YMI NEWS: PRO DEO, PRO PATRIA

Phil Fondale

For God, For Country has been the YMI motto since the beginning of the founding of the Order. Notice that “Pro Deo” comes first. Recently a number of our local members have been displaying that motto in a unique way. They have been wearing a button that shows the motto and a cross superimposed with the American Flag. This design came from a YMI Council in Indiana. They helped design the war memorial for their local community and this was the center piece in the design.

Another example of our motto can be found with the YMI salutatory. In a formal YMI meeting a salutatory takes prominence and is in full view of all the members. It consists of a stand upon which is displayed the United States flag. Centered on top of the flag is the “Creed” which is one of the oldest and central payers in the Catholic liturgy. This arrangement is not by accident. At the turn of the last century the United States Congress gave the YMI permission to superimpose the Creed atop the flag. It’s Pro Deo, Pro Patria with “Pro Deo” taking the prominent position.

In September, our meeting will be graced with presence of Miss Amanda King. Amanda is a junior at a Folsom high school. Our Council sponsored her in the Grand Council’s Pro Patria essay contest. Out of more than 1,500 entries, her essay placed ninth and she won a $100 prize. The essay contest will take place again this coming school year and is open to any 7-12 grade Catholic student.

Our meeting night is the fourth Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in Haran Hall. All men of the parish are welcome to come and enjoy the fellowship of our monthly dinner and short business meeting.
The main purpose of our council is to give the Catholic men of OLOP and the surrounding area the opportunity to get together, strengthen their faith, have fellowship, and help our parish and community. We hope to see our fellow Catholic men and future brothers at our next meeting.

The Young Men’s Institute was founded in 1883, and Our Lady of the Pines Council #137 is proud to be a part of this national organization.