



# CONNECTICUT STATE DEPUTY MONTHLY MESSENGER

Volume 6, Issue 1 JULY 2021

## Two Month Calendar

Date/Time	Event/Program	Place/Location
Jul.17, Sat. 11:30AM	Fourth Degree Exemplification	St. Pius X Parish Fairfield

## 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](http://ctstatecouncil.org)**

## Program Director's Message

**Covid Recovery Plan.** Our main focus these next few months will be to bring our Councils out of semi-hibernation into full operation. Everything we plan and do should tie into helping re-engage our pastors/parish/council leadership/individual Knights. The only way a pastor / parish / community will know that the Knights are active and engaging in this COVID recovery is through **Programs**. What programs can you run to help your councils and re-engage members? A few examples are: **Faith:** Holy Hour & Pilgrim Icon; **Family:** Family of the Month & Food for Families; **Community:** Global Wheelchair Mission & Coats for Kid; **Life:** March for Life & Novena for Life. Our Program Team Directors and Chairmen can assist you with any and all of these Program, contact them!!

**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](http://www.fathermcgivney.org). If you have any questions, contact Scott Flood, PSD at

scottflood@att.com.

**Columbian Award.** Our District Deputies have reported the following Councils have qualified for the Columbian Award by completing a minimum of 10 programs during the 2020-2021 fraternal year. If by chance your Council is not listed, please let me know and I will update for August.

**Congratulations** to **Councils 9, 14, 15, 24, 39, 40, 48, 50, 185, 573, 1090, 1155, 1253, 1350, 2961, 2978, 3594, 3675, 3688, 4122, 4313, 4460, 5066, 5779, 5806, 5833, 6190, 6376, 6467, 8013, 11913, 12523, 12968, 13228, 14198, 14209, 14360, 14664 and 17166.**

**Family of the Month.** For the month of May 2021, the Supreme Office selected the **Dan Dolcetti** family submitted by Council 4460, Darien. **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.

The Family of the Month is a **Featured Program**. With that said, those Councils participating can earn two credits towards the Columbian Award. Starting in July, Councils recognize twelve families throughout the fraternal year: one for each month. In addition, each council should submit a Family of the Year to our State competition. Report activity using the Family of the Month Report Form (#10668) and the Family of the Year Entry Form (#10680). Please consider participating in this worthwhile program. **Questions**, contact Steven Bacon, PSD, at [bac801@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bac801@sbcglobal.net).

**Food for Families.** 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. **Questions**, contact Thomas Stauffer, DD at [tpstauffer@aol.com](mailto:tpstauffer@aol.com).

**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 July 26<sup>th</sup> and the topic will be The Cornerstone. Refer to our State website for additional information for all of the above. To pre-register contact David Imhof, DD at [imhofda@aol.com](mailto: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. This is an easy program to plan and host. 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 Council website.

**Silver Rose.** The Silver Rose will begin its journey through Connecticut on September 19 when

we receive it from Rhode Island. It will proceed through our state and will be transferred to New York on October 24 or 25<sup>th</sup>. Please contact your District Deputy to arrange a Silver Rose event for your parish. All other questions should be directed to Silver Rose Chairman George Zocco, FDD (203-288-5493)

**Marian Icon Program.** A new Icon will be introduced at the 2021 Supreme Convention. The “**Saint Joseph Icon**” will be available for its journey through Connecticut this fall. The “2020 Saint Michael the Archangel” Icon will be saved for a future date. Contact Joe Murphy, PSD at 860-536-1431 for more details.

**Annual Father Michael J. McGivney Banquet.** This event has been rescheduled to **October 24<sup>th</sup>, 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 Council website for all details including a reservation form.

**Columbian Award - Form SP7.** The requirements for the 2021-2022 fraternal year is the standard 16 Program Credits. Four (4) Credits are required in each of the categories - Faith, Family, Community and Life for a total of Sixteen (16) credits. Featured Programs when conducted in accordance with the requirements provide for Two (2) credits. Additional information can be found on the Supreme Council website or from the specific Program Chairman listed on our State Council Website. Also, my contact information is on the last page of the Program Report. Entries must be received by the **Supreme Office** prior to **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022**.

**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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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 Council’s Life webpage for further details and information on all these key projects.

**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, FDD at [public.relations@ctstatecouncil.org](mailto:public.relations@ctstatecouncil.org) for assistance.

**Please join me in welcoming the Program Team Activity Directors for the 2021-2022 fraternal year: Dave Imhof (Faith), Thomas Pankosky (Family), Scott Laporte (Community), Scott Evan (Life), Bryan Baker (Youth) and George Ribellino (Public Relations).**

**Programs Attract Members - Members Enhance Programs**

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

## State Deputy's Message

This month marks the beginning of a new fraternal year, and for many of you a new leadership role in your council. Congratulations. This is a great time to be a Knight of Columbus in Connecticut. We have just concluded one of the most important and successful years in the history of the Order in our state. Just eight months ago our Founder, who was born, raised, ministered as a priest, and died in Connecticut, was beatified. We now call him Blessed Michael McGivney. And under the leadership of Past State Deputy Gary McKeone and his team, we achieved Circle of Honor for the first time in many years, despite the difficulties presented by the pandemic. This was a tremendous accomplishment.

Now it is up to us to continue this momentum and success. It was an honor to be elected State Deputy for this fraternal year. We have a strong team of state officers, state staff members and district deputies, as well as regional fraternal advisors from the Supreme Council. All of us are committed to helping you and your councils to achieve success this year.

And what does success mean for your K of C council?

Success means Programs conducted for the benefit of your parish and community. These could be Faith in Action programs described in the materials from the Supreme Council, or other programs that support the charitable, fraternal and religious mission of the Order. And success means Membership, growing your council and the Order by offering the benefits of membership in our Order to every Catholic man in our state. Overall, success means helping each other to live Christian lives as practicing Catholics, and to serve as an example to others.

I have a few requests: (a) each Grand Knight should schedule a meeting with his pastor, at his convenience, so that you can ensure him that he can rely on his local council when he needs help; (b) work closely with your District Deputy and your Field Agent, they can help you achieve success, (c) check our State Council website ([ctstatecouncil.org](http://ctstatecouncil.org)), Facebook Page ([CTKofC](#)) and Twitter ([@CTKofC](#)) for information throughout the year; and (d) notify our Public Relations chairman George Ribellino ([public.relations@ctstatecouncil.org](mailto:public.relations@ctstatecouncil.org)) in advance when your council has an upcoming event that other members or volunteers can participate in. We need to do this to engage new members and members of other councils that may not be very active.

Fraternally,

Matt McGrath  
State Deputy

## State Chaplain Message

**This past Thursday I was privileged to celebrate a special Mass here in my parish with the First-Class relic of Blessed Michael McGivney, which came from the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus.** It was an amazing experience to see so many come to be present for this Mass and to seek the intercession of our Founder. I am grateful to the State Officers who were present with us. I have to share that it was a very moving experience for me as a Pastor to look out at those in attendance. As I looked out at the crowd there, I knew exactly why some were there: cancer, major heart disease, other illnesses, family issues, and more. They came to be in the presence of this relic in the hopes of a miracle. I encourage our brothers to attend one of these Masses as they occur and to encourage those whom you know are struggling with something to come with you. Seeking the intercession of Blessed Michael McGivney can be a very powerful experience for them in the midst of their journey. Please pray with the Opening Prayer for the Memorial Mass of Blessed Michael McGivney, which reads:

God of eternal mercy,  
Who set your priest Blessed Michael McGivney in the Church  
to comfort the suffering and the weary,  
the lonely and the oppressed  
with works of charity and a gentle heart,  
grant that, through his intercession,  
we too may become vessels of mercy in our day  
and so enter into our heavenly inheritance.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
Who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Join me in praying that those who came felt some comfort and peace seeking the intercession of one of our own, a priest of the Church of Hartford and Founder of the Knights of Columbus, and please God, through his intercession, may the miracle they are seeking become a reality in their lives.

**This month of July we celebrate the Independence of our Land. As we do so let us reflect on the freedoms of our land.** It is a great time to take time to express our gratitude to Almighty God for the freedoms of our land. Let us be thankful for the men and women who have defended our freedoms in the various branches of the military, and let us show our gratitude to God by using them properly.

It is also a good time to reflect on the fourth principle of our Order the principle of Patriotism. One of the reasons our Order was founded was to instill in us, as Catholic men, an emphasis that we as Catholics are proud citizens of our country. Patriotism is a love for all that our country is about, it is not in any way meant to diminish our understanding of love for all. We love our history. We love our traditions. We love this great country. But let us not forget that the Lord calls us to *love one another as He has loved us*. Let us show by the fruits of our works our understanding of the need to live this command. Let us show this love by putting our faith into action.

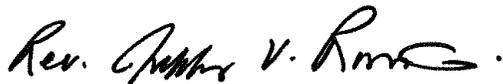
Over the years I have been inspired by the desire of our brothers in the Order to find ways to put our faith in action to make a difference in the lives of others. The pandemic did not stop us! So now that we are coming out of the pandemic and returning to life we may consider more “normal” let us find new and creative ways to show our love for God and country as we strive to put our faith into action. I look forward to witnessing how our councils do this here in our State.

**JOIN ME IN PRAYER!** Pray for peace in our nation, in our state, on our streets. Pray for our first responders. Pray for firefighters, police officers, EMTs, doctors, and nurses. Pray for those who have died from the Coronavirus, those who have lost loved ones from this virus, and those who are struggling to maintain their sanity through it all.

**Thank you for your service and witness to the faith in Jesus and to the Catholic Church!**  
The Church needs your witness today more than ever!

Let's continue to do our part to grow the Order!

Vivat Jesus!



The Reverend Jeffrey V. Romans  
State Chaplain

## State Secretary Report

Brothers,

Welcome to a new fraternal year.

### **Per Capita**

Invoices have been mailed and now are due.

Please send check, payable to ‘Connecticut State Council, Knights of Columbus’.  
c/o Joe Rahtelli  
KofC CT State Secretary  
16 Timbermill Road  
Sandy Hook, CT 06482

Please email any questions to: [state.secretary@ctstatecouncil.org](mailto:state.secretary@ctstatecouncil.org).

### **Forms 185 and 365**

Form 185 – Report of Council Officers was due 7/1. We are still missing form from 77 councils. Please submit ASAP.

Form 365 – Report of Service Program Personnel is due 8/1. We have already received from 39 councils. Never too early to submit.

FYI: Both Forms 185 and 365 can be done online, by the GK or FS<sub>2</sub> through Officers

Online/Member Management/Council Administration:

185: Council Officers/Current & Next/Current Year

365: Service Program Personnel//Current & Next/Current Year

After you submit, don't forget to print and send copy to your DD and [state.deputy@ctstatecouncil.org](mailto:state.deputy@ctstatecouncil.org)

### **“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](mailto:bertsche@sbcglobal.net), Knights Mentor Pete Balestracci at [plabal386@gmail.com](mailto:plabal386@gmail.com), or Lou Tedeschi at [lctedeschi@comcast.net](mailto:lctedeschi@comcast.net) or 860-464-2453.**