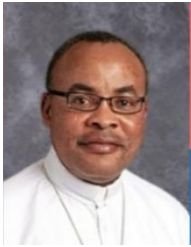




## Knights Corner

FATHER SCHUMAKER COUNCIL NO. 6772 ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH  
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429 April 2022

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



Greetings brother Knights,

It was the great French Catholic theologian Blaise Pascal, who said that we spend most of our lives seeking diversion. By that he means we find a million different ways to distract ourselves from the great questions like, “Who am I?” “Who is God?” “What does God want?” “Where is my life going?” Because these questions are too hard, too pressing we distract ourselves in a thousand different ways by stacking and filling our life with projects. Rather than spend precious time reflecting over the questions, we avoid them and look for projects that will occupy our life. What’s the cure? Look for a desert. What’s a desert? It’s a place where there is hardly any distraction and where we can come face to face with the questions. At every Lent, the Church invites us to practice certain disciplines of prayer, almsgiving, fasting and abstinence. Why do we engage in those practices? It is to create for ourselves a kind of desert experience. We set aside certain distractions so that the great questions might emerge. Think about certain things you do, certain practices that is essentially a diversion, a way to keep your mind away from the great questions. During this Lent, isolate them and enter into your own desert experience. What else is the summon of Lent? What does the Church particularly invite us to do in order to get on God’s good side? To repent! In the Gospel of Luke 13:3, Jesus breathtakingly says, “...if you do not repent, you will all perish...”

In our culture, the call to repentance is usually difficult for people to take in. In contemporary society, the word “repent” has been given a bad

name. It has been associated with people who stand by street corners yelling, “Repent, for the end is near.” Some associate it with Christianity that is fanatical or judgmental or angry. But the proper understanding of repentance suggests it is not something to be afraid of. Repentance is not and should not be a negative thing. In reality, it is a powerfully positive thing. What’s repentance? What does it mean? In the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC), the Church stresses that repentance is a radical reorientation of life, a return to God with all our heart, and turning away from sin and evil. Are these not good things? Is it good to turn away from evil? Is it good to return to God with whole heart and mind? Is it good to reorientate one’s life towards God? Is it good to seek an end to evil? YES! How many of us will not like evil to be driven out of our lives? Is there anyone here who does not want to change and to be a better Christian person? Is there anyone here who does not want to turn away from doing the things that hurt others and hurt themselves? Repentance is actually a good and positive word. It should be one of the most popular words from the Bible because it means turning away from evil and turning to goodness. It means breaking the chains of sin. It means seeking freedom from the addiction of sin, living a life of freedom and enjoying peace and joy that Christ came to give us. Granted that the word, “repent” has been given a bad image, but a proper understanding of its meaning will lead to a journey of return to God. Unless you repent, you won’t bear good fruits, and God has put us in this world to bear good fruits.

Fr. Marcel E. Okwara, CSsR



## George Morris, Grand Knight Council #6772

We need your help in April. We have lots going on that needs your help whether for 1 hour – 2 hours or 3 hours! We got 2<sup>nd</sup> **Harvest Heartland** (food packing- 4/23), **parish garage sale** (see church bulletin for dates and times) and handing out tootsie rolls (see newsletter for more information). The Knights have been asked to help with the Church Garage Sales (weekend of April 22-24). The Garage Sale money raised will be go towards St. Al's Building

Fund. Please see church bulletin for times to volunteer.

To help coordinate signup, please call Jim Stalberger at 763-424-8774. We also be handing out **tootsie rolls** to raise money for individuals with intellectual disabilities. This will be the first time in 3 years that we will be able to do this due to Covid-19. In early April, we have 5 Brother Knights making calls to invite Knights, spouses and families to sign-up for work shifts. We need between 75-90 work shifts volunteers. Each store shift lasts only 2 hours and you work in pairs. Please sign-up to work a shift. Lastly, we will doing a short food packing shift at 2<sup>nd</sup> Harvest Heartland on Saturday morning April 23. **Wishing all Brother Knights and families a Happy Easter! Remember that Jesus Christ's resurrection is the foundation of our faith.**

**Council# 6772 members:** Our council's Knights of Columbus insurance agent Ben Djondo is in the Minnesota National Guard and is being deployed. FOR QUESTIONS ON LIFE INSURANCE, ANNUITIES AND LONG-TERM CARE please contact Lloyd Cybart, FICF, LUTCF, General Agent for the Twin Cities. (office) 952-686-7720; (fax) 952-388-0851; website: [www.twincitieskofc.org](http://www.twincitieskofc.org)

### Council #6772 Activities

**Catholic Child Adoption** – Thursday April 7 at 7:00PM in the C.Ss.R. Hall, Jennifer Brady of Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency will talk on Catholic adoption. What they are about, what they do and answer your questions about child adoption. All are welcome. Invite your friends! Meeting is being hosted the Knights of Columbus Council 6772.

#### **St. Alphonsus Garage Sale: Help needed- see list below**

**Wednesday, April 20** - setup at 12 noon - moving tables into the gym and hallways. We will be there until 9pm work on sorting donations.

**Thursday, April 21- 9am - 9pm** - working on sorting and starting to price items.

**Friday, April 22 - 9am - 9 pm.** Final sorting and pricing. Presale starts at 5pm. *Need help with security!!*

**Saturday, April 23 - 9am- 2pm** - Sale (Sunday mass for volunteers at 3pm)

**Sunday, April 24 - 9am - 3pm-** Sale (cleanup starts around 2pm)

We can use help every day. Any level of help is appreciated. We need security at the doors and just extra eyes while we work. If you have questions, please let us know. We will be in the gym from Wednesday-Sunday! Thanks!! Pam Lehner: 763-923-4319

**2nd Harvest Heartland Food Bank – April 23<sup>rd</sup> – to volunteer call Jim Stalberger 763-424-8774**

**Tootsie Roll Fundraiser** - The report location for all workers is the Parish Ministry Center, 4111 71st Ave N. Brooklyn Center.

At the report location (Parish Ministry Center) you are given a Knights tootsie roll vest to wear, tootsie rolls to pass out, a bucket to accept donations, and are assigned a store front for work.

For example, if your report at 12:30 PM you would then be at the storefront location at 1:00 PM-3:00 PM and return to the **Parish Ministry Center** and turn-in the bucket with donation money, vest, etc. **You will be working at the stores in pairs.**

*These are the stores we will be working outside at.*

***CUB BC, CUB BP, Dragon Star Foods, Festival Foods BP***

**Store front work schedule is as follows:**

<b>Friday, April 29</b>		<b>Saturday, April 30</b>	
<i>Report time</i>	<i>Store front time</i>	<i>Report time</i>	<i>Store front time</i>
10:30 am	11 am to 1 pm	9:30 am	10 am to 12 pm
12:30 pm	1 pm to 3 pm	11:30 am	12 pm to 2 pm
2:30 pm	3 pm to 5 pm	1:30 pm	2 pm to 4 pm
4:30 pm	5 pm to 7 pm		

**Saturday/Sunday workers after masses, need 8 to 10 workers for each mass.**

Saturday, April 30, - mass - 5 pm

Sunday, May 1, - masses - 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm

Meet in the bridal room prior to mass to get your door assignment & to pick up your bucket and vest.

**Special Dates:**

**April 7<sup>th</sup>** – Membership Meeting  
(Holy Family Catholic Adoption Agency)  
All are welcome to attend.

**April 17<sup>th</sup>** – Easter

**April 21<sup>st</sup>** – Planning Meeting

**April 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>** – Garage Sale drop-off and setup -

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** – final setup for garage sale & start at 5pm

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>** – Garage sale with cleanup after 2pm

**April 23<sup>rd</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup>** Harvest Heartland Food bank – volunteering morning shift

**April 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>** Tootsie Roll Fundraiser



### STATE STAFF

#### District Deputy

Kevin Ahlers 612-961-2091

#### Insurance Field Agent

Ben Djondo 612-227-6811

### COUNCIL OFFICERS

#### Chaplain

Fr. Marcel E. Okwara, CSSR 763-561-5100

#### Grand Knight

George Morris 612-306-5540

#### Deputy Grand Knight

Richard Schwieters 763-785-2105

#### Chancellor

Thomas Morgan 612-242-4026

#### Treasurer

Chris Carlson 763-300-9274

#### Financial Secretary

John Vella 612-396-5325

#### Warden

Wesley Jah 612-987-1362

#### Recorder

OPEN

#### Advocate

Paul Althoff 763-228-4856

#### Inside Guard/Outside Guard

Matt Robinson 763-566-3921

#### Trustees

1 yr Edward Dennis 763-300-1356

2 yr Jim Stalberger 763-424-8774

3 yr Al Kowalczyk 763-315-0520

#### Council Directors

**Faith:** Marty Roers 763-360-5526

**Comm:** Leon Gerring 763-447-8077

**Life:** Kenneth Bueckers 763-560-2639

**Family:** Kevin Haeg 612-751-2877

#### Membership:

Edward Dennis 763-300-1356

## Sunshine Report

*Sympathy cards sent*

*Get Well Cards sent*

*Lee Stangl*

*Richard Sorenson*

*Frank Noonan*

*And for others we may have missed and need our prayers.*

*If you know someone who may benefit from a card, please contact:*

*Jim Stalberger: H #763-424-8774 or email: jstalberger720@yahoo.com*

### *The Holy Father's Prayer of the Month:*

*We pray for health care workers who serve the sick and the elderly, especially in the poorest countries; may they be adequately supported by governments and local communities. Amen*

### *The Lady of All Nations Prayer:*

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, send now Your Spirit over the earth. Let the Holy Spirit live in the hearts of all Nations, that they may be preserved from degeneration, disaster and war. May the Lady of All Nations, the Blessed Virgin Mary, be our Advocate! Amen*

**Our Mission Statement as A Knight of Columbus:** *First, as knights we are called to support the Catholic Church and stand behind our priests; second, we are called to protect our families and third; through our charitable works, we help those less fortunate or are in need, WE ARE ABOUT CHANGING LIVES AND SAVING LIVES*