

# **YOUNG MEN'S INSTITUTE**



*“Pro Deo, Pro Patria”*

## Who are we and what is our purpose?

The YMI is a fraternal order of Catholic men that has been in existence since 1883. Today we operate 21 Councils across three States, and we have over 1800 members.

Our purpose is three-fold: Faith, Patriotism and Fraternalism.

- Faith – We pledge ourselves to be practicing Catholics and we are active participants supporting our parishes.
- Patriotism – We love our country, respect its laws and show our public support for America by flying its flag and reciting the Pledge of Allegiance at each meeting and by voting regularly in all elections.
- Fraternalism – As members of the YMI, we extend our hand to each other in brotherly love and call each other “brother.” Family and family values are important to us, so our families are included in most of our functions

Our motto is “Pro Deo, Pro Patria- For God, For Country.” Accordingly, we actively support programs and activities that benefit the Catholic faith (e.g., religious orders, seminarians and missions) as well as community/civic causes (e.g., youth recreation, education, and people in need).

The emblem of the YMI (on the cover) consists of a cross, star and a palm branch. The cross is a symbol of our religion and is a reminder that Jesus Christ became man and died for us. The star represents the Star that the Wise Men followed to find our Lord after his birth. Finally, the palm branch reminds us that peace and goodwill should always prevail among mankind.

## Why should I join the YMI?

There are many reasons to join the YMI. First, our members and their families enjoy participating in various club programs and social events such as:

- Mass Celebrations – Each year all the councils come together to celebrate an Annual Red & White Mass to renew our brotherhood.
- Dinners – Most councils host regular dinners for their members throughout the year and host family events like holiday dinner and summer picnics.
- Tournaments – We sponsor annual tournaments for golf, bowling, and bocce ball each year so our members can have fun and test their skills!
- The YMI Grand Council hosts an annual essay contest for students of members, ranging from junior high to college age, that offers lucrative cash awards. In addition, many councils sponsor their own scholarship awards and essay contests.
- In the event a member dies early in life, his school-aged children can receive educational assistance through the YMI Educational Foundation. In addition, depending on the age the member joins, his beneficiaries may be entitled to receive death benefits.

Finally, our members can enjoy the fellowship of working together with their brothers on various YMI service projects. We also contribute tens of thousands of dollars each year to worthwhile organizations in our parishes and communities. (e.g., the YMI's Seminarian Education Foundation contributes funds to seminarians each year)

### When/Where Do We Meet?

Councils typically meet once or twice a month. Meeting times vary per council. Many of our councils are in the San Francisco Bay Area and California's Central Valley. We also have councils in Indiana and Hawaii. Contact us for specific information of council locations and meeting times.

### What Does Membership Cost?

Membership fees vary by council, but each has dues that are very affordable. For many of our councils, the dues are less than \$50 per year!

### Who Can Join & How?

If you are a Catholic male who is at least 18 years old, you are eligible to join. Simply complete a short YMI application form and submit a check payable to the YMI Council that you seek to join. Then bring both to a meeting and we'll take it from there!

### If Questions, Who May I Contact?

You may contact any YMI member about questions concerning our organization. However, if you don't know any member, you may also always call our Business Office at 1-800-964-9646 or you may contact the YMI 's Business Manager Tom Fourie at 650-588-7762. You may also email us at [ymius@aol.com](mailto:ymius@aol.com).

Lastly, please visit our website at [www.ymiusa.org](http://www.ymiusa.org) to find additional information about the YMI.

