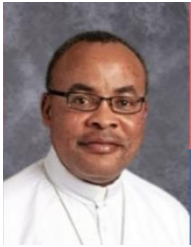




Knights Corner

FATHER SCHUMAKER COUNCIL NO. 6772 ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH
BROOKLYN CENTER, MN 55429 January 2024

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



Dear brother Knights,

January is named after the Roman god, Janus, who presided over beginnings and transitions in Roman mythology. Janus is often depicted with two faces, one looking into the past and the other into the future. So, January, which is the beginning of the new calendar year, is actually a good time to look back at the year that just ended and to also look forward to the new year. As we begin the new year 2024, there are important questions that we need to ask ourselves. How did I spend the year 2023? Did I achieve the goals I set at the beginning of it? Did I spend the past year enhancing the purpose of my life? How did I spend my talent, time and treasure? Was I regular at Sunday Masses? Last year, did I deepen my relationship with God and with others? How can I grow spiritually? Those persons that offended me, have I forgiven them? How can I be more involved in my church? You see, soul-searching questions like these will help us in setting goals and resolutions for the new year.

For us Catholics, the delicious coincidence is that we usually begin the new year with the celebration of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God. So, it might be very helpful to make your New Year's resolution with Mary, the Greatest Woman ever. If you noticed, I said resolutions and not wishes. There is a clear difference between the two. A wish identifies a goal one wants to reach, but a resolution specifies the steps one should take to reach it. A wish is a hope for something that might happen, but a resolution moves forward with actions that combine planning and hard work to help make the wishes come true. A wishful person

says "this is where I want to be," but a resolved and resolute person says "this is the road I will take, this is what I will do to get there." A wishful person says "I wish to live a life of union with God this year 2024" but a resolved and resolute person says "I will attend Mass every Sunday; I will set aside this time everyday to pray and read the Word of God. I will use the sacraments." A wishful person says, "I want to live better," but a resolved person says "I will love everyone; I will forgive my offenders; I will help those in need." Begin the New Year with Mary, the Blessed Mother. She is often praised as the Mother of the Church, and the matrix of all discipleship. What it means is that her *fiat*, ("Let it be done") is now the ground and model of every disciple's response to God's desire for incarnation. We are all called to be "mothers of Christ," that is, bearers of the incarnate Word, in the measure that we agree and consent to God's will and purposes. If you spend the entire year being an embodiment of God's presence to those around you, if you allow God to use you as a conduit, a vehicle of making his love and mercy real, then you are being what you are meant to be. Begin this year with Mary, she will eventually lead you to God. God is the greatest treasure we can possess. God is the most precious Jewel of inestimable value. This year, let God come first, second and third in your life.

May the Lord bless you and keep you! May He show his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord look upon you kindly and give you his peace (Numbers 6:24-26) Amen.

Have a wonderful, joyful, peaceful and healthy New Year!

Fr. Marcel Okwara, CSsR



George Morris, Grand Knight Council #6772

Wishing brother Knights and families a blessed, Healthy, Happy New Year. I will be in Liberia attending my brother's Harry Tozo's funeral. Please pray for safe travels.



Dear Brothers,

I would like to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. I had been the field agent for your council for several years and have been helping Ben recently. Please give me a call in the next month or so you would like any information on the retirement planning, life policies, disability and long term care coverage, and guaranteed annuities we offer, or to review policies you already have. I will be retiring from the Knights in February but you can always call Ben if you need anything.

I also wanted to let you know that in addition to the life insurance and long term care coverage the Knights are known for we also offer investment advisory services and mutual fund investments as a Catholic based investment alternative for your non-qualified and IRA or Roth accounts. In conjunction with these funds we also offer Donor Advised Funds for your estate planning and charitable giving needs. Both your field agent and your Investment Advisor Representative from Knights of Columbus Asset Advisors should be contacting you soon and I would ask that you take their calls. If you need anything from the Knights prior to them contacting you please call Lloyd's office at 952-686-7720.

I hope you have a wonderful and prosperous New Year.

Dan Falstad

Save the Date:

Men's Retreat at St. Alphonsus Church – Saturday, March 16, 2024

Faith at Your Fingertips:

Catholicscomehome.org

Dynamiccatholic.com

EWTN.com

Relevantradio.com

Council #6772 Activities

Monday	Jan 1st	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Thursday	Jan 4th	Membership Meeting @ 7:00PM/rosary @ 6:30PM
Sunday	Jan 7th	The Epiphany of The Lord
Monday	Jan 8th	The Baptism of The Lord
Monday	Jan 15th	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Thursday	Jan 18th	Planning Meeting @ 7:00PM in CSSR Hall
Sunday	Jan 21st	Council Breakfast – CSSR Hall (8:30AM – 12:00 noon)
Monday	Jan 22nd	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of the Unborn
Thursday	Jan 25th	Feast Day – The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Blood Drive @ St. Al's Catholic Church/CSSR Hall – Monday, January 22 from 1:00PM – 6:00PM: Call Ken Bueckers @763-245-8895 to schedule a donation. Give the gift of life to start the new year!!

Council Breakfast – Sunday, January 21, 2024 – CSSR Hall, 8:30 – 12:00 noon. we will need help cooking, serving, setting and cleaning tables, washing dishes. If, you are available to help please call or email Tom Morgan to sign up to help. Tom – phone 612-242-4026, email: tgartim@yahoo.com

Every Third Saturday is a veteran support organization located near the VA Hospital. They are in need of used men and women winter clothing:

Gently used blue jeans shirts, hats gloves, coats, backpacks, duffel bags, bath towels, sheets.

LOW COST PERSONAL ITEMS ALWAYS IN NEED Shaving cream, shampoo, peroxide, hand soap, mouthwash, muscle rub/Icy Hot, hand lotion, foot and body powder, chap stick, baby wipes, paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper, Q-tips, laundry detergent.

AND New for Men boxer underwear and t-shirts (2XL-5XL). AND New for Women: briefs M(6), L(7), XL (8)

There are boxes in the back of church for donations until end of February.

Optional if you want my contact info Questions? Call Tom Kramer at (612) 968-4416.

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

GK George Morris – passing of brother

Harry Tozo

Matthew & Nancy Robinson – passing of

Michael Murray Sinnett (Nancy's brother)

& Benjamin Sinnett (Nancy's nephew)

Prayers for:

Brother Knights and their families listed in the
St. Alphonsus Church bulletin

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: January

For the gift of diversity in the church –

We pray that the Holy Spirit may help us to
recognize the gift of different charisms within the
Christian community and to discover the richness of
different traditions and rituals in the Catholic
Church.

May we always remember: We are all created in the
image of God. We are all brothers and sisters in
Christ and to treat each other with love and respect.

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