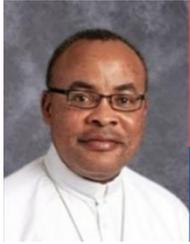




Knights Corner

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

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



Brothers,

In John's Gospel, our Lord Jesus says, *"I no longer call you slaves because a slave does not know what his master is doing. I have called you friends, because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father"* (John 15:15). The great news contained in the aforementioned text is that none of us is a slave. We are not slaves not even to our Lord and Master Jesus Christ; rather, we are his friends. Slaves don't have to love their masters. In fact, slaves hardly love their masters. Slaves do not sit, eat and dine at the same table with their masters. The master does not die for his slaves. If anything, he would sacrifice the lives of his slaves just to keep his. As for Jesus, he calls us friends and even died for us. As I said already, love doesn't have to exist between a master and his slaves; but between friends, there is love and intimacy; there is a desire to please each other; there is a yearning to make sacrifices for each other. What prevails between a slave and his master is a mere blind obedience on the part of the slave, and this obedience is generated more by fear and less by love. Jesus calls us friends because he wants us to love and not to fear him. He wants our obedience of his commandments to be generated by love and fidelity and not by fear. And let's not forget that he was the first to love us: *"It was not you who chose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain"* (John 15:16). His love for us is divine and unconditional, for he said, *"As the Father loves me, so I also love you"* (John 15:9).

Now, since the Owner of our lives did not call us slaves, no one should be called a slave or be treated as such. We are all God's children and friends of Jesus. In Galatians 3:28, St. Paul says, *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, for we are all*

one in Christ Jesus." Since Jesus has elevated each one of us, no person's humanity should be diminished. No one should be looked at as inferior or as a second-class human being. No person should be belittled. Why? Because Jesus the Savior has lifted and exalted every human person. Our society has some people who oftentimes say, write and do things that racially disrespect and dishonor certain races, and when they are confronted by it, they dismiss their critics with comments like: "I am not a racist." Each of us should be careful not to dishonor those whom God has honored, not to disparage or undervalue those whom God values and cherishes, not to treat as a slave those whom God has called friends, not to dehumanize a person whose dignity Jesus has dignified and glorified. If Jesus did not call us slaves or treat us as slaves, why do we look at others or treat them as slaves? Mark this, anyone who dishonors another whom God has created in his

Mark this, anyone who dishonors another whom God has created in his image and likeness dishonors God too. And there are consequences for dishonoring God!

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In the past, being a slave of God was once a title of honor. Moses, Joshua, David etc. were known as slaves of God. Men and women of God in the past were proud to be called slaves of God. But Jesus tells us he has something greater to call us, *"You are no longer slaves but friends."* With this, Jesus offers us the greatest intimacy with God. It means we no longer have to look at God from a distance. We are not like slaves who have no right to enter into the presence of their master. We are not spectators or a crowd of people who only look at men and women of authority from a distance. Jesus, our Lord and Brother has given us the permission to enter freely into the presence of the King of kings without any harassment. *"In him we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17: 28). We are no longer strangers or aliens but intimate friends of God.

— Fr. Marcel E. Okwara, CSsR



George Morris, Grand Knight Council #6772

As we have gracefully entered 2022 New Year, we need to take time to reflect on what our organization, our church, and our families have experienced the last couple of years. There is no need to give you a blueprint of what we have experienced because each of us have lived it, and millions have died from the Corona virus. To all those who have died as the result of this deadly virus, our

Council expresses our deepest sympathy to their respective families.

Irrespective of all the challenges we are faced with as a Council, we continue building a bridge back to faith through investing our time, efforts and resources into our values of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism by helping the sick and disabled, feeding the hungry, protecting those that can't protect themselves and providing many more humanitarian services to our church and community.

To our new members, our Council congratulates you for joining our Noble Order and urge each of you to fully participate in all the Council's events; thereby, making you a better husband, father, son, neighbor and a better Catholic.

Fraternally,

George T. Morris

Grand Knight Council #6772 / Knights of Columbus International

LTC Is an Important Piece of the Puzzle

There are many financial consultants and retirement authorities who emphasize the need for a long-term care (LTC) product for estate preservation and family protection. While many commercial life insurance companies have gotten out of the long-term care business, the Knights of Columbus considers LTC a very important piece of the family protection puzzle. The Order has been actively offering our members this product for nearly 15 years without a premium increase on current policyholders. Members who wisely purchased an LTC plan from the Knights in 2000 are still paying the same premiums today. Even better, our LTC coverage is backed by the full strength of the Order, which remains rooted in our strong Catholic values. Talk about stability when it counts.

If we have not spoken about your need for LTC coverage in your family portfolio, please take some time out of your schedule to meet with me.

Remember, long-term care policies are underwritten based on your health, and you most likely will never be any healthier than you are today.

Lloyd Cybart, FICF, LUTCF, General Agent, Twin Cities
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Council #6772 Activities

Knights of Columbus 2021/2022 St. Alphonsus School Christmas Poster & 8th Grade Essay Winners-

Christmas Poster Winners –

(Age 8-10) 1st Place -Tiana Jefferson ; 2nd Place - Josephine Dillenburg ; 3rd Place - Gyzelle Perez

(Age 11-14) 1st Place - Babita Vasnani; 2nd Place - Chantel Lawrence;
3rd Place Tie Leenah Samuels & Nevaeh Wallace:

8th Grade Essay Winners: 1st Place Alvin Nguyen; 2nd Place - Michael Ombongi;
3rd Place Tie - Marihanna Lawrence & Chameng Xiong:

Important Dates

February 3, 2022 Membership meeting @ 7:00pm in CSsR Hall



February 13, 2022 Council Breakfast 8:30am to 12:00pm in CSsR Hall

February 14, 2022 Valentine's Day 

February 17, 2022 Planning Meeting @ 7:00pm in CSsR Hall

March 2, 2022 Ash Wednesday (Fast & abstinence)

March 3, 2022 Membership meeting @ 7:00pm in CSsR Hall

March 17, 2022 Planning Meeting @ 7:00pm in CSsR Hall



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.

4th Degree Spring Exemplification

The 85th Spring Exemplification of the Fourth Degree is being held on Saturday April 30, 2022 at Breeze Point Resort in Brainerd MN.

It's never been easier or less expensive for candidates to join the Fourth-Degree. Candidates must be 3rd Degree Knight. Complete a form 4 application and pay the registration fee of \$70.

For more information contact Paul Althoff: - Cell #763-228-4856 or Email: althoff9170@msn.com

Sunshine Report

Sympathy cards sent to:

*Marley Roehrl – for passing of wife Rita
Paul Ditter – for passing of wife Kay
Jamison Family – passing of Lee
Margery Spoden -for passing of husband Harry*

Get Well Cards sent:

*Gertrude Shallbetter
Judy Kowalczyk
Steve Buechler*

*And for others we may have missed and need our prayers.
If you know someone who may benefit from a card, please contact:
Jim or Jean Stalberger – jstalberger720@yahoo.com or 763-424-8774*

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Matt Robinson 763-566-3921
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2 yr Jim Stalberger 763-424-8774
3 yr Al Kowalczyk 763-315-0520

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Comm: Leon Gerring 763-447-8077
Life: Kenneth Buechers 763-560-2639
Family: Kevin Haeg 612-751-2877
Membership:
Edward Dennis 763-300-1356

Pope's prayer intention of the month:

Religious Sisters & Consecrated Women

We pray for religious sisters and consecrated women; thanking them for their mission and their courage; may they continue to find new responses to the challenges of our times.