



# THE HISTORY OF MAINE IN THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

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## Chapter FORTY-ONE: Thomas H. St. Louis -1973 - 1975 Old Town

Our 38'th State Deputy was born in Old Town, Maine on June 10, 1939. Thomas H. St.Louis is the son of Bernard H. St.Louis and Loretta Parady St.Louis. He went to St. Joseph's Grammar School and graduated in 1957. He attended John Bapst High School in Bangor. He married Eileen Taylor St.Louis on February 14, 1961. They had two daughters, Kathryn and Anne.

Thomas began his working career as a salesman and floor manager for Cutler's Men's Store for 13 years. He later became the Director of Parks & Recreation & Forestry for the city of Old Town and served in this office for 8 years. He later served as chairman of Catering Services for the Knights of Columbus for five years, member of the Old Town City Council for 2 years, Field Agent for the Knights of Columbus Insurance and Town Manager of Medway, Maine. From 1980 to 1990 he worked for Cyr Bus Lines in Old Town as Director of Northstar Tours.

Thomas St.Louis joined the Old Town Council #2537 of the Knights of Columbus and rose to the positions of Grand Knight and Faithful Navigator of the Fourth Degree Assembly in 1970. He served as general activity chairman, Columbian Squire Chairman and finally as District Deputy for the Maine State Council. Thomas served as the State Activity Chairman and was elected as State Warden, State Secretary and finally as State Deputy at the convention held in Kennebunkport (Shawmut Inn) on June 1-2-3, 1973. Tom was 34 years of age when elected State Deputy and at the time was the youngest ever elected as State Deputy

During Thomas St.Louis's two terms as State Deputy, the Milo-Brownville Council #6559 and the Brewer Council #6728 were formed.

Thomas St.Louis was very active in his community, serving on the City Council, the Old Town Rotary Club and serving as chairman of the Scholarship Fund and Program Chairman. He was also the first president of the Old Town Boosters Club and the first president of the Old Town Snowmobile Club. He was very active in youth work in Old Town for 18 years in basketball and baseball activities. There is a youth scholarship given annually in Tom's name at Old Town High School.

Tom died on May 26, 1990 at the Maine State Convention at the Samoset in Rockport. He was 51 years of age.

## **FOURTH DEGREE MASTER #10: Robert Ouellette 1955-84 Brunswick**

Following his three terms as State Deputy from 1952 to 1955, Robert J. Ouellette was appointed as District Master and served in that office from 1955 to 1984. This was a total of 29 years as District Master of Maine.

## **STATE CHAPLAIN 1967 TO 1987: Rev. Antonio A. Gosselin**

Father Antonio A. Gosselin was born of Alphee Gosselin and Angelina Moreau in Lewiston, Maine on October 19, 1916 and was baptized on the same day in St. Mary's Church. His elementary schooling was done at St. Mary's school under the direction of the Good Ursuline Sisters of Waterville. From September 1930 to June 1938 he attended St. Hyacinth's College near Montreal where he completed his classical studies with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Montreal. In September 1938, Bishop McCarthy assigned him to St. Augustine's Seminary in Toronto where, for four years, he pursued his theological studies. Father was ordained a priest by Bishop McCarthy on May 30, 1942 in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Portland, Maine.

His first assignment was as assistant pastor at Most Holy Trinity Church in Saco and served for 9 years. His later assignments were at Notre Dame in Waterville for 9 years, as pastor of St. Theresa in Stockholm for 7 years, St. Theresa Church in Oakland for 16 months and finally to St. Hyacinth in Westbrook.

In the early 1940's Father Gosselin joined the Knights of Columbus in the Bishop Fenwick Council #2239 in Saco, Maine. In July 1967, Bishop Gerety appointed him as the twelfth State Chaplain for the Maine State Council. Fr. Gosselin served faithfully for twenty years and resigned in 1987.

## **Bishop of the Portland Diocese: Most Rev. Edward Cornelius**

**O'Leary – 1974 to 1988.** Born on August 21, 1920, Edward Cornelius O'Leary pastor was named the ninth Bishop of the Diocese of Portland on October 16, 1974 and was consecrated as Bishop on December 18, 1974. He was a native of Bangor and attended a seminary in Ottawa. Bishop O'Leary was ordained to the priesthood in 1946 and was a much appreciated pastor and chancellor, serving at parishes around Maine through his appointment as auxiliary bishop in 1970. During Bishop O'Leary's tenure, the Church in Maine experienced both an increase in popularity and a decline in the number of priests, leading to the first planning process to manage those trends. Bishop O'Leary appointed women for the first time to positions of leadership in the Office of Catholic Schools, the Diocesan Tribunal and the Chancellor's Office. Like Bishops Healy, Walsh, and Feeney before him, Bishop O'Leary took frequent public stands on a number of social issues of importance to the Church. He retired for reasons of health in 1988 and received the title of Bishop Emeritus of Portland. In that role, he continued to assist the current bishop until his

**State Convention** for 1974 was held in Portland (Holiday Inn) May 24-25-26, 1974

**State Convention** for 1975 was held in Rockport (Treadway Samoset) May 23-24-25, 1975

