouncil.org.

Respectfully Submitted,

William P. Macnamara, III

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“A Call to Action” for All Catholic Men

Through the efforts of Brother Knights in Mystic Council #1943, a series of retreats have been initiated to understand our current moral crisis in society and its impact on the Church and to challenge men into action as a : Catholic man, loving husband, caring father. The current programs available are Saturday 7:30AM through Sunday noon Mass, or just one full day. Learn how Jesus can be a life changing, energizing force in your life. For more information, please contact Retreat Director Bill Bertsche at bertsche@sbcglobal.net, Knights Mentor Pete Balestracci at plabal386@gmail.com, or Lou Tedeschi at lctedeschi@comcast.net or 860-464-2453.