



# Alaskans Against the Death Penalty

## Annual FISH FRY

Featuring

**Rev. Neil Kookoothe & Joe D'Ambrosio**



Rev. Kookoothe is a native Toledoan and Catholic Priest ordained in the Diocese of Cleveland, Ohio. He is currently pastor of Saint Clarence Church in North Olmsted and has always passionately advocated for the abolition of the death penalty. Complementing his Master's degree in Theology and Masters of Divinity, Rev. Kookoothe also holds degrees in law and nursing. Rev. Kookoothe met Mr. D'Ambrosio in 1998 while serving as spiritual advisor to several men on Ohio's Death Row. His experience in theology, nursing and law drew his interest to the case and aided Joe in bringing attention to unresolved issues that were never addressed by the legal system or the courts.

Mr. D'Ambrosio served in the US Army and at the young age of 26, he was convicted and sentenced to death (1989). Always maintaining his innocence, his pleas for assistance fell upon deaf ears. Mr. D'Ambrosio said being innocent on death row was the "loneliest, heart-wrenching thing that will haunt him the rest of his life." Finally, in 1998, he asked Rev. Kookoothe to read his trial transcript and assist him in bringing his case to the attention of the public and the courts. He was released in 2009 after a Federal Judge ruled that key evidence was withheld that would have refuted the States witnesses and pointed to other individuals as perpetrators of the crime. After a lengthy and prolonged appellate process, Mr. D'Ambrosio was exonerated on January 23, 2012 when the Supreme Court of the United States denied the States appeal of the Sixth Circuit opinion upholding the bar to his re-prosecution. Mr. D'Ambrosio is the 140<sup>th</sup> Exoneree from death row in the United States and the sixth in Ohio.

**Friday, July 28th, 2017 @ 5:30 - 8:00 pm**

**HOME OF NANCY GROSZEK (248-5802)**

**2512 Saint Elias Drive**

**Celebrity Judges and Chefs - Silent Auction**

**Check us out (like us) on Facebook or at [www.aadp.info/](http://www.aadp.info/)**

*We always provide exceptional food, fun and fellowship and we **welcome side dishes & auction donations***

*Mark your calendar and bring friends!*

**Note: please park on the side of the street of the event**

Call or email Reece for information at [Akreece1@icloud.com](mailto:Akreece1@icloud.com) or 907.350.2332 or Sue at [scjohnson@gci.net](mailto:scjohnson@gci.net) or 907.301.5005