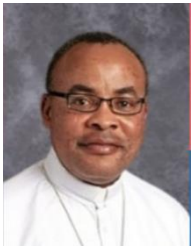




Knights Corner

FATHER SCHUMAKER COUNCIL NO. 6772 ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429 June 2023

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



Brother Knights,

In our last month's edition, I shared my reflection on these words of prophet Jeremiah, "*Cursed is the man who trusts in human beings, who seeks his strength in flesh, whose heart turns away from the Lord*" (Jeremiah 17:5). I argued that

even though the prophet of God enjoins us not to trust people, there are individuals in our lives that are worthy of trust, for instance, our parents, siblings, close friends, colleagues, church members, spiritual directors, religious leaders etc. But I also maintained that trusting anybody unreservedly is like building a castle upon sand. In that edition, I presented one of the two reasons why having an unconditional, total, and extreme trust in any human being is a spiritual mistake of epic proportion.

Moral factor is the second reason why trusting a human being extremely and thoroughly is a very wrong move and a bad idea. Even a saint can stagger, wobble and fail. The consequence of Original Sin is real. Our nature is wounded due to the sin of our first parents— Adam and Eve. According to the great scholar, St. Thomas Aquinas, Original Sin produced four wounds: the wound of ignorance, the wound of malice, the wound of weakness, and the wound of concupiscence. All of these make it onerous for every human being to be sinless and spotless in every single way. The inclination to the good of virtue is diminished in each of us. In some persons, the will to do the good is hardened by evil thereby making it more difficult for them to engage in good actions.

Moral factor is a strong reason why no one should be trusted absolutely. Stories abound of parents who murdered their children; and children who murdered their parents. There are lots of stories of people who betrayed their friends. What about people in marriage? Marriage is the most intimate relationship, yet, married people don't always keep the promise they made to each other. Human nature is hunted by Original Sin. A good example of betrayal is that of Julius Caesar by Brutus and Jesus Christ by Judas Iscariot. In the famous literature from Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* play, a group of murderers- including Brutus- ganged up to murder Julius Caesar. As they were stabbing him, Caesar saw his friend, Brutus and staggered towards him, hoping that his close friend would save him, sadly, it was Brutus that gave him the final blow. In his infinite shock and awe, Caesar cried, *Et Tu Brute*, which means "You too Brutus?" Afterwards, Caesar fell to the ground and died.

Don't trust any human being absolutely. Why? Because we don't persist in existence. We don't live forever here. We come and go. More to it, the fact that we are all wounded is another reason to not trust anyone absolutely. Ambition, quest for power, honor, pleasure, and wealth have driven many to murder, give up, and betray even the most intimate of all relationships. Once more, the person worthy of absolute trust is God alone. God is immortal. He does not die. He does not wear out. He does not grow old. He is unchangeable. Secondly, God is incorruptible. God is love. His essence and nature is love. Eternally and infinitely, God wills the good of the other— you and me, and has already done something about it. To a certain degree, trust people who have proven themselves trustworthy, but not absolutely. Only the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob deserves such a trust. In John's Gospel, Jesus says, "*Have faith in God and also have faith in me.*" Another way of saying it is, "Trust God and God's Son, Jesus Christ to the highest and greatest degree. As for those you love, you can only trust them relatively."

God bless you!

Fr. Marcel E. Okwara, CSSR



George Morris, Grand Knight Council #6772

Pictures from the 2023 State Convention



Spring is upon us, and the summer vacation season is just around the corner. If you are planning your summer vacation, especially driving, you are probably already doing your research. If you are like me you may enjoy looking at maps and seeing what sights there are to see along the way. I like looking online to check out my travel destination, along with any side trips and historical sites I can visit. I like to pick a route, which is not necessarily the fastest on my GPS. The fastest route often bypasses the interesting sites. (Think historical Route 66 and all the interesting places along that road!) When I'm all done and I've got everything laid out, I have a certain sense of accomplishment. I know I'm going to have a good time because I've looked at many options and picked the ones that mean the most to me. I think of working with you, my brother Knights, in much the same way. When I sit down with you and your spouse, we start with a financial needs analysis. We "drop a pin" on your map to show where you are now. We enter a destination of where you want to go. What do you want to see for your family if the unforeseen happens? That might be a situation where one of our products, life insurance, long-term care insurance, disability income insurance, or a retirement annuity, may be needed. Think of that product as the vehicle that gets you or your family farther along to a better place on your financial road map. Much like a vacation, we'll make stops along the way, take a look "under the hood," and make sure the strategy is still "running on all cylinders." There are many options to discuss, even within the different lines of products available, to help you get to where you want to go. Do you have a strategy? May I have the privilege of helping you and your family develop one or fine tune the one you have? I'll be calling soon to set up a time to get together to discuss your financial road map.

Vivat Jesus!

Dan Falstad

612 310 5254 Dan.Falstad@kofc.org

Council #6772 Activities

Thursday, June 1st	Membership Meeting @ 7:00PM in CSSR Hall (Rosary at 6:30PM)
Saturday, June 3rd	St. Charles Lwanga and companions
Sunday, June 4th	The Most Holy Trinity
Sunday, June 11th	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Tuesday, June 13th	Feast Day of St. Anthony of Padua
Thursday, June 15th	Council Planning Meeting @ 7:00PM In CSSR Hall
Friday, June 16th	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
Sunday, June 18th	Father's Day – Happy Father's Day to all Fathers
Saturday, June 24th	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
Thursday, June 29th	Feast Day of Saints Peter & Paul, Apostles

ANOKA COUNTY FAIR (JULY 25-JULY 30) – PLEASE Save these days as our council is again selling tickets at the North Ticket gate from Tuesday – Sunday (July 25-30). We will need 5-6 people/day to fill all the shifts. Spouses can help. To volunteer early, call Jim Stalberger at (763-424-8774) ---**This is one of our council's largest fundraisers.**

Election of Officers will be held at the June 1st Meeting

**Father Donald Schumaker Council 6772
Slate of Officers for 2023 – 2024**

Grand Knight – George Morris
Deputy Grand Knight – Richard Schwieters
Chancellor – Thomas Morgan
Advocate – Paul Althoff
Treasurer – Chris Carlson
Recorder – Orlando Jones
Financial Secretary – John Vella
Warden – Wesley Jah
Inside Guard – Open
Outside Guard – Matthew Robinson

Trustees – Edward Dennis, Albert Kowalczyk and Jim Stalberger

STATE STAFF

District Deputy
Kevin Ahlers 612-961-2091
Insurance Field Agent
Dan Falstad 612-310-5254
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
Orlando Jones 612-483-6249

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: Orlando Jones 612-483-6249
Life: Kenneth Bueckers 763-560-2639
Family:
Prince Montgomery 612-226-3217
Membership:
Edward Dennis 763-300-1356

Sunshine Report

Sympathy cards sent
Dallas Ascher – (passing of his mother Rita)
Richard & Jeanetter Arnevik –
(passing of their son, brother Knight Daniel)

Get Well Cards sent:
Robert Hames
Gale Harris
Bill Weber

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

Pope Francis's

Prayer of the month: June

For the abolition of torture:
We pray that the international community may
commit in a concrete way to ensuring the abolition
of torture and guarantee support to victims and
their families.

As the school year ends and summer begins, we pray
for children and young adults:

That they have a safe place to spend the summer.

That they receive nourishing meals, safe homes and
loving care,

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*