



Father William P. O'Reilley Council #4967

MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER

GRAND KNIGHTS MESSAGE:

Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." John, 21:3

Greetings Brother Knights,



The above line comes from John 21:3, the gospel read at masses the weekend of April 10th. In this passage, the disciples are discerning getting back to a normal life after Jesus died and rose from the dead. They go and fish all night, and catch nothing, and then Jesus appears to them and tells them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. They catch tons of fish. Jesus then challenges Peter to feed his lambs, grow his ministry, and make the world a better place

We live in stressful times, and it is very easy for us to just go fishing, and get away from it all. Being in Minnesota, many of us do, and I don't want to discourage anyone from stopping their hobby (I don't fish by the way, but I have other ways to decompress). However, we should not give up on making the world a better place and simply go fishing all the time.

As Catholic men we are privileged and honored to be a part of two of the greatest institutions on the face of the planet – the Catholic Church and the United States of America. Both face challenges that threaten to erode their strength and future. Some of us may feel these affronts are something new but we don't have to look too far back in history to remember similar attacks. Think of the 1960's; the Church was going through tumultuous change with Vatican II and the United States was mired in the Vietnam conflict plus we were in the throes of the Cold War. Many feared for our future and with good reason. Yet, we survived and grew!

As citizens, we can influence our decision makers. We can participate in caucuses, town hall meetings, and rallies. Those of us with time, talent and energy can run for office, others can vote! As Knights, we can support the church through prayer, standing in solidarity with our priests and promoting our Seminarians to grow the priesthood. We can evangelize and spread the real Word, not the word of the media. We can promote our principles with family, friends and community. One way to do this is to advance through our degrees. I just took the Fourth Degree, and what a powerful experience. I wish I would have done it years ago!

It would be easy to throw in the towel and go fishing, and I am sure Peter felt compelled to do just that, but he, the other disciples and our past leaders didn't. They worked hard to make the world better and they succeeded. About 10 years ago I heard a priest at Mass dismiss the congregation by saying "go in peace to love and serve the Lord," then he added "and make the world a better place."

My message for this month: "Go and make the world a better place"!

Vivat Jesus,

Jeff

2015-2016 Officers

Chaplain Fr. Deziel

Grand Knight - Jeff Schmidt 368-1699

Chancellor-Walter Polchowne 222-3880

Recorder-Joe Morrisette 770-5203

Advocate-Jim Hurt 777-5829

Inside Guard-John Zakroczymski

Outside Guard-Ray Stolz 777-5042

Lecturer-Ken Jones

Trustee Yr 3-Terry Thelen 245-0030

Trustee Yr 2-Dennis Reber 777-2383

Trustee Yr 1-Mark Slaikeu 777-5187

Warden-Mark Mauer 777-2617

Interim Financial Sec-Bob Bruton

Treasurer-Mike Stahlmann 770-9148

Insurance Agent-Tom Carlson 279-5662

District Deputy-Mike Schilling 738-2636

Our Mission Statement

Provide a means by which Catholic men could Support the Catholic Church. To Provide Financial Protection to protect their Families. To Engage in works of Charity to Benefit the less fortunate.

Officer Nominees for the 2016-17 Fraternal Year are:

Grand Knight: *Walter Polchowne*
Deputy Grand Knight: *John Zakroczymski*
Chancellor: *Dan Jurcotte*
Recorder: *Joe Morrisette*
Treasurer: *Mike Stahlmann*
Advocate: *Jim Hurt*
Warden: *Mark Maurer*
Outside Guard: *Matthew Schuelte*
Inside Guard: *Gary Winger*
Trustee Year 3: *Jeff Schmidt, Mark Maurer*
Trustee Year 2: *Jerry Thelen*
Trustee Year 1: *Denny Reber*



Voting will be held at the General Membership meeting, Monday May 16th, 6:00 p.m. in either the St. Paul Room or Fr. Zac Fellowship Hall.

Thank You!

Please accept our thanks to all those who participated in our annual fish fries. Because of you we are able to donate more money than in any previous year. Yes, we set a new record! Remember all monies raised by our K of C projects go to charity. Our council expenses are run by our membership dues only. We hope to see you next Lenten season.



Calendar of Events

May 16 General Membership meeting: 6:00 p.m. either in the St. Paul Room or Fr. Zac Fellowship Hall. Attend the meeting to vote in officers for the 2016-17 fraternal year followed by a presentation by Brothers Jerry Krosnowski and Terry Desrosier from Risen Savior at 7p.m.. Families are invited to attend this presentation. They will be showing a video on their mission educating kids in the Philippines. Google Risen Savior Missions for more information.

May 19: Past Grand Knight Dinner 5:30 p.m. at K & J Catering in the Victorian Room. The cost per person is \$22.00 at the door. Read a preview of our Family of the Year award winner below.

To view all of our upcoming events visit our web site: <http://northstpaulkofc.com/>

Al and Norma Worm Nominated for Knights of Columbus Minnesota Family of the Year.

The following is taken from the nomination submitted by Jeff Schmidt, our Grand Knight on behalf of Council 4967:



Al is a 35 year Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus, all in the North St. Paul Council. Al has served the Council as a three-term Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, 1st-2nd-3rd-Year Trustee, Program Director for several years, Chair of the Council's Ray Brown Basketball Tournament for 27 years, Chair of the Free-Throw Tournament, and has chaired several other projects and events in the Council.

Member of the Knights of Columbus, all in the North St. Paul Council. Al has served the Council as a three-term Grand Knight, Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor, 1st-2nd-3rd-Year Trustee, Program Director for several years, Chair of the Council's Ray Brown Basketball Tournament for 27 years, Chair of the Free-Throw Tournament, and has chaired several other projects and events in the Council.

Al's sons, Chris, Jamie, and Tom are also Brother Knights. Al's sons spent several years assisting Al with organizing and working the Annual Ray Brown Basketball Tournaments. Al and Norma also are very involved in the Annual Turkey and Ham Bingo events our council holds every year. Norma also enlists the help of their grandchildren during these events.

As program director, Al has a role in coordinating every event and program the council. The community of St. Peter's parish would not be what it is today without the Worm family! This family has contributed in countless ways to this parish for nearly 50 years! Norma has served as the chair of the Fall Festival several times.

Beyond the Fall Festival, about ten years ago our then-pastor Fr. Dan Griffith was looking for a new summer event that could bring the parish community together during a usually quiet time and provide another fundraising opportunity for the parish. What resulted was the annual Church of St. Peter Golf Tournament. Al and Norma have been a part of the committee organizing the tournament since its inception.

Norma is a very active member of the Council of Catholic Woman. Whether it be Vacation Bible School, Faith Formation, Funeral Lunches, Norma is there making it all come together.

The Church of St. Peter embarked on an ambitious building project ten years ago that preserved our 100-year old church while adding a new traditional-style 1300 seat sanctuary and administrative wing. To make this possible three aggressive capital campaigns were undertaken to fund the construction. Al and Norma Worm were key parts of these campaigns recruiting fellow parishioners to pledge. What has resulted is the nearly complete pay down of the \$15 million dollar debt needed to fund the construction of this project by the year 2020, and arguably one of the most beautiful churches in the Archdiocese outside of the Cathedral and Basilica.

In 2005, Norma was one of the co-founders of The Toy Shelf, Inc. On average her organization has been able to supply free toys to 800 children a year. The Toy Shelf is one very good example of giving to kids in need and has become a big part of our community.

Al, Norma, and family embrace what the Knight of Columbus are, what the Catholic Church is, and what community is!

NOTE from the editor: Al and Norma are also great neighbors!