



CONNECTICUT STATE DEPUTY MONTHLY MESSENGER

Volume 6, Issue 5 NOVEMBER 2021

Two Month Calendar

Date/Time	Event/Program	Place/Location
Nov. 13, Sat. TBD	Star Council Awards	St. Bridget, Cheshire
Dec. 3-5, Fri.-Sun	DD Mid-year Meeting	Marriott Windsor

Future Events to Mark on Your Calendar

Jan. 8, Sat. 9:30 AM	FS &FC Training	McGivney Center, New Haven
Jan. 16, Sun. 10AM	Pro-Life Mass	St. Mary's, New Haven
Jan. 22, Sat. 9:30 AM	FS &FC Training	McGivney Center, New Haven
Mar. 27 Sun. 4PM	Blessed Fr. McGivney Banquet	Plantsville-Aqua Turf Club

More Details are available on State Council Website at:
ctstatecouncil.org

Program Director's Message

Covid Recovery Plan. 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 Kids; **Life:** March for Life & Novena for Life. Our Program Team Directors and Chairmen can assist you with any and all of these Programs, 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, 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.

As of October 1st, there were **3643** Guild members in Connecticut. With over 23,000 Knights of Columbus in Connecticut, there should be at least **23,000** members of the **Father Michael McGivney Guild**. Are you a member?

It only takes 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 Scott Flood, PSD, at scottflood@att.com.

Family of the Month. For the month of September 2021, the Supreme Office selected the **Kevin Lablanc** family submitted by Council 39, Greenwich. **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**. Councils participating can earn two credits towards the Columbian Award. Please consider participating in this worthwhile program. **Questions**, contact Steven Bacon, PSD, at 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.

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 November 22nd and the topic will be Fatherhood. For information, contact David Imhof, DD, at imhofda@aol.com.

The Blessed McGivney Day of Reflection is a one-day session at the Blessed McGivney Pilgrimage Center (previously the Knights of Columbus Museum) for Knights on December 11th. The focus of the day is the spirituality of Blessed McGivney and the principles of the Knights of Columbus. There is no cost for this day and lunch is provided. For additional information. For information, contact David Imhof, DD, at imhofda@aol.com.

Soccer Challenge. Congratulations to all the boys and girls participating in this year's Soccer Challenge. A Thank you to **East Regionals** hosts Council 6190, **West Regionals** hosts Council 5467 and to Council 5 for hosting the **State Finals**. A special thank you to our Chairman Joseph Perrelli for coordinating this year's events. Our State winner's pictures will be posted on the state website.

Basketball Free Throw Competition. Our State Final will be held in February 2022 this fraternal year. It is not too early to begin scheduling your Council competitions and speak to your District Deputy as to when he will conduct his District Competitions. For more information regarding this Youth activity, contact our Chairman Jim Wilson, DD, at lark72power@yahoo.com.

Vocation Poster Contest. This program is in its final month. All rules and details are available on our State website and is open to children in Grades 1 through 8. This is a Faith in Action Program

Commented [TP1]:

Incentive activity. For more information contact Jim Roy, PSS, at jamesroy@snet.net.

Silver Rose. A Thank You to all Councils participating in this program this year. The Silver Rose was transferred to New York on **October 25th** at St Mary's in Greenwich. A special Thank You to all the District Deputies working with our Silver Rose Chairman George Zocco to make this a successful program this year.

McGivney Relic Pilgrimage Tour. This is a new program being offered by the CT State Council this year. Your District Deputy will have all the information needed to schedule and run this event. The State Council will arrange for a Blessed Michael McGivney Relic to be brought to your Council's event at the Parish you serve. A McGivney Votive Mass is strongly encouraged to take place when hosting a Blessed McGivney Relic. You can find information on how to run a McGivney Votive Mass at kofc.org/mcgivney. Supreme has sent this information to all the Council Chaplains. The Relic Pilgrimage and Mass are open to the Parish and public. It is suggested the Council serve refreshments and display information about the Knights of Columbus, your Council and the McGivney Guild at the event. There is no deadline for the event or limit to how many times a Council can host the event. The schedule for the McGivney Relic Pilgrimage is being compiled and it is first come, first served. Our goal is to visit each District this Fraternal Year, so reach out to your District Deputy and have him add you're Council to the schedule. For more information contact Gary McKeone, PSD, at immediate.psd@ctstatecouncil.org.

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 website.

Marian Icon Program. A new Icon was introduced at the 2021 Supreme Convention. The "Saint Joseph Icon" will be available for its journey through Connecticut soon. Contact Joe Murphy, PSD, at 860-536-1431 for more details.

Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. It is not too early to order your kits from Supreme. Details are at our State website. For more information contact James Ciaglo, FDD, at jwciaglo@frontier.com.

Refund Support Vocation Program (RSVP). This is a great way for your council to support and nurture the future of our Faith in our communities. Support our seminarians during their formation through prayer, fraternity and financial. Donate \$500 to a seminarian of your choice, pray for them and write to them. Submit Form 2863 to Supreme and the State Council. Councils receive a refund of \$100 from Supreme and \$75 from State. For more information contact Steve Bacon, PSD, at bac801@sbcglobal.net.

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 website or from the specific Program Chairman listed on our State Website. Entries must be received by the **Supreme Office** prior to **June 30th, 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 via USPS mail by the **State Program Director** 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.

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 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 our Program Director: Ted Pacanowski at 203-376-7050 or program.director@ctstatecouncil.org.

State Deputy's Message

Overall the councils in Connecticut are going strong. We are seeing an increase in program activity and membership recruitment. However, there are still too many councils that are not as active as they should be, or that are not recruiting. For Programs, we are seeing strong participation, which shows that people support what we do and want to start attending events again. Our continued strong membership growth shows that men are interested in what we offer.

If your council is active in Programs and Membership, please keep it up. If your council is off to a slow start, this is the time to get things going again.

The 2021 McGivney Banquet was a great success. We had a large number of people in attendance as we presented the annual Blessed Michael McGivney Award to Archbishop Blair.

I am writing this message from Nashville TN, where I am attending the Midyear Meeting of State Deputies. We have a busy schedule of meetings where I will learn more about the many new initiatives that the Supreme Council has been working on. It is great to see so many representatives of jurisdictions from around the world - Philippines, South Korea, Mexico, Canada, Poland and all of the US states and territories. It shows that the K of C is a thriving

organization that is growing in membership and importance throughout the world.

I will bring this information back and share it with the District Deputies at our Connecticut Midyear Meeting the first weekend in December.

Upcoming Events

A few events to put on your schedule -

Saturday November 13 - **Star Awards Night**. Award winners should RSVP attendance or regrets to Executive Secretary Tom Sullivan, executive.secretary@ctstatecouncil.org

Friday, November 26 and other dates - **Coats for Kids** events throughout the State.

December 4-5. **Mid Year Meeting with District Deputies**, Windsor Airport Marriott

Sunday, January 16, 10 am - **Pro Life Mass** at St. Mary Church, New Haven.

Thank you for all that you do.

Vivat Jesus!

Matt
Matthew C. McGrath
State Deputy
Connecticut State Council Knights of Columbus
State.Deputy@CTStateCouncil.org
860-878-0158

State Chaplain's Message

It is hard to believe that it has been a year already since our Founder Blessed Michael McGivney was beatified. Wow how time flies. Thinking of how time is flying got me thinking of the saying we all know so well as Knights of Columbus, *tempus fugit, memento mori*, translated *times fly, remember death*.

Tempus fugit, memento mori, is our fraternal motto. It is such a fitting reminder to us that we are called to constantly reflect on the fact that we have only a short earthly existence in which to prove ourselves worthy of eternal life. Our fraternal order provides us the avenue through which to prove ourselves worthy—we just have to take the time to participate in the faith activities of our councils and truly strive to put our *faith into action*.

How fitting it is to reflect on this fraternal motto in the month of November which is also known as a month of Remembrance. In this month in particular we focus on remembering our beloved dead with great affection and prayer this month. We begin this month celebrating both All Saints Day and All Souls' Day. These celebrations remind us that we are still connected with our loved ones who have gone before us in faith, not just with those officially declared saints

by the church but all who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith. Our love for them does not end with death, because love is stronger than death. Our love for them continues as we remember them in prayer and how fitting it is especially to remember them as we gather at the altar of God.

I suggest that all local councils gather together in some way to remember your faithful departed brother knights. Perhaps it is possible for you, as a Council, to gather together at a Mass, or a Holy Hour in which you pray for your deceased brother knights, family members and parishioners.

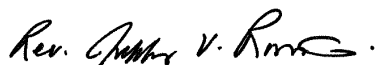
We, as a nation, also mark Veteran's Day during this month and perhaps that is a good opportunity to help meet the spiritual needs of veterans, by offering prayers in thanksgiving for their service to our country or collecting particular items and donating them to the Veterans Affairs hospital, clinic, or facility in your area. Remember that a number of our founding members of the Knights of Columbus were veterans, and our Order has always had a close relationship with both active-duty personnel and veterans of military service. I urge all of our councils to find a way to continue this strong relationship and serve those who have served our great nation and for the good of peace.

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. Continue to pray for those infected by the Coronavirus, 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

“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.