



Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago

Chicago Midway and O'Hare International Airports

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Remembering Deacon Jim O'Malley (1927-2022)

THE O'HARE CHAPEL COMMUNITY MOURNS the passing of **DEACON JIM O'MALLEY**, 95, who died Friday, **Sept. 9, 2022**, following a



brief illness. A funeral Mass was celebrated at St. Mary Catholic Church, 794 Pearson Street, Des Plaines, and interment was at All Saints Catholic Cemetery, 700 N. River Road, Des Plaines. Beloved husband of the late Rita Ann (nee Kornbeck). Lov-

ing Father of Thomas P. (Marcie and the late Judy) O'Malley (Schaumburg, IL), James A. (Debbie) O'Malley Jr. (Moneta, VA), Margaret Jean (Michael) Wolski (Nampa, ID), Christine Ann (Kevin) Groves (McHenry, IL) and Erin Lynn (Eric) Johnson (Des Plaines, IL). Cherished grandfather of 14 and proud great-grandfather of 24. Dear brother of Fr. Jack O'Malley OP and the late Annamae O'Malley. Jim was a WWII Army veteran who served in Germany.

JIM WAS HIRED as an Associate Chaplain by **Fr. John Jamnicky**, predecessor to **Fr. Michael Zaniolo**, in May, 1986. He was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate on May 1, 1974 — the second class to be ordained in the Archdiocese of Chicago. Prior to joining the ministry at O'Hare, Jim served at his home parish, St. Mary, in Des Plaines, as a part-time volunteer in parish diaconal ministry. For most of his professional life, from 1960 to 1983, Jim worked for Culligan International as a chemist, lab manager and marketing specialist. He retired from active ministry at the O'Hare Chapel on March 14, 2017, age 90, after 31 years of dedicated service to people on the move.

JIM AND RITA O'MALLEY WERE MARRIED for 60 years. Rita passed away March 29, 2010. She had partnered with Jim in his ministry, participating in many meetings of the National Conference of Catholic Airport Chaplains (NCCAC), and the International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains (IACAC). Rita

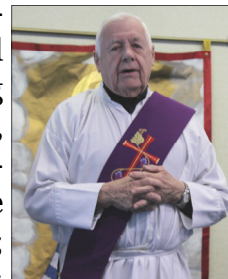


Rita & Jim in Dublin for the 1989 International Association of Civil Aviation Chaplains Meeting

also served as a chapel volunteer, laundering the chapel linens for many years, a task Jim's daughter Erin took over.

Civil Aviation Apostolate

In many key ways, Jim was responsible for defining the role of Catholic deacon in the civil aviation apostolate, presenting a paper on the topic at the Vatican. Throughout his time at ORD Chapel, he developed the ministerial office of associate chaplain in an airport chaplaincy. This involved providing pastoral, spiritual, and critical incidence counseling in an industrial environment, as well as presiding at Baptisms, Paraliturgies, Wake and Memorial Services; preaching weekly at Mass; and performing all of the duties of an associate chaplain so as to build up and nourish a viable faith community. In 1990, he was recognized with the St. Lawrence the Deacon Award for ministering to the poor and needy. Jim earned a D.Min in Applied Ministry in May, 1997.



Wings of Vision Fundraiser

Fr. Jamnicky tasked Jim with developing an annual fundraiser comparable to one held by the JFK Airport Chapel. The **Wings of Vision Awards Luncheon** got off the ground in 1995, with Chicago **Mayor Richard M. Daley** as its first recipient. Jim established an advisory board to assist in sponsoring Wings, which benefits the Interfaith Airport Chapels of Chicago. He remained on the board through the years, which is now chaired by Susan Schneider, our full-time Office/Business Manager and Fund Raiser.

election as NCCAC president

Jim has been involved with the NCCAC since shortly after its founding, attending annual meetings and serving in various offices through the years, including president from 2001-2005, the first (and so far, only) deacon to serve in that office.

At the NCCAC Administrative Board meeting in 1987, the Board voted to apply for Affiliate Membership in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Commission on Certification and Accreditation (USCCB/CCA). At the 1989 Annual Meeting of the full membership, Jim presented a report on the status of the NCCAC Affiliate membership in the CCA. This led to the formation of a committee to look into the feasibility of certifying U.S. airport chaplains through the NCCAC and how to proceed in this matter, and the development of policies and standards. In 1991, the organization met in April and Deacon O'Malley was asked to head and continue the work of the ad hoc committee developing guidelines. Jim saw the process through, and at the tenth anniversary Annual Meeting of the NCCAC, the first eight airport chaplains were certified.

Deacon Jim O'Malley has been an integral part of our ministry. He made numerous significant contributions through the years. We remember Jim with heartfelt gratitude. Please pray for the repose of his soul. May he rest in peace.



Rome, 2002: Fr. Michael Wanda, Mike Brennan, Fr. Michael Zaniolo and Jim O'Malley on balcony across from St. Peter's



Celebrating Mass with Francis Cardinal George



Jim at a gathering of the National Conference of Catholic Airport Chaplains at Houston, 2014.



Jim with Wings of Vision Award recipients



Jim in old basement Chapel; making announcements; Jim and Rita at O'Hare Chapel



Fr. Jamnicky, Susan Schneider, Jim



Susan Scheider, Fr. Jamnicky, Jim

Celebrating Mass with Joseph Cardinal Bernardin



Jim and CTA employee Art Nuno



Mike Brennan, Jim, Fr. Jamnicky

Celebrating Mass with Fr. Peter Hayes, Fr. John Jamnicky and Fr. Thomas Hanlon. Fr. Hayes died in 2003; Fr. Hanlon died in 1999. Fr. Jamnicky is retired and living in Georgetown, Texas.



Bob Smith, Fr. Lou Cameli, Jim, Fr. Mike Zaniolo



Deacon Luis Trevino, Bob Smith, Jim



Jim, Charles Barnes, SJ, Dick Arnold



With Fr. Zaniolo and Wings volunteers



Processing into St. Peter's, Rome, 2002



Conducting NCCAC chaplains in song, Mundelein, 1988



Richard Rohr Retreat, 1991

Jim, Fr. Glenn O'Connor, Fr. Jamnicky

Richard Rohr, OFM, Jim, Mike Brennan



NCCAC Deacons and wives: Rita & Jim O'Malley, Camille and Don Kelsey, Dot and Ben Wenning.



Jim with past NCCAC Episcopal Liaisons: Archbishop Thomas Kelly of Louisville, Bishop James Timlin of Scranton, and Cardinal Francis George of Chicago.



Jim & Ben Wenning of Charlotte



NCCAC gathering at Mundelein Retreat House with Cardinal George, 2006



Fr. John Schork, Jim, Fr. Jim O'Brien



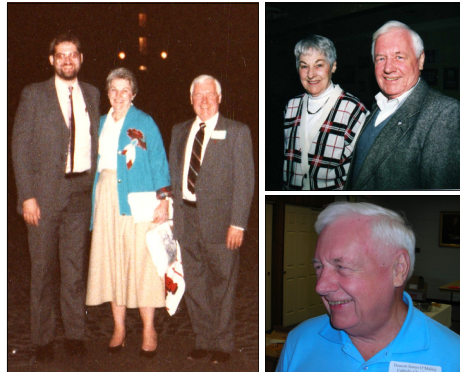
Early photo of Jim with Chapel volunteers including Ed O'Connell, CPD, and Dick and Barbara Arnold.



Jim at Wings of Vision Luncheon



Jim designed the logo for the NCCAC



Mike Brennan with Rita & Jim at Trinity College, Dublin, 1989



Deacon Frivolity—Jim, Dennis Jordan, Ben Wenning



Charles Barnes, SJ, Jim, Fr. Michael Zaniolo and Mike Brennan, 2002



LaVelle & Jack Frawley, Jim & Rita, John Schneider



NCCAC at Denver—1994



Margaret Gorny, Eileen Mullane, Jim, Susan Schneider, Fr. Zaniolo and Mike Brennan celebrate Jim's retirement in March, 2017.



NCCAC at North Palm Beach, 2001



NCCAC at Mundelein—2013