



# Knights Corner



FATHER SCHUMAKER COUNCIL NO. 6772  
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429

ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH,  
MAY 2020

## Chaplain's Message: Fr. Marcel E. Okwara, CSsR



### Brothers in Christ,

Before we continue our reflection on The Spirituality of Aging or Later Years, I want each of you to know that I am praying for you and asking the good Lord to keep you safe, to strengthen your immune system to be able to resist COVID-19, and to help you see how you can serve him and our needy brothers and sisters even as we continue to stay home. Please stay safe. And remember this— God knows what we are going through! In the first edition, I discussed the spirituality of later years and its meanings. In the following edition, I stressed the importance of using later years to acknowledge the wrongs we have done and to seek for forgiveness from God. This edition is about hospitality and fidelity.

Littered everywhere in the Gospels is the story of a welcoming Messiah. Jesus was all things to all people. He was very welcoming. He welcomed both saints and sinners. He welcomed children, lepers, tax collectors, prostitutes etc. He fed the hungry spiritually and materially. In the Gospel of Matthew 25:31-46, he tells us that his criteria for entering the Kingdom of God is hospitality. And Jesus himself experienced hospitality on earth. Mary, Martha, and Lazarus welcomed him at their home and attended to his needs. Now, in your later years, I invite you to consider another kind of hospitality— that is, hospitality for God. Make a daily intentional effort to welcome Jesus to be home with you. Create a sacred place and time for God. Can you allow him to occupy the room of your heart? Hospitality to God

first, deepens our hospitality to neighbor and gives it meaning and purpose. Hospitality to God makes our hospitality to the needy a charity and not a philanthropy. And what is charity? It is friendship with God and with the people of God for the sake of God.

During this time of heightened fear, anxiety and social distancing necessitated by the novel coronavirus, strive to welcome the Lord in your life in a way you have never done before. Later years is a time to come home and be with God. It is a time to be more available to God. It is a time to be hospitable to God. It is a time to invite God to be with you in a profound way. If we are not comfortable being with God and enjoy being in his presence here on earth, how can we possibly do otherwise in heaven?

Another important virtue to cultivate during later years is fidelity. Later years should be spent re-committing to God. So, set aside past unfaithfulness to God and to re-commit to love God. Say YES to God again. Although you are going to be saved by God's fidelity and not yours, but then, saying YES to God is vital. Later years is a time of finding God even in all our difficulties, being faithful to God in prayer and in all other things. However, fidelity is not rigidity. Fidelity is faithfulness. Be faithful in welcoming God daily in your life and family. Be faithful in committing and re-committing your life to God. Be faithful in your prayer life. Never let a day expire without spending some time in prayer. And before you shut your eyes to sleep at night, pray like Jesus and say, "Lord, into your hands, I commend my spirit, soul and body." ... **to be continued!**

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**Editor's Notice**  
 The newsletter deadline is the 15th of each month. If anyone has information to be published, please feel free to mail it to 1609 68th Lane North, Brooklyn Center, MN55430—E-mail: rbgboweh@gmail.com

**SUNSHINE REPORT**

Sympathy cards sent



**DEATH**

And for others we may have missed and need our prayers. If you know someone who may benefit from a card, please contact Simon simon.f@usfamily.net

**PRAYER OF THE MONTH**

Father of all, we pray to you for those who have died due to COVID-19, and for all those whom we love but see no longer. Grant to them eternal rest. Let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen

**Council #6772 Facilitated Activities**



**PARISH FOOD DRIVE** – Thank you to all Brother Knights who dropped off food, money for the parish food drive, helped with food collection, food sorting, food bagging or helped with the food distribution on Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Over 250 grocery bags of food (5000#) were handed out plus lots of baby supplies and paper products. May God continue to bless St. Alphonsus Parish.

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**QUOTATION OF THE MONTH**



**What gets us in trouble is not what we don't know. It's what we know for sure that just ain't so! ... Mark Twain**

## May 2020 Activities

**BLOOD DRIVE** – Monday July 13, 2020 is the next scheduled blood drive at St. Alphonsus Catholic Church in the C.S.R Hall from 1:30pm – 6:00pm -- For information or questions, call Ken Bueckers at (763) 560-2639.

**Father Donald Schumaker Council #6772 Officer Slate for council year July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021:**  
Grand Knight – Edward Dennis; Deputy Grand Knight – Reuben Gboweh; Chancellor – George Morris; Advocate – Paul Althoff; Treasurer – Chris Carlson; Recorder – Andy Johnston; Inside Guard – Thomas Morgan; Outside Guard – Matthew Robinson; Warden – Wesley Jah; 1<sup>st</sup> year trustee – Jim Stalberger; 2<sup>nd</sup> year trustee – Albert Kowalczyk; 3<sup>rd</sup> year trustee – Dave Andresen.

**LEAVE NO NEIGHBOR BEHIND** – During this pandemic, the Knights of Columbus started a program called “Leave No Neighbor Behind”. The program works where brother knights contact brother knights within the council. Brother Knights who make the calls should introduce themselves as members of the Father Donald Schumaker Council #6772. Please answer the phone if you get a call or please return the calls if message is left. As Catholic men we are checking on our brothers and their family’s welfare and are not trying to sell anything. If you have not been contacted please call Jim Stalberger at (763)424-8774 so that follow up can be done. God Bless – stay safe!!

**GOOD DEED DONE** – Brother Knight Andy Johnston worked with Father John Schmidt and contacted Mary Jo Copeland of Sharing & Caring Hands for some T-shirts donation. On May 7, 2020 Roger Borowicz, Mike Smith and Jim Stalberger drove 3 vehicles to Shakopee and picked up over 4,200 new T-shirts and delivered them to Sharing and Caring Hands and Mary’s Place. Brother Knight Andy’s employer, Imagine Print Solutions, was in the process of disposing of the T-Shirts when he obtained them for the distribution.



### **Dan Falstad - Insurance Officer (Dan.Falstad@kofc.org) - 612 310 5254**

Besides being your Knights of Columbus Field Agent, I am also a Brother Knight. As such, I want to reflect on the posture of the Knights of Columbus and my commitment to serve you and your family in these unprecedented times. As a framework, I want to employ the five pillars that Supreme Knight Carl Anderson identifies as characteristics found in men who, in time of crisis, not only survive but lead.

First, **we remain rooted in the truth of the faith.** We pray for one another, for the sick and the dying, and for the Church and world. In this we remain true to Fr. McGivney’s vision of protecting families within the sure tracks of the Catholic faith. Second, the Knights can be counted on to **step into the breach.** When disasters strike, the Knights are there with prayer and work, supporting first responders, providing shelter and assistance to those affected. This time is no different. Working together, we remain united and strong.

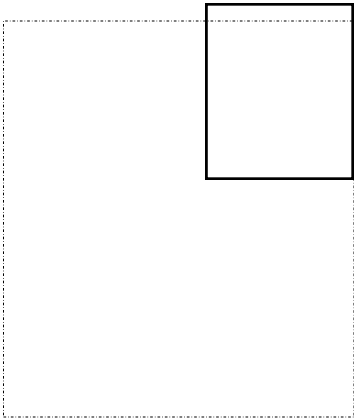
Third, **a Knight stays at his post.** I understand that you have concerns about health, finances, job security, savings, retirement, and these have only increased in these days. I am here to help allay those concerns and to answer any questions you may have. We are ready **to suffer for the good.**

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Return Service Requested



**Knights  
Corner**



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**Membership Meeting, 7 PM**  
**First Thursday of the Month**  
**CSSR Hall**  
Planning Meeting, 7 PM  
Third Thursday of the Month

**Venue:** Parish Ministry Bldg. St Alphonsus Room  
Formation Building (*All face-face activities are cancelled*)

LABEL

**Virtual State Convention 2020**

**State Convention** – The virtual State Convention was held on Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Grand Knight Edward Dennis & Deputy Grand Knight Reuben B. Gboweh attended on behalf of Council #6772. Due to the coronavirus the 2020 State Convention was held virtually.

**LADIES AUXILIANS MESSAGE**



**Continued from p. 3**

It has fallen to us agents and our Supreme Council leadership to roll up our sleeves and get to work so we can remain effective as we work remotely and maintain social distance.

To that end, we are employing new technology that allows us to meet “virtually,” using a secure video conferencing software. It allows us to see each other, and to share a screen that features forms and other graphics.

Finally, a **Knight maintains humble confidence**. My commitment to you, our members and families, remains steady and is built not primarily on my qualifications but on the strength of our Order, which has grown and strengthened over more than

135 years. Our Order is strong, and our guarantees remain in place. As always, I stand ready to help. If you or anyone you know needs assistance of any kind during these trying times.

**CONGRATS KOC COUNCIL # 6772! GREAT JOB!**

**Council Facilitated Activities from p. 2**



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