



HOSPITALLERS IS PUBLISHED BY THE  
**SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF  
JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA™**  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, U.S.A.

# HOSPITALLERS

VOLUME 17 WINTER 2016/2017



## The 2016 Investiture: What Do You Desire?

**W**hen President Jack Pohrer asked the question, "What do you desire?" eighty-five Knights and Dames answered aloud and hundreds more spoke the words in their hearts, "We ask the mercy of God, and to be received into the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta."

President Pohrer continued, "What you request is a grave and serious matter. You wish to become a member of our Order, to achieve Christian perfection, and to practice the love of your neighbor. So let us first implore the mercy of God and the intercession of our Patrons and of all the Saints."

Over twelve hundred people gathered at Saint Patrick's Cathedral to give witness and support to the eighty-five members who were invested into the Order. As the Grand Master explained that evening, these eighty-five new Knights and Dames were received into the Order — and hundreds of Knights and Dames, Chaplains, Auxiliary, family and friends were there to receive them.

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### Association Web Site

Be sure to visit our Web site at:

[www.orderofmaltaamerican.org](http://www.orderofmaltaamerican.org) to find the latest information about the Association, forms needed for new members and new auxiliary members, Area Web sites and much more information about the Association and the Order of Malta. Links are also available to other Association Web sites and the Sovereign Magistry's Web site.



**A**s we move closer to Christmas, let us all take a moment to thank God for the many graces He has shared with us, the most important of which is that God so loved the world that He sent His only Son. That is what we celebrate and that is what we pray that the world may come to know. May your days and the year ahead be filled with the peace that only Christ can bring and the joy and love that He has shared with us. This has been a very exciting quarter for the Association:

### THE GRAND MASTER VISITS THE UNITED STATES

We were blessed to have the Grand Master, Frá Matthew Festing, come to the United States to attend our Annual Dinner, the Subpriory Mass on Saturday afternoon and the Mass on Sunday where Frá Richard Wolff took his final vows as a Knight of Justice. The Grand Master's schedule does not bring him to the United States very frequently and we were honored and grateful for his presence.

### BISHOP DAVID RICKEN SPEAKS AT THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

At the Annual Meeting, Bishop David Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, was one of the speakers. He carried the message of Our Lady of Good Help whose shrine is in the Green Bay Diocese to share with the many members who are not familiar with the only recognized apparition site of the Blessed Mother in the US. The American Association and the Federal Association will travel there in August 2017 for our second Annual Pilgrimage.

### INVESTITURE MASS

Eighty-five Knights and Dames were invested at the Mass on November 11th at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. The enthusiasm of our newest members is contagious and I know their commitment will inspire all of us as we continue our work in helping the sick and the poor and giving witness to and defending our faith. Two new Bishops were made Conventual Chaplains, three priests were made Magistral Chaplains, one priest was made a Deputy Chaplain, and four men were made Deacon Deputy Chaplains. We are grateful for the sponsors and the Area leadership who shepherded them through their year of preparation. And the good news is that the Class of 2017 has more than ninety candidates preparing for their Investiture.

### MARCH FOR LIFE

By now, you will have received materials about the American Association's participation in the March for Life, scheduled for January 26-27 in Washington, DC. This important activity of the pro-life movement is a peaceful demonstration supporting societal recognition of the importance of life from conception to its natural end. Since 1973, more than 40,000,000 babies have been aborted in the United States, more than the current population of California, our most populous state. The World Health Organization estimates that there are forty to fifty million abortions a year. Pray for those children who will never have a chance to live, for their parents, for all those who are pregnant and for all those who are considering having an abortion. And please pray for those who lead the battle to protect the lives of those most defenseless members of our society.

### ASSOCIATION RETREATS

Sometimes, it takes getting away to refocus on our spiritual lives and to reconnect with our commitment to the path to growth that we have chosen through the Order of Malta. The next Association retreat is scheduled for March 17-19 at the Bethany Retreat Center in Lutz, Florida, just north of Tampa. It is a peaceful location, conducive to the quiet moments we need to recharge our batteries. Bishop Frank Caggiano, the retreat master, will challenge you to move ahead and will help you find the tools to do so. Another retreat will be offered in Long Island in the Fall.

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### 2017 BOARD OF COUNCILLORS

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*Archbishop of New York, Principal Chaplain*

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*Assistant Principal Chaplain*





## The 2016 Investiture: What Do You Desire?

*(continued from cover)*

The ceremony continued with each of the new Knights and Dames responding with their commitment to live the life of the Order in their daily pursuits. President Pohrer continued with the question, "Are you ready to follow the banner of Christ, and of the Order, to witness and defend the Catholic Faith, and to do works of charity, as the Order requires?" Each Knight and Dame to be invested made the promise of commitment to the teachings of Church and to the work of the Order.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan was the celebrant at the Mass where two Conventual Chaplains and three Magistral Chaplains also made their commitment to serve the members of the Order in their pursuit of spiritual growth. The Cardinal referenced the Veterans' Day Parade and told the members of the Order that they were soldiers in a very important army, fighting in a world where the spiritual values of the Church were under attack. He challenged each Dame and Knight to pursue the struggle, despite the odds, despite the serious efforts all around them to derail their efforts and to sweep them up in the materialism of society.

The Solemn Liturgy, with the support of the magnificent choir and organist, created an atmosphere that added a measure of beauty and strength to the level of commitment being made before God and so many attendees. With the Cross of the decoration of the Order held high, President Pohrer spoke the solemn and somber words of exhortation and admonition, "Brothers and sisters, we give you this Cross of the Order, this sign of Christ's passion, of His love for all. Let it always inspire you in love of your neighbor. Cherish and defend the Cross. Should it ever happen that, in the battle for Christ and his Church, you turn your back on this Cross or desert it, then in accordance with the ancient custom of our Order, this holy symbol must justly be taken from you, and you must be expelled from our community."

The robes and capes of the new members (blessed the day before at an afternoon Mass by the Assistant Principal Chaplain, Msgr. Robert T. Ritchie), gave witness to and served as a sign of the lay religious Order that was receiving a new class of members. As each new member processed forward to the altar, Cardinal Dolan and President Pohrer presented them with the Cross and wished them God's help as they were to go out into the world with the Sign of the Cross as their Standard.

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The days were not all solemn and liturgical. On Wednesday evening, Saint Patrick's Cathedral was host to a gathering of more than fifteen hundred people from all over the world to experience the wonder of a magnificent Peace Concert. An original composition by world-renowned Maestro Joseph Vella from Malta, the combined voices and orchestra of the New York Choral Society and the Saint Patrick's Cathedral Choir, directed by Conductor David Hayes, and the power and majesty of the Saint Patrick's Cathedral organ played by the Cathedral's Music Director, Dr. Jennifer Pascual, all joined together in a seamless blend of music, song and joy.

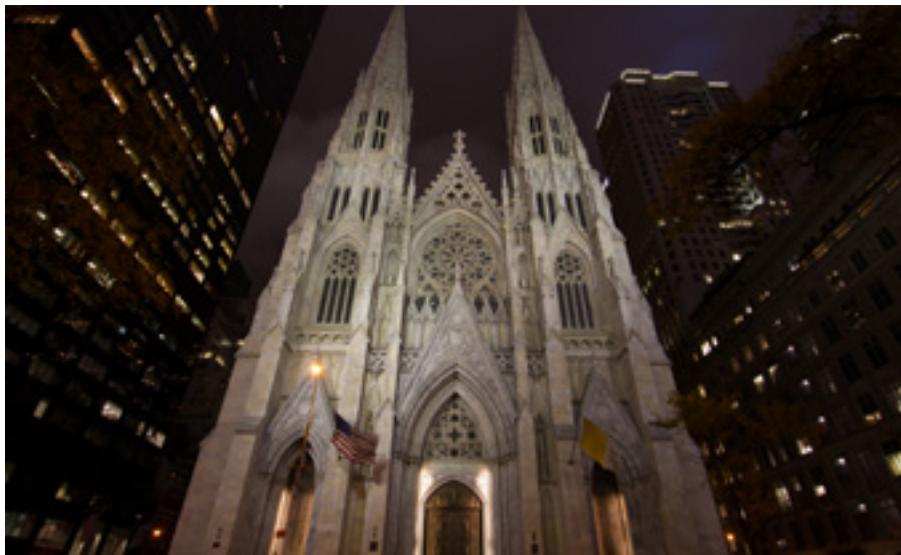
On Thursday afternoon, the new members and their families attended an orientation session where Chancellor Richard D. Milone, MD, coordinated an informational session. Eleven speakers shared information on subjects ranging from the Lourdes Pilgrimage, the Regulations and Commentary, the role of the Order around the world and the latest communications plans for the Association. The

orientation session was followed in quick succession by the Mass of the Blessing of the Capes and Robes at Saint Patrick's Cathedral, followed almost immediately by a reception for the new members and their families with the Officers and members of the Board of Councillors of the American Association. Many Areas hosted dinners for their new members following the long afternoon.

Friday morning's agenda began a full day; the Spirituality Committee hosted an early-morning session with Guest Speaker Molly Power Meyer, curriculum writer for Theology of the Body for grades K-8 at Ruah Woods Press. Immediately following, close to four hundred members and guests attended the Association's Annual Meeting in the Empire Room at the Waldorf. President Jack Pohrer

provided a State of the Association report, election results were reported, a legal update, a Treasurer's report, a Lourdes Pilgrimage update were among the subjects reported during the two-hour meeting. Several members of the Board of Councillors were recognized as their terms on the Board were expiring – William Koenig, Thomas

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Pecora, and Joseph Sokolowski, MD. Outgoing Area Chairs Dr. William and Mrs. Mary Beth Fessler (CT), Philip C. Lauinger, Jr. (OK), Carl and JoAnne Kuehner (Scranton, PA) and Dr. Donald and Hilda Brotherman (Dallas, TX) were also recognized. Bishop David Ricken from Green Bay, Wisconsin, shared a history about the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, the pilgrimage destination outside Green Bay which the American Association travels to in August. The shrine is the only recognized site of an apparition of Our Lady in the United States.

Not much time was left for lunch as the group and close to one thousand more people assembled for the Investiture Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral. Following the Mass, six hundred people gathered for the Reception and Annual Dinner in the Grand Ballroom at the Waldorf Astoria where the Grand Master was the guest speaker.

On Saturday morning, Saint Patrick's Cathedral was the setting for the Annual Mass for all Malades and Caregivers. It has become a tradition which brings together many past Malades and Caregivers and Knights and Dames who have or hope to experience the Lourdes Pilgrimage. Hundreds filled the pews where Msgr. Ritchie and a group of chaplains concelebrated the Mass and provided the rich spiritual benefits of the anointing of the

sick to the grateful participants.

After the Mass, the Holy Family Hospital Foundation hosted a brunch at the Three West Club (just across Fifth Avenue from the Cathedral) for the Malades, Caregivers and many Knights and Dames. With an even bigger room than last year, the overflow crowd shared a chance to meet good friends among the many who came. For the second year in a row, the Foundation will be looking for a bigger room to host the event next year.

In the afternoon, members of the Subpriory of Our Lady of Lourdes and many others gathered at the beautiful Church of Saint Catherine of Siena where Frá Nicola Tegoni took his first vows as part of his preparation to take his final vows as a Knight of Justice. Making their Promise of Obedience were Theresa Benedict, William Benedict, Kathleen Gandolfo, Peter Gandolfo, Camille Kelleher, Rory Kelleher, and Francis J. McCarthy.

An event-filled weekend concluded on a very high note on Sunday, as the Subpriory and other members gathered for one of the most important events of the weekend where Frá Richard Wolff took his final vows with Frá Matthew Festing, the Grand Master, receiving Frá Richard's commitment at Queen of Peace Church in North Arlington, New Jersey. ■



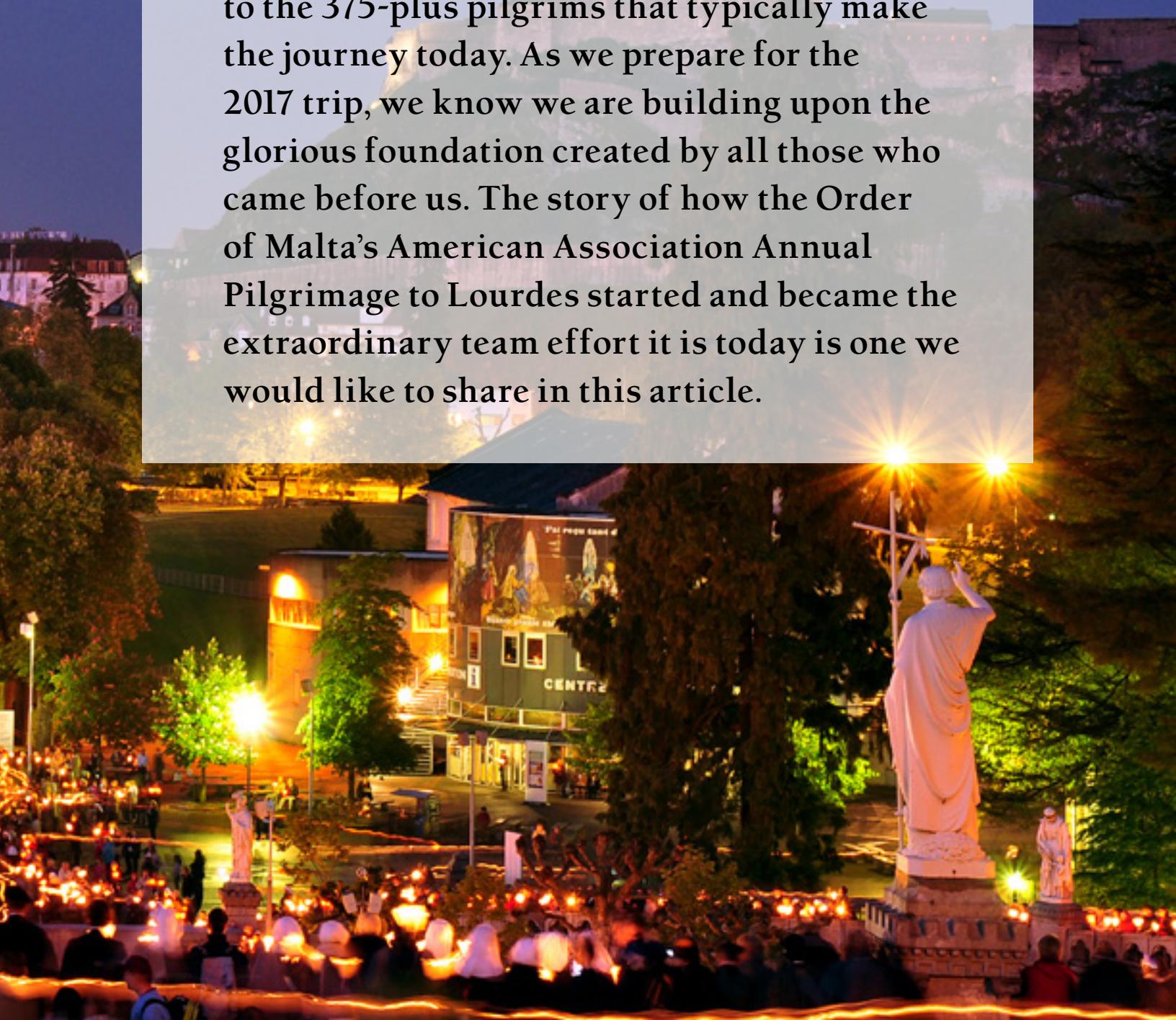
# From Good Spirit to a Shining Example of Teamwork

*How the Lourdes Pilgrimage Became What It Is Today*

by Craig and Nancy Gibson



This May, we will make our 32nd annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. More so than any other aspect of our work, this single ministry has fully and robustly engaged a remarkable cross-section of our membership. It has grown from the small group of 37 pilgrims who made that first journey in 1986 to the 375-plus pilgrims that typically make the journey today. As we prepare for the 2017 trip, we know we are building upon the glorious foundation created by all those who came before us. The story of how the Order of Malta's American Association Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes started and became the extraordinary team effort it is today is one we would like to share in this article.



(continued from page 7)

The first Chairs of the American Association Lourdes Pilgrimage were women, who began the planning shortly after women were admitted to the Association. The President of the American Association at that point was J. Peter Grace. He had been to Europe to witness the Order's work there and came back to say he thought they should plan a pilgrimage. He invited Ann Peabody to organize the event. Ann asked Cissie Ix to work with her, and they were joined by eight other women. "It was a big success," said Ann, looking back upon that first trip. "And it has grown and thrived since then."

The early days certainly had their challenges. "We didn't have a medical committee back then," Cissie said. "We had two doctors, Frank Hardart, who was an obstetrician, and another doctor who was a dermatologist. We also had a couple of wonderful nurses. But we didn't have a schedule. We just adopted what the French were doing. The hotel was at the top of a hill, and we women had to pull and push the voitures carrying the malades. But we were fortunate that no one got sick."

Through the '90s, the scope of the pilgrimage grew. Dr. Hardart was now the Medical Director, and the concern was becoming how to care for more seriously ill people who wanted to make the trip. Dr. Dick Milone, current Chancellor and, along with his wife, Dede, a past Co-Chair of the pilgrimage, remembers those years. "It became clear in the late '90s, as we began to take individuals who were more ill, that we needed medical specialists to accompany us," Dick said. Dede said the expansion of the medical team has been what has impressed her the most: "The way the medical team has grown, including experts in every specialty, it's like we are bringing a hospital with us."

Today's pilgrimage, which according to Dick Milone has included up to 400 pilgrims, is a much larger operation that requires extensive advance planning, complex logistics and sophisticated medical support. Central to making the entire experience successful is teamwork, as pilgrims with various types of expertise pull together for a common goal.

Joe and Elissa Metz, past Co-Chairs who made their first pilgrimage in 1996, have witnessed the growth of the pilgrimage and the extensive work that growth demands. "The beauty is how the pilgrimage started out with good spirit and intention and has grown to a highly organized process," he said. "We've learned the importance of being team players to achieve the good of the group." Elissa takes the concept of teamwork one step further. Speaking of meeting fellow pilgrims for the first time she said: "We arrive as strangers, but we leave as family. By the time we come home on the plane, everyone's hearts are so connected."



The Lourdes Pilgrimage has become close-to a year-round process that requires commitment from both American Association staff and a wide range of volunteers. "An operation of this sort could not take place without so many individuals contributing to make it work," Dick said. "First, once accepted to join the pilgrimage, the malades have to leave the comfort and familiarity of home to make the trip. That can be challenging, especially when you are not well. Caregivers have to be willing to provide support. The medical staff volunteer their time and expertise. You need strong young people to pull the voitures. Then there's the clergy. It's amazing to watch the heights they rise to in their homilies. I've heard priests and religious sisters say the pilgrimage is the most rewarding part of their ministry. They feel called upon to reach deep down inside themselves."

In addition to those mentioned above, volunteer roles include Team Captains, Team Hosts, Charioteers, Malade Selection Committee members, Co-Presidents, staff in New York and Lourdes, special assignments in the baths, airport hospitality, the children's program and so many more.

It is a vast undertaking that makes a dramatic impact on the lives of the malades and caregivers who make this heartfelt journey. But the pilgrimage also deeply affects those who accompany the malades and caregivers. If you have any doubt, you need only to listen to Ann Peabody. Now 95 years old, she looks back upon her many pilgrimages to Lourdes with great fondness. "It deepens your spiritual life," she said. "It makes you appreciate Our Lady. It is a very special thing to do, and we are very lucky to be able to do it." ■



## ■ FROM THE CHANCELLOR

I want to thank our 2016 Co-Chairs, Tom O'Brien and Donna O'Brien, for the work they did leading the 2016 Pilgrimage and the 2017 Co-Chairs, Nancy and Craig Gibson, for their work in preparing for the Pilgrimage in May. I also want to acknowledge the important role our Co-Presidents, Ken Craig and F.J. McCarthy are playing in planning the 2017 Pilgrimage. And I want to thank Michael Castine, who is stepping down after 12 years as Lourdes Pilgrimage Co-President.

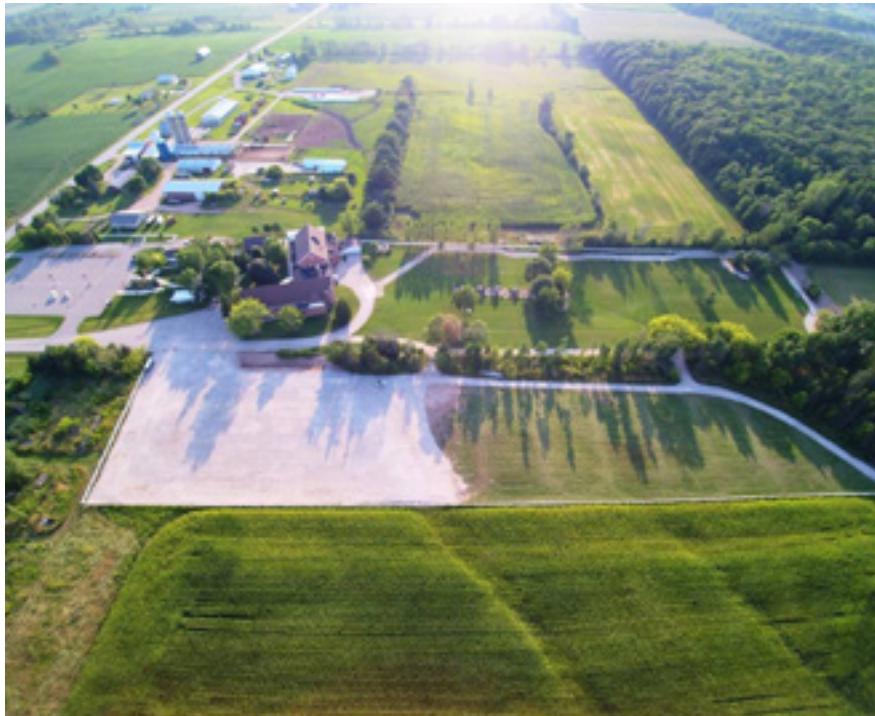
— *Richard D. Milone, MD, GCM*

# A Source of Hope in a Time of Need

**W**hen Bishop David Ricken speaks about the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help in Champion, a small hamlet sixteen miles from Green Bay, Wisconsin, he speaks with a knowledge coming from deep study and a heart filled with fervor for the Blessed Mother. The Bishop traveled to New York City for the Investiture Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral where he was invested as a Conventual Chaplain.

Earlier in the day, Bishop Ricken spoke at the Annual Business meeting to an audience of almost four hundred members and their families in the Empire Room at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel. The Bishop shared a comprehensive history of the shrine, how he came to accept and offer the shrine as an apparition site for the faithful who wished to come to that holy place, and what is happening there at this time.

In 1859 (one year after Mary appeared to Bernadette in Lourdes), the Blessed Mother appeared to Adele Brise, a 28 year old Belgian immigrant, who lived in the area and was walking through the woods with two friends. The Blessed Mother appeared twice to Adele; Adele asked, "What do you want of me?" Mary gave her instructions to teach the children and to pray.



Bishop Ricken said that we are each called to a vocation – marriage and the family, the priesthood, or religious life. He said it was up to the individual to respond courageously and generously to the call.

Bishop Ricken said that "Adele steadfastly carried forth to the extent of her abilities – she walked farmstead to farmstead within a 30 mile radius working the daily chores to free the children for an hour of evening instruction. She

lived a holy & simple life, carrying out the mission Mary gave to her until her death on July 5, 1896."

Bishop Ricken said that we are each called to a vocation — marriage and the family, the priesthood, or religious life. He said it was up to the individual to respond courageously and generously to the call. Parents can live their vocation by praying together as families and attending Sunday Mass faithfully, teaching children to be faithful to Jesus in and through His body, the Catholic Church.

In 2010, on the feast of the Immaculate Conception, Bishop Ricken approved the apparitions at Champion as worthy of belief (although not obligatory) by the Christian faithful. In March 19, 2016, on the feast of the Saint Joseph, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops approved the location as a National Shrine. Tens of thousands of pilgrims visit the shrine every year; the American Association's pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Good Help is scheduled for August 3 to August 6, 2017. ■

# Board of Councillors Election Results Reported at the Annual Meeting

American Association Chancellor Richard D. Milone, MD, GCM, reported to the membership at the Annual Meeting and subsequently by email/mail regarding the results of the Board of Councillors election. He explained that normally, the Secretary of the Association oversees the election process. Because the Secretary, Karol Corbin Walker, was running for re-election, the Chancellor was asked by the President to handle the process this year.

Dr. Milone congratulated the winners and thanked all the candidates who ran in the election and all those who voted. He reported that a total of 877 members of the Association had cast ballots, representing almost 47% of the membership. He noted that this was the highest participation rate in the last six years. The use of the electronic balloting had significantly reduced the costs of the election process by more than forty percent, with greater savings anticipated in 2017.

Because this was the first year, all members received a hard copy of the complete election package, including the 85% of members who have email addresses on file. In 2017, ballots will not be mailed to those members who receive an electronic ballot. If a member receives an electronic ballot but wishes to use a paper ballot, he or she will be able to request one. Currently, fifteen percent of members do not have an email address on file — next year, members without an email address will still receive a ballot in the mail.

Another benefit of the process was the increased efficiencies for the New York office and for the Secretary of the Association. The processing of ballots and the counting of ballots is now handled by the consultant.

There were a few bumps in the road this first time out, including a number of members whose email systems directed their ballots to their spam folders. Dr. Milone said that next year, information on dealing with the spam issue will be developed and shared with members. There was also some confusion about the term, OMAA, which had been used in the subject line in the first communication that contained the ballot. Since the abbreviation was not familiar to members, some ignored or deleted it without opening it. Subsequent communications referred to the more familiar “Order of Malta, American Association.”

A few members voted more than once; there may have been some confusion because most members had received two ballots, one by mail and one electronically. Each year, some ballots are invalidated because the voter chooses more than the maximum eight candidates. This year, only two ballots, both mail ballots, had to be invalidated. The electronic process had a built-in safeguard preventing the selection of more than eight candidates.

Dr. Milone said that, overall, the process worked very well and that the increased participation, reduced cost and greater efficiency afforded by the process all contributed to the success of the first use of the electronic ballots.

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## The following eight candidates were elected to the Board of Councillors for a three year term (2017-2019)

**William Besgen:** Connecticut

**Karol Corbin Walker, Esq.:** New Jersey\*

**Anne Marie Hansen:** Minnesota

**Camille M. Kelleher:** New York City\*

**William J. Knowles:** Westchester County, NY\*

**John M. Murphy, MD:** Connecticut

**John R. O'Rourke, Esq.:** Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Charlotte A. Williams:** Naples, Florida\*

\* *second term*



# Grand Master Visits the United States

## *Frá Richard Wolff makes his final vows*

**F**rá Matthew Festing, Grand Master of the Order of Malta, visited the United States in November to participate in the Solemn Ceremony where Frá Richard Wolff made his final vows in the process of becoming a Knight of Justice. The ceremony took place within a Solemn Mass at the Queen of Peace Church in North Arlington, New Jersey on Sunday, November 13.

Several hundred Knights, Dames, Auxiliary of the Order of Malta and members of Frá Richard's family and friends were present at the Mass and ceremony which was a beautiful blend of the Solemn Liturgy and the magnificent choir and musicians.

The Grand Master participated in a number of activities during his visit to the United States including the American Association's Annual Dinner where he was the guest speaker. He reminded those present that the new members had been received into the Order; he spoke strongly of the need to

support and defend the Church, accepting the full menu of its teachings, rather than the ala carte approach of many who call themselves Catholic. The Grand Master said the primary and most important purpose of his visit was to witness Frá Richard's final vows. A religious order cannot exist without those who are professed religious.

The solemn vows of poverty, chastity and obedience were taken by Frá Richard; these vows, known as the evangelical counsels, are what makes the Order of Malta a Religious Order. The following excerpt is from the Regulations and Commentary:

### **Constitutional Charter art. 9 § 1 Obligations of the Members**

The Knights and Chaplains belonging to the First Class profess the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience in accordance with the Code, thus aspiring to perfection according to the Gospel. They are religious for all purposes of Canon Law and are governed by the particular rules which concern them. They are not obliged to live in community. Although the Members of the Second and Third Classes of the Order are also full Members of it, only the Professed are Religious in terms of the Canon Law of the Church and the Professed Knights are thus the essential core or heart of our Religious Order.



## XV. CONSECRATED LIFE BASED ON THE EVANGELICAL COUNSELS

"In the Church's tradition religious profession is considered to be a special and fruitful deepening of the consecration received in Baptism, inasmuch as it is the means by which the close union with Christ already begun in Baptism develops in the gift of a fuller, more explicit and authentic configuration to him through the profession of the evangelical counsels. This further consecration, however, differs in a special way from baptismal consecration, of which it is not a necessary consequence" 173.

The Knight of Justice, called by God, lives the divine gift of his vocation in faith and charity. By his consecration and by taking on the practice of the Evangelical Counsels, with the Three Vows, the Knight of Justice detaches himself from all earthly interests through the love of Christ (cf. Mk 10:28) and desires, as the only necessary thing, the perfect love of God, to which nothing is to be preferred. To conform ever better to his vocation, the Knight of Justice unites himself with the sacrifice of Christ, in which he consecrates himself to the Father in the grace of the Holy Spirit. He renews this consecration and deepens it at every Eucharist. The three Evangelical Counsels of Poverty, Chastity and Obedience, chosen and embraced by the Knight of Justice with Solemn Vows, bind him canonically to their observance in complete dedication to

the sick and the poor. His life of Profession of the Evangelical Counsels must be lived as a consecration to God and to mankind in union with the love the Father through the Son and the souls saved by Him in His unique and eternal sacrifice.

For a more complete discussion on the First Class – Knights of Justice, you can refer to the Regulations and Commentary, First Class, beginning on page 81. The Regulations and Commentary are available on the Association's website in the Year of Preparation Room. The Regulations are the first item in the Readings section. In the Year of Preparation Room in the video section, there is an excellent video developed by the Communications team in Rome which the Grand Master has commended to every member titled The Heart of the Order. ■



### HIGHLIGHTS

#### Newly Invested Dame, Mary Jo Kriz, Reflects on her Investiture

It was hard for me to imagine this day after two years of preparing and looking forward to this step in my spiritual journey that seemed surreal and one I had never imagined for myself.

I was so excited to be at St. Patrick's Cathedral. I was able to go to confession and Mass prior to the Investiture Mass. I wanted to be as prepared as I could be. As I prayed the Daily Prayer of the Order of Malta, "Lord Jesus, thou hast seen fit to enlist me for thy service among the Knights and Dames of Saint John of Jerusalem..." the words impacted me like never before. I remember thinking, "Lord if you have seen fit to enlist me then, I want to serve you as you have called me to."

This is a major commitment as our Grandmaster Fra' Matthew Festing reminded us on Friday evening. This is not a reward. This is a lifetime commitment not as a member of an organization but as a member of a religious order that not only vows to serve and care for the sick and poor, and defend the faith, but to also be an obedient Catholic and to follow all of the teachings. It is a narrow road.

I will cherish this day and the privilege that I have been given to serve in a very particular way – a Dame of Magistral Grace of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes, and of Malta. Deo Gratias!

*Mrs. Mary Jo Kriz is a Dame from the Boston Area.*

## ■ IN MEMORIAM

## Deceased Members: January 1, 2016 — Present

William H. Ahrens, KM	Vero Beach, FL
Martin V. Alonzo, KM	Greenwich, CT
Joseph G. Bill, Jr., KM	Indianapolis, IN
Robert D. Blute, Sr., KM	Shrewsbury, MA
John A. Brunetti, MD, KM	Brooklyn, NY
Philip J. Burguieres	Houston, TX
Thomas L. Cassidy, KM	Vero Beach, FL
Geraldine Donnelly Chapey, PhD, DM	Belle Harbor, NY
Thomas L. Doyle, MD, KM	Forest Hills, NY
Karen L.S. Dutkowsky, DM	Cooperstown, NY
Sheila Dunne Feitelberg, DMOb	Boston, MA
John G. Forest, Jr., KM	Manhasset, NY
Martha Downard Fusz, DM	St. Louis, MO
Honorable Marie Louise Garibaldi, DM	Weehawken, NJ
Peter M. Guida, Sr., MD, KM	Lloyd Harbor, NY
Robert E. Ix, KM	Greenwich, CT
Peter E. Johnson, KM	Spring Lake Heights, NJ
Edward B. Kearney, KM	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Paul J. McNamara, KM	Chestnut Hill, MA
Joan M. Mooney, DM	Needham, MA
Dolores Josephine Morrissey, DM	New York, NY
Margaret Dineen Muccia, DM	Greenwich, CT
Sheila Walsh Murdock, DM	Hamden, CT
Anne M. Murray, DM	New Canaan, CT
William Howard O'Brien, KM	Boynton Beach, FL
Thomas J. O'Toole, KM	St. Louis, MO
Peter A. Piscitelli, KM	Riverdale, NY
Mary Flanagan Rigaut, DM	Fair Haven, NJ
Barry Francis Sullivan, KM	Bronxville, NY
Eugene E. Vilfordi, KM	Dallas, TX
Suzanne W. Wright, DM	Palm Beach, FL

(continued from page 2)

## ASSOCIATION ELECTIONS

I want to thank all those who ran for the Board of Councillors election. The willingness of highly qualified individuals to be considered for the election is a reminder to all of us that there is work to be done at every level. No matter where we serve, on the Board, in the Areas, or at a soup kitchen, the lifeblood of our organization is action. The Association would not function without the generous gift of the time and talent of our Board members, our Area leaders and all of the dedicated members who find a way to be of service. Your dedication to the work of the Order and the Association is a testament to the strength of the organization. Thank you for all you do as a member of this noble Order.

I close this message as I opened it — with the wish that the peace, joy and love of the Incarnate Jesus may bless you and your family this holy season and throughout the new year.

God Bless!

Jack E. Pohrer, GCM  
President

## ■ HIGHLIGHTS

### Care for the Sick and the Poor From A Different Point of View

When John Milton wrote his famous line that "They also serve who only stand and wait," he probably was not thinking about people who give of themselves by taking Basic Life Support training so they can be of service to those who are in sudden need of such help. Some might think that Blessed Gerard would consider it a skill closely associated with the hands-on work of service that is the hallmark of the Order of Malta. Undoubtedly, many people who complete the basic course(s) never have occasion to use the skills they learn and update regularly. Those skills are the "insurance policy" that can provide life-saving treatment at the most critical moment in a person's life.

In places around the world where the Order's members and volunteers take on the role of the ambulance corps or in the halls of the Order's hospitals, it would, perhaps, be more common than it is in the USA. It is estimated that more than 70% of Americans do not have these skills or have forgotten how to use them.

Training can be obtained at most YMCAs across the country for minimal to no cost; the American Heart Association and the American Red Cross also offer training. A simple search is likely to provide you with a number of no or low-cost options right near your hometown.



## HIGHLIGHTS

### Affirming to the Incarcerated God Has Not Abandoned Them

#### PRISON MINISTRY

#### 2016 Report of Activities



The North American Prison Ministry Apostolate ("Apostolate") consists of the leadership of the three United States Associations and the Canadian Association of the Order of Malta. The Apostolate was formed in direct response to the request of the Grand Master of the Order of Malta.

Collectively, the work of the Apostolate consists of the following:

**Participants:** we have over 2,500 knights, dames, auxiliary and volunteers working with us.

**Locations:** we reach some 37 countries in the Western Hemisphere through our quarterly publication, "The Serving Brother" and jails and prisons throughout the United States and six provinces in Canada.

**Religious Materials:** we distribute over 12,000 Malta English and 6,000 Malta Spanish bibles and a like number of Malta English and Spanish prayer books and prayer cards.

**Visits:** we see incarcerated men and women in some 60 jails and prisons. We mentor many of the men and women through Bible Study classes and further assist with spiritual growth through attendance at various religious services including the celebration of Holy Mass.

**Pen Pal Program:** this is a two-way anonymous correspondence with over 175 inmates throughout the country.

**Re-entry:** we assist hundreds of recently released individuals through mentoring, distributing Resource Guides of available social services for those in need, providing housing, meals, medical, education services and the like in designated caring centers.

**Families:** we reach hundreds through mentoring children of the incarcerated, providing transportation for visits and Christmas gifts.

#### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION

Prison Ministry in the American Association continues its active outreach to the incarcerated and their families throughout the territory of the American Association and in cooperation with the other associations of the North American Prison Ministry Apostolate.

Our prison ministry volunteers go into jails and state and federal prisons, minimum, medium and maximum security. The American Association goes into Death Row in Florida and the Federal Association, Tennessee and Georgia. The American and Western Associations are responsible for Death Row at San Quentin in California. We bring the Word of God to our Catholic inmates, we celebrate Holy Mass with them, we baptize and confirm them, we hear their confessions and bring the Eucharist to them. We listen to them and let them know that there are those "on the outside" who care about them and are praying for them.

During the past year 10,000 English language bibles and 5,000 Spanish language bibles were distributed, through our Catholic chaplains, in some 35 states in the United States. An equal number of English and Spanish language prayer books were also distributed. The bibles and prayer books were made available through the generosity and support of the American Association. The storage and shipment of bibles and prayer books were made available, at no cost to the American Association, through the generosity of Tom Pecora, KM.

In addition 150,000 copies of "The Serving Brother" were distributed throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean Basin, American Samoa, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands. The Federal association reimbursed the American Association for the publications shipped in the territory of the Federal Association as did the Canadian Association. Shipments to the Caribbean Basin were made possible by a generous grant received from the Order's ambassador to the Bahamas.

Considerable effort is being made to ease reentry into society by the previously incarcerated. Under the leadership of John Santa, KM. "The Justice Imperative" was published in Connecticut. The Connecticut Area continues to work with men about to be released from prison helping them with their resumes and developing their skills in participating in job interviews.

Andy Vissicchio in Florida, in concert with Barry University, developed "The Florida Employment Guide" which provides information for those newly released from prison as to where to go and whom to contact to seek employment. This document complements the previously published "The Florida Social Services Guide to Public Assistance for the Benefit of Ex-felons and the Homeless." These two publications assist the previously incarcerated in finding a place to live, getting a job, having their driving license restored and obtaining medical help. The production and dissemination of *(continued on the other side)*

*(continued from the other side)*

these documents was made possible by a generous grant from the Amaturo Family Foundation.

In addition, our efforts in Florida have been greatly aided by a generous contribution from the South Florida Area of the Order of Malta.

We continue to mentor children, ages six to eighteen, in Camden New Jersey, one of the poorest cities in the nation. Collaborating with the Center for Family Services, we have trained and certified men and women working with these children, many of whom are the sons and

daughters of incarcerated parents. We strive to keep these children on "the straight and narrow" and in school at least through high school.

Prison Ministry in the Order of Malta has grown considerably over the past few years. According to our survey, some 2,500 knights, dames, auxiliary and volunteers are involved in this apostolate throughout the United States. Prison ministry in the Order of Malta is the largest volunteer Catholic outreach to the incarcerated in the world.

*This report on Prison Ministry was provided by  
Robert J. Fredericks, Ph.D., GCMOb.*

## KNIGHTS, DAMES, CHAPLAINS INVESTED AT SAINT PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL

### — CONVENTUAL CHAPLAINS AD HONOREM —

Most Reverend David L. Ricken, ChC  
Most Reverend Gerald T. Walsh, ChC

### — MAGISTRAL CHAPLAINS —

Rev. Ian M. Jeremiah, ChM  
Rev. Paul G. Murphy, ChM  
Rev. Msgr. Neil J. Van Loon, ChM

### — DEPUTY CHAPLAINS —

Reverend Brian McSweeney, ChD  
Reverend Mr. John A. Barbera, ChDD  
Reverend Mr. Gary C. Ingold, ChDD  
Reverend Mr. John L. Shea, ChDD  
Reverend Mr. Gauthier P. Vincent, ChDD

### — DAMES OF MAGISTRAL GRACE —

Lourdes V. Andaya, MD, DM  
Theresa V. Brosnan, DM  
Catherine M. Brown, DM  
Kathleen H. Cardoza, DM  
Megan E. Carroll, DM  
Jeanne Elizabeth Costa, DM  
Maria Del Pilar Curiale, DM  
Barbara J. Dries, DM  
Elizabeth L. Dwyer, DM

Susan P. Egan, DM  
Susann L. Engel, DM  
Kathryn J. Enright, DM  
Joan M. Gleason, DM  
Mary-Ann A. Heller, DM  
Catherine Kinney, DM  
Michelle M. Klarchek, DM  
Mary Jo Kriz, DM  
Valerie A. Lettan, DM

Theresa Macri, DM  
Helen R. McCadden, DM  
Lauretta T. McCormick, DM  
Elizabeth M. McLaughlin, DM  
Angela B. McNamara, DM  
Virginia C. Meskell, DM  
Melissa Jo Moore, MD, DM  
Surita L. Newman, DM  
Anne G. Peach, DM

### — KNIGHTS OF MAGISTRAL GRACE —

Amine G. Abboud, KM  
Matthew G. Alderman, KM  
Alberto K. Alvarez, KM  
Elias P. Bahou, KM  
Raymond A. Bastarache, KM  
Sabino T. Baluyot, MD, KM  
Tyler M. Bender, KM  
David A. Blanton, KM  
Joseph J. Carter, MD, KM  
Vincent M. Chesney, PhD, KM  
Edward F. Clancy, KM  
Michael G. Considine, KM  
Jordan A. Costa, KM

Kevin L. Cronk, KM  
Natale J. Curiale, KM  
Mark L. de Fazio, MD, KM  
Giuseppe Joe Del Gaudio, KM  
Mark C. DeMareo, PhD, KM  
Timothy G. DeZastro, MD, KM  
Walker R. Dornisch, KM  
David J. Dries, MD, KM  
Timothy M. Dwyer, KM  
Thomas M. Egan, KM  
James E. Elbaor, MD, KM  
Brian Enright, KM  
John Q. Feller, PhD, KM

Scott J. Freidheim, KM  
Salvatore Giardina, KM  
Christopher S. Habel, KM  
Colin M. Harris, KM  
Jack Wayne Hawkins III, KM  
Peter A. Horan, KM  
David J. Houston, Jr, KM  
Jaime T. Infante, KM  
F. Robert Jordan, Jr, MD, KM  
Peter T. Kelly, KM  
Matthew W Knotts, KM  
Christopher Carter Lee, KM  
Steven Y Lee, KM

Ryan P. Young, KM



### **Madonna and Child with Donors (1386)**

*painted by Cecco di Pietro, Italian Painter, 1342 to c. 1402*

This painting from 1386 was recently seen at the Portland Art Museum (Portland, Oregon). Note in the lower corners of the painting are two smaller figures, identified as the Donors in the title of the painting. One of them is a Knight of Malta.

The accompanying description says, in part, "This symbolic and richly ornamented panel reflects the continuation of Italo-Byzantine conventions in the early Renaissance... Two donors, one a Knight of Malta and one possibly a high ranking official, kneel in the lower corners."

## ASSOCIATION CALENDAR

**January 11**  
**Palm Beach, FL**  
 Board of Councillors Meeting

**January 26-27**  
**Washington, DC**  
 Pilgrimage for Life

**March 1**  
 Ash Wednesday

**March 17-19**  
**Lutz, FL**  
 Retreat at the Bethany Retreat Center

**April 9-15**  
 Holy Week

**April 16**  
 Easter Sunday

**May 3-9**  
 Lourdes Pilgrimage

**May 17**  
**New York City**  
 Board of Councillors Meeting

**May 25**  
 Ascension Thursday

**June 24**  
 John the Baptist

**August 3-6**  
**Wisconsin**  
 Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Good Help

**August 15**  
 Assumption

**September 8**  
 Our Lady of Philermo

**September 14**  
**New York City**  
 Board of Councillors Meeting

**September 22-24**  
**Huntington, NY**  
 Retreat at Immaculate Conception Seminary

**November 1**  
 All Saints Day

**November 2-4**  
 Investiture Weekend Events

**November 2**  
**New York City**  
 Board of Councillors Meeting

**November 3**  
 Annual Meeting, Investiture, Annual Dinner

**November 23**  
 Thanksgiving Day

**December 3**  
 First Day of Advent

**December 8**  
 Immaculate Conception

**December 25**  
 Christmas

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 Executive Director

**Raymond J. LaRose**  
 Assistant Executive Director,  
 Newsletter, Board Meetings

**Kathleen L. Lyons**  
 Controller

**Maria Di Giacomo**  
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 for Member Services

**Carla L. Gunerard**  
 Program Coordinator  
 for Major Events

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*Photos for this issue have been graciously provided by Michelle Babyak, and others.*

### Change of address (physical or virtual)?

Please notify the New York office of all changes of address.

If your primary mailing address or your e-mail address changes, please be sure to notify the American Association's administrative team. Just send a note to the New York office or send an e-mail to [Miquan@orderofmaltaamerican.org](mailto:Miquan@orderofmaltaamerican.org) or call our office at **212-371-1522**. Maintaining correct addresses ensures that you will receive mailings on a timely basis. It can also save the American Association a significant amount of time and money.

## Our Mission

The American Association of the Order of Malta, carefully observing the centuries-old tradition of the Order, has as its mission, to enhance the glory of God through the sanctification of its members, through dedication to and defense of the faith and the Holy See and through service to our fellow man, especially the sick and poor.