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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

John Stefani had no idea what he was getting into. More than six years ago, Ann Wall, a member of St. Thomas the Apostle church in Crystal Lake, and then Board member and volunteer coordinator for Faith in Action McHenry County (FIAMC), approached him with a few questions about the kitchen facility at the church. FIAMC was planning a pasta dinner that year, and Ann was looking into the feasibility of having the dinner catered or bringing cooks in. John, a member of the Knights of Columbus, St. Thomas Council 3880 Father McCormick, offered to save Ann the trouble and with the help of a few buddies from the Knights of Columbus (KOC) expertly pulled off the dinner for 125 people.

John will once again be back in the kitchen at the end of this month when FIAMC celebrates ten years of service to McHenry County with an **Evening in Italy**, pasta dinner on Saturday, Jan. 26, 2008 in the Community Center at the Oak Street Church, St. Thomas the Apostle. This will be John's sixth consecutive year cooking for the dinner which now attracts more than 250 guests during its two seatings. John, who regularly cooks for the annual event along with of KOC members, Dick Campobello and Ken Artner, continues to offer his services for free. "We're both organizations that help people," says Stefani referring to FIAMC and the KOC. "All the people from FIAMC come and say 'What can we do'. They're fun! They're a real good group of people." In former years Stefani was also joined by the late Jack Vanezia who was killed in a Chicago subway fire last spring.

Seatings for this event are available at 5:15 and 7:00 pm. The cost of the dinner is \$10.00 for adults and \$8.00 for children under 12. Take out orders are available as well.

The evening will include dinner as well as entertainment, and a raffle drawing will be held for a Winter Blossom Package including a two night stay at a Chicago lakefront condominium, dinner at Trattoria #10 and a Winter Blossom quilt, the second prize is a handmade afghan. The cost for the raffle tickets is \$1.00 per ticket or 6 tickets for \$5.00.

Tickets for the dinner and/or the raffle are available through FIAMC at 815.455.3120, or may also be purchased in Crystal Lake at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, or New Life Parable Christian Bookstore, and in McHenry at Holy Apostle Church Book Store, McHenry Bank & Trust on Rt. 31 or the Chamber of Commerce Office on Green St.

FIAMC is a nonprofit organization committed to the purpose of working with the seniors of our community who live at home, and their families in maintaining their independence, dignity, and quality of life.