

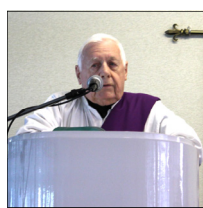
INTERFAITH AIRPORT CHAPELS OF CHICAGO



CHICAGO MIDWAY AND O'HARE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

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Deacon Jim O'Malley Retires After 31 Years of Service to ORD Chapel Community



Jim assisting Fr. Leon Rezula at the celebration of Mass at ORD Chapel on March 14, 2017.

The O'Hare Chapel Community would like to pay tribute to **Deacon Jim O'Malley**, who turned 90 on January 12, 2017, and who retired from active ministry on March 14, 2017, after 31 years of dedicated service to people on the move.

Jim was hired as an Associate Chaplain by **Fr. John Jannicky**, 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.



Margaret Gorny, Eileen Mullane, Deacon O'Malley, Susan Schneider, Fr. Zaniolo and Mike Brennan celebrate with Jim.

Jim and Rita O'Malley were married for 60 years and had five children, many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Rita passed away March 29, 2010. She had assisted Jim in his ministry, participated in many conferences of the **National Conference of Catholic Airport Chaplains (NCCAC)**, and laundered the chapel linens for many years, a task Jim's daughter Erin took over.



Defining Deacon's Role in 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, in preaching weekly at Mass, and in performing all of the duties of a 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.



1980's: Jim with Chapel Eucharistic Ministers in the old basement Chapel.

Development of O'Hare Wings of Vision Fundraiser

Fr. Jannicky 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, though it 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 deacon to serve in that office.

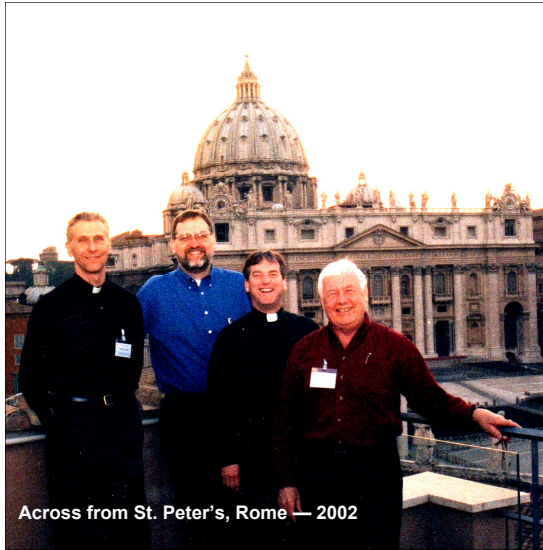
At the NCCAC Administrative Board meeting in 1987, the Board voted to apply for Affiliate Membership in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops/Commission on Certification and Accreditation (USCCB/CCA). At the 1989 Annual Meeting of the full membership, Jim presented a report on the status of 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.



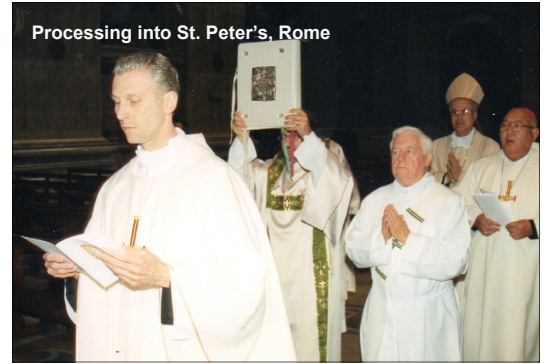
Deacon Jim O'Malley has been an integral part of our ministry. Through the years, he has made numerous significant contributions. We offer Jim our heartfelt gratitude, and wish him a blest, happy, healthy, and relaxing retirement!

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





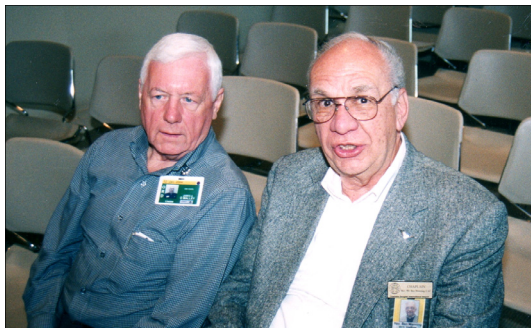
Across from St. Peter's, Rome — 2002



Processing into St. Peter's, Rome



Jim conducting chaplains in song, Mundelein



Trinity College, Dublin



Richard Rohr Retreat, 1991



NCCAC Denver Meeting

