



A youth leadership organization for young men ages 12 - 21

## **WHAT'S THAT?**

### **A PARENT'S GUIDE TO DEMOLAY**

The answers to commonly asked Questions





## ***Forward***

So, your son is interested in joining a DeMolay Youth Leaders Chapter. And you're wondering whether it is the right thing for him to do. Any parent who is concerned for the overall growth, development, and the general well-being of their son, and who may not already be acquainted with what DeMolay Youth Leaders is all about, naturally has plenty of questions.

Since its founding in March 1919, over a million young men have become members of DeMolay. Many have gone on to become household names in their chosen profession. DeMolay provided them with skills otherwise unattainable for young men...leadership. However, as each of these young men began his association with DeMolay, there in the background was a concerned parent or guardian asking questions. This booklet was prepared to give you answers to some of the most frequently asked questions about DeMolay. A few minutes to review the information provided here will give you an overview of the history, values, operation, sponsorship and activities of a chapter of DeMolay Youth Leaders.

The questions answered here are generally arranged in categories. However, the answer to a question in one category might contain information that could fall into a different category. In those cases, to save reading time, the information is presented only once. You may have questions other than those answered here. They may be questions of a general nature, or questions specifically related to the chapter your son is considering joining. Whatever your questions, please feel free visit our website [www.nydemolay.org](http://www.nydemolay.org), where you can also sign up for our electronic newsletter "The Bridge". Please know this organization is family-oriented and participation by the family is encouraged and welcomed at all levels.

We appreciate your willingness to learn more about how this character-building and leadership development organization has supplemented the growth of so many into positive, productive sons and gentlemen and quality citizens in their communities – PLEASE READ ON.



## **What is DeMolay?**

DeMolay is a youth-led, adult-advised organization in which members learn to plan, organize and facilitate their own programs and activities. DeMolays take part in a wide range of activities from athletic competitions, to public speaking tournaments, to community service events. But words are insufficient to describe DeMolay; it must be experienced. Give it a chance and we know you will discover what we already know; DeMolay is the greatest youth organization in the world.

## **What are the requirements to join?**

The requirements are few, but each is important. To be a member of DeMolay, a young man must:

- Have parental consent
- Be between the ages of 12 and 21
- Be of good character and reputation
- Have a belief in God, Supreme Being or Deity
- Complete an application
- Attend a 2-part induction ceremony

## **What is the Induction Ceremony like?**

The DeMolay induction ceremony is the celebration of a young man's commitment to better himself by joining with other like-minded individuals. This ceremony and explanation sets DeMolay apart from other organizations, as the presentation is made by chapter members. The ceremony itself contains two sections or "degrees". The first is called the Initiatory Degree. It is a solemn event during which the candidate becomes acquainted with DeMolay's founding principles. The second section is called the "DeMolay Degree". It is a play portrayed by members and the subject is loyalty. This degree tells the story of Jacques DeMolay (who lived in the 14<sup>th</sup> century), more details about Jacques DeMolay can be found on page 3. It is important for today's youth to be loyal to beliefs, family, friends and commitments.

## **What is the ritual of DeMolay?**

The ritual of DeMolay International is truly what sets it apart from the other youth groups. It's a two-part series of ceremonies, each of which has a symbolic meaning intended to inspire the members to be better sons, citizens, better friends and ultimately better men. Parents are encouraged and are more than welcome to attend these ceremonies. Included in these ceremonies are the procedures to open and close a meeting, induct new members and install officers in their offices. The DeMolay ritual was written by Frank Marshall, a reporter for the Kansas City Star newspaper in the early 1920's.

## **How did DeMolay get started?**

In 1919, while employed as the social services director for the Scottish Rite bodies in Kansas City, Missouri, Frank Sherman Land hired a teenager named Louis Gordon Lower to perform odd jobs around the building, his family needed this income. As the two became friends, Land found that Lower's father had died a short time before and that the young man missed that fatherly guidance. Lower had other friends whose fathers were also not in the home (WWI had just ended a year earlier) whether through divorce, abandonment, or death. Land suggested that Lower invite some of his friends to the Scottish Rite building to discuss starting a club. Within a few days, Lower brought eight of his friends to a meeting. The nine young men agreed that the idea of a club was a good one. Soon the "Order of DeMolay" was born. Within three years Chapters had been established in 39 of the then 48 states and District of Columbia. It has now spread worldwide.

### **Where did the name DeMolay come from?**

The name came from Jacques DeMolay, the last Grand Master of the Knights Templar during The Crusades. The original nine members of DeMolay selected the name in honor of his high principles.

### **What's the story of Jacques DeMolay?**

Jacques DeMolay was born in France in 1244. At the age of 21, he became a member of the Knights Templar, a group originally called "Poor Soldiers of Christ". Sanctioned by the Pope and the Church Council in 1128, their purpose was to guard the road between Jerusalem and Acre (the port on the Mediterranean). Because of the church endorsements and fighting valiantly in several crusades, the Knights Templar were a popular group among the people. The name "Knights Templar" became synonymous with heroism. Even nobles and princes sent their sons to join them. In 1298, Jacques DeMolay was elected the leader or Grand Master of the Templars. Over the years, the Templars amassed great wealth. King Philip of France pillaged his own country and was in desperate need of funds. So, false charges against DeMolay and Templars were made by the King in order to brand them as criminals. On orders of the King, Jacques DeMolay and hundreds of the Templars were arrested and thrown into prison. During his seven-year imprisonment, DeMolay was tortured repeatedly in attempts to get him to betray other leaders and members of his beloved Templars. Many inducements to confess were offered to DeMolay from money to his freedom. He consistently refused to betray his fellow Templars and because of his refusal, he was sentenced to be burned at the stake on March 18, 1314. DeMolay died a martyr to loyalty to his friends.



### **How do DeMolays learn leadership skills?**

DeMolay prides itself on preparing young men for careers above and beyond their formal education with hands-on training. DeMolays learn by doing. A learning process of executing increased responsibilities within a chapter fosters leadership skills. The Chapter contains various offices which members may obtain, very similar to the business world and here are a few examples:

<b>Master Councilor</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Senior Councilor</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>
<b>Junior Councilor</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b>
<b>Scribe</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

Members move through the ranks and obtain higher offices; each position carries more and more responsibility. If he participates, he will learn valuable skills that he will carry with him throughout his life. These experiences will provide him with a head start in the race for scholarships and jobs. Examples are:

- ❖ Public Speaking
- ❖ Appearance and image maintenance
- ❖ How to prepare agendas
- ❖ How to run a business meeting (Parliamentary Procedure)
- ❖ How to plan and execute events such as banquets and social events
- ❖ How to organize and participate in community service activities
- ❖ How to assign, utilize and execute committees

### **How does a young man learn good character in DeMolay?**

Upon joining DeMolay, the young man will interact with other members of the Chapter, adult advisors and parents who are dedicated to upholding the virtues mentioned above. Young men act more upstanding when in the company of like-minded individuals. Acting in an upstanding manner becomes habit, which in turn helps demonstrate good character and becomes a model for a mature way of thinking and acting as he moves towards adulthood. *Advising for chapters explained on Page 10 [Page 14 in the Booklet].*

### **I may believe these skills are needed, but do members?**

The DeMolay program is based on teaching these skills through a fun and inter-active format. Members learn by doing in an environment that is fun. This method of teaching does not make it feel like ‘school is in session’.

### **What time commitment is needed to be a DeMolay?**

A member is invited to all events and can spend as little or as much time participating, depending on other commitments. Most Chapters meet twice a month to conduct a business meeting, plan activities and decide to participate in Region or State events. Each Chapter may hold activities or events on non-meeting days. As a rule of thumb, it is recommended that new members give DeMolay a six-month trial period; by this time both you and your son will see first-hand the benefits and enjoyment.

Our DeMolay credo is family, school, our respective faith traditions and then DeMolay. At the close of a meeting all assembled say “God Bless Mother, God Bless Father and God Bless the purposes of DeMolay”.

### **What types of activities does a DeMolay Chapter have?**

Within certain parameters, the activities of a Chapter are limited only by the imagination of its members. Members plan and execute social functions, fund raising, civic service projects, athletic activities and much more. As with any organization, insurance restrictions may prohibit engaging in certain activities deemed not appropriate for the age range. However, chapters have a wide range of activities from which they can choose as they discuss, plan and put together a calendar of events.

### **Why haven't I heard of DeMolay?**

If you have not heard of DeMolay, perhaps you have heard the names of people who were DeMolays during their youth. Some of these famous alumni include Walt Disney, Actor John Wayne, Comedians Tommy and Dick Smothers, Pro Football Quarterback Fran Tarkenton, and from the media Dan Rather, Willard Scott and Walter Cronkite. Many of these individuals, as well as other community and business leaders credit part of their success to their DeMolay experiences.

If you think about it, in today's instantaneous news world, more emphasis is placed on bad behaviors and disasters rather than good. Acts of heroism, common sense and community involvement are not reported with the same effort. This is why the organization is so important to give our youth the opportunity to learn skills that they can benefit from throughout life.

### **Can you stop being a member if you don't like it?**

Yes, you can stop participating. A member will remain on our membership roll until they turn 21. Being on this roll entitles all members to participate in the DeMolay program if they desire.

**A comment on DeMolay:**

**“I feel a great sense of obligation and gratitude toward DeMolay for the important part it played in shaping my life. Its precepts have been invaluable in making decisions, in facing dilemmas and crises, in holding onto one’s faith and ideals, and in meeting those tests which are best borne when shared with others in a bond of confidence.”**

*~ Walt Disney, Sr. DeMolay*

**What is the organization of DeMolay?**

DeMolay operates in the United States by establishing a jurisdiction within each state. Each state has an Executive Officer in charge. This individual will coordinate the activities of Advisors to assist Chapters in their operation. Guidelines for operation for DeMolay are set forth by DeMolay International and amended as needed by any state. By providing universal guidelines the experience will be the same regardless of location.

**DeMolay is a Tax-Deductible Charity.**

DeMolay is a recognized 501(c)3 Charity by the IRS and donations are fully deductible to the extent of the law. To make a tax-deductible contribution contact New York DeMolay at [info@nydemolay.org](mailto:info@nydemolay.org) Additionally, our adult Advisors may deduct certain expenses incurred by volunteering for a Chapter (such as gas, tolls, lodging, etc.). For more information, contact your local Chapter and your tax professional.

**What activities are offered on a State or Region Level?**

**State Events:**

***Leadership Conferences:*** NY DeMolay holds an annual Leadership Conference that is open to all Chapter members. Current chapter officers as well as those looking to run for office are encouraged to participate in this informative yet fun event. The weekend event combines fun activities along with teaching valuable skills that the members not only use to run a Chapter but can carry with them into everyday life.

***Winterfest:*** A state event held mid-January featuring snow tubing followed by relaxation at the indoor pool, games and of course food.

***Annual State Convention:*** This is the culmination of the year’s activities. It is the event considered to be the most fun in DeMolay. This weekend event boasts of ritual competitions, elections, athletic events, banquet, dance and most importantly brotherhood.

**Region Events:**

NY DeMolay is currently divided into three Regions: Lakes, Four Rivers and Metropolitan. A map of the geographical borders for these regions can be found on the NY DeMolay website. Each Region is led by a District Deputy (adult) and a Region Master Councilor (youth). The Region Master Councilor is responsible for planning Region events, such as a banquet, region bowling, or other fun or educational activities. They vary by Region, depending on what the members of the chapters in that area express an interest in doing. Region events are open to all members of NY DeMolay no matter what Region they are from.

### **Is DeMolay a religious organization?**

**No.** While one of the requirements for membership in DeMolay is a belief in a Supreme Being, but not one of a doctrine, sect or denomination, a young man's religious convictions are his own. Members include those that follow Christianity, Judaism, Mormons, Hindus, Buddhists, Muslims and other religious groups.

DeMolay does not involve itself in religious discussions. Through the cardinal virtue, Reverence for Sacred Things, there is a reminder of the importance of some faith in the lives of these young men.

### **Why does DeMolay allow members of all religions?**

The value of having membership across the religious spectrum is in the opportunity it provides for members of one religion or denomination to understand and respect the perspective of others. The diversity of this country provides opportunities to be introduced to faiths, cultures and traditions from around the world. By allowing young men of different backgrounds it prepares the young man to rely upon his faith and respect the faith of others. This principle will become very important as he becomes a more active citizen. He will value the culture and traditions of others, while standing confidently upon his own beliefs.

### **Why does DeMolay use a Religious Symbol as part of its Chapter furnishings?**

The Bible or other holy book is used as a symbol of the spiritual foundation that all DeMolay members are required to have before they can join. It is not intended to represent an endorsement of the Christian faith over any other faith. A DeMolay's belief in a particular religious doctrine is something that is between him and his God, regardless of what faith he practices. Generally, the holy book of the predominant religion of that nation or area is the spiritual guide book of the local Chapter, but it is not uncommon for a chapter to display more than one holy book, or to use the preferred holy book of a member being installed as Master Councilor of his local chapter. DeMolay is an inclusive organization that is respectful of the religious choices of its members and their families

### **DeMolay's Seven Cardinal Virtues, or Valuable Life Lessons, are:**

*Filial Love (Love of Parents) ♦ Reverence for Sacred Things (Respect for others' beliefs)*  
*Courtesy (being nice to all) ♦ Cleanness (not only of body, but of thought, word and action)*  
*Patriotism (defend our flag and country) ♦ Fidelity (honor one's promises)*  
*Comradship (friendship)*

## **Chapter Sponsorship and Supervision**

### **Who sponsors a DeMolay Chapter?**

A DeMolay Chapter is sponsored by Masons of that community. It is one of the many ways Masonry gives back and remains active in communities. By sponsoring this group to teach leadership, morals, and good character and citizenship, Masons are active in preserving the future. DeMolay is a way to help secure our future with the guiding hands of Master Masons. Each DeMolay Chapter is sponsored by a group of Freemasons, a Masonic Lodge, or some other Masonic affiliated group such as Scottish Rite, the York Rite or Shrine. The responsibilities for sponsoring body are: to provide the chapter a place to meet; to provide adult leadership and guidance through maintaining an active Advisory Council; to assist the chapter whenever and however needed.

### **Who are the Masons?**

Today's Masons are men who have joined together for mutual improvement in an organization that provides the basic framework in which to improve themselves morally and spiritually while giving back to the community. Traditionally, the caliber of men who seek membership in the Masonic Order are among the most charitable and civic minded volunteers. Like DeMolay, it provides a social interaction environment for men that requires high morals and good character from its members.

### **Are the Masons a secret organization?**

NO! In most towns, the Masonic Hall is prominently marked. In many locations, the meeting time and day of the local lodge is published in the newspaper. Primarily three things have contributed to the impression that Masons are a secret organization.

1. The meetings of the local lodges are restricted to members only.
2. The fact that Masons have certain modes of recognizing each other such as a word or a sign that are kept confidential. This is to ensure that those involved and attending functions are members of the fraternity and not trying to get into meetings out of idle curiosity.
3. Unlike other organizations, Masons do not hold large membership recruitment drives. They choose to focus on each individual member applicant.

### **How did DeMolay and Masonry become associated?**

Frank S. Land, founder of DeMolay was himself a Mason. As the organization grew Mr. Land felt it important for Chapters be associated with quality adults that were service oriented. This is how the bond began between the organizations.



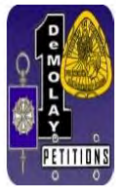
## Awards and Achievements

### What Awards and Achievements are offered?

Members can earn awards by taking part in training conferences (LeadCon) that teach successful skills of Chapter management. Members also earn achievement awards by participating as follows:



**Merit Bars** – Members earn recognition of achievements by participating in all aspects of the program. A wide variety of areas are covered by this award system from athletics to visiting other Chapters. Each category has five levels in colors appearing to the left.



**Membership Awards** – Members earn these awards by bringing in new members.

**#1 Pin** – awarded for being sponsor of 1 new DeMolay member

**Founder's Membership Award** – Sponsoring 5 new members

**Blue Honor Key** – Sponsoring 10 new members



**Representative DeMolay Award** – This award is the highest self-achievement honor Active DeMolays can earn. It's a self-assessment program where you progress toward goals you set for yourself. You complete a detailed survey of your interests, achievements, general knowledge and habits.



**Past Master Councilor Meritorious Service Award** - One of the most prestigious awards in all of DeMolay, the Past Master Councilor's Meritorious Service Award, was designed by our founder, "Dad" Frank S. Land. The award itself is an attractive gold-colored medal. Qualifying for the PMC-MSA is an exercise in good program planning.



**Degree of Chevalier** - is the highest honor that an active DeMolay can receive. The Degree is a citation for outstanding and marked DeMolay activity and labor. The nominee must be a minimum of 16 years of age, with Executive Officer approval, on January 15th of the year nominated, and have been a member in good standing for at least two years as of that date. The degree cannot be applied for, and the nomination is made without the knowledge of the DeMolay to be honored. The unanimous vote of DeMolay

International at its regular Session is required to elect a nominee. Recommendations are made by Advisory Councils to the Executive Officer of the jurisdiction.

**Visit New York DeMolay's website for more detailed information on awards.**

### What's expected of a young man who joins?

His involvement in DeMolay is intended to be both fun and rewarding. As with any organization, there are ways for him to maximize the benefits of membership

- *Become involved.* He will be expected to attend Chapter meetings and activities. Get involved in helping make decisions regarding the Chapter.

- *Approach involvement with positive and helpful attitude.* His approach should include a willingness to learn, a willingness to help others learn and a willingness to be part of the Chapter team. Every DeMolay member has had life experiences that have taught him lessons and given him a unique perspective. Together, members and advisors share perspectives and learn from each other as they make decisions that affect the operation and future of the Chapter.

- *Put the precepts of DeMolay into practice in his daily life.* Some of the guiding principles of DeMolay (love of parents, reverence, courtesy, comradeship, fidelity (loyalty), cleanness, and patriotism) may not be present in today's society, but that does not mean that they are without merit. A young man who can adopt these beliefs into his daily life will be "ahead of the game" as he approaches manhood.

- *Learn about DeMolay.* Part of being a good member and team player is being familiar enough with how it operates to be able to tell and show others about it. There is an open book Leadership Correspondence Course series of exams using a Leaders Resource Guide that will aid in this learning process. Upon completion of all five exams with passing grades, the member will receive the Lamp of Knowledge. (See Photo)



### What are the rules members must follow?

- The presence and/or use of alcohol, tobacco, or illegal or controlled drugs is prohibited at DeMolay functions. The only exception is prescriptions from a licensed medical professional in the original container.
- The possession of any type of weapon is prohibited.
- Aggressive, disruptive, or destructive behavior has no place at a DeMolay function.
- When attending DeMolay functions or going to a DeMolay-related outing, you are to respect the authority of the Advisors in attendance. It's for your protection.
- While there are specific rules for specific situations and activities/events, these provide a general overview.

*Please see our zero tolerance policy on the New York DeMolay website.*

### What is expected of parent(s), guardians and other family members?

- A. Keep the young man active for at least six months. Advisors and other members will help the new member as well as his family by encouraging participation. Parent(s) or guardians or other family members can assist in providing positive feedback.
- B. A new member may approach the first few events as being hesitant and uncertain. After he becomes more comfortable with the other members, methods and protocols he will become a more active participant.



### **Is there a way for the member's parents to be involved?**

Parental involvement is encouraged, welcomed and important to the successful transition of just a member to an active and contributing one. Just like a member, parent(s) and guardians can also choose their level of involvement. One can offer to be a Chapter Volunteer, or become part of a Parents' Group for the Chapter. Many of these adults help with events, providing transportation or just another set of hands and eyes to oversee the smooth operation of a Chapter.

### **Are parents and guardians allowed to attend meetings?**

Parents and guardians are welcome to attend any DeMolay event their young man is participating in. Some parents choose to do more. Recognizing that this is a youth-led organization, parents and other adults do not speak at meetings unless called upon by the Master Councilor. This allows for the youth to set policy.

### **Is DeMolay a junior Masonic organization?**

NO! While sponsored by the Masons, DeMolay is a separate organization. Masons sponsor DeMolay because it is the right thing to do for the community. Masons believe in helping today's youth through DeMolay. The Masons do not sponsor a Chapter to someday obtain Masons from its members, in many instances they are Senior DeMolay helping the next generation to enjoy the path they've taken.

### **Who supervises activities of a DeMolay Chapter?**

Activities and projects of a DeMolay Chapter are always supervised by a group of adult volunteer mentors called advisors who comprise the Advisory Council. Most often, but not all the time, this body is made up of Masons from the sponsoring body. Furthermore, any parent who completes DeMolay International's online training program and associated background check, as well as the NY DeMolay Advisor Training Program (all of these elements are required of *all* advisors without exception) may serve as an Advisor, upon approval of the Executive Officer. Senior DeMolays (DeMolays over the age of 21) may also serve on Advisory Councils. For more information on becoming a DeMolay advisor visit the New York DeMolay website.

### **Why do the young men refer to Advisors as "Dad" or "Mom"?**

The young men who started DeMolay did not want to refer to Frank S. Land as Frank. They felt it did not show respect; further they felt Mr. Land was too formal. So they decided to refer to him as "Dad" Land. The young men felt this most appropriate title for the man who advised and provided a fatherly influence. The title has become habit and today most advisors are addressed with the title "Dad" or "Mom".

### **What do Advisors do?**

Ultimately the Advisors are responsible for overseeing all aspects of the operation of the Chapter and to ensure the Chapter operates within the guidelines developed by DeMolay International (the overall governing body). Advisors help members plan and carry out programs and activities and supervise those events as well. The Advisors are responsible for ensuring compliance with policies and procedures for the safety and well-being of all. There is also a Chairman with administrative duties to ensure required paperwork is completed and filed in a timely manner.

## The DeMolay Emblem...what is its meaning?



The DeMolay Emblem was created with symbolism in mind. Since this symbolism would only mean something to the members, New York uses a unique variation of the emblem for the public, which is on the lower half of the cover. The official DeMolay emblem is shown above. The emblem it is patterned after has remained unchanged since the 1940's. Each and every part of it has symbolic significance to a member.

The **CROWN** is symbolic of the high morals that DeMolay stands for. It constantly reminds a DeMolay of his pledges and the seven core values of the organization.

The **TEN RED RUBIES** honor the founder and the nine young men whose ties of friendship drew them together in the formation of the organization. The original emblem was surrounded by pearls, which were replaced by rubies as each reached their heavenly reward.

The **HELMET** is emblematic of chivalry, without which there can be no fineness of character.

The **CRESCENT** is a symbol of our heritage and constantly reminds DeMolays of their obligation to remain faithful to their pledges and fellow brothers.

The five-armed **WHITE CROSS** symbolizes the purity of our intentions to always remember the motto of the organization, "No DeMolay shall fail as a citizen, as a leader and as a man."

The **CROSSED SWORDS** denote justice, fortitude, and mercy. They symbolize the unceasing battle of DeMolay against arrogance, despotism, and ignorance.

The **STARS** surrounding the crescent are symbolic of hope and should always remind us of those obligations and duties which one member of the organization owes to another.

## ***Words of wisdom from Past State Master Councilors from across the State***

### **Dad William Sardone, Past State Master Councilor 1968-1969**

United States Army Retired  
AT&T Corporation Retired  
Past Grand Master, DeMolay International 2016 – 2017  
Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of NY, F&AM, 2018 – 2020

*Besides DeMolay giving me lifelong friendships, it gave me the ability to listen before speaking. I found that to be integral in my success at AT&T and the United States Army. As a boy my advisors used their resources to open doors and mentor me. Being able to provide similar support for today's DeMolays is not only gratifying but helpful to them.*

### **Dad Richie Ticknor, Past State Master Councilor 1969 – 1970**

Vice President, Corporate Communications, Sugar Foods Corporation

*The best gift my father ever gave me was dragging me to join DeMolay when I was a shy 14-year-old. As I often look back, to that moment in time, I can honestly say that joining DeMolay, has played a major role in who I am today!*

*Joining DeMolay taught me more than I could have ever imagined. Being accepted, just by a handshake, was extraordinary! Along the way I've been fortunate to have made life-long friends.*

*Through DeMolay I had the opportunities to understand what team work was all about through committee involvement and participation. DeMolay gave me the courage to address groups of individuals; to plan activities; to travel.*

*I also noticed that my grades in school went up and I became more outward in my personality. The principles of DeMolay are constantly, behind the scenes, in what I do and have done in my business world of Marketing and Communications.*

*I was asked what DeMolay has meant to me...and the answer is EVERYTHING! And... I'm forever grateful that it was there over 50 years ago for this once-shy young man, and I pray that it always will be there for many other young men to come!*

### **Dad Jeff McMorris, Past State Master Councilor 1982-1983**

Law Office of Jeffrey E. McMorris, Glens Falls, NY  
Co-Owner, Truthville Fiber Farm, North Granville, NY

*DeMolay has given me my closest, lifelong friends. I was a shy and quiet kid who spoke to no one, but DeMolay made me come out of my shell and interact with members, advisors and sweethearts.*

### **Dad Peter Brusoe, Ph. D, Past State Master Councilor 2001-2002**

Past International Master Councilor, DeMolay International 2003 – 2004  
Campaign Finance and Lobbying Data Analyst, Bloomberg Government

*Before I was a Grand High Priest, a Wise Master, or any title in Masonry, I had the best title in the world, a Brother in DeMolay. The values and skills I learned then I still use to this day in my fraternal and life skills.*

### Dad Justin Cook, Past State Master Councilor 2005-2006

Marketing & Patron Services Manager, Albany Symphony

*DeMolay holds a special place in my heart, gave me a strong foundation upon which I have been able to build a successful career in the music industry, most importantly it gave me a moral center.*

### Dad Michael Hernandez, Past State Master Councilor 2010-2011

Legislative Policy Analyst, NYS Senate Administrative Regulations Review Commission

*DeMolay provided me with an environment to discover those things that I was passionate about, and the freedom to translate that passion into productive projects, both within the organization and without. Whether it was developing my public speaking skills or learning event and term planning, DeMolay provided me with the tools for success in both my professional and fraternal obligations.*

### Dad David Celentano, Past State Master Councilor 2012-2013

Equipment Operator, Town of Hempstead, NY

*DeMolay has provided so many skills that I used during my tenure as a chapter officer, division and ultimately SMC. I now use these same skills every day. Even more important are the friendships developed and calling many "Brother" throughout the state and beyond.*

### Dad Thomas Perry, Past State Master Councilor 2013-2014

K-8 Mathematics Teacher, Syracuse City School District

*DeMolay is an opportunity for brotherhood. It is a chance to see yourself grow as a person. DeMolay has motivated me to make a difference in my community. It is why I wanted to be a teacher.*

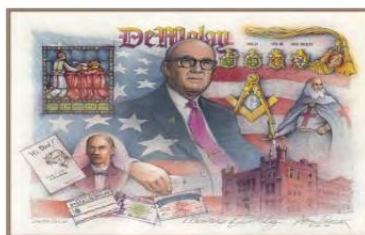
## The Vows of a DeMolay Member

Humbly and sincerely ...

- I promise to be a better son
- I promise to love and serve God, my country and my fellowmen
- I promise to honor and protect every woman
- I promise to slander no one
- I promise to aid and uphold the public schools
- I promise to be loyal to my friends and brothers
- All of these things and more I do promise!

## A DeMolay's Ethics

- A DeMolay serves God
- A DeMolay honors all womanhood
- A DeMolay loves and honors his parents
- A DeMolay is honest
- A DeMolay is loyal to ideals and friends
- A DeMolay is courteous
- A DeMolay is at all times a gentleman
- A DeMolay is a patriot in peace as well as war
- A DeMolay is clean in mind and body
- A DeMolay upholds the public schools
- A DeMolay is a good citizen
- A DeMolay preserves our high standard



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