

# *2018 Australian* **HOSPITALLER**

The Annual Review of the Australian Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta



## **Sovereign on Aventine**

World Day of the Poor | Asia Pacific Conference | Ancient Languages of the Order





On 2 May 2018, Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto was appointed the 80th Grand Master in the 900-year history of the ancient Order.



# WELCOME

## 2018 Australian HOSPITALLER

**W**elcome to *Australian Hospitaller* magazine, the Annual Review of the Australian Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta, for the year 2018.

It's our pleasure in this edition to document the important work the Order has been undertaking, locally, regionally and globally. It is a snapshot in time, a collection of good works and initiatives within the Order that make a difference for those less fortunate.

Perhaps, during these challenging times for the Church and this transitional phase for the ancient Order, it's more important than ever to recognise there is much to be grateful for. We are well placed to have a meaningful impact on the world we live in – one person at a time. Together with the guidance and support of our leadership, we also come together united in a spirit of service to others.

Our cover story marks a historic occasion. In May 2018, the Council Complete of the State comprised of 52 delegates had an important task to accomplish – to decide whether to select a new Grand Master for the Order of Malta. We're privileged in this edition to be able to document the significant appointment of His Most Eminent Highness, the Prince and Grand Master, Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, the 80th Grand Master of the Order.

In the following pages we provide many of the stories of the work undertaken throughout the year. This includes an overview of the eighth Asia Pacific Conference in Manila that highlighted the opportunity for the Order to learn from each other, share ideas and be inspired to help our brothers and sisters in our region that are most in need. We thank our event host, Order of Malta Philippines, that has a long and proud history formed almost 50 years ago.

The Australian Order mourned the loss of a number of members in 2018, and in this edition we bring you obituaries including John Sprouster OAM KMG, Dr. Giorgio Masero AM KMG, Dr Harry Crock AO KMG, Alick Peter Haddad KMG, Julia Lane DMG, Father Peter Galvin OP, Kevin John Croagh AO KMG, and Dr. Terence Farrell KMG.

At the international level, we bring you a report of the second World Day of the Poor – a significant day for the Order, as a personal initiative of the Pope Francis. The Order of Malta was one of the many organisations who participated, and increasingly, this will become a day of great importance as we apply ourselves to act out in charitable charism. In his message on the second World Day of the Poor, his Holiness Pope Francis, referenced Psalm 34:6, "This poor man cried, and the Lord heard him".

"... surrounded as we are by many different forms of poverty, to know those who are truly poor. It enables us to open our eyes to them, to hear their cry and to recognise their needs. What emerges from this prayer is above all the sense of abandonment and trust in a Father who can hear and understand. Along these same lines, we can better appreciate the meaning of Jesus' words, 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven' (Mt 5:3)."

His Holiness seems to be speaking directly to us. His words should inspire us seek out those who are sick, poor and marginalised in our community. Our duty is to not be bystanders, but to take real action and make a difference to the lives of others. ✠

John Murphy  
Publisher

### 2018 Australian Hospitaller

Australian Hospitaller is published by Prime Creative Media  
Melbourne Office  
11-15 Buckhurst Street  
South Melbourne, VIC 3205  
Sydney Office  
Suite 3.03, Level 3, 1-9 Chandos Street  
St Leonards, NSW 2065  
General Enquiries  
+61 3 9690 8766  
enquiries@primecreative.com.au

**Publisher:**  
John Murphy KMG  
**Editor:**  
Sarah Baker  
**Sub Editors:**  
Christine Clancy  
Daniel Kwok KMG (Ob)

**Contributors:**  
Noel Mifsud KMG  
Alastair Furnival KMG  
Scott Samson KMG  
Dr Margaret O'Donnell DMG  
Alexandra Duffy  
Michael Murphy  
Michelle Rees

**Design and Production:**  
Blake Storey  
Madeline McCarty  
Michelle Weston  
Kerry Pert



### Sovereign on Aventine

Cover image: The dome of Saint Peters Basilica seen through the famous keyhole at the Villa del Priorato di Malta. Rome, Italy.

**The Australian Association of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta**

#### Transitional Council

**President:**  
Dr Ian Marshall AM AE KC\*SG  
KGCMG (Ob)

#### Members of Transitional Council:

- Pro-Chancellor: Mr Sean Farrell KMG
- Pro-Treasurer: Dr Stephen Christie KMG
- National Hospitaller: Dr Robert Costa KMG
- Delegate of Communications:  
Mr Daniel Kwok KMG (Ob)
- Vice Delegate of Communications:  
Mr Anthony Gerada KMG (Ob)
- Southern Central Region Hospitaller:  
Mr Damian Wyld KMG
- North Eastern Region Hospitaller:  
Mr Derek Pingel KMG
- North Central Region Hospitaller:  
Mrs Maria Randazzo DMG
- Central Eastern Region Hospitaller:  
Mr Mark Boffa KMG
- South Eastern Region Hospitaller:  
Mr Sauro Antonelli AM KMG

#### Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception

**Procurator:**  
Professor David Kissane AC KMG (Ob)







15



20



22



30

## REPORTS

- 12 Association President
- 14 Subpriory
- 16 North Eastern
- 18 Central Eastern
- 20 South Eastern
- 22 Central Southern
- 24 Northern Central
- 26 New Zealand
- 27 Korea
- 28 Thailand
- 30 Hong Kong

## FEATURES

- 06 Grand Master for a New Era**  
The scene of the selection of the 80th Grand Master of the Order of Malta, leading to new hope and new direction.
- 15 A Piece of History**  
Our Lady of Philermos was the focal point of the meeting with the Montenegrin Minister of Culture Aleksandar Bogdanović.
- 34 Did you Know**  
A look at the Order's Ancient Languages: a unique administrative structure
- 38 Eighth Asia Pacific Conference**  
A total of 73 delegates from around the world attended the Order's only annual event.
- 42 World Day of the Poor**  
The World Day of The Poor offers the opportunity to focus on our Charism in new and practical ways.



06



42



38



46



52

- 46 CIOMAL**  
Recounting the work of the Campagne Internationale de l'Ordre de Malte contre la Lèpre (CIOMAL) in raising awareness and fighting fear of Leprosy.
- 48 Malteser International**  
For a life of health & dignity, an overview of the work by Malteser International.
- 52 Miraculous Lourdes**  
Noel Mifsud KMG celebrates the 160th Anniversary of the Blessed Virgin Mary's first apparition to St Bernadette Soubirous and the 60th Annual Lourdes pilgrimage of the Order of Malta.
- 56 No one is forgotten**  
The Global Fund for the Forgotten People is helping support those around the world with the services and care many of us take for granted.

- 58 Enabled for Great Love**  
The second Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities brings together volunteers and differently-abled guests to learn from each other.
- 60 More than a Home**  
A look at the causes of homelessness in Australia, and the Order of Malta's response through the Coats for the Homeless program.
- 62 Stories of a Lifetime**  
Volunteers biographers have published more than 1,000 stories of the lives of terminally-ill people.
- 64 Responding to a Changing Communication Landscape**  
A look at the modernised communication efforts of the Order of Malta Australia.

- 67 Book review**  
A recount of Gerald O'Collins latest book *Portraits Popes, Family and Friends*.
- 68 Obituaries**  
We record the life stories of eight members who sadly passed away in 2018.
- 72 If Walls Could Talk**  
An art event in Prague revitalised an Order of Malta-owned landmark, which since the 1980s has served as a symbol of free speech and non-violent resistance.
- 74 The Day we met the Grand Master**  
A group of Australian members recount their meeting with Grand Master Frá Giacomo Dalla Torre.







# GRAND MASTER FOR A NEW ERA

The Holy Spirit and the greater good proved itself more powerful than politics in the selection of the 80th Grand Master of the Order of Malta.



In a momentous occasion for the Order, the Council Complete of State came together to deliberate and appoint only the 80th Grand Master in the 900-year history of the ancient Order. The outcome was received with much joy and overwhelming positivity delivering clear leadership and united vision for the future.

The President of the Australian Association of the Order of Malta, Ian Marshall, admits he felt some apprehension walking into the gardens of Aventine Hill on 2 May 2018.

Dr Marshall was one of 15 Presidents representing the 46 National Associations of the Order, who with the other delegates formed the Council Complete of State of 52 delegates. The Council would decide whether to renew the interim appointment of Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto – who had served as Lieutenant of the Grand Master for the past year – or elect a new Grand Master for life.

Bringing this group together is no easy feat, and happens on only the most important of occasions. In this instance, Dr Marshall's apprehension was no doubt mirrored by other members of the Council at the important task they were facing – a task that would decide the future of the Order. With only an interim leader

for the past year, the Council had to make the most critical decision faced by any group – to elect a leader that would bring the Council into the future.

“There were several lead up meetings before we came to this critical decision,” he recalls. “Prior to that meeting there was some debate over the direction of the Order. But as soon as we walked into that room, dressed in our church robes, there was this sense of serenity and calm. It was as if you could feel the Holy Spirit descending upon us.”

The group was further inspired by words from the Pope, delivered through an address by Archbishop (now Cardinal) Giovanni Angelo Becciu, the Pontiff's Special Delegate to the Order of Malta. And with those sacred words and the touch of the Holy Spirit, Dr Marshall says the decision to embrace Frà Giacomo's leadership at that moment transcended all politics.

That decision, now well known the world over, was to elect Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto as the new Grand Master for life. Although there was an option to elect another leader, or simply renew this interim leadership, Dr Marshall says the Holy Spirit touched upon the group at that moment, guiding the Council

to embrace Frà Giacomo's leadership. It was a moment that has transcended all politics, a moment that reflects the Divine guidance that has led the Order's work for the past 900 years.

“There was no need for multiple ballots, the decision was made quite quickly. For the Order of Malta, the Council made the decision to march into the future,” he says. “The Pope called to congratulate the Order on our positive decision.”

The appointment as 80th Grand Master of the Order of Malta seemed a destined step for Frà Giacomo, who has lived a life of dedication to academia, the Church and, in the latter part of his life, the Order of Malta.

Born in Rome in 1944, he graduated in Humanities from the University of Rome, specialising in Christian Archeology and History of Art. He went on to teach classical Greek at the Pontifical Urbaniana Institute, and was Chief Librarian and Archivist for the Institute's collections of essays and articles on aspects of medieval art and history.

Frà Giacomo first became a member of the Sovereign Order in 1985, and took his Solemn Vows in 1993. From 1994 to 1999 he was Grand Prior of Lombardy and Venice, and from 1999 to 2004, a member of the Sovereign Council. He was



*A total of 15 Presidents representing the 46 National Associations of the Order joined other delegates to form the Council Complete of State of 52 delegates, to select the new Grand Master.*



Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto was born in Rome in 1944. He graduated in Humanities from the University of Rome, specialising in Christian Archeology and History of Art.

elected as Lieutenant of the Grand Master in April 2017, where he started overseeing the reform of the Order.

At the time, he expressed his commitments to supporting the work of the Order of Malta in tending to the sick and marginalised.

“We live in an era of unrest and uncertainty. Humanitarian emergencies – causing displacement and an ever-increasing number of refugees – are tragically proliferating around us. The demands of those in dire need of food and medical assistance, and social and spiritual

support, are increasing and it is our duty to help them,” he said.

“I take this opportunity to affirm, too, my strong commitment and total dedication to advancement and developing the important actions that the Order of Malta carries out – through our many associations, relief and volunteer corps and embassies – in 120 countries, some coping with the effect on location populations of violence, poverty and natural disasters.”

Frà Giacomo will pursue this vision now in this lifelong appointment. He will continue to oversee the reform of the Order of Malta that began in 2017. The Order has not reviewed the Charter and Codes that guide them since 1998. With this stabilised leadership, the Grand Master is now well placed to take the Order into the future, and continue to important work it conducts around the world.

Even the nature of the election was a reflection of the progress the Order of Malta has already taken, with two women taking part in the decision for the first time in history. As for what role Australia will play in the Order’s future, Dr Marshall says that his involvement in the decision was a sign of the Australian association’s contributions.

“It was an honour and a privilege to be involved,” he says. “It’s some recognition of the role Australia is now playing in the Order of Malta at the world level. It’s a reflection of our work in mentoring the Order of Malta in the Asia Pacific region, as the work of the Order expands in our part of the world.

As for what the election means to the Order, Dr Marshall says that it’s now “business as usual” for the Order. It’s an end to the politics, and a time to continue the Order’s important work.

“Think about all the institutions that have come and gone in 900 years,” says Dr Marshall. “It’s only by transcending politics and adhering to our basic charism of serving the poor and the sick that the Order of Malta has been able to continue for so long.”



# HABEMUS MAGISTER GENERALIS

Scott Samson KMG examines the process that led to the election of the new Grand Master in Rome.

The Council Complete of State of the Sovereign Order of Malta, held in Rome from 2 to 3 May 2018, elected Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto as Grand Master, the 80th since the Order’s foundation more than 900 years ago.

Frà Giacomo had previously been elected Lieutenant of the Grand Master on 29 April 2017, a role he was only able to hold for one year.

In accordance with Article 23 of the Order of Malta’s Constitutional Charter and Code (1997), the Council Complete of State is the body tasked with electing a Grand Master (for life) or a Lieutenant of the Grand Master (with the same powers as the Grand Master but in charge for one year).

A total of 57 electors took part in the Council Complete of State, including the Lieutenant of the Grand Master, 10 members of the Sovereign Council, the Prelate, six Grand Priors and Procurators of Grand Priorities, seven Professed Bailiffs, 10 Professed Knights representing the Grand Priorities, one Professed Knight and one Knight in Obedience elected by the Knights in gremio religionis, five regents and procurators of the Subpriorities, and 15 Presidents of the National Associations.

On 11 February 2018, the Presidents of the National Associations met in Rome to vote to appoint 15 of their number as representatives. For the first time in the history of the Order of Malta, two women, Presidents of Associations, including one from Asia, took part in the Council Complete of State.

As stated in Article 13 of the Code: “The Grand Master is elected for life by the Council Complete of State from among the Professed Knights with at least 10 years in solemn vows if they are younger than 50 years of age. In the case of Professed Knights who are older, but who have been members of the Order for at least 10 years, three years in solemn vows are sufficient.”

To serve as Grand Master, a candidate must also satisfy the nobiliary requirements prescribed by the Order for Knights of Honour and Devotion. The requisites for the Lieutenant of the Grand Master are the same as those prescribed for Grand Master.

At the time of the election, the Order possessed 12 eligible candidates.

## Election Process

The day before the election, Professed Knights taking part in the Council Complete of State assembled at the Magistral Villa in Rome to participate in a nomination process called the ‘terna’. Professed Knights have the right to propose three candidates to the Council Complete of State. The terna process is by no means a fait accompli. If a list of nominations

is presented to the Council Complete of State and a candidate is not elected from the terna in the first three ballots, all voting members have the freedom to choose in successive ballots amongst all eligible Professed Knights. The election commenced with Mass celebrated by the Prelate of the Order of Malta, currently the Most Rev. Jean Laffitte Titular Bishop of Entrevaux in the church of Santa Maria in Aventino. After the Mass, the 57 electors processed to the Chapter Room on the top floor of the Magistral Villa where the election took place by secret ballot. For a Grand Master to be elected, he must have received a majority, plus one, of the votes cast.

## After the election

Article 191 of the Code requires that the candidate elected to the Office of Grand Master, or Lieutenant of the Grand Master, must acknowledge his acceptance or refusal of the Office immediately before the assembled Council Complete of State. Shortly thereafter, the election is then communicated by letter to the Pope by the elected candidate.

## The Oath

If the process on 2 May results in a candidate being elected, the next morning the elected Grand Master or Lieutenant of the Grand Master will take his Oath in a solemn session of the Council Complete of State, in the presence of the Pope’s Special Delegate, Archbishop Giovanni Angelo Becciu. Mass will then be celebrated in the Order’s church, Santa Maria in Aventino. If the election concludes on 3 May, the solemn Oath session will take place in the afternoon of the same day.

Frà Giacomo took his Oath of Office in the Church of Santa Maria in Aventino, before the Council Complete of State and the Pope’s Special Delegate, the Most Rev Angelo Becciu\* Titular Archbishop of Roselle.

After the administration of the Oath, the Grand Commander, Frà Ludwig Hoffmann von Rumerstein, conferred the collar of Grand Master around the neck of the new Grand Master. Thereafter, Archbishop Becciu celebrated a Solemn Mass and the flag of the Grand Master was raised at the top of the Magistral Villa at the end of the ceremony.

## Closing of the Council Complete of State

With the Oath taken by the newly elected Head of the Order, the Grand Chancellor Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager declared the Council Complete of State dissolved as in accord with Article 194 of the Code. ❖

\*On 20 May 2018, Pope Francis announced the appointment of the Most Rev Angelo Becciu as a Cardinal. On 28 June, His Eminence Angelo Cardinal Becciu was created Cardinal-Deacon of San Lino.

“The Grand Master is elected for life by the Council Complete of State from among the Professed Knights with at least 10 years in solemn vows if they are younger than 50 years of age. In the case of Professed Knights who are older, but who have been members of the Order for at least 10 years, three years in solemn vows are sufficient.”





# ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

In this year's President's Report, **His Excellency Dr Ian Marshall AM AE KC\*SG KGCMG (Ob)** highlights the accomplishments of the Australian Association of the Sovereign Order of Malta and those committed to the Order's service nationally and abroad.

**T**he historically momentous occasion for the Order of Malta in 2018 was the election in May of His Most Eminent Highness, the Prince and Grand Master, Frá Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto as the 80th Grand Master of the Order.

It was my privilege to represent the Australian Association as one of the 15 Presidents of National Associations on this historic Council Complete of State, which met in the Palazzo Aventino in Rome on 2 May.

The Election had been preceded in February by an equally seminal International Seminar to discuss constitutional reform. Here, 10 working groups over a period of three days intensely discussed a wide range of topics identified as essential to constitutional reform to give our Order a framework of rules to deal with the present and future.

At the same time, the constitutional reform has to ensure that the traditions particularly of our religious institution are safeguarded, its charisma preserved, its identity protected, and its commitment to serve the poor and the sick guaranteed.

Reforming does not mean overturning an institution that has 900 years of history. Our present Constitutional Charter has certainly many merits and some parts that have to be preserved.

Another historical milestone in 2018 was the formation of an independent Hong Kong Association, the 48th National Association of the Order of Malta.

I publicly record appreciation to HE Ambassador Confrere Jim Dominguez, as well as to HE Ambassador Confrere David Scarf and Past President Tony Macken, all of whom had a strong influence on the development of the nascent group as it progressed into the full independence that HMEH The Prince and Grand Master and Sovereign Council have bestowed on the Hong Kong members by Decree on 17 October 2018.

I record here for posterity the warmest congratulations of all members of the Australian Association on the independence of the Hong Kong Association. We have no doubt the Hong Kong Association will have an influential role to play in the Order's future affairs situated as it is in the portal to China.

## Transitional Council

I take this opportunity to also publicly thank the members of the Transitional Council whose names are recorded elsewhere. The Council has worked cooperatively and harmoniously during the past 12 months to cover a lot of work, some routine, some not. This includes several important policy areas, such as safeguarding policies, now essential in the 21st century.

## Lourdes

One of the great events in the international life of the Order is the annual pilgrimage to Lourdes. The Order can lay claim to a deep Marian devotion since the discovery of the Icon of the Virgin in a shrine on Mt Philermos on Rhodes, and venerated since the relief of the siege of Malta. It is unsurprising that the Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes is now regarded as the major focus of the Order's charitable



effort, certainly since World War II.

The first official Pilgrimage took place in 1958 on the centenary of the Apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette with 534 pilgrims with 69 malades. This year, on the 160th anniversary, there were well over 10 times those numbers. Australia and our associated members from the Asia Pacific region were equally well represented with 99 pilgrims under the Australian banner – this must be some sort of record – 53 from Hong Kong, 36 from Australia itself, one volunteer from Thailand, and for the first time, a strong contingent of nine pilgrims from Korea.

At the risk of omitting many whose contributions ensured the success of the pilgrimage, I must record our thanks to Confrere Daniel Kwok, Delegate of Communications together with Consoeur Desirée Jebesen, our Hospitaller in Hong Kong, in liaison with Confrere Brendan Lawlor, Hospitaller of the Irish Association for their time and effort.

## Lourdes Masses

With the distances involved and the logistical difficulty of transporting our own malades to Lourdes, the Lourdes Masses held in the capital cities continue to grow in numbers and popularity.

They are reported on in more detail elsewhere.

## Regional Expansion

Regional expansion continues steadily, well illustrated by the outstanding success of the Eighth Asia Pacific Conference in November in Alfonso, Cavite in the Philippines. The Philippines Association hosted this conference with a record 73 delegates from Europe, the United States of America, and the Asia Pacific, including a strong representation from Australia.

Acknowledgement is due to our regional Ambassadors for their quiet but persistent activities. As the Order expands regionally, so does the influence of its regional diplomatic activities. In 2018, the Order established diplomatic relations with our close neighbour, the Republic of Nauru.

I recommend a regular visit to our website to keep abreast of the diplomatic activities of our Sovereign Order.

## Timor-Leste

The Timor-Leste Medical Clinic is the major official regional project of the Order in the Asia Pacific Region and remains of continuing interest to us in Australia. The project was conceived, designed and supported by Australians. Several maintain a close interest in the operation especially our National Hospitaller Confrere Dr Robert Costa, who in 2018 continued as Medical Director, endeavouring to maintain the highest international standards adopted from its inception.

The clinic celebrated its first anniversary on 7 November. Fewer than 20 patients were seen on the opening day. At year's end, the clinic had seen 20,000 patients, almost all "our Lords the Sick and the Poor".

The challenge with such a hugely successful project is to modify its services to fit within its sustainable capacity, especially its regional financial capacity.

The other official regional project is the Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities, based on a 30-year history of similar and highly successful camps in Europe. The success of both the first regional camp last year in Singapore and the second in the Philippines in 2018 augurs well for the future of this new tradition in our part of the world.

In 2017, Australia had two disabled youth with their carers. In 2018, we doubled our numbers to four disabled youth and their carers. On present indications we will have even greater representation at the 2019 Camp in Hong Kong. Australia will host the 2020 Camp.

Our communications activities deserve special mention as they become more sophisticated and we embrace modern technology, especially social media. Our re-designed website and social media channels are constantly updated, and the popularity and effectiveness simultaneously monitored.

The Third Global Communicators Forum was held in Rome in October 2018. This forum is the platform for the Grand Magistracy to inform Delegates of Communications of critical strategic directions of the Order, and how we can be supported in our activities in their entities.

Membership continues to build. We have a record number of members and we now have two families with third generation members. I wish to register my thanks:

To our Chaplains, all extremely busy with other important commitments who nevertheless find time to minister to our spiritual needs.

To our members for their support especially those who have actively contributed to the life of the Order.

To our families who uncomplainingly support our involvement, often sacrificing precious family time to the life of our Order.

To our Volunteers, especially our young volunteers who enthusiastically immerse themselves in *obsequium pauperum*.

## OUR RAISON D'ETRE

*This report would not be complete without reference to our raison d'être – obsequium pauperum, "Service to our Lords the Poor and the Sick".*

*One strong recommendation arising from the reform process is the need for a greater emphasis on the Order's spirituality, but, it must be noted, "a spirituality whose most defining characteristic is that it is formed through participation in the works of the Order". Formation must always connect the provision of "hands-on" service with a relationship based in prayer, an unequivocal affirmation of the essential necessity for us, individually, and collectively to focus on obsequium pauperum.*

*Pope Francis' recent thoughts are very much in accord with the philosophy of our Order.*

*The Pope's vision of holiness explicitly highlights migrants, whose plight he has sought to elevate to global attention perhaps more than any other issue. Caring for migrants and the poor is "as holy a pursuit as opposing abortion".*

*He states, "Our defence of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned", adding that welcoming the stranger at the door was fundamental to our faith. It is also fundamental to the charism of our Order.*

*"We often hear it said that, with respect to relativism and the flaws of our present world, the situation of migrants, for example, is a lesser issue. Some Catholics consider it a secondary issue compared to the 'grave' bioethical questions." Pope Francis urges followers to be less consumed with showy demonstrations of faith and piety than with patiently and lovingly raising children, working hard to support families and representing what he called "the middle class of holiness".*

*While he says "the silence of prolonged prayer" is critical, Pope Francis adds that holiness at times requires the faithful to be loud and active, and says it "is not healthy" to seek prayer while disdaining service. Tuitio Fidei through Obsequium Pauperum. The Pope criticises Christians with "an obsession with a punctilious concern for the Church's liturgy, doctrine and prestige". They should instead be passionate about "seeking out the lost". Obsequium Pauperum His comments could double as an instruction manual for us in the Order. Thanks must be recorded to the editors and contributors of this excellent edition of the Australian Hospitaller. ☩*





# SUBPRIORY PROCURATOR

The Knights and Dames in Obedience form the second of the three classes of the Order of Malta. Unlike the members of the first class (the Knights of Justice) who make vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, the Knights and Dames of the second class make a promise of obedience. **Professor David Kissane AC KMG(Ob)**, as Procurator, reports on the Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception.

**A**t a Mass to commemorate the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of The Blessed Virgin of Mount Philermos on 9 September 2018, the Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception saw Confrere David Blackwell, OAM RFD, take his Promise to become a Knight of Magistral Grace in Obedience. This was a special day for David, whose family attended to observe as witness to his faith. Confrere David has been Co-ordinator of the monthly Lourdes Day Masses in residential aged care facilities for the South Eastern Region, whereby the Order facilitates the aged and sick elderly to access Mass and Lourdes water in residential homes where Mass is not regularly celebrated.

The Sovereign Council has also approved two other members of our Subpriory to proceed to take their Promises: Confrere Justin Harkiewicz, Knight of Magistral Grace from our Hong Kong delegation, and Confrere Richard Caesar-Thwaytes, Knight of Magistral Grace from Canberra. We look forward for an opportunity in early 2019 for this to occur.

The 2018, the Sovereign Council approved the following Knights or Dames of Magistral Grace to begin their year of Preparation in the Subpriory: Confrere Ambassador Egbert Collin Yap, who represents the Order in Timor-Leste, Confrere Frank Testa, Confrere Sauro Antonelli AM, Consoeur Lilian Antonelli OAM, and Confrere Geoffrey Horgan QC. This year of preparation is book-ended by two five-day retreats, while aspirants work with a spiritual director as their Master of Probation across the year.

Applications have also been received from Consoeur Dr Margaret O'Donnell, Confrere Gerard O'Donnell, Confrere Sean Parnell, and Confrere Dr Robert Sainz to begin a year of preparation. The Sovereign Council asks that members belong to the Order for five years before they undertake their Promise of Obedience. In some cases, we are asked to slow down this application until members are close to the five-year mark.

Subpriory members took part in one of two available retreats for the Subpriory during 2018. The first was held at the Campion Centre in Kew, Victoria in February 2018, and preceded a Day of Reflection for the South Eastern Region. This retreat was led by the Most Rev Dr Terry Curtin, STD, DD, VG, EV, Conventual Chaplain ad honorem and Auxiliary Bishop of Melbourne, who focused on Living the Beatitudes.

The second retreat was held at the Canisius

Centre in Pymble, New South Wales in August 2018, and preceded the Day of Reflection for the Central Eastern Region. Fr Geoffrey Plant led this retreat. This is the second year in which the Subpriory has held two retreats across the year, which increases availability of potential dates to members, and reflects the growing size of the Subpriory's membership. This arrangement seems to be working well and Confrere Paul Grew's willing contribution in helping organise the Sydney retreats is deeply appreciated.

This year, the Subpriory's Leadership Committee has met to help coordinate retreats and guide development of the Subpriory. It comprises Consoeurs Jennifer Dunlop (ACT) and Mary Galea (VIC), and Confreres Anthony Gerada (QLD), Stephen Gatt (NSW), Paul Grew (NSW) and Ian Leitch (SA). Confrere Ian Leitch is developing a prayer book, with a draft currently under review. In addition, Consoeurs Dr Jennifer Dunlop and Lady Janette Murray, together with Confrere Daniel Kwok, have been examining the formation offered to new members of the Subpriory, and have developed a framework in conjunction with Dom Henry O'Shea OSB, Benedictine monk of Glenstal, Ireland and Magistral Chaplain to the Irish Association. This concept of formation has been a key issue amid the reform discussions occurring in Rome.

The Prelate of the Order, His Excellency the Most Reverend Msgr. Jean Laffitte, Titular Bishop of Entrevaux, and Grand Cross Conventual Chaplain ad honorem, plans to come to Australia in November 2019 to attend the Order of Malta's ninth Asia Pacific Conference, taking place in Melbourne from 21 to 24 November 2019. This will provide a special opportunity for the Prelate and for the Chaplains of our Order in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne to arrange workshops.

Physician-assisted suicide has been prominent in the State Parliaments across 2018, and members of the Subpriory have been actively engaged in presentations and advocacy to parliamentarians. This work will continue in 2019 as legislatures introduce this major change into our Australian health care systems.

Members of the Subpriory have also been very active in the charitable works of the Order, supporting the endeavours of the Australian Association to care for the poor and the sick. This remains the most important focus of every member of the Subpriory.

Thank you to all members of the Subpriory for your contributions throughout 2018. ✠



The 2018, the Sovereign Council approved the following Knights or Dames of Magistral Grace to begin their year of Preparation in the Subpriory: Confrere Ambassador Egbert Collin Yap, who represents the Order in Timor-Leste, Confrere Frank Testa, Confrere Sauro Antonelli AM, Consoeur Lilian Antonelli OAM, and Confrere Geoffrey Horgan QC.

# A PIECE OF HISTORY



## Our Lady of Philermos

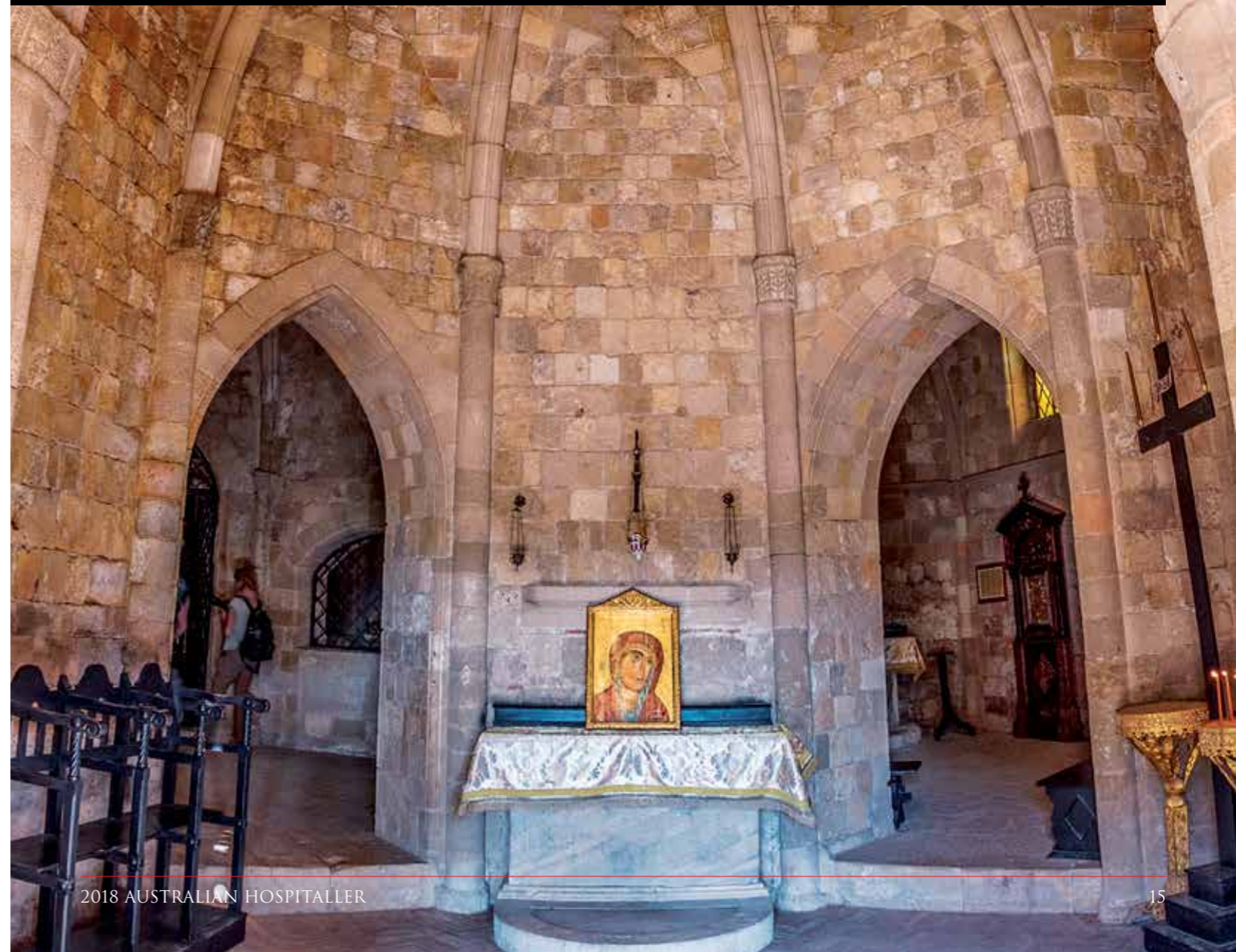
The ancient icon of Our Lady of Philermos was the focal point of the meeting with the Montenegrin Minister of Culture Aleksandar Bogdanović, received in the Magistral Palace by the Sovereign Order of Malta's Grand Chancellor HE Baron Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager on 26 April.

The state of preservation of the icon, protectress of the Order of Malta since its arrival on the island of Rhodes in 1310 and now in Cetinje in Montenegro, was discussed. It was decided to submit the Byzantine image to an in-depth technical analysis as soon as possible to assess its conservation and if necessary plan its restoration. The Order of Malta also announced that, to better protect the icon from humidity and temperature fluctuations, it will supply the Montenegro government with a high-tech display case which, besides being blast-proof, will guarantee perfect climate control.

For the Order, the icon is a symbol of its intense Marian spirituality. On Rhodes, it was kept on Mount Philermos (hence its name) and tradition has it that it was painted by Saint Luke himself. ✠

Above: The original icon of Our Lady of Philermos, National Museum of Cetinje, Montenegro

Main image: Interior of 14th century The Church of our Lady of Philermos, Rhodes, with a copy of the icon Our Lady Of Philermos







## North Eastern Region Hospitaller: Derek Pingel KMG

The North Eastern Region of the Order of Malta Australia generally covers the entire Queensland State, Australia's second largest state. It reaches out into areas around its borders, providing much-needed assistance and support to our Lords the poor and sick.

With a sprawling population of approximately 5 million people across a land mass of 1.853 million square kilometres, it certainly stretches the resources provided by a membership base of Knights and Dames numbering around 35, and approximately 80 volunteers. Although challenging, much is being achieved but much more can be done.

At every opportunity we welcome interest in supporting our Order to those seeking to understand the unique and rewarding blessing of becoming members.

This region continues to cultivate and grow a healthy, active and vibrant Young Order of Malta Volunteers group that provides outstanding support. This includes activities assisting the poor, sick and vulnerable in regional, rural, and remote areas. Below is a summary of the North-Eastern Region 2018 activities:

### Coats for the Homeless

This year, our North Eastern Region members once again increased their reach with the

Coats for the Homeless program. Distribution was coordinated through, and in support of, more than 35 separate entities and outlets within the region, providing just over 1600 coats to the homeless and vulnerable.

Simon National Carriers has again provided an outstanding service, transporting coats throughout the nation in a timely manner and for a heavily discounted rate. David Simon, CEO of Simon National Carriers, stated it was his way of contributing to the great works of the Order.

This charitable work continues to be a very worthy and highly successful activity and is one of the national projects of the Order, which has grown from strength to strength over the past decade.

This year's major fundraising for Coats for the Homeless held at the Brisbane Club, as has been the case for many years, was hugely successful and the generosity of companies, businesses, parishioners and other organisations has been overwhelming. This initiative continues to strike at the very heart of our Order's charism, and continues to gain tremendous support from the broader community.

The Coats for the Homeless Fundraising Breakfast is an annual event where more than 120 people attend. At this year's breakfast, our guest speaker, The Honourable Margaret

White AO, provided a sobering insight as a result of her commission in 2016/2017 leading the Royal Commission into the protection and detention of children in the Northern Territory. The generosity of attendees is greatly appreciated and the funds raised are channelled towards the purchase of Coats for the Homeless.

One hundred dollars will buy three specially designed, warm, shower-proof coats for those who need them.

### Lourdes Healing Mass

Saint Paschal's at Wavell Heights Brisbane, home for the North Eastern Region Order of Malta, once again hosted the 2018 Lourdes Healing Mass on 5 May, coinciding with the Order's pilgrimage to Lourdes in France.

More than 150 parishioners, friends and visitors attended this deeply spiritual event seeking our Lord's healing. Knights and Dames of the Queensland Order spent quality time with those in attendance and handed out bottles of Lourdes water and Rosary Beads.

We are thankful for the wonderful support of the priests and all those in attendance. Our Order continues to offer our prayers for healing of those sick and suffering. Several Priests, including Chaplains to the Order of Malta, participated in providing

a personal blessing for healing and good health during the celebration of the Mass. An enjoyable morning tea followed, allowing members to share fellowship with all.

### Assisting the Chronically Ill at St Vincent's Hospital Brisbane

Our North Eastern region of the Order has a long-standing involvement with St Vincent's Hospital in Brisbane, formerly named Mt Olivet Hospital. This involvement can be attributed particularly as a result of the works of our dearly loved late Consoeur Tess Cramond. Her work in the palliative care field in this region was world class, and the legacy of her commitment and dedication lives on.

Our Order continues in the provision of funding to assist those chronically ill and dying with the hope of providing a better quality of life.

### Care Packages

Members together with the Young Order of Malta Volunteers have developed a program to assemble and distribute much-needed care packages for the homeless and disadvantaged. This program, in its formative stage, will involve members' participation in the acquisition of product, sorting, packaging and distribution.

This charitable works of our Order will be a year-round program with specially designed packages sensitive to seasonal change and needs. Thousands of care packs are needed annually. We thank those who donate funds, product and their time toward this worthy cause.

### Spiritual Activities

**Parish visits:** Members and Young Order Volunteers from the North-Eastern Region coordinated Parish visits to two parishes. This provided an opportunity for the Order to share its rich history and highlight the charitable works in which it is engaged both regionally, nationally, and internationally. It has been a platform for those who have an interest in the Order to discern whether it may be a calling for them into the future.

**Order Mass and meetings:** The North Eastern Region Orders spiritual home is at Saint Paschal's Wavell Heights in Brisbane. Magistral Chaplain Father Gerard McMorrow celebrated Mass for Members, guests and volunteers four times this year, which was then followed by a regional meeting and dinner. This format continues

to provide a tremendous opportunity for the development of the ideas and importantly strengthening of a support structure for members, chaplains and volunteers.

**Spiritual retreat:** An important part of every member's ongoing faith development. This year our region coordinated a full day spiritual retreat providing a great opportunity for members, young volunteers and friends of the Order to participate in an enrichment of their faith. It is envisaged that in 2019 there will be two full day spiritual retreats for members in the North-Eastern Region.

### 60th Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Many North-Eastern Region Members and young volunteers and malade made the Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2018. As is always the case, the impact on those who attended was a tremendous spiritual blessing and life changing. Attendees provided care, support and transportation more particularly for Irish malades (those sick and disabled). At the heart of these works in Lourdes is being present to the poor and sick.

### Young Order of Malta Volunteers

This growing and exciting area of opportunity for young volunteers to join with members in charitable works and activities is in full swing in joint consultation. This will ensure that the most appropriate and effective structure is developed. Our region sees this initiative as a key component for the youth within the region to become involved and participate in serving the poor and sick. To date, this initiative has gained tremendous strength and support and we are very proud of the young volunteers who continually turn up and support the drive to make a difference to the poor and sick.

### Medicines to Timor-Leste

Our region has been truly blessed and fortunate that two of our Young Order of Malta Volunteers have been involved in this program since its inception at St Stephen's Cathedral in Brisbane. Recently, our region undertook a process of negotiation and discussion with our Young Order members to develop and grow this vital process, which ultimately supplies medicines to Timor-Leste. Once collected, these medicines were coordinated for transport through the North Eastern region and shipped to Darwin for disbursement through to Timor-Leste.

### Regional Housing Hub

In conjunction with this State government initiative local, regional and district agencies and organisations assisting the poor, sick disadvantaged and homeless have united under one roof to provide every possible service in a one-stop destination. This purpose-built facility in Toowoomba has been hailed as the first of its kind and a pilot program for Australia. The North Eastern Region of the Order of Malta Australia was invited to participate and work with these organisations and attended the official launch of this facility. There is a tremendous opportunity for the integration of our services with the provision of coats and care packs and other needs for the homeless, poor and sick. This is an exciting initiative and we are looking forward to its future success.

### Order of Malta Prize for Excellence in Palliative Care

The North Eastern Region Order of Malta has supported and sponsored the prize for many years. Last year, it was awarded to Ruby Geddes, an inspirational and worthy winner. Ruby is a second year Bachelor of Nursing student studying the unit NRS259 Promoting Health in Extended Care. She constantly shows a positive attitude towards the subject matter of end of life care alongside ageing. The successful prize recipient must display good results together with active, engaging class participation. End of life care is one of the key pillars in our Orders defence of the faith.

### Advent Mass and Dinner

This year, our Order once again celebrated a very special Advent Mass and dinner with the Bishop Ken Howell and a maximum capacity crowd of 80 to celebrate one of our Church's most important liturgical events.

Parish Priest of St Paschal's and long term Chaplain of our Order Father Gerard McMorrow, hosted this fantastic dinner.

This is a truly spectacular celebration so don't hesitate to try and book in early for 2019. We did have one of the Knights from the Central Eastern Region attend this year which was fantastic. I am sure based on his feedback, we should probably expand the venue. Many thanks must go to Father McMorrow and his staff for their ongoing and outstanding commitment to the Order for this, and all events held in his Parish. ✝



With Knights and Dames numbering around 35, and approximately 80 volunteers, the North Eastern region does its best to serve the approximate five million people living in this area.





### Central Eastern Region Hospitaller: Mark Boffa KMG

I am happy to report that the Central Eastern Region has had another successful 12 months, with the development of new programs. Our members have continued to immerse themselves in various activities over the past year, an outline of which follows.

#### Lourdes Day Mass

On Saturday 1 December, more than 500 worshippers (including 40 malades) joined 50 Knights and Dames for our annual Lourdes Day Mass at St Mary's Cathedral. Archbishop Anthony Fisher was the principal celebrant assisted by Fr Emmanuel Seo and our conventual chaplains, Monsignor Tony Doherty and Fathers Gerry Gleeson and Danny Meagher. In a moving and uplifting ceremony, we were able to distribute over 500 vials of water to the sick and the faithful, emphasising our broad co-operation as Hospitallers.

#### Winter Coats and Community Care Van

The Coats for the Homeless program was once again well supported by members and

volunteers, charitable organisations and religious groups under the leadership of Confrere Ben Franklin. Through the generous commitment of time and resources, we were once again able to deliver 3,000 coats – a record number to those in need within the Sydney metropolitan area, rural and regional NSW, and the ACT. We continue to receive positive feedback from those we support and were also this year able to transport two dozen coats to the United States for distribution.

The Order of Malta Central East Region Community Care Van project delivers much needed community healthcare and homeless coats to the most vulnerable. The vans are now fully operational in Darlinghurst and Parramatta. Each month our volunteers distribute almost 200 hygiene packs (containing toiletries and toothpaste), and in summer we are able to add sunscreen, water and sun hats to the vans. The Sydney and Parramatta mobile Community Care Vans are so successful the Order of Malta's Central East Region plans to expand the mobile initiative not only to other Sydney regions but to regional towns across NSW and the ACT.



#### Award for Excellence in Palliative Care

Each year, the Central East Region has supported a prize awarded to a student in nursing who demonstrates an understanding of the value of palliative care. This year the focus of the essay included a study of the notion of dignity and the physical and psychological effects of symptom distress on the person. The recipient in 2018 is Catherine Gale, a student in the School of Nursing in the University of Notre Dame Australia.

#### Mass for Deceased Members

Our deceased members were remembered at Mass held at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart. We were privileged once again to have Monsignor Tony Doherty officiating at this special Mass which was well attended.

#### Spiritual Activities and Defence of the Faith

The robed monthly First Friday Vigil Masses at St Mary's Cathedral continue with a regular attendance of around 20 to 25 members and postulants. The Masses are celebrated by one of the Orders' chaplains on rotation.

Members are also expected to attend Mass before the quarterly Central East Region meeting at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart Hospice in Sydney. Monthly Masses, supported by local priests and well attended by members, are also celebrated in ACT.

On Sunday 24 June, members participated in Mass to commemorate the feast of our patron, St John the Baptist at St Mary's Cathedral.

On Saturday 5 August, members participated in the Central East Region annual day of reflection at Mary MacKillop Place in North Sydney. Around 40 members and postulants came together to reflect and discuss thoughts put forward by Rev (Dr) Gerard Kelly. This day followed two days of the Subpriory's biannual retreat.

On Sunday 9 September, at the invitation of the Maltese Chaplaincy, our members celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Philermos and Our Lady of Victories at St Mary's Cathedral. This beautiful and emotional celebration – a fixture in the calendar of the Maltese community, was



made more special with readings in English and Maltese and the singing of the Australian and Maltese national anthems.

A representative from Central Eastern Region will join a National Defence of Faith Panel in 2019 in a program to regularly distribute information to assist in educating members on topical issues, and to



more actively engage the membership.

#### Membership

The Central East Region has eleven postulants, four of whom have now completed the approved course for formation. Postulants and sponsors attend preparatory sessions generally prior to the Vigil Mass and are led by one of the Order's chaplains through the 'Drinking from the Waters of Faith' program.

This very successful program has now been in place for five years and has formed the foundation for the introduction of a new generation of active members to our Order. We are immensely grateful to Monsignor Tony Doherty for his leadership in the application of this program.

#### Volunteer Support

In 2018 the number of volunteers across the region increased significantly.

In ACT, success has been achieved in attracting volunteers to work alongside members, and work continues in the provision of sacramental and pastoral support, as well as practical assistance to local aged care facilities and hospitals. Work to attract more volunteers continues with earnest and will be critical in maintaining the local activities.

Since the Parramatta Community Care Vans commenced operation in June 2018, almost 60 volunteers have registered to attend the weekly service and the roster is consistently full. Our thrice weekly barbecues at Gorman House and Tierney House and twice weekly Sydney Community Care Vans continue thanks to regular volunteer commitment. 🇻🇪

*The Community Van project delivers much needed community healthcare and homeless coats to the most vulnerable. The Parramatta Community Care Van commenced operation in June 2018, and almost 60 volunteers have registered to attend the weekly service.*





### South Eastern Region Hospitaller: Sauro Antonelli AM KMG

The South Eastern Region celebrates the appointment of Fr Joe Caddy and Fr Kevin Lenehan as Magistral Chaplains.

In April 2018 the South East Region was pleased to welcome Fr Joe Caddy AM as Magistral Chaplain to the Order. Fr Caddy, despite his relative youth, has a long and distinguished career of service to the community including Chief Executive Officer of Catholic Care Melbourne from 2004 to 2017, Episcopal Vicar for Social Services at the Archdiocese of Melbourne since 2016, and the Parish Priest of St Mary's East St Kilda since 2016.

Fr Caddy was Chairperson of the Catholic Social Services Australia from 2003 to 2013 and has carried out roles with Catholic Social Services Victoria, with Victorian Council to Homeless Persons, is a member of the Victoria Council of Churches Social Questions Committee, and Adjunct Professor at Australian Catholic University since 2007, among many other positions.

Apart from his academic qualifications of Bachelor of Theology (Melbourne), Fr Caddy holds degrees in social sciences from the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy where he focused his studies on Catholic social teaching and social ethics and economics. He was ordained a priest in 1990.

Sovereign Council at its October 2018 meeting approved the appointment of Fr Kevin Lenehan as Magistral Chaplain to the Order. We were pleased to welcome him at the meeting of members on

Every one of the 550 coats distributed in 2018 was personally handed over to a person in need by a member of the Order, or a postulant, or one of our many volunteers.



22 November 2018, and to present him with his Magistral Cross, although this will be blessed and formally presented to him at next year's Assembly.

Fr Lenehan will make a welcome addition to the Order's activities in the South Eastern region.

Rev Dr Kevin Lenehan is a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat in Victoria. He was ordained in 1993.

From 1985 to 1993 he attended the provincial seminary, Corpus Christi College in Melbourne, and completed degrees in theology at Catholic Theological College and in history and politics at Monash University. He has served as assistant priest and parish priest in the Ballarat Diocese.

From 2002 to 2006 he was Diocesan Director of Religious Education. In 2010 he completed a doctorate in systematic theology at the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. Currently, he is Senior Lecturer and Associate Dean (Postgraduate and Research) at Catholic Theology College Melbourne, a college of the University of Divinity.

Rev Dr Kevin Lenehan teaches and researches in the areas of fundamental theology, theological anthropology, René Girard's mimetic theory, and Bonhoeffer studies. He is a regular contributor in faith formation and religious education in parishes and diocese around the country. At present, he is priest-in-residence at St Bridget's Parish Greythorn in Melbourne, and offers liturgical ministry there on weekends. We welcome him to the Order of Malta.

#### Subpriory

Confrere David Blackwell made his Promise of Obedience on 9 September 2018 during the annual Philermos Mass at Newman College Chapel.

Five other members from Victoria have entered their year of training and will attend the Subpriory Retreat in February 2019.

#### 2018 Coats for the Homeless Program

During 2018 we serviced the city on Tuesday and Thursday nights accompanying the St Vincent de Paul vans. We also serviced the North Melbourne stop, again with St Vincent de Paul and on Monday evenings through Confrere David Kissane, assisted by Paul Santamaria, we serviced the St Kilda stop where the Capuchin Brothers give out the food.

The Australian Catholic University (ACU) law student volunteers also accompanied St Vincent de Paul vans once each week in the city run, and met the homeless and personally handed over coats.

Confrere Geoffrey Horgan assisted by Helen Milovanovic of the ACU supervised this program.

A total of some 550 coats were distributed in 2018. Every one of these 550 coats was handed over personally to a homeless person by a member of the Order, or a postulant, or one of our many volunteers.

#### Lourdes Day Mass

On 1 December the annual Lourdes Day Mass took place at St Patrick's Cathedral celebrated by our Chaplain Bishop Terry Curtin and concelebrated with the Order's Chaplains. Some 2000 persons participated together with approximately 40 members of the Order.

Each participant was given a gift pack (comprising the Mass book, prayer material, Rosary beads and a small bottle of Lourdes water).

#### Lourdes Masses

Eleven Masses have taken place in 2018 in Catholic aged care centres. The aim is to bring Lourdes to the frail and sick residents in our aged care centres given that they are physically unable to attend the annual Lourdes Day Mass much less visit Lourdes itself.

Each resident is given a gift pack and the occasions are very moving and affirmative of our responsibilities in the Order.

These Masses are increasingly popular and we have received three additional requests from aged care centres to have a Lourdes Mass at their centre in 2019.

#### Monthly Vigil Masses

Vigil Masses have continued throughout 2018, celebrated by the Order's chaplains, with a regular attendance of approximately 20 members. This year, a regular practice of going to the nearby pub after the Mass for a meal together has proven very popular and has assisted in bonding in a social environment.

#### Film Night Fundraiser

The annual Order of Malta film night was held on 11 October. The film was Ladies in Black, a look at a slice of life in Australia in the early 1950s.

This was our best-attended film night with 112 present and a net amount of \$4460



was raised from ticket sales and donations. This amount will be distributed between Eastern Palliative Care (a partnership organisation between the Order, the Sisters of Charity and Outer East Palliative Care) and the Order's clinic in Timor-Leste.

#### Eltham Family Housing and Support Project 2016 -18

The Order and the Gill Family Foundation funded the Eltham family housing and support project jointly at \$75,000. The Catholic Social Services Victoria (the Archdiocese of Melbourne's welfare agency) administered the project, which provides short-term accommodation to asylum seekers.

Specifically, it assisted Christian Syrian asylum seekers who arrived in Australia under the program of 12,000 refugees brought in by the then Abbott Government.

It has been very successful in ensuring positive integration of the asylum seekers into the broader community. They have now found employment and have moved into rental accommodation.

#### Mass for the Faithful Departed

On 4 November we held our annual Mass for the Faithful Departed of the Order at the Carmelite Monastery in Kew with a wonderful participation of members (robed), family and friends and some widows and widowers of the members who have died.

This celebration prompted us to make sure that our list of members that have died is complete and up to date and I'm confident that we have now captured all of these



former members.

The next challenge, which may prove somewhat difficult, is to identify the surviving spouses of our departed members so that they can be invited to attend this memorial as in future years.

#### Asia Pacific Conference 2019

We were delighted to be advised by the National President that next year's Asia Pacific Conference will be held in Victoria in November 2019.

A working group has already been established and it is beavering away to find appropriate accommodation for participants (expected to include the Grand Chancellor, the Grand Hospitaller and the Prelate of the Order), find suitable transport solutions for those attending and to address the multitude of matters to be addressed for an event such as this. ✝





### Southern Central Region Hospitaller: Damian Wyld KMG

The Southern Central Region is perhaps unusually named, given that it now encompasses both South Australia and Western Australia. Such a vast area poses unique challenges, so it is encouraging to see how members there have continued striving to further the Order's works.

#### Lourdes Mass and Events

February 2018 saw our annual Adelaide Lourdes Mass celebrated in St Patrick's Church (due to the Cathedral undoing refurbishment). Members of the Order distributed bottles of Lourdes water following the Mass. The demand was considerable.

Reflecting the Order's charism to serve our Lords the poor and the sick, it was heartening to see those unwell, suffering disability or similar able to attend in good numbers.

Around this time, region chaplain Fr Allan Winter hosted members for a screening of the movie Bernadette on the life of St Bernadette Soubirous, and the Lourdes story.

It was great for the region to have three members attend the Order's international Lourdes pilgrimage.

#### Marian Procession

In May, the Order sent a contingent to the Adelaide Archdiocese's annual Marian procession.

Along with members of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, our members traditionally lead the bier carrying Our Lady through the city's parklands during the recitation of the Rosary. The event

concluded with Benediction. Such events are also helpful in gradually increasing the Order's profile in the broader Church.

#### Coats for the Homeless

The Order's national Coats for the Homeless program remains a key focus in our region. In South Australia, 450 coats were purchased for those sleeping rough in 2018 to help them get through the cold and wet weather.

Our distribution network across the Adelaide metropolitan area is now well established, comprising the St Vincent de Paul Society, the Hutt St Centre (Daughters of Charity), the Adelaide Day Centre, and the Otherway Aboriginal Catholic chaplaincy.

In recent years, Confrere Phil Wyld has made good inroads into regional South Australia, where the Knights of the Southern Cross now assist in distributing coats to the needy in Port Augusta, Port Pirie, and Whyalla.

The program now reaches as far as Port Lincoln, where the local Catholic parish not only assists with distribution, but also helps fund the program.

Western Australia continues to punch well above its weight, with that part of our region alone distributing 350 coats. Distribution partners included The Shopfront in Maylands run by the Perth Archdiocese; St Vincent de Paul Society Canning Vale who provided the Coats to their homeless services in Northbridge, Mandurah and Albany; Day Dawn Advocacy Centre (Indigenous

homeless service in Northbridge; and St Patricks Community Support Centre in Fremantle.

The combined regional total coats for the year was 800 – a number we are working to repeat in 2019.

#### Supporting Charitable Works

The Order has supported several local centres for the homeless over a lengthy period of time. These are the Hutt St Centre (Daughters of Charity) and the Adelaide Day Centre. Both provide much-needed services for those sleeping rough.

In 2018, we were in a position to provide solid financial support to both, namely \$10,000 to the Hutt St Centre and \$6000 to the Adelaide Day Centre. This support was made possible by long-running regional fundraising efforts.

#### Celebrating our Patron

As is our custom in the 'off year' from the Order's national assembly, the region conducted several activities around the feast day of our patron, St John the Baptist, in late June 2018

Fr Peter Zwaans of the Adelaide Archdiocese conducted the annual morning of reflection, and also offered Mass for us in St Francis Xavier's Cathedral. The reflection focused on our patron, his life, qualities, and what we can learn from him.

We returned to the Cathedral the following day for the main Sunday Mass at which the Order formed a procession. As chance would have it, the celebrant was the Maltese-born Fr Charles Gauchi, who was shortly thereafter named the new Bishop of Darwin.



#### Annual Retreat

November saw the region's annual retreat take place at the Jesuit center at Sevenhill, in South Australia's picturesque and historic Clare Valley. A number of members were able to attend, either for part or for all of the retreat, and found the event quite edifying.

#### Film Fundraiser

Our annual film afternoon fundraiser was successful again. Despite lower than usual numbers, generous attendees and efforts to get our overheads down still produced a strong result.

This long-running event is crucial to funding our contribution to the Adelaide Day Centre – as well as our own Coats for the Homeless program.



#### Prize Giving

For many years, Members of the Order in WA have supported medical students at the University of Notre Dame for achieving excellence in Philosophy and Ethics with a prize at the annual awards evening.

However in 2017, the School of Medicine Fremantle combined Philosophy, Theology and Ethics into a single integrated course of Bioethics. As a result, there is now a single award supported by the Order of Malta, the Catholic Doctors Association (CDA) WA, and the LJ Goody Bioethics Centre.

Dr. Michael Tandon, President of the CDA WA, presented the 2018 prize for Bioethicsto recipient Sybil Trebeck.

#### Membership

We were saddened by the passing of two long-time members during the year, namely Confreres Giorgio Masero and Alick Haddad. They will certainly be missed.

Efforts were begun during the year to shift Order gatherings away from a formal meeting format and more towards the core business our two-fold mission (tuitio fidei et obsequium pauperum). It's early days, but we are getting there.

Bi-monthly Adelaide meetings now usually alternate on the off months with a Mass at Calvary Hospital, followed by dinner. Increasingly, the spiritual and social dimensions of our gatherings have been a welcome development.





### North Central Region Hospitaller: Maria Randazzo DMG

In 2018, the service in North Central Region progressed well in terms of consolidation of its activities and consistency in practising the Order's charisma Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum. It also saw the opening of new opportunities and collaborations with some of the charitable and Catholic organisations present in the Northern Territory.

#### Catholic Advocacy Service

Throughout 2018, we have been dealing with new advocacy cases, mostly involving administrative assistance to disadvantaged individuals and single mothers.

In addition, we have consistently provided advocacy support for a 'Capacity Building' approach to the current development work of the Indigenous ministries within Central Australian Parishes.

The Capacity Building approach is aimed at facilitating grass roots community development that empowers and supports our Indigenous brothers and sisters in their endeavours to take action, bring about change, and improve their standard of living. The proposed approach is framed within a social justice framework. It enhances human and social capital by building local capacities in cultural, intellectual, organisational,

social, political, and economic projects that achieve practical sustainable outcomes for Indigenous families. This model provides an intergenerational, multi-dimensional, culturally oriented local response to implement action and change.

#### Coats, Blankets, and Rosary Kits in Central Australia

The distribution of coats, blankets, Rosary kits and Holy Water from Lourdes has been carried out in Central Australia, specifically in Alice Springs and Santa Teresa (also known as the Ltyentye Apurte Community, located about 80 kilometres south-east of Alice Springs). Alice Springs and Santa Teresa are becoming one of the focal points of service for the Northern Central Region of the Order Of Malta.

The distribution has been realised by the members, with the assistance of a few local volunteers. Father Raass (the parish priest of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Alice Springs), Sister Wiemers and Fr Prakash (Santa Teresa parish) have greatly facilitated the distribution by coordinating and providing storage of the goods to be donated.

This year, the distribution has targeted predominantly Indigenous people of the Arrernte Community, the traditional owners of country, east of and around Alice Springs.

#### Donations

In the past year we have donated furniture to St Vincent de Paul for needy families and assisted with the preparation and distribution of Christmas hampers for the needy.

The yearly donation of Massbooks to Mother Teresa Primary School in Palmerston has been coordinated with the Northern Territory Catholic Education Office.

#### Annual Mass and Retreat

Our yearly Mass and retreat was held in Alice Springs from 8 to 9 September 2018. Father Raass celebrated Mass and led the retreat, assisted by our Chaplain Father Malcolm Fyfe. After the retreat, the members visited the White Gate Camp on the outskirts of Alice Springs and were warmly welcomed by a number of the residents. On this occasion, more coats and blankets were distributed. The members also visited Santa Teresa, where they met some members of the Indigenous community for morning tea. It was a grace-filled time for exploring further ways to assist the Arrernte People and to engage more volunteers in Central Australia.

Finally, we were privileged and honoured to be invited for a guided 'walk through country' at Heavitree Gap, and to participate in a smoking ceremony welcoming us to country.



#### Unity Diocesan Magazine

This year, the members' individual contributions to Unity have included articles on constitutional recognition of Aboriginal peoples, faith and equality: Balancing religious freedom rights, equality rights in a multicultural society, and the Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

#### Creating Leaders Scholarship Program in Dili

On 28 October 2018, a few members, in their quality of sponsors of some of the students, met 14 students of the Scholarship program at the Order of Malta Embassy in Dili, aged six to 17. The students were presented with the donation of a laptop to use at the Embassy, and with individual gifts. They all are committed to their studies, striving to give their best academically, and notwithstanding their challenging family and economic circumstances.

#### Candidacy for Membership of two Postulants in Timor-Leste

The Northern-Central Region is supervising the probationary year of two postulants from Dili, who will subsequently join the Singapore Association. The first meeting took place at the Apostolic Nunciature in Dili on 27 October 2018. Monsignor Mario Codamo, Chargé d'Affaires of the Apostolic Nunciature to the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste conducted Mass and a mini-retreat. Monsignor Codamo was conferred the Order pro Merito Melitensi – Cross pro Piis Meritis

(Ecclesiastics Class) in recognition of his dedication to and support of the Order of Malta's mission in Timor-Leste. Three members and one postulant from our region attended the meeting.

#### Ordination of Father Charles Gauci as the 5th Bishop of Darwin

On 26 September 2018, the members of the Order in Darwin and several interstate members attended the ordination of Father Charles Gauci as the fifth Bishop of Darwin. Bishop Gauci was born on 31 March 1952 at Floriana, a fortified town in the South Eastern Region area of the island Republic of Malta.

Bishop Gauci gave his blessing for the members of the Order to process into the Cathedral with him on his ordination and has assured us of his ongoing support and blessings for the work of the Order in the Diocese and beyond.

The ordination was a wonderful event testifying to the depth and breadth of the vibrant cultural diversity of the Territory. There was a special smoking ceremony before we processed into the church and an emphasis on Indigenous spirituality within the Diocese.

The members of the Order in the Northern Territory thank Bishop Charles for his active support of the Order and his blessing for our involvement in his ordination and look forward to a long and fruitful relationship with him during his time in the Territory.

*In September 2018, the members of the Order in Darwin and several interstate members attended the ordination of Father Charles Gauci as the fifth Bishop of Darwin.*







**New Zealand Delegation Chair: Peter Wood KMG**

Homelessness is an ever-growing problem in New Zealand cities as rental housing has become more and more unaffordable. Our focus again this year has been the Coats for the Homeless program through the winter months. Local fundraising enabled New Zealand Order of Malta members to distribute 700 coats to vulnerable people in Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington.

We acknowledge the generosity of the Central Eastern Region (New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory) for funding the coats for Auckland and to Catholic Social Services (CSS) for their distribution. CSS were enormously grateful for the Order of Malta's initiative and benevolence in extending this opportunity to Auckland's homeless people.

Wellington-based members walked the CBD streets one night a week during winter, encountering people who were sleeping rough and gifting them a coat. As well, our Hospitaller, Dr Greg Coyle, has been working with the Wellington City Mission and The Salvation Army to ensure

as many homeless people as possible have a warm and dry coat. The coats are more than just a garment to ward off the cold and rain, they are received as an expression of caring Christian love.

Coats have been distributed in Christchurch with the support of our first Order of Malta volunteer. It is not uncommon for winter temperatures there to reach below zero with about 70 days of hard frost.

There are few members of the Order of Malta in New Zealand and the members have actively set out to recruit new members. These discussions with 'possibles' have begun in 2018 and we pray these encouragements and discussions will bear fruit in 2019.

With so few members currently spread across both the North and South Islands, it is difficult to get everyone together. We have laid plans for a members meeting and fellowship gathering in 2019 in Wellington.

We continue to pray God will uphold the work of the Order of Malta in the coming year and pour down his grace and blessings on our New Zealand members. 🇺🇳



Left: Members of the New Zealand Order of Malta help distribute 700 coats to vulnerable people in Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington.

**Korean Chair: Silvano Yongmaan Park KMG**

The Order of Malta Korea (OMK) has been continuing the Lunch Box for the Forgotten Neighbours in the slum near Seoul Station, serving more than 330 lunch boxes per service. This equates to nearly 15,000 lunch boxes so far, thanks to the 150 volunteers who have joined us since June 2016.

As the number of regular volunteers grew, the frequency of our lunch box service increased from once a month to twice a month, and now four times a month as of December 2018. This has allowed us to provide operational efficiency, as well as a self-sufficient ground for the House of Catholic Love and Peace where we gather to cook and pack the lunch boxes. OMK is also developing a mobile site to help volunteers sign up, navigate, and look up necessary information when delivering lunch boxes.

With the Lunch Box project now a regular weekly program, OMK has expanded its reach with a second project called Bread for the Weekend. This project aims to provide bread to the forgotten people, those who can hardly afford even one meal over the weekend.

The Sisters of Mary will bake bread on our behalf, and the OMK will pack and deliver them to the House of Love and Peace. The House will then distribute them to the forgotten neighbours in the slum nearby.

The first batch of bread was consecrated on 6 December 2018 by Father Paul Seong-ryong Bae, and Father Bartolomeo Keun Huh. Heartfelt thanks to Silvano Yongmaan Park, President OMK, who initiated the idea of the Bread for the Weekend. He also donated the entire facility for the bakery, newly set-up for this project in the convent of Sisters of Mary. And thanks to Helene Hyewon Chung, an aspirant of OMK who actually implemented as a project champion. The first delivery of about 300 loaves of bread will be distributed on 5 January, 2019.

Last but not least, the OMK's third project is now in full action — Jacket for Life. On 10 December President Silvano Yongmaan Park, with members and volunteers, distributed winter jackets for the homeless around Seoul Station.

The winter jacket itself protects the homeless from the freezing cold. The jackets are designed to have the function of a sleeping bag. President Silvano Yongmaan Park initiated the idea of the Jacket for Life project and directed the design with the sleeping bag function embedded. The jackets also have a buckle strap in the wrist for the homeless to carry the jacket easily. A total of 300 jackets were manufactured and the first 100 jackets were distributed on this day.

We started distributing the jackets at 9pm

to ensure delivery only to those who have no place to return to after sunset. With the assistance of Namdaemun Police Station, we were able to deliver jackets safely, even late at night. Then, on 13 December, the second 100 jackets were distributed to the homeless near Yongsan Station, and the remaining 100 jackets were distributed to the homeless in central Seoul area.

Anna Yura Choi, one of our new members, is responsible for the entire preparation and execution of the Jacket for Life project.

Jacket for Life will become our annual seasonal project targeting the winter season with plans to cover wider areas in Seoul, especially around major train stations where the homeless are known to stay around and spend the night. 🇺🇳

*The Order of Malta Korea is now serving more than 330 lunch boxes per service for the Forgotten Neighbours in the slum near Seoul Station. This equates to nearly 15,000 lunch boxes so far, thanks to 150 volunteers since June 2016.*







**Thailand Communications Officer: Bhuson Paul Tran (Ken Tran)**

The Order of Malta Thailand continues to flourish. In 2018, we expanded our members with the acceptance of one Knight and two Dames, hosted spiritual and humanitarian activities and projects, and have a positive outlook for the year ahead.

Consoeur Faustina Chavali Pamela Osathanugrah was appointed as Dame of Magistral Grace in June 2018, and was invested in Hong Kong on 19 November, 2018 followed by Confrere Alphonsus Pipat Ratanatraipob, and Consoeur Theresa Pringprao Sirisant in October. We are blessed by their appointments and celebrate their successes. They have become valuable additions to strengthen our Order's spirituality and services to the sick and the poor.

Thailand is primarily a Buddhist country with a population of about 383,000 Catholics – less than 0.6 per cent of the total population of 69 million. Recruiting qualified members among the very small Catholic population is therefore a great challenge for us. Our members' success has proven that with God's blessings, this challenge can be overcome.

At present, our Order comprises of

one Magistral Chaplain from Italy, 18 Thai Knights and Dames, two visiting Australian Knights, and one visiting Italian Dame.

**Spiritual Activities**

On 10 March, 2018, Order members and Postulants participated in a one-day Annual Retreat in Pattaya Thailand, facilitated by the Magistral Chaplain to receive guidance for their spiritual life, deepen charism, and enhance their spiritual life in their activities of the Order of Malta.

**International Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

From 4 to 8 May, Consoeur Faustina Chavali Pamela Osathanugrah represented the Order of Malta Thailand in the general Pilgrimage of the Order of Malta in Lourdes, France. The aim of the pilgrimage was to foster camaraderie with members of other associations, pray for the sick and the poor, and serve them to strengthen their spirit of servitude.

**Postulants' Retreat**

In August 2018, the Magistral Chaplain conducted a half-day retreat, attended by four Postulants. There they received guidance to help prepare themselves

spiritually as they become members of the Order of Malta. Three of the Postulants were successful, having been accepted as Knight and Dames.

**Eucharistic Celebration Preceding Regular Meetings**

Preceding every fourth monthly meeting, the Order of Malta Thailand attends the Eucharistic Celebration presided by the Magistral Chaplain to offer thanks to the Lord for His guidance, to reflect on His words, strengthen our commitment to be close to Christ, and pray for those in need.

**Hospitaller Projects and Humanitarian Activities**

During February to March 2018, we donated 56 wheelchairs valued at 145,600 Baht (A\$6,483) on requests from seven dioceses in the Northern, North Eastern, and Western regions of Thailand.

The Wheelchair Donation to the Needy Project originated in 2016. It is of tremendous value to the handicapped and shows that our helping hand reaches the sick and the poor, not only in areas surrounding Bangkok but to other regions of Thailand as well.

From 6 to 8 June we were fortunate to

sponsor three delegates to the second Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities in the Philippines. Those that attended and represented Thailand included 2017 Christopher Cup winners Tavepong Puangpetch and Sawang Srisom, together with Alongkorn Suvannanert.

**Automated External Defibrillator Project**

On 11 November 2018, the Order of Malta Thailand piloted a project to install an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) unit at the Holy Redeemer Church Bangkok with training sessions for 50 to 60 parishioners. The cost of the unit, including the stand, training and incidentals is 85,700.00 Bahts (A\$3,810). The aim in 2019 is to install more AED units at churches in the Archdiocese of Bangkok, perhaps after the assessments of the pilot project.

**Donation to Flood Victims in Laos**

Following the collapse of the Xe Plan dam in the Attepeu province of Southern Laos on 23 July 2018, the Order of Malta Thailand donated 230,000 Bahts (A\$10,200) on 23 August, 2018 for flood victims in Laos to the Vicariate of Paksae at St. Gabriel Foundation of Thailand, Bangkok. Fr Joseph Anucha Chaiyadej, Director of Catholic Social Communication of Thailand witnessed the donation, which was kindly published in the Thai Catholic Newspaper Udomsarn.

**Christmas Donations**

In the winter month of December of every year, the Order of Malta Thailand purchases and sends blankets to various Dioceses for the poor in the North and

North East provinces of Thailand. This year, 300 blankets worth 17,400 Bahts (A\$700) were donated to the Dioceses of Chiangrai, Chiangmai, Nakhon Sawan, Udon Thani, and Ubon Ratchathani to help needy parishioners, residents, and hills tribe people.

Observing Christmas as a time of giving, love, joy, and hope to lift spirits of the forgotten sick and the poor, on 17 December our members visited and made donations to those less fortunate at the following Catholic centres:

- Angels' Home, caring for severely handicapped children and their parents from slums.
- House of Hope, caring for 95 orphaned children aged three to nine.
- Comunita Incontrol, caring for 250 hills tribe children
- St. Clare Hospice, caring for 24 underprivileged terminally ill and dying AIDS patients.

**Donation of Lever Propelled Tricycles**

On 10 December 2018, tricycles, valued at 53,000 Bahts (A\$2,360) were provided upon requests from the Archdiocese of Ta Rae Nong Saeng and the Diocese of Ubon Ratchathani, with the potential for the needy handicapped to be self-sufficient. The tricycles are used for better mobility and available to help those in need earn a living.

The Order of Malta Thailand feels very blessed to have achieved all of our intended activities to serve the sick and the poor.

The motto "Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum" is our first priority. It inspires us to continue our efforts to grow in spirit and in strength to better serve who are less fortunate.

*Thailand is primarily a Buddhist country with a population of about 383,000 Catholics – less than 0.6 per cent of the total population of 69 million. Recruiting qualified members among the very small Catholic population is therefore a great challenge. At present, the Thailand Order comprises of one Magistral Chaplain from Italy, 18 Thai Knights and Dames, two visiting Australian Knights, and one visiting Italian Dame.*





### Hong Kong Delegation Hospitaller: Désirée Jebesen DMG

In Hong Kong, 2018 was a special year. With the addition of seven new members comprising two Knights and five Dames of Magistral Grace, we are officially recognised and established as the Hong Kong Association of the Order of Malta. Our charity projects have also continued to grow with strength under the leadership of our project leaders.

#### Hospitaller Meetings

Since introducing the bi-monthly Hospitaller meeting last year, leaders and volunteers leaders of the different projects have met four times in 2017, and five times in 2018. At the last meeting, report and updates on services and projects were discussed, including a focus on the Flying Young Program, Caritas Lok Yi School for Special Needs Students, Lourdes Pilgrimage, and Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities. Eight members attended the meeting and collected suggestions and initiatives, such as ideas to organise the Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities, and ways to streamline the female uniform for the Lourdes Pilgrimage.

#### Caritas Lok Yi School for Special Needs Students

Under the leadership of Confrere Peter Lee and volunteer Vivian Mock, we have supported special educational schools since 2013. Caritas Lok Yi School is one of the schools, which has a boarding section for students with mild to severe intellectual disabilities aged six to 18. Vivian takes charge of this project, aiming to help the students overcome difficulties, develop potential, enhance a sense of dignity, build self-confidence, and integrate into the community, thus enabling them to attain a fruitful life and make contributions to society.

This year, collaborating with Lok Yi School's social workers, our volunteers have organised and joined 18 activities ranging from a mini sports day to a charity walk, celebration of festivals such as Mother's Day, and a shopping mall outing. Most of the activities are focused on generating positive stimulation and relationship building. Some of our committed volunteers have already begun building positive relationships with these students.

The next step is to expand our volunteer base. It's especially hard to find volunteers to join events on a Sunday.

#### Flying Young Program

The Flying Young program continues to be very successful. This year alone the program has organised seven successful events for more than 60 children and parents from underprivileged families. Each has proven successful with an increasing number of attendances from families.

To kick-start the year, we celebrated Chinese New Year with the families, and presented a PowerPoint introduction of our organisation to the families as well as the volunteers.

At the Chinese New Year celebration, more than 40 family members and 15 volunteers attended.

In March, we organised a tour for the children to the world-famous art exhibition Art Basel. Exhibition organiser, The Asian Arts Fair, generously granted us 20 complimentary tickets I also invited a successful local artist with a similar background to the families to give a talk

to the parents at the Hong Kong Arts Centre at the Exhibition.

In May, we celebrated Mother's Day with handicraft and cooking classes for the children. While the children were busy cooking and making the photo frames for their parents, we invited a nutritionist to give a talk to the parents about healthy eating and diet.

While sports activities have been well received by the children and their families, we also organised an indoor rock-climbing event for more than 60 participants in June 2018. Following the thrilling exercise, we enjoyed a joyful afternoon tea break.

In the second half of the year, we tried to strengthen the interaction between the volunteers and the children with interactive and fun games with greater opportunities for the children to speak English with the volunteers.

The plan for the remainder of 2018 is to expand and open up our programs to more grassroots families and those from other districts. We want to tailor our activities to match the different age groups of children and teenagers, and expand our volunteer base. We might eventually recruit older teenagers from families to volunteer as well. We would also like to increase our professional training and seminar/talks to provide more basic knowledge and skills in layman terms for the families of those with special education needs.

#### Lourdes

To celebrate the 160th anniversary of the Blessed Virgin's first appearance and the 60th anniversary of the first official Annual Pilgrimage of the Order, we had the largest ever number of participants

attend the Lourdes pilgrimage from Hong Kong – 11 Knights and Dames, and 42 volunteers.

For the first time, we produced a complete female uniform for the participants of Hong Kong, Korea, and Thailand. We sourced aprons, red cardigans, Hong Kong name badges, and country patches from a Catholic lady who supplied us with the uniform items, at cost. By standardising the female uniform for the volunteers, we all demonstrated ourselves in unity and one spirit when serving the Malades, and performing our duties at the Pilgrimage.

This year, we had a great number of volunteers from Asia Pacific who had contributed much of their time and efforts in serving at the Pilgrimage. Together with Daniel Kwok, Delegate of Communications of Australian Association, we produced a daily program for the Asia Pacific teams and assigned them into eight teams, including Pilgrimage Management, Transport, Hotel, Ward, Prayer Sessions, Global Fund, Medical, and Media teams.

Foreseeing a great number of participants this year, I worked with Helen Cassin of the Hotel Jeanne d'Arc, and arranged 35 room bookings for the delegations from Hong Kong, Korea and Thailand.

Members travelled individually to Lourdes, where everybody met at the Hotel Jeanne d'Arc, which became a home away from home.

Some of us arrived Lourdes on 3 May and helped the Irish Association set up the ward at the Accueil Notre Dame. On 4 May, we all went and attended the International Ceremonial Opening of the Pilgrimage.



In 2018 the Flying Young program has organised seven successful events for more than 60 children and parents from underprivileged families.





Volunteer Clara Jebson represented the Hong Kong team to assist and serve at the Marial Candle-Light Procession. This year, Msgr Anté Jozic joined us for the first time and celebrated the Mass with us at the Pilgrimage.

One of the highlights was meeting the Grand Master Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto. We were all captivated by his inspiring speech at the International Medal Ceremony.

On 6 May, we attended the Ireland Medal Ceremony and a number of us received the Irish medals for three and six years of service. Those who received medals for three years of service included Peter Au-Yeung, Thomas Woo, and Teresa Wong. Six-year Irish medal recipients included John Chu, Denis Chang, and Peter Shung-Tak Lee.

Prior to the Lourdes pilgrimage, a Whatsapp chat was set up among Korean, Hong Kong and Thailand participants so we could make sure everyone was kept in the loop. This enabled them to share testimonials and prayer requests within the group.

During the entire pilgrimage, we observed a united Asia Pacific team who diligently provided a devoted and faithful service in various assigned duties. We could also see tremendous love and friendship built up between the volunteers and the Malades.

**Second Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities**

Hong Kong took part in the second Asia Pacific Youth Camp in the Philippines from 6 to 8 June, 2018.

Accompanied by two volunteers, we had three guests with two caretakers join the Youth Camp. Consoeur Sophie Mensdorff and our new Communications and Project Manager Vivian Yuen joined the Youth Camp as volunteers. On 5 June, the team departed to the Philippines. Members and

staff of the Philippine Association warmly greeted the team at Manila International Airport.

After the Australian and Singaporean delegates and guests arrived, we took the shuttle bus to the Villa Escudero, the venue of the Youth Camp. After we registered ourselves, and were given event packs including a program, camp map, games guidelines, cap and backpack, we checked into our rooms and gathered at a large pavilion for a buffet dinner.

On 6 June, after breakfast, the E-jeps took us from the cottage lobby to the Church of the Ascension for Eucharistic Celebration. His Excellency, Most Rev. Mel Rey M. Uy, DD – Bishop of Lucena, celebrated Holy Eucharist. Following Holy Eucharist, we attended the Opening Ceremonies. The Ceremony started with a grand entry of the five national teams carrying each of our national flags.

After opening remarks by the Municipal Mayor of Tiaong, Quezon Province, a torch lighting ceremony and group photo followed.

The event started with the exciting and fun group games. Through relay races and name recognition games, the local and international guests were given opportunities to interact and demonstrate their sportsmanship and team spirit.

On 7 June, we started with a competitive yet friendly Christopher's Cup, a traditional croquet competition. It was not only fun to play but a way to remember a young volunteer who had a fatal car accident on his way back from the Youth Camp. The Hong Kong team, with the support from the local youth guests who worked seamlessly well, won the Christopher's Cup.

We also learnt making pasta from Eric Nicolas, Hospitaller of Order of Malta Philippines, and played board games that afternoon. In the evening, we participated in a cultural night. We dressed in our national costumes and shared national food and souvenirs. Our Hong Kong team members

performed a dance and sang a song in Cantonese. The evening was filled with joy and spirit of camaraderie.

On the final day, immediately following aqua-therapy at the swimming pool, we were given the opportunity to take our lunch at the famous Labasin Waterfalls restaurant for a Thai meal. We enjoyed dining next to the refreshing environment of the waterfalls.

Following a Cultural Show, which was specially arranged by the resort owner that afternoon, we attended the Closing Ceremony and Gala Dinner. Here, our guests received the gold medal and Christopher's Cup from the Hospitaller of Order of Malta Philippines. The organiser also bestowed a set of Croquet to the winning team. One of our disabled guests said at the Ceremony: "Actually it's not because we deserved it but because we did it the hard way and we used our intelligence to do it. That's how we did it."

The Hong Kong team returned back to Hong Kong the next day happy and exhausted. Philippine Association led by Dr. Leopoldo Lazatin and Mr. Eric Nicolas, outdid themselves in organising this Youth Camp. Everybody had an enjoyable time. Next year we will host the event in Hong Kong.

Our next steps for the year are to set up a working group to recruit young and committed volunteers to help run the program. We also want to identify potential sponsors and partners to support the event. So far, we have secured a corporate sponsorship of HKD500,000 (A\$90,000). We aim to raise a total fund of HKD1,000,000 (A\$178,000) to cover the cost for the on-site and off-site activities.

**Bilingual Website for Hong Kong Delegation**

With the dedication of Member Confrere Dalton Fogarty, a bilingual Hong Kong website with both English and Chinese languages has been built. By adopting the same theme of the international website, our Hong Kong website with domain name www.orderofmalta.org.hk was launched in June 2018. We have also developed and sent a bilingual newsletter to all our members, volunteers and partners.

Going forward, we aim to improve the website to adhere to local legal guidelines expected of an association in Hong Kong, as well as implement a forthcoming communications plan. The website will be temporarily offline for maintenance to achieve this and will be rolled out gradually as each section is complete. We also want to address functional needs of website users such as our volunteers, and generate relevant content for the local community.

*The year 2018 marked a special occasion, with the official recognition and establishment of the Hong Kong Association of the Order of Malta.*

*On behalf of myself and all members of the Hong Kong Association, I'd like to repeat and reinforce what I said in Lourdes:*

*"There is a Chinese saying that when you drink water you must not forget its source. Our heartfelt gratitude to the Australian Association, and in particular to HE Dr Ian Marshall, for all the help given in nurturing the Order of Malta in Hong Kong without which we would not have been able to achieve the status of an Association. Although we are now independent of Australia, we remain close collaborators in the work of the Order for the love of the poor and the sick and the greater glory of God. This year we will be holding in Hong Kong the 3rd Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities and ask for your earnest prayers and support. May God bless you all!"*

**Denis Chang CBE  
SC KMG, President  
of the Hong Kong  
Association of the  
Order of Malta**



ADDING TO YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE ORDER OF MALTA

# Did You Know...

**Scott Samson KMG explores the Order's Ancient Langues: a unique administrative structure**

In the early 14th century, following the loss of the Holy Land and decline of the crusading ideal, the Order of St John took possession of the island of Rhodes and the many smaller islands of the Dodecanese archipelago. It was in Rhodes that the Order took on the features of a Sovereign State. Governed by the Grand Master and the Council, the Order minted its own money and maintained diplomatic relations with other States.

New knights came to Rhodes from all over Europe. It was natural for them to associate with those who spoke their language and shared their traditions. Whereas in Acre – the last major stronghold of the Kingdom of Jerusalem, which fell to the Mamluk Sultanate in 1291 – members of the Order had lodged together in a single Auberge. With the move first to Cyprus and later to Rhodes, no such building awaited them, and for the first time, the practice of living in smaller national residences was introduced to the Order.

A capitular decree of 1301 and a subsequent meeting in 1319 of the Order's Chapter General in Montpellier resolved to officially group the Order's membership according to national-linguistic identities. This was the beginning of the so-called "langues" or tongues of the Order, with

each Langue including Priors or Grand Priors, Bailiwicks and Commanderies within a national-linguistic group.

When the system of the langues was established, there were seven langues. The Gallic sphere was divided into the langues of Auvergne, France and Provence. The Iberian-Romance area was designated as the Langue of Aragon and the Italo-Romance area was designated as the Langue of Italy. Germanic Europe was designated as the Langue of Germany, and it included all of the Holy Roman Empire, its Slavic-speaking parts, as well as Scandinavia, Hungary, and Poland. While the British Isles were designated as the Langue of England, there were some exceptions since the Poles and Slavs came under the Langue of Germany, albeit not speaking German.

In 1462, the Langue of Castile, Léon and Portugal split from Aragon and constituted the eighth Langue. This internal reorganisation of the Order was more or less complete by the mid-15th century, and it continued unaltered up to the end of the 19th century.

Each Langue had its own head, known as a Pilier or Bailiff, who later on took one of the Order's high offices. This included Grand Commander (Provence), Marshal (Auvergne), Grand Hospitaller (France),

Conservator/Drapier (Aragon), Admiral (Italy), and Grand Turcopolier (England). Germany did not originally have an office, but by the 16th century the head of the German Langue occupied the position of Grand Bailiff with responsibility for the Order's fortifications. Meanwhile, the Piler of Castille held the office of Chancellor. The Piliers, together with the Knights Grand Cross, the bishop, the Bailiffs of the convents, and the Prior of the Conventual Church, sat on the Grand Council of the Order.

Each Langue, first on Rhodes and then later on Malta, possessed an "auberge" or "inn", used for accommodation, meetings, and for meals. That, at least in the beginning, had to be communal.

The loss of the island of Malta in 1798 brought about the end of the ancient division into langues. The Order began to reorganise itself and the current system of national associations came into being after the Grand Magistry was established in Rome in 1834. The Germans were the first to found an association in 1859, followed by the British in 1875, and the Italians in 1877. The Order of Malta's members are now grouped into six Grand Priors and 48 National Associations in the five continents. All heirs to the tradition of the historic langues.

*Auberg de Castille, built 1741-1745 for the langues of Castille and Leon, which now seats The Prime Minister of Malta and hosts weekly meeting of his Cabinet.*



The Langue of England was dissolved in the mid-16th century following the English Reformation. While there was an Auberge d'Angleterre in Birgu, no English auberge has ever been built in Valletta. Grand Master Emmanuel de Rohan-Polduc reinstated the langue in 1784 as the Anglo-Bavarian Langue, which also included Bavarian and Polish knights. In 1797 the Langue underwent a further name change, when a large part of the Order's properties in Polish speaking lands and a number of Polish Knights fell under the sphere of the Russian state. The name was changed to the Anglo-Bavarian-Russian Langue, reflecting its newfound status. Members of the Langue were housed in Auberge de Bavière, which had been built as a private palazzo.

Despite the Reformation and the consequent dissolution of the Langue of England, the Order was not without English-speaking recusant knights as there were always English, Scots or Irish Knights of the Order. Until the end of the 18th century, most of the Englishmen and Irishmen tended to join the Italian Langue, while Scots usually joined the French langues. The Order also continued to appoint titular heads of the English Langue, as well as filling the other titular officers within the Langue.

In 1993, the Grand Priory of England was restored after being in abeyance for nearly 450 years except for titular Grand Priors, with the appointment of Frà Matthew Festing as Grand Prior. The last titular Grand Prior of England was Frà Girolamo Laparelli who died in 1815.



## The Conventual Church of Saint John (known today as St. John's Co-Cathedral) in Valletta contains chapels for each of the eight langues.

The following chapels are located on the south side of the church:

- **Chapel of the Langue of Auvergne** – dedicated to Saint Sebastian. Its altarpiece depicts the saint's martyrdom, and dates back to the 17th century. The chapel contains the funerary monument of Grand Master Annet de Clermont-Gessant (died 1660).
- **Chapel of the Langue of Aragon** – dedicated to Saint George. Its altarpiece is Saint George on Horseback, and it is considered to be one of Mattia Preti's masterpieces. Grand Masters Martin de Redin (died 1660), Raphael Cotoner (died 1663), Nicolas Cotoner (died 1680) and Ramon Perellos y Roccaful (died 1720) are buried in funerary monuments in this chapel.
- **Chapel of the Langue of Castile, Leon and Portugal** – dedicated to Saint James. Its altarpiece, painted by Mattia Preti, depicts the saint looking to heaven and commemorates the victory over Moors in the Iberian Peninsula. Grand Masters António Manoel de Vilhena (died 1736) and Manuel Pinto da Fonseca (died 1773) are buried in ornate marble funerary monuments in this chapel.

On the north side of the church, one finds the following chapels:

- **Chapel of the Anglo-Bavarian Langue, also known as the Chapel of Relics** – dedicated to Saint Charles Borromeo. Its altarpiece depicts the presentation of the saint to the Virgin Mary, and it is attributed to Beaumont. The chapel originally contained many relics that the Order acquired through the centuries, but these were removed in 1798.

- **Chapel of the Langue of Provence** – dedicated to Saint Michael the Archangel. Its altarpiece depicts the archangel leading God's armies against Satan, and it also contains marble funerary monuments of Grand Masters Antoine de Paule (died 1636) and Giovanni Paolo Lascaris (died 1657).
- **Chapel of the Langue of France** – dedicated to the Conversion of Saint Paul. Its altarpiece depicts The Conversion of St Paul on the Way to Damascus, and it is the work of Mattia Preti. The chapel also contains the funerary monuments of Grand Masters Adrien de Wignacourt (died 1697) and Emmanuel de Rohan-Polduc (died 1797), as well as the Marquis de Wignacourt (died 1615) and Louis Charles, Count of Beaujolais (died 1808).
- **Chapel of the Langue of Italy** – dedicated to the Immaculate Conception and Saint Catherine of Alexandria. Its altarpiece depicts The Mystic Marriage of St Catherine, and it is the work of Mattia Preti. The chapel also contains the funerary monument of Grand Master Gregorio Carafa (died 1690).
- **Chapel of the Langue of Germany** – dedicated to the Epiphany of Christ. The chapel was originally assigned to the Langue of England, but was given to the Langue of Germany following the English Reformation. Its altarpiece depicts The Adoration of the Magi by the Maltese painter Stefano Erardi.

## Heraldry of the Order of Malta: ARMS & EMBLEMS



### The Order

The Order of Malta's arms display the eight-pointed Latin cross on a red oval field surrounded by a rosary and surmounted by the princely mantle and crown (as described in Article 6 of the Order's Constitutional Charter). It is the emblem of the Sovereign Order's Grand Magistracy and its Institutions: the Grand Priorities, Subpriorities, National Associations and Diplomatic Missions.



### The Grand Master

The arms of the Grand Master, Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto are quartered with those of the Order. At 1 & 4, Gules, a cross Argent (for Saint John); 2 & 3, Azure, on a mount vert a square tower in perspective proper, the ports Sable, surmounted by a Latin cross between two mullets of six Argent. Behind the shield a Maltese cross interlaced with a golden Rosary, from which depends a white Maltese cross.



### Emblem

The emblem is the symbol of the Order of Malta's medical and humanitarian activities worldwide. It is a red shield with a white, eight-pointed cross (as described in Article 242 of the Order's Code).



### The State Flag

The red rectangular flag with the white Latin cross is the State flag of the Sovereign Order of Malta. Called the flag of St John, it has been used since ancient times. Giacomo Bosio's "History of the Order" (1594) records that in 1130, Pope Innocent II had decreed that the "Religion in war should bear a standard with a white cross on a red field". Following Pope Alexander IV's Bull of 1259 permitting the Knights in war to wear a red mantle bearing a white cross, the Order began to make systematic use of the Latin cross as its emblem. In 1291, the Order left the Holy Land. The knightly standard was flown over their ships for the next six centuries. Today, the State flag flies over the Order's Magistral Palace in Rome and accompanies the Grand Master and members of the Sovereign Council on official visits.



### The Flag of the Order's Works

The red flag with eight-pointed white cross is the flag of the Order of Malta's works. The eight-pointed cross has been used in the Order as long as the Latin cross, and stems from the Order's ancient links with the Republic of Amalfi. Its present form dates back over 400 years; the first clear reference to an eight-pointed cross was its representation on the coins of Grand Master Frà Foulques de Villaret (1305-1319). This is the flag flown by the Order's Grand Priorities and Subpriorities, its 48 National Associations and over 108 diplomatic missions around the world. It also flies over hospitals, medical centres, as well as wherever the Order of Malta's ambulance corps, foundations and specialised units operate.





Archbishop Socrates Villegas opens discussions at the eighth Asia Pacific Conference in Manila, Philippines.

# VIII

## ASIA PACIFIC

### CONFERENCE

The eighth Asia Pacific conference was held in Manila, the Philippines from 15 to 18 November 2018, at the St Paul Centre of Spirituality and Renewal, Alfonso, Cavite. This conference has become an event of great significance in the Order, being the only annual event, and attracting a long list of senior delegates from the Asia Pacific region and across the globe.

Delegate numbers reached 73, with guests from Europe, the United States of America, and the Asia Pacific, including a sizable Australian delegation.

The conference offered a wonderful opportunity to hear and share the stories of the good works of the Order including local, regional and international perspectives.

Guests were afforded the opportunity to hear directly from the High Charges on the ongoing reform and development of the Order, and other insights. Fellowship was a major component of the three-day conference, with ample opportunity for members to talk to each other, and spend valuable time together.

Event host, Order of Malta Philippines, has had a long and proud history being formed almost 50 years ago. The Chairman of the Conference, H. E. Dr Leopoldo H. Lazatin KGC, did a wonderful job delivering an engaging and rewarding program, and his friendly hospitality was a pleasure to experience.

The delegation included their excellencies Most Rev. Jean Laffitte, Titular Bishop of Entrevaux; Prelate of the Sovereign Order of Malta, H.E Most Rev. Socrates B. Villegas, DD, Grand Cross Conventual Chaplain ad honorem – Order of Malta Philippines and Archbishop of Lingayen-Dagupan, H.E. Baron Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager, Baillif Grand Cross of Honour





and Devotion in Obedience, Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Order of Malta, H.E Dominique Prince de LA Rochefoucauld-Montbel, Baillif Grand Cross of Honour and Devotion in Obedience, Grand Hospitaller of the Sovereign Order of Malta.

Thought-provoking talks as well as workshopping the achievements and challenges for the Order were a major part of the proceedings. "Approaching the Spirituality of Obsequium Pauperum" by Grand Chancellor Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager was a highlight and well received by members.

Guests were graced with the presence of H.E. The Most Rev. Archbishop Gabriele Giordano Caccia, DD, Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, and His Eminence Luis Antonio G. Cardinal Tagle, DD Grand Cross conventual ad honorem, who both celebrated the Holy Mass with Delegates. Cardinal Tagle has gained a reputation world wide for his engaging and thought-provoking homilies on modern culture. He didn't disappoint with an inspiring message that touched on society and the Order's mission of serving the poor and sick.

Regional ambassadors representing the diplomatic corps included H.E. Jim Dominguez, CBE AM KCSG KGCMG (Ob) Ambassador, South East Asia and the Far East; H.E. Michael Mann, AM KMG Ambassador, Cambodia and Thailand;

H.E. Collin Yap KMG Ambassador, Timor-Leste; H.E David Scarf AM KMG Ambassador for Oceania; and H.E. Odelia G. Arroyo, DGCM Ambassador, Philippines. The regional ambassadors shared updates on their activities in the region including challenges and opportunities for the Order.

Guest speakers were excellent, with a mixture of both Hospitaller-based initiatives and broader updates. Baron Eugenio Ajroldi di Robbiato, Director of Communications Order of Malta, shared the developments within the Order presently being rolled out. This included the formation of regional communication Delegates, social media campaigns and the development of the worldwide database for the Order, which is vital to sharing the message within the Order and to the wider public.

Mr. Ingo Radtke Secretary General, (CEO) Malteser International, shared an update on the wonderful works the Order's humanitarian arm is doing world wide with disaster relief, resettlement in war-torn areas and more. He also explained the important role The Order of Malta and its diplomatic core play in facilitating access to the needy in some of the most politically isolated and fragile regions in the world.

The Order has set up the CIOMAL Foundation to treat those affected by leprosy, and prevent the



spread of the disease through awareness campaigns. CIOMAL Foundation President, Mr Thierry Zen Ruffinen, gave attendees an overview of the progress and impact the Order is making in Asia presently.

Mrs. Lisa Simpson Chief Executive, Global Fund for Forgotten People shared the impact this fund is making around the globe, awarding 307 grants for projects in 72 countries so far. It is also looking to have more of an impact and grow this good work in the future. The role of the Global Fund for Forgotten People is to supply funds to seed new projects within the Order of Malta associations, and also with Malteser International.

Highlights of the regional activity reports included the Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities 2018. The Philippine Hospitaller Foundation of the Order of Malta Philippines Don Eric R. Nicolas hosted the event, and shared a very moving video of the camp that conveyed the joyous nature of the camp and the impact it had on participants, and volunteers. This is an initiative that is likely to be a major regional event for the future.

In a surprise, informal presentation post-dinner on Saturday night, the Order's Grand Chancellor, HE Albrecht Freiherr von Boeselager and Grand Hospitaller Dominique Prince de LA Rochefoucauld-Montbel, presented the Australian President, H.E. Dr Ian Marshall AM AE KC\*SG KGCMG (Ob) GCM, with the Grand Cross of Merit pro merito melitensi for his outstanding work in the Order. It was a heart-warming moment and a wonderful way to finish a rewarding conference experience.

Australia has been announced as the host for the next Asia Pacific Conference, to be held in Melbourne 21 to 24 November 2019. 🇺🇸

## A PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE

*One of the great pleasures of membership in the Order is the opportunity to attend our annual regional meetings to gain insight into what the Order does in the Asia-Pacific, and throughout the world.*

*I've greatly benefited in my understanding of the scope of our works from attending the last two meetings – in Singapore and the Philippines respectively, and have enjoyed the sense of fellowship each gathering brings.*

*There are some invaluable opportunities only available at these regional meetings, which we can't regularly experience in Australia. Prominent among these is the chance to both formally hear from and casually converse with the leaders of our Order, including the Grand Chancellor and Grand Hospitaller.*

*It is only our High Charges who have the breadth of experience and knowledge of the Order's works, to communicate how we are staying true to our history and mission across the globe, predominantly in the most destitute and war-torn regions. Their on-the-ground experience with the Order's and Malteser International's missions to humanitarian crises, such as Syria and the Rohingya refugee population at Cox's Bazaar, should instil pride and inspiration in any member.*

*Hearing first-hand about the Order's works – and the risks they entail – renews the call to our unique charisma to serve those most in need. It is a reminder of the Beatitudes to which our eight-pointed cross refers, particularly Our Saviour's preaching of "Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they shall be called Children of God" (Mt 5:9). This is a principal takeout from the regional gatherings: that members of the Order today are first and foremost peacemakers, demonstrating the power of mercy and charity over the violence, which surrounds us.*

*Alongside this, we hear each year from the Presidents of other Associations in our region, as well as from the leadership of the Global Fund for Forgotten People, CIOMAL and of Malteser International. The sheer scope and financial commitment of the last of these, even just in the Asia-Pacific region, is remarkable. From our fraternal Associations, we can see distinct initiatives from which Australia might learn. An example of this is from the Korean Association, which has a much more rigorous program of postulancy, requiring extensive service to the poor and sick en route to membership.*

*Finally, as with our biennial national meeting, the regional meetings are wonderful opportunities for divine worship, both informally through the Rosary, and within Church, at various hours, and for daily Eucharist. As a personal reflection – and as a confessed traditionalist - the Filipino choir leading us in Latin hymns was a singularly holy experience. To pray over a number of days with confreres and consoeurs from throughout the world, is a reminder of the unique Christian project in which we are involved.*

Alastair Furnival KMG

*Clockwise from top:  
L-R Grand Hospitaller  
Dominique Prince de La  
Rochefoucauld-Montbel,  
Cardinal Luis Antonio  
Tagle and Grand Chancellor  
Baron Albrecht Freiherr von  
Boeselager;  
Cecile Pinones, Thailand  
delegation;  
H.E. Jim Dominguez CBE AM  
Ambassador South East Asia  
and the Far East;  
Delegates celebrate Mass at  
St Paul Centre of Spirituality  
and Renewal.*





# 2018 WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

As members of an Order who profess a life long commitment to be *Servi Dominorum Pauperum Infirmorum*, “Servants of Our Lords the Sick Poor”, the World day of The Poor now offers us all the opportunity to focus on this key component of our Charism in new and practical ways. Sunday, 18 November was the second World Day of the Poor, established by Pope Francis to mark the end of the 2016 Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy.

## #WorldDayofthePoor



### ORDER OF MALTA

“This poor man cried,  
and the Lord heard him”



18 November 2018



When we hear the word poverty it can lead to negative connotations and often prejudice. In order to bridge the gap between society and the impoverished, Pope Francis urges men and women to hear the cries of the stifled, the ones who have been forced to leave their homes and native land for an uncertain future.

To ensure that the second World Day of the Poor did not pass unnoticed, Pope Francis invited organisations and communities to congregate on the 18 November 2018 in honour and to “share lovingly in the lot of the poor”.

Among the many organisations that attended were the Sovereign Order of Malta, whose core mission is to uphold human dignity and care for people in need. The Order joined with His Holiness, in prayer and action, to mark the need for a combined effort to reduce poverty.

Celebrated on the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time each year, Pope Francis headed a congregation of Italy’s impoverished that celebrated in Sunday Mass. Since then, the event has taken place not only in Italy but has become acclaimed globally.

“It would be a day to help communities and each of the baptised to reflect on how poverty is at the very heart of the Gospel and that, as long as Lazarus lies at the door of our homes, there can be no justice or social peace. This Day will also represent a genuine form of new evangelisation, which can renew the face of the Church,” said Pope Francis.

Rallying against social inequality, the day saw around 3000 attendees. Speaking to the crowds gathered in St. Peter’s Square for the Angelus, the Pope said that, for the occasion, a first aid station will be set up in the Square, where those in need will be able to receive medical care.

“I hope that this day will encourage greater

attention to the needs of the least and the marginalised,” said Pope Francis.

In his message for the second World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis asked all of us, to overcome our indifferences to the poor and we must unite as a community to help our fellow brothers and sisters in times of need.

“On this day, may all of us feel that we are in debt to the poor, because in hands outstretched to one another, a salvific encounter can take place to strengthen our faith, inspire our charity and enable our hope to advance securely on our path towards the Lord who is to come,” says Pope Francis.

With more than eight per cent of the world’s population living below the poverty line, helping the poor means giving both material support and expressing fraternity and spiritual solidarity. World Day of the Poor emphasises the importance of the fight against poverty.

The Order of Malta launched an international communications campaign in the days preceding the event to raise awareness of the shocking percentage of people living below the poverty line, in the hope that together we will continue to make a difference, and we can.

The focus of the World Day of the Poor is to unite communities and spread a universal message that everybody has something to share and everybody has something to give.

“I would like the World Day of the Poor to be adopted by all the Order of Malta’s bodies to convey our commitment to the poor and to testify to our charisma *Obsequium Pauperum*,” Grand Hospitaller Dominique de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel explained in a letter sent to over 250 of the Order of Malta’s embassies, associations and volunteer/relief corps.

The distribution of meals, medicines and basic

*Celebrated on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary time, 2018 saw the second World Day of the Poor, a chance to raise awareness of the percentage of the world’s population living below the poverty line.*





# ORDER OF MALTA ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE 2019

LIVING OUR FAITH IN  
A SECULARIZED WORLD

MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA



# JOIN THE AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION AT THE 2019 ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE

**THURSDAY 21 NOVEMBER - SUNDAY 24 NOVEMBER 2019**  
**WAURN PONDS ESTATE, VICTORIA**

Gain insights in the thinking of our global leaders and exchange views and ideas

Build friendships with members from Asia Pacific and the Grand Magistracy

Expand your understanding of the Order as a leading global force in  
addressing the world's misery for the glory of God.

+612 9331 8477  
INFO@ORDEROFMALTA.ORG.AU



necessities was intensified, as were health and social care services and assistance to the disadvantaged, such as the elderly, the disabled and those living in poverty. These are initiatives that the Order of Malta, with its 80 thousand volunteers, 13,500 members and 42,000 staff, carries out every day of the year in 120 countries worldwide. In 2017, the Order distributed over five and a half million meals worldwide.

Inviting all men and women to participate in the World Day of the Poor event, Dominique de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel reiterates that we can all do our part to help, "each of us can find ways to celebrate the occasion by honouring the poor, the sick and the marginalised".

The Order of Malta took the Holy Father's message to heart: "The World Day of the Poor wishes to be a small answer that the Church throughout the world gives to the poor of every kind and in every land, lest they think that their cry has gone unheard".

For over 900 years it has been the Order of Malta's mission to reach out to people in need. The Grand Hospitaller pointed out that at the heart of the Order's charism, through which members strive to grow spiritually, is the commitment to serve the poor.

Dominique de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel encourages society to, "open doors and go visit

people in homes, your neighbours, put out a food distribution, give gifts for the children, go see people you don't see every day because you're too busy".

"I believe this could be a special day to give these people a feeling that they exist and seeing them as human beings and not elements in the city," he adds.

In commemoration of the second World Day of the Poor, the Order in Australia provided additional gifts for the homeless in their Community Care Van outreach. In New Zealand, members assisted in cooking 500 meals for the poor. In Korea, traditional delicacies were added to the lunch boxes they provide to slum dwellers.

In his message to summarise World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis references Psalm 34 to describe the poor man with his relationship to God.

"Poverty cannot be summed up in a word; it becomes a cry that rises to heaven and reaches God. What does the cry of the poor express, if not their suffering and their solitude, their disappointment and their hope? We can ask ourselves how their plea, which rises to the presence of God, can fail to reach our own ears, or leave us cold and indifferent. On this World Day of the Poor, we are called to make a serious examination of conscience, to see if we are truly capable of hearing the cry of the poor." ❖

*The Order has a long history of seeing to the poor. The Asia Pacific Associations of the Order rolled initiatives in commemoration of the second World Day of the Poor, such as a community care van where volunteers in Sydney gifted the homeless with insect repellent, hygiene packs, water, sunscreen and Coats for the Homeless.*





# CIOMAL

## THE RIGHT TO BE SEEN, AND HEARD

Beauty contestants at the CIOMAL (Campagne Internationale de l'Ordre de Malte contre la Lèpre) Foundation open house show no fear nor blame in the face of leprosy.

On the last World Leprosy Day, the CIOMAL Foundation organised an open house in Phnom Penh where 200 visitors united, consisting of university students and professors, national and international organisation representatives, as well as dozens of people affected by leprosy.

Opened in 2000 in the vicinity of Cambodian capital's historic heart, the Kien Khleang Leprosy Rehabilitation Center was particularly busy that day.

At the start of the morning, CIOMAL members and patients put together a light-hearted performance to convey one of the most important messages about leprosy: that the disease can be cured and nothing justifies the stigmatisation of those affected.

By way of demonstration, Miss Cambodia and her runners-up paraded in the middle of the audience before having long exchanges with persons affected by leprosy.

Today, leprosy affects more than three million people (sick or recovering) around the world. This neglected tropical disease mostly

hits the poorest areas. More than 240,000 new cases are detected every year, five per cent of which are children under the age of 15.

Because it leaves marks on the skin, leprosy also results in social exclusion, particularly in schools, workplaces, and health centres.

A key player for more than 60 years, the CIOMAL Foundation of the Order of Malta is active in Cambodia on several fronts: prevention and awareness raising, early detection of the disease, medical and surgical treatments, socio-economic rehabilitation, local capacity building. Every year, CIOMAL provides around 6000 people (of which 1500 are children) with free dermatological consultations.

In 2018, CIOMAL opened a new orthopaedic department with the aim to provide people affected by leprosy with orthopaedic shoes and sandals. This will help prevent further foot deformity, protect foot ulcers, and correct the foot that has serious deformations. This brand new workshop is equipped with state-of-the-art machines. Dr. Sophea, a former leprosy-affected person,



runs the clinic. Dr. Sophea has followed an intensive two-year training abroad to become a specialised orthopaedic shoemaker.

The CIOMAL Foundation also supported the creation of the first Cambodian association of persons with leprosy-related disabilities, a way to make their voices heard in Cambodia as well as at an international level. More than 758 persons affected by leprosy were treated, including 166 patients who received surgery. CIOMAL's rehabilitation program helped 38 families secure microcredit, as well as dozens of children receive scholarships. In addition, awareness-raising activities reached more than 50,000 garment workers in 12 factories.

Today, leprosy is 100 per cent curable with a medical treatment. But even when they are healed,

those who were affected often continue to suffer severe disabilities. Together with their families, they are excluded from society, lose their jobs and houses, are rejected by hospitals, or are unable to send their children to school. These multiple forms of exclusion represent serious violations of their fundamental rights.

CIOMAL works not only to eliminate leprosy from the world but also to put an end to the discrimination against those affected and their families. It is crucial that people carrying the marks of leprosy be perceived as "disabled persons" and not as "lepers" anymore.

Your generous support helps them regain dignity and find their place in society. We thank you most sincerely for supporting us in our fight against this often-neglected disease. 🇷🇺

*Clockwise from top left: Miss Cambodia listening to leprosy sufferers; Early detection in the field; Fitting orthopaedic prosthetics; Raising awareness for World Leprosy Day; Housing constructed and donated by CIOMAL.*





# For a life in HEALTH & DIGNITY



With more than 900 international experts in 29 countries, Malteser International, the humanitarian relief agency of the Sovereign Order of Malta, continued its work to alleviate suffering in some of the most marginalised and vulnerable communities around the world in 2018.

Inspired by both Christian values and humanitarian principles, the organisation works to ensure that people affected by disaster, conflict and poverty lead a life in health and dignity, regardless of their ethnicity, religion or political conviction.

In 2018, humanitarian emergencies wrought havoc in people's lives and livelihoods. While some of these emergencies were caused by natural hazards, such as Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines or the earthquake and tsunamis in Indonesia, others were caused by violent conflict and poverty such as the Syrian civil war and the Venezuelan economic crisis respectively. These events brought new challenges that made humanitarian work difficult – but more important than ever. Through its more than 100 aid projects across Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe and the Americas, Malteser International responded to these challenges. Here are some highlights from the year.

#### Natural disasters in The Philippines and Indonesia

Rapid and effective delivery of emergency relief in the wake of disasters is a core area of Malteser International's work. In the aftermath of Super Typhoon Mangkhut's landfall in the Philippines in mid-September 2018, Malteser International partnered with Philippine Association of the Order of Malta to swiftly respond to the needs of people affected. The relief teams distributed food items and household essentials to more than 1200 households who had lost everything in the

*From Typhoon Mangkhut in the Philippines to the earthquake and tsunamis in Indonesia, Malteser International has provided humanitarian relief for those in need.*





disaster. More than 6000 persons benefited from the intervention.

A few weeks later, an earthquake measuring 7.5 on the Richter scale triggered a tsunami off the coast of the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. More than 2000 people died in the days following the disaster. In response, an emergency team from Malteser International was deployed to the crisis area to support relief efforts with local partner organisation YAKKUM Emergency Unit (YEU). In addition to the reconstruction of damaged health facilities, Malteser International made emergency funds available to deliver essential relief materials to surrounding communities.

**Colombia: Aid for Venezuelan refugees**

In Latin America, a crisis of a different nature required rapid response. Colombia took in more than one million Venezuelan refugees who had fled their country's economic and political

collapse in what has been called the worst economic crisis in recent Latin American history. However, Colombian authorities, especially in the impoverished northern regions, were not cut out to deal with the number of refugees. Malteser International launched an emergency response in the department of La Guajira to provide lifesaving healthcare for Venezuelan refugees, most of who were facing hunger and poverty. Thanks to Malteser International's response, malnourished children also received a specialised feeding therapy that helped restore them to health.

**The Middle East crisis**

The Syrian civil war, now into its eighth year, continues to affect millions of displaced people, refugees and host communities across the region. During 2018, Malteser International, working through partners inside Syria, provided support for a hospital on the Syrian-Turkish border in Bab al



Salam, nine basic health facilities, including mobile clinics in Aleppo, an ambulance service, and two clinics for the treatment of children with thalassemia.

In Lebanon, the influx of refugees from Syria has seen a 25 per cent population increase. This has had a severe impact on the country's already fragile structure and wellbeing of local communities, especially in remote areas. In cooperation with the local association of the Order of Malta, Malteser International began to work to improve healthcare in vulnerable regions of the country. This program also caters to the critical needs of the refugees and their host communities, while enabling the two groups to build stronger social and cultural ties.

**Restoring hope for returnees in Iraq**

While Malteser International is quick to respond when disaster or conflict strikes, the organisation also focusses on strengthening the capacity of vulnerable communities until they get back on their feet. In 2018, a major highlight of this commitment was Malteser International's engagement in northern Iraq where years of violent conflict displaced hundreds of thousands and crippled crucial social infrastructure. Malteser International embarked on a holistic reconstruction and rehabilitation program that aims to facilitate the return and reintegration process of displaced families in the Nineveh plains, many of whom suffered persecution at the hands of ISIS.

The program focusses on repairing damaged or completely destroyed homes, providing support for small and medium-sized businesses to make a fresh start, creating jobs and vocational training centers, improving the school system, and promoting social cohesion, and peaceful co-existence between the ethnic and religious groups.

**Jobs for refugees in Uganda**

In northern Uganda, the arrival of numerous refugees from surrounding countries, especially war-torn South Sudan has put a strain on the environment and the labour market. In cooperation with Impact Building Solutions Foundation, Malteser International is working to address these challenges by promoting carbon-neutral construction while creating new jobs and perspectives for refugees and members of the local host communities. 🇺🇬



Malteser International provides more than 900 experts to work in 29 countries, as the humanitarian relief agency of the Sovereign Order of Malta.



**INTERNATIONAL  
RECOGNITION**

Over the last few years Malteser International has committed to playing a leading role at the forefront of global humanitarian relief efforts. These commitments have earned recognition from international actors. In 2018, the United Nations Economic and Social Council adopted the recommendation of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organisations to grant Special consultative status to Malteser International. This was a landmark achievement that allows the organisation to shape conversations around the future of relief and positions them as a key global player in the humanitarian sector.

In November 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) certified the Malteser International's Emergency Medical Team (EMT). The EMT is a flexible and logistically self-sufficient mobile disaster response team for short-term international deployments. As a WHO-certified EMT, Malteser International will now be part of the WHO's global registry and can be requested to respond to emergencies around the world.

This recognition goes further to affirm Malteser International's ongoing commitment to remain a brand for high-quality humanitarian aid, while meeting the highest quality standards of emergency medical care even when delivering urgent disaster relief.



# Miraculous Lourdes

Noel Mifsud KMG celebrates the 160th Anniversary of the Blessed Virgin Mary's first apparition to St Bernadette Soubirous and the 60th Annual Lourdes pilgrimage of the Order of Malta. *Photos by Joseph K. Grogan*



**A**s Members of the Order of Malta, we model our life on Christ by holding all people in our heart, especially the poor and sick. Our guiding principle "*Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum*" reminds us of our deep commitment in defence of the faith and care of the poor and suffering.

From 4 to 8 May 2018, 7500 pilgrims, 1500 malades, 250 priests and 380 nurses and doctors attended the Order of Malta Lourdes Pilgrimage in France. The pilgrimage provided an opportunity for members of the Order from across the globe to gather in solidarity, Eucharistic celebration, prayer, and service to the poor and suffering.

Brother, pilgrim and Grand Master, Frà Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, reflected on the purpose of the Lourdes Experience:

"We stand together here in Lourdes, which casts its own influence on us. We meditate on the miracle of Saint Bernadette, and the miracles that have been wrought here, so many times over so many years. Since the wondrous apparition of Mary to the little 14-year-old in 1858, those experiences were to have a profound experience on the world, he says.

"We reflect on what a miracle is: it may not be a cure... but it may well be a grace that is given

*Opposite page: Marian candlelight procession.  
Below: Grand Master and Australian President.*







to all pilgrims who come here – the miracle of serenity in the love of the Virgin Mary, the miracle of unconditional kindness to others, the miracle of tolerance...the miracle that helps us to understand that we are part of the same great spiritual family – the very special family that is the Order of Malta.”

The Australian Association and sub-groups combined forces with a delegation which included 36 members from Australia, 53 from Hong Kong, nine from Korea, and one from Thailand. Our contingent also included two malades, three doctors and three chaplains. The Order’s Presidents from Korea, Hong Kong and Australia were in the delegation.

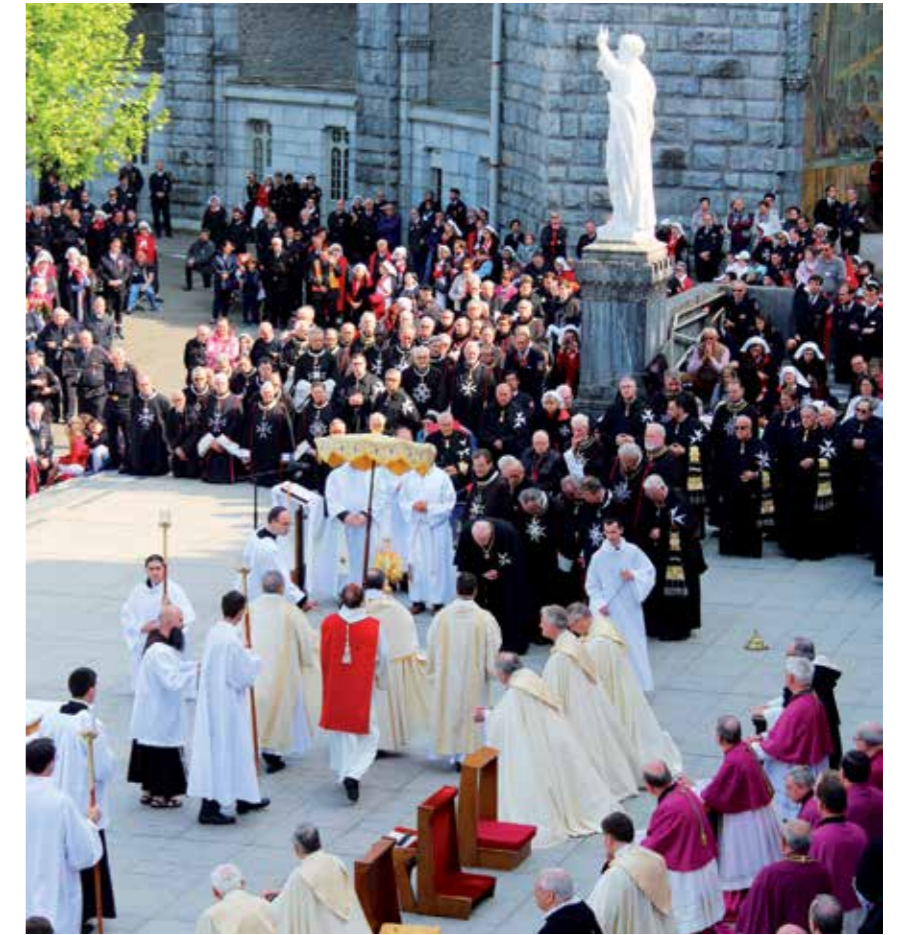
The planning team of the pilgrimage comprised Brendan Lawler from Ireland, Desirée Jebesen from Hong Kong, and Daniel Kwok from Australia.

We provided care, transportation and company to 60 Irish malades. Our duties included setting up the ward prior to the arrival of the sick, attending to medical shifts, general ward duties such as kitchen tasks, cleaning and feeding, and transporting malades to Masses, processions, immersion in the Lourdes Bath, shopping, and outings.

At the heart of our work in Lourdes is being present to the sick and poor. Archbishop Becciu reminded members of the Order that everything at Lourdes is centred on what matters – Christ matters, the sick and poor matters, and the world matters.

“When I touch a malade’s frail fingers and see the weary eyes groping for focus, I feel the vulnerability, humility and resilient dignity of age. I distress because I do not have the words. But then she feels in my touch... my soul’s hope to provide solace and her eyes smile gratefully from her soul...” one Lourdes pilgrim wrote.

Our members also volunteered on the Global Fund for the Forgotten Desk, which makes grants for projects that reach out directly to people who would otherwise be forgotten, and raises awareness and support for issues that have fallen under the radar of public concern. The Fund also delivers non-financial,



capacity-building support to its partner charities and grantees.

Throughout the pilgrimage, our members met with international delegations in the spirit of reciprocity to share new responses to emerging calls for help, globally. Hospitaliers and doctors from our region met with the CEO and CFO of CIOMAL, an Order of Malta entity based in Switzerland, to discuss their work in serving those afflicted with leprosy in Cambodia. A follow-up of that is a contribution from an Australian Member to CIOMAL’s marketing literature.

During the pilgrimage a small group of Australian Consoeurs and Confreres met to discuss strategies to improve social cohesion and faith among our indigenous communities in the Alice Springs. The strategies discussed are a work in progress.

More importantly, the pilgrimage provided time and opportunity for members who do not normally meet face-to-face, to discuss new and emerging projects.

The Asia Pacific delegation enjoys an established relationship with the Irish delegation. Given the geographical, financial and logistical complexities of sending malades from Australia to Lourdes, we do not have sufficient numbers to establish an Australian ward.

To send a large contingent of Australian

malades would be an audacious venture requiring significant strategic planning and the prayers of our members.

In Jerusalem, in the year 1113, Blessed Gerard observed that what matters to members of the Order is to reduce the misery of the world and make distress easier to bear. The Lourdes pilgrimage provides an opportunity to gather in solidarity with and for the sick.

I believe God called each Lourdes pilgrim by name. He also calls us to live the Lourdes experience in the everyday ordinariness of our lives. In Matthew 25 we hear:

“Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?”

The King will reply. “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”

I will carry the Lourdes experience in my heart each day as I pray with renewed determination the Prayer of our Order:

“Lord Jesus, thou hast seen fit to enlist me for thy service amongst the Knights and Dames of Saint John of Jerusalem... be it mine to practise charity towards my neighbours, especially the poor and the sick...” ✠

*Clockwise from top left: Asia Pacific group; ward volunteers, Eurcharistic Adoration; Daniel Kwok with Malade; Our pilgrims with the leaders of Irish Association; and Loretta Higgins.*





# THE GLOBAL FUND FOR FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

# No one is Forgotten



One in 10 children in the world has to cope with a mental or physical disability and 80 per cent of disabled people live in developing countries, according to the World Health Organization's world report on disability.

**I**n some nations, people with disabilities may be disowned, excluded from their community or consigned to inadequate care homes. Often, it's the very privileged few that are able to access the right care and support throughout their lives. Many of the rest of these individuals are forgotten.

The Order of Malta's Global Fund for Forgotten People provides support and help to those in need, particularly those that go unnoticed. The Fund, for instance, supports the work undertaken by the Order through the provision of therapy, dedicated support centres, and holiday camps for the disabled across Europe, the Middle East, and Asia.

One such project included in our St John's Day 2018 grant cycle, for instance, is a kindergarten run by the Order in Romania, which aims to aid the recovery and rehabilitation of children with severe neuromotor disabilities.

As the only organisation providing support in the area, the kindergarten focuses on supporting children from care homes or modest backgrounds, who would not otherwise have access to such care.

Special educational activities develop cognitive functions and are tailored to meet the needs of each child. Daily activities encourage children to acquire knowledge, stimulate thinking, and build on memory and language skills. Receiving this specialised treatment at an early age provides



children with the best chance of reaching their full potential and fully integrating into society.

Supporting children and adults with disabilities is just one arm of the work from The Global Fund for Forgotten People.

Since its inception in 2011, The Fund has raised money for a range of Order of Malta projects, which reach people who would otherwise be forgotten. These include people with neglected diseases, people who don't have safe and easily available maternal and neonatal healthcare, prisoners and their families, and the elderly. Many of those supported come from developing countries where the services and care that many of us take for granted are just not available.

Three hundred and seven grants have been awarded to 56 bodies of the Order through the Fund, with projects in 72 countries supported by the grants.

These projects include everything from supporting a socio-medical centre in Roum, Lebanon, which provides services for 1800 patients including the local population and Syrian refugees, through to the Order's Russian relief service. Established in 2016, the Mother and Child Program provides provisional shelter and care for more than 50 families with young children. Social workers organise daily support for the mothers and their babies, including medical visits and nutritional advice. The project has been expanded, on the request of the Russian government, and participated in a one-off campaign for emergency food assistance, providing for 125 families.

Like our support for children and adults with disabilities, displaced people and marginalised communities, our organisation is widely recognised for the work we do in supporting maternal and neonatal healthcare for those who are forgotten. The Fund has supported projects including midwifery in Kenya, medical care for post-natal complications in Madagascar, and the Order's flagship maternity hospital in Bethlehem.

The Fund leverages our resources and global

capabilities for a number of goals. These include encouraging and supporting new initiatives of the Order to help the most vulnerable, sharing best practices to extend the highest level of care to those it serves. This supports the growth and expansion of existing projects, and helps nascent projects increase their capacity and achieve sustainability by providing resources and support skills in fundraising and grant applications.

The Fund is registered as two legal entities. In England and Wales, it is a registered charity (1148427) and in the US it has 501(c)(3) status. Through these two legal entities, the Fund aims to raise awareness of and support particular issues which have fallen under the radar, and which struggle to get public attention.

To date, the Fund has received generous support from donors around the world, and aims to prove a tax-efficient and direct channel for donors to fulfill their global philanthropic objectives.

Now, the Fund is moving into the next phase of its development, to incubate and encourage the growth of exciting new projects across our world and for new projects to take centre stage.

Through early encouragement, comes the incentive some ideas need to get off the ground, which the Fund is keeping front of mind as it moves into its next funding period. The call-up for its services has never been more popular. We're now building the range of our support capacity – developing and strengthening the skills and resources needed for our projects to thrive.

The Fund relies on the generosity of donors to fund the biannual grant program and works hard to ensure all the funds are directed to where we can have the most impact in support of the forgotten.

As a fundraising resource for the work of the Order worldwide, both through direct fundraising and grant-giving activities and through collaborations with national Associations, our Fund has become a vital body for providing those left behind or forgotten with the support and care they need. 🇲🇹

*The Global Fund for the Forgotten People has awarded grants to 56 bodies of the Order, helping support projects in 72 countries.*



# ENABLED FOR GREAT LOVE

## THE SECOND ASIA PACIFIC CAMP FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES



### THE CHRISTOPHER CUP

*The Christopher Cup is awarded at all summer camps of the Order of Malta worldwide. The tradition started after a camp in 1994, where five Austrian youths met with a car accident on their way home after serving as helpers at the Order of Malta Summer Camp in Switzerland. All five volunteers, Ingrid Reithofer, Paul Kaltenecker, Christopher Breisky, Markus Knezevic and Thibault de Montjoye, lost their lives.*

*The parents of Christopher donated his beloved croquet set to the Order's Summer Camp. It was his favourite game. The Christopher Cup Challenge is now held every year in memory of the five Austrian volunteers who served so joyfully at the camp. Thus, the tradition began and continues.*



Society often calls them special, but this label is far from the daily experience for many of our differently-abled brothers and sisters.

A total of 41 individuals with different physical and mental conditions were welcomed as very special guests during the Second Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities, held from 6 to 8 June 2018. Thirty-nine volunteers from different countries assisted the youth as they participated in various activities prepared by the Order of Malta Philippines, the host for the 2018 Camp.

With participants and guests coming from Australia, Hong Kong, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines, the event was a colourful, inter-cultural fellowship that fostered dialogue and understanding among all participants.

During the opening program, Don Eric Nicolas, Hospitaller of the Philippines, set the tone by emphasising that the camp was designed to be a learning experience for both guests and volunteers alike. He reminded the attendees that, many times, ordinary people suffer from worse disabilities than those who are born with such.

He explained that in the course of the three-day camp, he hoped that the volunteers would learn from the participants how to exude great love and hope despite limitations, through simple, everyday acts.

The camp was held at the tranquil and idyllic Villa Escudero in Tiaong, Quezon, a coconut plantation that was converted as a tourist resort so that visitors could experience Philippine provincial life and local culture. The venue was a welcome respite from the cold and fast-paced urban life that many of participants are exposed to daily. A highlight of the event was the fellowship lunch where everyone ate sumptuous local cuisine on top of bamboo rafts at the foot of a man-made waterfall.

The peaceful and sprawling grounds also served as an ideal setting for simple but enjoyable activities that sought to build the self-esteem and the social skills of the participants. These ranged from parlour

games, obstacle relays, board games and sports such as croquet where teams compete for the Christopher Cup.

The camp also included workshops that stimulated both mind and body as participants were taught how to weave bags, make Rosaries, perform dances, paint artwork, and bake homemade pasta. Most importantly, there were spiritual activities that nourished the soul including a procession, communal prayers, and sharing sessions, recitation of Novenas, and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

This holistic design of the camp was effective in empowering the participants to overcome the inhibitions that they have unwittingly developed due to their disabilities. Among them was Joshua Andre Rosas who remarked that the camp helped him become less self-conscious due to the love and acceptance he felt during the event.

"Before, I would not even talk to my classmates. But from now on, I'm a new person," said Joshua in his local language.

An awards ceremony capped off the event where everyone was recognised for the exceptional skills and talent they demonstrated. In his closing speech, Don Eric Nicolas thanked the participants for teaching everyone how to be loving individuals despite physical limitations and social discrimination.

"Because you exude such a sheer positive outlook towards life, all of you are real examples of lives worth living," Don said.

His remarks concluded an event that proved that although we may face different forms of disabilities, all of us are still enabled by God to love and serve each other.

The regional youth camp is a tradition that was started by members of the Order of Malta in Europe in 1984. The camp was first brought to Asia in 2017 in Singapore.

The 2019 Asia Pacific Camp will be held in Hong Kong in October, and Australia will host the 2020 Camp. 🇲🇹



*The Asia Pacific Youth Camp for the Disabled is designed to be an experience for volunteers and guests alike, to help each learn how to exude great love despite limitations in every day activities.*





# MORE than a HOME

National Hospitalier, **Dr Robert Costa KMG** on understanding homelessness and the Order of Malta Australia's response.

**H**omeless is a term attributed to an individual with no fixed address or place of residence. However, on reflection, it is a gross misunderstanding and oversimplification of the circumstances under which a homeless person lives.

On researching the issue of homelessness, one comes across many definitions, which add significantly to the meaning, and one's understanding of the complexity or the reality of the true homeless person.

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012), it states that when a person does not have suitable accommodation alternatives, they are considered homeless if their living arrangements are: living in a dwelling that is inadequate, have no tenure or their initial tenure is short and not extendable,

and does not allow them space for social interaction.

This definition is formed by the understanding that a home is more than a roof over one's head. It encompasses the Anglo American and European interpretation of a home to include the elements of shelter, personal safety, security, stability, privacy, and the ability to control the living space. Therefore, homelessness is a situation, which leads to the lack of one or more of the situational elements considered to be necessary for a "home".

The United Nations (2014) has two broad groups to define a homeless person:

Primary homelessness or rooflessness, which includes individuals living on the streets without shelter or adequate housing, and secondary homelessness, where individuals move between

various types of accommodation such as shelters and institutions or even private dwellings with no fixed address.

The European Federation of National Organisation's Working with the Homeless (2009) defines homelessness in much the same vein. It describes it as rooflessness – without any shelter, sleeping rough; houselessness – with a place to sleep but in temporary shelter or accommodation; living in insecure housing, living without tenure; and living in inadequate housing such as caravans or illegal campsites.

When we consider these aspects in the context of a family rather than simply a single individual, the implications are beyond comprehension.

The causes of homelessness are well known and multifactorial. Authors Chamberlain and MacKenzie in the (2008) publication *Counting the Homeless* undertook research into this area, and in particular into Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were homeless. Their research showed that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are often over-represented in homelessness statistics.

Chamberlain and MacKenzie's research show that Aboriginal young people aged 12 to 18 are 11 times more likely than non-Aboriginal young people to experience homelessness.

There have been many correlations identified between youth homelessness with adverse life experiences, such as child abuse, exposure to violence, and lack of material support and emotional support. In addition, it impacts youth with difficulties in family life, such as family instability and conflict, and parental difficulties with substance abuse or mental health problems, and with personal survival strategies that are not socially sanctioned such as drug usage, excess alcohol, and petty crime.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare reported that from 2014 to 2015, the most common three reasons homelessness occurred in people aged 15 to 24 include the housing crisis (21 per cent), family or domestic violence (15 per cent), and relationship or family breakdown (12 per cent).

## Effects Homelessness has on Children

Embedded within the need of the psychosocial requirements for an individual to live adequately, there are the physiological needs necessary for human life to be sustained. These physiological needs are the minimal requirements for human survival. These include air to breathe, potable water, nutrition, and shelter.

Shelter is required to protect us from the adversity of the weather. As humans, we are mammals, and by definition, warm blooded creatures. All human body systems necessary for life, require to be maintained at our ideal body temperature of 37°C. If our body temperature rises or falls markedly below the ideal, these systems fail and death will ultimately follow. We see this in all mammalian species where the extreme of temperature leads to death.

The inability to maintain normal human body temperature increases an individual's risk of illness and the ability to recover.

One of the principal organs that the body uses to regulate body temperature is the skin. By controlling the blood flow to the skin, the body is able to retain heat or to lower body temperature. Increasing the volume of blood flowing to the skin results in heat loss and lowering the blood flow causes heat to be retained. This auto regulation occurs without conscious effort. If the body requires us to add further measures to help with temperature regulation we are made to feel cold or hot. This leads in normal circumstances, to individuals adding or removing layers of clothes

Covering or exposing the skin will therefore influence the rate of heat loss or retention by the body. Clothing acts as an insulator, helping to retain warmth. Excessive heat loss leads to hypothermia. This is compounded by inadequate living circumstances especially in cold climates and when clothing is wet.

Clothing entraps air next to the skin and in the weave of the cloth. As a consequence of clothing, heat loss from the skin can be greatly reduced. A usual suit of clothing can decrease the rate of heat loss to about half that of an unclothed individual.

Homeless individuals usually find themselves in a situation whereby they not only lack suitable shelter but suitable clothing. As a consequence, they are more vulnerable to the effects of hypothermia. This vulnerability increases the risk of death.

The Order's Coats for the Homeless program is therefore a lifesaving initiative to those individuals left living on the streets without adequate shelter and clothing by helping to retain body heat and maintain normal body temperature

Originally the idea of a single member of the Order, the Coats for the Homeless program has now become a national project of the Order. With the help of partner organisations, the Australian Order distributes almost 6,000 coats over the cooler months. These are given to people in need without question or the need for financial recompense.

The value of the program is seen by the donations received to fund the initiative. From humble beginnings, other associations of the Order have now adopted the project. The Grand Hospitalier has distributed coats in the streets of Rome. Last year, the Order received enquiries from the Western Association in the United States, as well as the Scandinavian Association in regards to the coats program, and sample coats were sent to both.

The success of the program lies significantly in the design of the coats, thanks to conversations with those who had been and were, rough sleepers on the streets. Their thoughts in what a coat needed to provide was sought, and from that, a design was established.

The Coats were originally manufactured in Australia and distributed by the Matthew Talbot Hostel. Today, 6,000 coats are distributed annually throughout Australia.

Through the efforts of our members, the program is becoming more widely acknowledged and the request for coats is growing.

This program alone fulfills the Order's tenants of serving Our Lords the sick and the poor. 🇻🇪

*The most common reasons homelessness occurs in people aged 15 to 24 include a housing crisis, family or domestic violence, and relationship or family breakdown.*

Originally the idea of a single member of the Order, the Coats program has now become a national project of the Order. With the help of partner organisations, the Australian Order distributes almost 6,000 coats over the cooler months.





# STORIES *of a* LIFETIME

Palliative care has been an area of interest and involvement for Australian members of the Order of Malta. Members are currently playing an active role with the Eastern Palliative Care program to write and publish the biographies of patients with a life limiting illness, documenting stories that might otherwise be lost.

Since 1992, Members of the Order of Malta in Victoria, Australia, have been involved in home-based palliative care services in Melbourne and are currently partners in the Eastern Palliative Care Association (EPC). EPC provides clients with a life limiting illness and their families with medical and nursing services, and psychosocial services such as social work, counselling, volunteers, music and massage therapy.

One of the more unique services provided is the Biography Program. This initiative, undertaken by volunteers, gives each client the opportunity to document their life story. For clients engaging in the biography process, the telling of one's story is often therapeutic. "The thing I have enjoyed the most is my biographer's ability to make my achievements in life seem very important," said one participant.

It is an opportunity to reflect and reminisce on their life, and in this way, validate their achievements and give meaning to a life lived. Many participants see their biography as a means of leaving messages, beliefs, philosophies, instructions and family history. All of this can contribute to a more peaceful and accepting death on behalf of the client.

"I love my biography – I keep reading it," said another client involved in the program. "It was great retelling

the past. My children and grandchildren will love it. I mostly did it for them, but when I read it, I feel so much joy and satisfaction."

The Biography Program also allows the client to place the current medicalised experience of a palliative illness back into the broader context of their lives. To understand that their current role as a care recipient is not what ultimately defines them. It allows each client to reconnect with the essence of who they are and remember they are larger than their diagnosis. Clients who engage with this program report a rise in a sense of wellbeing and a decrease in levels of depression, anxiety, breathlessness and pain.

"A record has been made of my life, something ordinary and common place but unique to me," said one client. "It is something I would not have done on my own. Good intentions, but I put things off while getting on with the business of living. My biography has helped me face issues that have been buried for years."

Importantly, the biographies not only help the clients, but others too. Families in the bereavement phase often report how valuable and meaningful the biography is to them. Material from the biographies is often used in eulogies and, in numerous cases, families have been known to print additional copies and send them around the world to family and friends.

Owning a biography is a way of continuing bonds being fostered for those who are left behind.

"It has given us great relief and makes us feel that we all still have a close connection with him," said one client's family. "The biography helped give us closure and the ability to look back on aspects of his life. One of the most precious parts is the messages we received from him in the biography and his feelings and thankfulness for his life and his family."

Volunteer biographers commit considerable time to this program. Consistently, participants report the most enjoyable aspect of the biography process is the regular interaction between themselves and their biographer. Using digital voice recorders, volunteer biographers assist clients to record their story. Later, this is transcribed, focusing on maintaining the client's voice and editing only when necessary. All stories are worked on by the biographer and the client with a constant checking and rechecking occurring at each visit. It takes between six to 10 visits to collate one story. Published stories have ranged in length from two pages to 170 pages.

Many members of the Order of Malta volunteer as biographers. Tanya Murphy DMG is one such volunteer. Following the Charism of looking after the vulnerable, two years ago Tanya was searching for a way to volunteer more of her time.

Tanya heard about the Biography Program from friends in the Order already taking part. Although the initial appeal was about giving back to the community with work that would fit into her schedule, she now says she feels quite honoured to be doing this work.

"It feels sometimes like there is a stigma around death and dying. As soon as it's mentioned, people don't want to talk about it, they don't know what to do. It's like this big elephant in the room," she says. "I went to see my first client and I was apprehensive at first. But

that first experience was so eye opening. After meeting with my first client, and through all my work since then, I've grown such a strong appreciation from the work done by EPC in supporting clients through their end of life."

More than just helping her learn how to cope with death, Tanya realised that documenting a person's life in their final moments is a true blessing.

"My first client was quite advanced with their illness, and their family was with them. So really it was a family chat where the client spoke about their life. It was a really lovely space to be in. I felt quite privileged to be there."

Tanya says that today she gains great pleasure from meeting a new client. She says it's amazing to be privy to that person's life story.

The stories she has come across have been an incredible learning experience, in meeting people from all walks of life, and documenting their stories from difference places and times in history.

"I've had older clients who have lived through the Second World War, who were in Europe. I had one client who was fleeing their home country, another who came to Australia on their own volition. They told me things I didn't think could possibly be true. Then I did some research, and was amazed to find out what they had lived through."

Tanya strongly recommends the program to members with empathy for others, a good ear for listening and those wanting to contribute to others in the last phase of their life.

"You are creating something for that person. You speak with them, go home and transcribe the text, you work on it together," she says.


Tanya also notes the training is quite comprehensive, and really facilitates the work. It includes education on death and how people die, including information on different illnesses such as cancer, Alzheimer's, Dementia, and Motor Neurone Disease. It also includes some very useful training on how to be a good listener.

"You learn that silence is okay," she says. "Often when you're talking, you feel like you need to fill in the space, talk about your own experiences. But we're taught that this isn't about us, it's about them. We just sit and listen."

The product of all the work of volunteers like Tanya is a finished biography. It can be presented in varied ways and enhanced with photos, drawings, poems or other mementos. Each client is given two hard copies and one electronic copy of their story.

In 2018, EPC's Volunteer Biography team won the Minister for Health Volunteering Award for 'Outstanding Achievement by a Volunteer: Improving Patient Experience Award'.

Currently, there are 94 volunteer biographers and as of October 2018, over 1,000 biographies have been published. Victorian Order of Malta members are quite active in the program, and are encouraged to join together to support those in need with this special service.

The Order of Malta has seats on the Committee of Management of EPC and Members are volunteer biographers and engage in fundraising for the service. 

"A record has been made of my life, something ordinary and common place but unique to me. It is something I would not have done on my own – good intentions, but I put things off while getting on with the business of living. Biography has helped me face issues that have been buried for years – to look at."





# RESPONDING TO A CHANGING COMMUNICATION LANDSCAPE

Communication has always been one of the primary sources of engagement for organisations, irrespective of their size. Effective communication is imperative to get people behind causes, raise awareness, motivate supporters, engage volunteers, stimulate giving, access institutional donors, and connect with beneficiaries.



An organisation like the Order of Malta has a dual mission to defend the faith and actively assist the poor. However, it is run almost entirely by members and volunteers, so communications often takes a back seat to project activities.

The Grand Magistry has identified communications as a key area of focus for the Order of Malta worldwide with emphasis on engaging a younger demographic, while still being mindful to keep our members and supporters informed and motivated.

The age of social media has allowed a new era of communication where creators have the opportunity to amass a network of followers who trust what they have to say. It's a new world of media consumption where the audience can select their interests and have instant access to information.

Digital publishing outfits have proliferated in the past decade, largely due to the popularity of digital text for younger audiences. However, older audiences still prefer more traditional methods of communication and information.

For 'communicators,' this presents huge opportunity but also a huge challenge – to ensure we are providing relevant, appropriate and engaging information to the correct demographic via the correct medium.

#### Australian Association Communications in 2018: Newsletters:

The newsletter provides regular updates to members and supporters about ongoing projects, upcoming activities and new initiatives. In 2018, our newsletters were printed and distributed in February, July and



October to more than 1,400 members and supporters. They were also made available online and distributed via email to hundreds more.

Should the Australian Association move to a digital only newsletter? The evidence would say 'no' – those who receive the printed publication are significantly more likely to engage with our activities than those who receive a digital copy. This would appear to be a wider trend as many organisations are reporting that print is making a comeback and re-introducing printed communications.

The focus for 2019 is to increase the newsletter distribution list to ensure more people are aware of our charitable works projects and spiritual events.

#### www.orderofmalta.org.au

On average three articles a week were added to www.orderofmalta.org.au in 2018, combining national and international news about the Order and its activities.

In total, 7,000 users visited our website. The majority of traffic was generated through organic search (61%) rather than people directly entering our website address (29%). Enquiries generated through the website were largely from individuals wanting to volunteer or attend events in their local area.

In October 2018 our new website was launched. Not only did it have a cosmetic update that aligned with the 'branding' of the Order of Malta international site, but it was designed to be more user-friendly for visitors regardless of if they were viewing it on the desktop, phone or mobile.

The navigation and content also expanded to meet the needs of all audiences, with dedicated sections for Events, Volunteers and Regional pages.

Social media was also included in the new website design. If readers want to share an article from our website to their social media page they can do so easily with a click of a button.

In 2018, social media accounted for eight per cent of our website traffic. This is expected to increase in 2019.

#### Internal Communications:

For member-specific communications from the Grand Magistry, President and Hospitaller, email is increasingly being used due to its speed of delivery and cost efficiency. Furthermore, an email Liturgical Calendar called ORDO will launch in 2019.

Print, however, still has its place and our annual *Australian Hospitaller* publication remains not only an important communication tool but an archive of our activities for years to come.

## EASY ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE

### MEMBER ENGAGEMENT IS CRITICAL TO OUR SUCCESS

*If we are unable to engage our membership, we are unlikely to engage other audiences.*

- For members with social media accounts – start following our pages and sharing our posts.
- Keep your details up to date – ensure that any changes to contact information are provided to the Office of Communications.
- Maintain our brand – being recognisable has many benefits. Loyalty, increased and sustained following, brand value and enhanced readability are just some of the reasons. Members need to ensure activities and communications are branded and meet guidelines set out by the Grand Magistry. Guidance is available from the Office of Communications.
- Help us grow our audience – be it through social media, a referral for a newsletter or an invitation to one of our events.







## SOCIAL MEDIA TERMINOLOGY

### A focus on Social Media:

In social media, the adage 'a picture tells a thousand words' has never been more true. The challenge to tell a story with an image and very limited text, is a skill communicators need to master to engage audiences on social media platforms such as Twitter and Instagram – if you get it right thousands can hear your message.

Viral marketing and communication is a powerful tool for organisations. It's how Facebook quickly acquired new customers. The concept is that if two people directly related to the organisation share a piece of content, and if that number doubles 30 times, it means that over a billion people will have shared the content.

In 2018, the Office of Communications in Rome asked that social media be a key focus for all Associations with a particular emphasis of videos of our activities. The Australian Association began creating short videos about our charitable activities and to report on our events. As video clips are increasingly being watched on mobile devices, the optimum duration is about 75 seconds and sub-titles are included as devices may be on mute.

The strategy appears to be working – posts in 2018 containing videos had on average the highest engagement rate.



### Twitter: [orderofmaltaau](#)

By the end of 2018 our Twitter account had 597 followers, however our 'Tweets' reached much further with thousands on impressions as supporters shared our stories.

### Facebook: [@orderofmalta.org.au](#)

Our small but loyal Facebook page followers are very engaged and frequently share or respond to our posts. Captioned videos in particular seem to thrive using this network.

### Instagram: [orderofmaltaaustralia](#)

Compared to Facebook, Instagram is relatively new on the 'social network scene' and is associated with a younger demographic. It has less users than Facebook (500 billion active daily users compared to 1.13 billion daily active users for Facebook) but data would suggest that they are more likely to engage more with posts. Our profile appears to follow this trend with more engagement from our followers on this platform than Twitter or Facebook.

### Engagement Rate

A popular social media metric used to describe the amount of interaction – likes, shares, comments – a piece of content receives.

### Follower

In a social media setting, a follower refers to a person who subscribes to your account in order to receive your updates.

### Hashtag

A hashtag is a tag used on a variety of social networks as a way to annotate a message. A hashtag is a word or phrase preceded by a '#' (i.e. #Election). Social networks use hashtags to categorise information and make it easily searchable for users.

### Impressions

Refers to how many times a piece of social media content is seen by users. This metric measures the popularity or viral status of a particular post.

### Like

A Like is an action that can be made by a Facebook or Instagram user. Instead of writing a comment or sharing a post, a user can click the Like button as a quick way to show approval.

### Mention

A mention is a Twitter term used to describe an instance in which a user includes someone else's @username in their tweet to attribute a piece of content or start a discussion. For example: Thank you @OrderofMaltaAU for our delivery of #CoatsfortheHomeless

### Retweet

A retweet is when someone on Twitter sees your message and decides to re-share it with his or her followers. A retweet button allows them to quickly resend the message with attribution to the original sharer's name.

### Tag

Tagging is a social media functionality commonly used on Facebook and Instagram that allows users to create a link back to the profile of the person shown in the picture or targeted by the update.

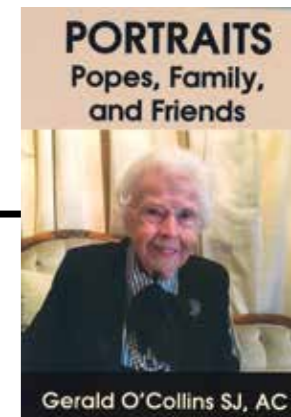


# BOOK REVIEW

PORTRAITS Popes, Family and Friends

– Connor Court Publishing

By Principal Chaplain to the Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception, **Gerald O'Collins SJ, AC.**



Gerald O'Collins, in his latest book *Portraits Popes, Family and Friends* recounts to a fascinating and inspiring cast of characters with whom he has shared his life. The tale is an honest and frank account at close range of how these fellow pilgrims helped shape and nourish Fr O'Collins on his life's journey. As he says: "They were the music of my life".

With his move to Rome in 1973, to begin a long teaching career at the Jesuit-run Gregorian University, we have a front row seat view of the characters of Popes Paul VI, John Paul II, and Benedict XVI.

In Part I we experience his views and engagement across a broad range of events during that period from the great controversy surrounding the publication of Paul VI's Encyclical *Humane Vitae* (Fr O'Collins's stance on this matter comes as a surprise), to his having to front the then Cardinal Ratzinger at Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith, and helping defend his friend and fellow Jesuit Fr Jacques Dupuis against charges of "dissent or heresy". We see how these men led the Church in a period of dramatic change as it wrestled with its place in the modern world. Fr O'Collins offers his thoughtful assessment of both the shortcomings and shining features of each of their respective papacies.

In Part II, Fr O'Collins shares the history of his family, beginning with his father who grew up in Port Melbourne, through his military service, his legal practice and commercial ventures. From suburban Melbourne to the charms of rural life 30 miles away down Port Phillip Bay, we have a clear window on what life was like growing up in a large Catholic family schooled in love, friendship and, of course, discipline.

Of the many delightful stories about growing up, the best is perhaps a tale of his sister Moira with whom he rode horses and played golf.

From the book: "After dark one winter evening, Moira and I were alone at the farm when we heard noises coming from a shed half way along the front drive. I grabbed an unloaded shot gun, Moira armed herself with a heavy iron bar which was used as a poker for a huge central fire place in the sitting room. We crept close the shed and with shaky voices

called out: "Who's there?" It was a truck driver making a late delivery of grain for our cows and chickens. We slipped our weapons behind some lavender bushes and tried to chat to the driver in normal voices."

A feature of the book is the emphasis on "courage" and the example and discipline of his father. His father tried to promote the virtue of courage in his children's lives. One of his earliest recollections is his father saying to him: "cowards die many times." ("He was encouraging me not to be afraid of the dark.")

Part III features portraits of friends. It includes essays about many prominent Jesuits: Cardinals Avery Dulles and Carlo Maria Martini, Peter Steele, Jacques Dupuis, Peter-Hans Kolvenbach. His cast of heroes also includes Jan Gray RSM, publisher Geoffrey Chapman, Gene and Maureen McCarthy, Prince and Princess Frank and Orietta Doria Pamphili and St Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Of special interest to us is the chapter that relates to our own Frà Richard Divall. Fr O'Collins gives this in three parts, the homilies preached at Richard's funeral and anniversary Masses, along with a never before published obituary.

An excerpt from the book:

Richard joined the Order of Malta in 1990, and in 2009, Frà Richard became a fully professed knight, the only one in Australia and, for that matter, in the entire Southern Hemisphere. Richard treasured his membership in the Order of Malta, joining in pilgrimages with sick people to the shrine of Lourdes in France...

Home in Melbourne, he was assiduous in

attending special celebrations of the Eucharist for the aged and sick at day-care centres and hospices around the city. For Richard, the ideal set before members of the Order of Malta to treat the sick and poor as nothing less than their "lords" was a lived reality. The sick and elderly felt cheered by the sight of Frà Richard and other knights and dames.

With his warm, attractive and amusing personality and constant networking, Richard enjoyed endless friends and admirers. He never allowed himself to be crushed by the onset of cancer in 2010. I lived only a short distance from his home. He became for me what he was for so many others – a wonderful human presence and spiritual blessing.

Reading the text, we are reminded of the words of Carlo Maria Cardinal Martini, a friend and confidant Fr O'Collins, reflecting upon "courage":

I exhort you: cultivate the virtue of courage in your life. Not only the courage to question yourself on the profound realities surrounding us, but the courage to freely follow paths founded on truth, justice, serious and competent scholarship, faithful and respectful friendship.

The rejection of every form of possessiveness and greed of the eyes and senses becomes a generous response to God's love, desire, and word, as well as to the needs of our brothers and sisters and the calls for help which they raise in our presence and in our world.

The author's hope is that we the readers will draw inspiration and courage from all these stories.



Sir James Gobbo AC CVO with Fr Gerald O'Collins SJ AC, and Lady Shirley Gobbo.





# OBITUARIES

Over 2018, the Australian Association mourned the loss of eight Members. We record the life stories of eight Members here: **John Sprouster OAM, Giorgio Masero AM, Dr Harry Crock AO, Alick Peter Haddad, Julia Lane, Father Peter Galvin O.P, Kevin John Croagh AO, and Dr Terence Farrell.**

## JOHN SPROUSTER OAM KMG (1933 – 2018)

We were all saddened by the passing of Confreere John Sprouster OAM after a long illness. His funeral on 7 November last year was ably attended by a cavalcade of robed Order members at St Peter Chanel Church, Hunters Hill.

John had a long and meritorious business career, was a leading light of the 'Australian for Quality' initiative and at one stage ran the Australian Quality Council. John was very much a pioneer in this field and his advice was sought and implemented by many leading businesses and institutions including the Ford Motor Company Australia.

From 1974, John was Managing Director of Nashua Australia. In the early 1970s, this competitive environment challenged the viability of goods and services produced in Australia. He was part of Nashua Corporation's worldwide drive to learn the philosophy of Total Quality Control. In 1984, he authored best-selling book *TQC: Total Quality Control – The Australian Experience*. The book, endorsed by then-Prime Minister R.J. Hawke, explored how Australian companies were achieving extraordinary results with a new philosophy and exciting techniques that dramatically

improve quality, competitiveness and productivity.

John was an active parishioner at several parishes over the years. One of his specialities was the landscaping of church grounds, and helping run the parishes. This included the Holy Family parish Lindfield during the 1970s, St Peter Chanel parish Hunters Hill during the 1980s, and Maria Regina parish Avalon from 1990 to 2000s.

John eventually retired to Whale Beach with his wife and best friend Pam, yet remained active in supporting community projects, readily volunteering his services.

He became a Knight of Magistral Grace in 1995, served as Chairman of the New South Wales branch of the Australian Association, was awarded the Cross of Merit in 2005 for his major contributions to the Order and was also decorated with an award within the Order of Australia.

John could well be described as a very gentle gentleman, strong in his Catholic faith, a wonderful husband to Pam, a very caring and supportive father, grandfather and great at giving parties. He remained very active in supporting community projects, readily volunteering his skills and



talents. For instance, John was always to be seen as a marshal at Whale Beach after the renowned annual ocean swim from Palm Beach. He also led the effort to establish BBQs at Gorman House, a detoxification unit within St Vincent's Hospital. This signature NSW charitable work has not only endured till today, but has extended to Tierney House, which looks after the homeless during medical treatment. Members all found John's humble ways of service very much in line with how the Order's charism is practiced. He was loved by all and members of the Order were with him in spirit during his extended illness.

## DR GIORGIO MASERO AM KMG (1920 – 2018)

Confreere Dr Giorgio Masero passed into eternal life in his 99th year. He was a founding member of the Order in Australia, becoming a Knight of Magistral Grace on 14 March 1975.

Giorgio played a profound role within the South Australian Italian community post-World War II. In the 1950s, he conducted Italian language classes to strengthen family and community life at a time when assimilation was the prevailing policy and speaking in a second language was discouraged, particularly among young Italians.

In 1962, Giorgio established the Dante Alighieri Society in South

Australia, which provided a cultural and intellectual dimension, not otherwise available to both the long established Italian community, and the large number of new arrivals.

For the great majority of these families emerging from war-torn Italy to a new land far from home, the going was tough. Many regional clubs were formed. In 1970, Giorgio was a leader in the fundraising campaign to establish the Department of Italian at Flinders University.

The maintenance of a living language which would see Italian teachers, doctors, lawyers and other professionals able to serve their clients with a technical grasp of their

first language.

Inspired by his deep faith, Giorgio devoted his life to the service of others, particularly through the creation of educational opportunity and cultural endeavours. He was a visionary, cultured, and a compassionate man.

A family tribute at the time of his passing beautifully sums up Giorgio's long and devoted life:

"Our beloved Zio Giorgio was hardworking, affectionate, devout and kind man who will be dearly missed by a large and close family."

Giorgio's wife Rachelina predeceased him.

## DR HARRY CROCK AO KMG (1928 – 2018)

Confreere Dr Henry (Harry) Vernon Crock AO passed into eternal life on 21 April, 2018. Harry became a member of the Order of Malta as a Knight of Magistral Grace on 21 April, 1978.

On the same day, Harry's wife Carmel, also a Doctor of Medicine, was admitted into the Order of Malta. Their medical careers together had already brilliantly served the care of the sick in the complex area of lumbar surgery.

Harry, an identical twin, was born on 14 September 1929 in Perth, where, with his brother Gerard, was educated by the Jesuits. Later, they both studied Medicine at Melbourne University and were awarded high prizes in their medical course. Harry won a Nuffield Scholarship to Oxford and lectured in Orthopaedics at Oxford University.

He produced all his own clinical and research photographs. His visual images depicting bone and vascular systems were exquisitely beautiful, and those of dissections are recognised as invaluable to anatomists across the world. Some remain on display at St. Vincent's Hospital in the Department of Surgery in Melbourne.

Through his research, Harry contributed to improved spinal surgery techniques. His five books on spinal surgery and anatomy have become essential reading for trainee surgeons.

With two young children, Harry and Carmel returned to Australia in 1961

when he was appointed Senior Honorary Orthopaedic Surgeon and Professorial Associate at St. Vincent's Hospital. Harry was in charge of an orthopaedic department specialising in spinal surgery, a post he held for the next 25 years.

In 1986, Harry and Carmel returned to England where Harry took up the position of Consultant Spinal Surgeon at the Hammersmith Hospital in London, serving until his retirement in 2000.

Harry received academic and professional recognition and civic honours throughout his four-decade career. Among these, he was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1984 and appointed Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1997. He was awarded a Doctorate of Science (Honoris Causa) by Melbourne University in 2008 for his contributions to surgery, the first and only surgeon to date to receive this honour.

Harry's patients were often poor migrant labourers who suffered from back pain and sciatica, spoke little English and had scant knowledge of the Australian legal system. He treated them with kindness, understanding and care, helping many avoid a life of disability and chronic pain. Harry also became a skilled expert witness for those injured in work-related accidents. In 1991, he made history in a Victorian Supreme Court trial, becoming the first witness to use video conferencing to give evidence overseas.

Harry was an avid collector of fine art



and befriended many of Australia's great artists. He also enjoyed music and theatre. Simple pleasures such as attending the Woodend Arts Festival each year, once back in Australia, replaced the theatrical delights he had experienced in London.

Harry and Carmel returned to Australia in 2002, following their retirement from surgical practice. In these later years, Harry enjoyed spending much of his time with his family. He is survived by his wife Carmel, their five children – Catherine, Elizabeth, Carmel, Vernon and Damian, their partners, and 15 adored grandchildren.

Confreere Harry, in his lifelong outstanding medical and surgical career, was the perfect embodiment of the 900 year Charism of the Order of Malta to serve "Our Lords the Sick and the Poor". May his soul rest in peace.

## ALICK PETER HADDAD KMG (1937-2018)

Confreere Alick Peter Haddad dedicated his life to the service of others. This included his beloved family and friends, clients and professional colleagues in the pharmacy group he founded, and so many others. Alick's deep faith guided and inspired him throughout his life.

He joined the Order of Malta in 2004 and was active in many of the Order's works. For many years he procured, packed and arranged the transportation of large quantities of medicines and hospital equipment to clinics in Timor-Leste supported by the Order. Collaborating with Confreere David Scarf, the Order's then Ambassador to Timor-Leste, they were able to provide life saving medicines to remote clinics and urban communities.

Alick played an active role in the

development of the pharmacy profession in South Australia, and nationally.

The Haddad Pharmacy Group established a specialist service to provide care for the aged and those at the end of life, whether they be hospitalised in residential care or at home.

Alick was a keen sportsman and follower of sport. Illness prevented him from attending the 2017 Melbourne Cup, the first he had missed in 50 years. He took great delight in watching his grandchildren play sport and supported their schools.

Alick is survived by his wife Anne and four children Thomas, Mary-Anne, Matthew, Sarah, and their families.

St Laurence's Church at North Adelaide was overflowing with mourners who attended the requiem mass for the repose of Alick's soul.





## JULIA LANE DMG (1927 – 2018)

Consoeur Julia Lane DMG passed away on 7 July, 2018.

She was a woman of courage, resilience, optimism, and above all Faith.

Julia was born immediately before the onset of the Great Depression. Not many years before that economic catastrophe, her father served in World War I in Belgium and France. Just before Julia commenced at All Hallows School in Brisbane, World War II broke out.

Given the school's prime position overlooking the city, there was fear that the Japanese might bomb All Hallows. As such, the Sisters of Mercy decided to evacuate the school. Not all parents were happy with that decision, many preferring to keep their daughters at home.

Julia's father, however, was ahead of his time. He was a passionate believer in the importance of education for both boys and girls. He insisted that Julia not miss a day of school, so she ended up boarding for a period at Stanthorpe where part of All Hallows had been evacuated.

Her time at All Hallows marked the commencement of the Lane family's long and enduring association with the Sisters of Mercy, with Julia's two daughters and six of her granddaughters later attending the

school. Julia was also involved with the All Hallows Past Pupils' Association, including several years as President.

After graduating in 1944, Julia was among the few women of her generation to attend university. She studied a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Music at the University of Queensland.

On 22 September 1953, she married the love of her life Daniel Lane, who went on to become a prominent surgeon in Brisbane, operating principally out of the Mater Hospital. They were married in the Chapel of the Choir in St Peter's Basilica, arranged by an Augustinian family friend.

They had a marvellous marriage until Daniel passed away on 28 July 1972. Julia, at 45, was left a single parent to raise eight young children aged between three and 14.

To help keep income coming through the door, Julia did a refresher course at night to re-qualify as a music teacher. She would drive from Coorparoo across town to Kelvin Grove Teachers College for nightly lectures. Her energy and ability to multi-skill was incredible.

If there was ever one certainty in Julia's life, it was her faith. Her Catholic faith sustained her throughout the various challenges she faced on her own.



Julia was admitted into the Order in October 1992 and played an active and influential role in the development of the Order in Queensland while it was still in its formative years.

Even in her twilight years, relying on others for transport, she was a regular attendee at all the local Masses and functions, and actively contributed to the life of the Order.

Representatives of both the Augustinian and Carmelite Orders led Julia's funeral service. For many decades, both Orders had a very significant connection with Julia specifically, and with the Lane family.

The Order in Queensland is all the richer for having her as a member.

## KEVIN JOHN CROAGH AO KMG (1929 – 2018)

Confreere Kevin John Croagh AO (Ob) was born on 19 July 1929. He married Katherine Anne (Kate) Donovan on 2 February 1956 and passed to eternal life on 3 May 2018.

Kevin and Kate had eight children and found their greatest happiness in the company of each other, their children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

After a successful business career, Kevin was recognised in his appointment as an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1992 for services including Managing Director of Vulcan Australia from 1978 to 1987.

Kevin accepted a number of charitable directorships including at Mercy Health and Aged Care from 1988 to 1999. He was President of the Australian Chamber of Manufactures from 1990 to 1992, and President of the Peninsula Golf Club from 1999 to 2001.

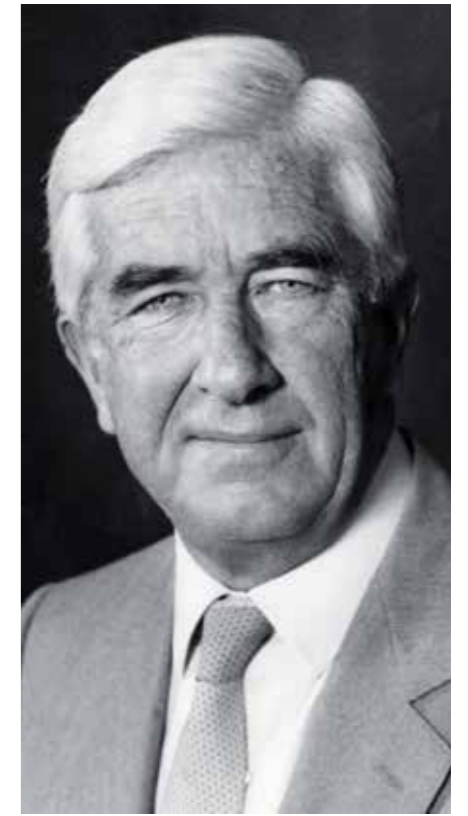
Kevin was made a Knight of Magistral Grace in the Order of Malta in 1985 and served as Vice-President of the Order on the Executive Council of the Australian Association.

He was Chair of the Association's Victorian Branch, arising from the absence on service as Governor of Victoria of the Hon Sir James Gobbo AC CVO.

Kevin was admitted to make the Promise in Obedience by the then Australian President HE A J Macken at Newman College Chapel by authority of HMEH the Prince and Grand Master Frá Andrew Bertie on 27 August 2006. He was thereby qualified to become a Foundation Member of the Australian Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception on its creation by Sovereign Council on 27 January 2007.

Kevin performed his greatest service as leader of the Order of Malta's working group to form the Eastern Palliative Care (EPC) in 1998. He established a wonderful spirit of mutual trust, confidence and comradeship among participants, and was unanimously named as Foundation Member of the Committee of Management of EPC on its registration on 14 August 1998, the Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. EPC has since grown from strength to strength on this foundation.

His many friends pray that Kevin's great-hearted soul will rest now in peace. May his beloved Kate and extended family find comfort in the respect and affection in which Kevin is fondly remembered.



## FATHER PETER GALVIN O.P (1938 – 2018)



Father Peter Galvin O.P. was born on 12 December 1938 in Adelaide, South Australia, and was educated at Rostrevor College in the care of the Christian Brothers. He entered the Dominican Order in 1957 and was ordained to the priesthood in 1964. He taught at Blackfriars Priory School in Adelaide. Thereafter, Fr Peter taught moral theology at the Dominican House of Studies in Canberra.

In May 1972, to his great surprise, Fr Peter was elected as the third prior provincial of the Assumption Province of the Dominican Order (embracing Australia,

New Zealand, the Solomon Islands, and Papua New Guinea).

In July 1974, Fr Peter was appointed as a Magistral Chaplain of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. This took place before the Australian Association was formally established in September 1974. His appointment reflected the role of the other members of the Galvin family, including Sir John Galvin, former Hospitaller of the Order, Ambrose Galvin, and his sister Mary Galvin, both of whom joined the Order before it was formally established in Australia.

At the age of 33, the youngest Dominican provincial in the world, Fr Peter was elected to a second term in August 1976. He had the difficult task of presiding over the re-organisation of the studies system in the Province. This involved closing the Studium Generale in Canberra, and affiliation with the Melbourne College of Divinity (now the University of Divinity) through the Yarra Theological Union in 1974. He also held the positions of President of the Conference of Major Clerical Superiors and Vice-President of the National Council of Religious of Australia.

Fr Peter also launched an initiative to establish an organisation for pre-Reformation orders in Australia (Benedictines, Cistercians, Franciscans, Augustinians, Carmelites, Dominicans, etc.) He participated in two general chapters of international assemblies of the Dominican Order, held in Naples, Italy, in 1974 and Walberberg, Germany in 1980.

Fr Peter possessed refinement of character, wide educational and cultural interests, sparkling conversation, urbanity, a lively sense of humour, and a driving commitment to preach the good news of Jesus Christ.

One who knew him well from Brisbane days describes Fr Peter as "a beautiful Christian gentleman". His poor health in the later period of his life was met with great patience and without complaint. It gave him the capacity to empathise with others in their suffering. Fr Peter was always ready to offer generous help and support.

Fr Peter attended many gatherings of the Order in Australia and was a much-loved Magistral Chaplain, mourned by his Confreres after his death on 5 January, 2018. May his soul rest in peace.

## DR TERENCE FARRELL KMG (1940 – 2018)



Confreere Dr Terence (Terry) James Farrell was born in Townsville on 26 October 1940. The youngest of four siblings, he was schooled at the local Christian

Brothers College. After a short term as an articled clerk, he studied medicine at the University of Queensland, graduating in 1966. In that year he also served as President of Union College.

Terry's time at university was not only academically fruitful. While there he met Rita Kettle, a country girl and science student to whom he was married on 17 December 1966. The first of their six children arrived in August 1969.

After obtaining fellowships of both the Royal College of Surgeons and the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, Terry conducted private practice as a urologist in Brisbane until his retirement in 2012.

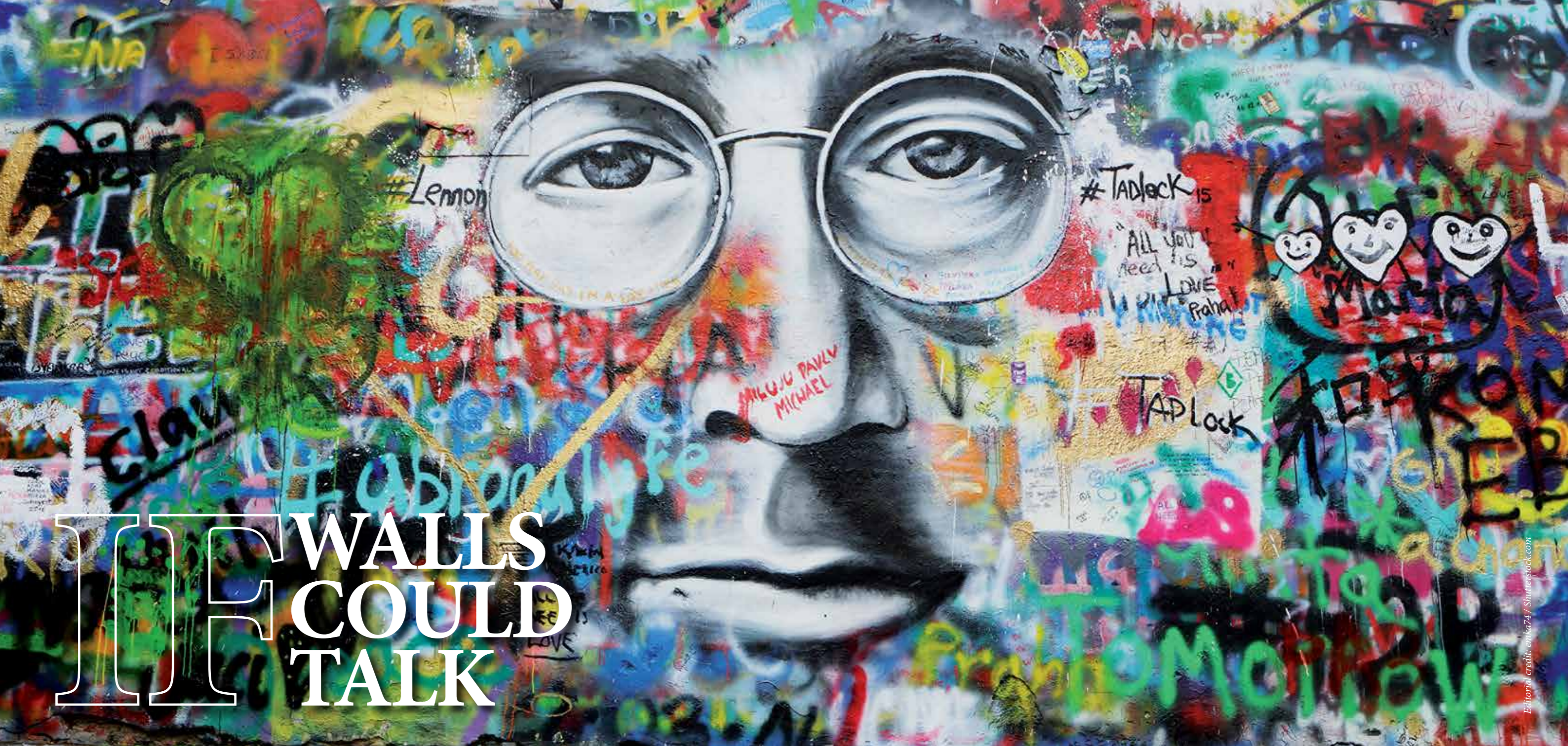
Terry was a man of deep faith and robust personal conviction. Widely read, and quick witted, he was fearless in defending his Faith. He remained a man of great humility, who rejected pretension. Terry saw something valuable in every person he met and judged only ideas, never people. He had a particular life-long personal devotion to Our Lady. Even before he joined the Order, Terry's life very much reflected its maxim, *Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum*.

Along with Rita, Terry was invested into the Order in Adelaide in 1999. The experience was one of great personal significance for him, not only because of the spiritual graces received, but also by reason of his deep appreciation and understanding of the history and charism of the Order.

Terry was a particularly staunch supporter of the Brisbane Oratory in Formation, situated in Annerley. Terry and Rita attended Mass there each week and, occasionally, when able, the Latin Mass, which gave him particular pleasure.

Confreere Terry passed into Eternal Life on 13 October 2018 after a period of illness. In the company of his wife and children, his final weeks were filled with prayer and good humour. A Requiem Mass was celebrated on 19 October 2018 at Mary Immaculate Church by Rev Fr Scott Armstrong, with the Rev Bp Ken Howell, Conventual Chaplain. Many members of the Order were in attendance, including the President. The following day Terry was laid to rest at Canungra Cemetery, a short distance from the family farm that he so enjoyed during his life.





# IF WALLS COULD TALK

The John Lennon Wall in Prague's Malá Strana – a symbol of free speech and the non-violent resistance of the Czech youth in the 1980s – has been reinvigorated with new paintings completed by local and international artists.

**O**wned by the Order of Malta and located at *Velkopřevorské náměstí* (Grand Priory Square), the wall became a unique centrepiece for the city when young artists and activists took to the wall in 1980 honour of Beatles frontman John Lennon, who was murdered in December that year.

Lennon was admired for his music that preached happiness and freedom, something the local youth did not have during the Totalitarian-Communist era.

During Communist rule, John Lennon's songs and many other western pop music were banned. Musicians and citizens were often arrested if listening to or playing his music, but their support for Lennon persevered through the communist rule.

Communist authorities worked to whitewash the portraits and lyrics of Lennon – even installing security cameras and posting guards – but the activists were persistent, with their artistic ventures in part facilitated by The Order of Malta.

The Order has permitted graffiti on the wall, located on one side of an enclosed garden, since the 1980s. According to Czech news outlet *Prague.TV*, the wall became a lone outpost for free speech for almost a decade, with authorities repeatedly painting the wall, until the Velvet Revolution.

Now, the wall – filled with the lyrics of Beatles songs and portraits of Lennon – has been revitalised with new artwork, undertaken as part of an event called Meet Art.

Two-dozen artists took part in the event to create the new murals on a 150-square-metre section of the wall.

The new images include late Czech president Václav Havel as a young man wearing a T-shirt with the phrase "A Future of Freedom," a map of the world with "All You Need is Love" in 30 languages, and a large number 30 with the zero as a smiley face.

Works also include a variation on the red-and-yellow multilingual Prague logo, but using the names of Lennon and Yoko Ono as the text.

The event was organized by Pavel Šťastný and co-organised by the Czech Chamber of Commerce.

Šťastný said the event was meant to return the wall to its original mission and make

passers-by want to add a poem.

"The brightly coloured Lennon Wall in the heart of Prague on Kampa was a pre-revolutionary symbol of freedom in the Czech Republic," Šťastný said on Facebook.

Over the past 30 years, the wall became one of the tourist's most sought-after locations in Prague, although it has been losing its original artistic vision. That is why the first event of the celebrations of 30 Years Of Freedom will be the recovery of artistic vision and symbolic meaning of the Lennon Wall."

Visiting artists came from Oman, Slovakia, Serbia, Canada and the United Arab Emirates. 🇸🇰

*The Meet Art event in Prague revitalised the iconic wall owned by the Order of Malta, that spreads a message of hope, originally painted in 1980 in honour of Beatles frontman John Lennon.*





## THE DAY WE MET THE GRAND MASTER

On 20 September, Sauro and Lilian Antonelli, and Gerard and Margaret O'Donnell were received by the Grand Master, Frá Giacomo Dalla Torre, at the Order of Malta headquarters in Rome. Dr Margaret O'Donnell DMG shares the experience in the place to call home.

From the moment we first met the Grand Master, Frá Giacomo, we were delighted with the warmth of his welcome. He apologised for the fact that he did not speak very much English. He introduced us to Mauro Bertero Gutierrez, his personal aide and interpreter, although his official title was Consigliere Del Principe e Gran Maestro.

We were served coffee and refreshments as Frá Giacomo expressed his delight at meeting with Australians. He explained that he really enjoyed welcoming Australians because he had been asked to visit Australia by a previous Grand Master, but at the time, circumstances had prevented this visit. He also had fond memories of meetings with Sir James Gobbo and Richard Divall, whom he admired greatly.

The Grand Master was very interested in the activities of the Order in Australia. He was delighted to hear of the many opportunities we offer, as members of the Australian Order, for spiritual formation, as well as for charitable works. This includes the Lourdes Day Masses, Coats for the Homeless and Biography programs, the provision of palliative care through the Order's partnership in Eastern Palliative Care, the Order's work with the clinic in Timor-Leste.

Throughout our hour-long conversation, which was remarkably relaxed, Mauro (and Sauro) translated the rapid Italian into English to allow Gerard and I to take part in the conversation. Mauro interjected on occasions. He was particularly keen to let us know that although Frá Giacomo was too humble to say it himself, the Order has in

Giacomo, as its leader, a man of the people. This is encouraging, and gives us reason to be very hopeful that we can face the challenges that lie ahead.

We asked Frá Giacomo what he sees as these important challenges. His reply was that the 'immigration issue' is one which we must all tackle – it is a worldwide issue, one which governments of all countries must debate and then decide on a way forward for the good of the refugees, migrants, and the world at large. Frá Giacomo's passion for helping the marginalised was evidence of the fact that this man, similar to Pope Francis, is calling for us all to be proactive in finding a compassionate solution to the immigration problem. We also discovered that Frá Giacomo often slips out incognito at night to go and serve food at Rome's soup kitchens for the homeless.

As well as the immigration issue, the Grand Master talked passionately about the spiritual formation opportunities offered to members of the Order of Malta, as well as his desire to see greater numbers of women in the Order of Malta, and more women take on more active leadership roles within the Order.

Towards the end of our visit, Frá Giacomo insisted on showing us around the beautiful building he calls home. He was adamant however, that it is not 'his' home but 'our' home.

We came away delighted with our visit and impressed with the welcome extended to us by our Grand Master Frá Giacomo and his Personal Aide, Mauro Gutierrez – humble men – men of warmth, energy and with clarity of vision for the Order of Malta. ✨

*Left to Right: Grand Master Frá Giacomo Dalla Torre, Gerard O'Donnell, Lilian Antonelli, Sauro Antonelli, and Margaret O'Donnell.*

# Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities



## ▶ Empowering youth with disabilities

We empower them to overcome personal barriers by encouraging a sense of team spirit.

## ▶ Building Relationships

We create a loving and friendly environment so that youth with disabilities can easily mingle with people of the same age, have fun and build friendships.

## ▶ Multi-Nationals

We have guests and volunteers coming from many different countries. Friendships are forged across language and cultural barriers.

## ▶ Once in a life time experience

We enable people with disabilities and young volunteers to experience various activities - sport games, cultural visits or staying up late at the disco dance.



## Oct 23-26

Jockey Club  
PHAB Camp,  
Pokfulam  
Hong Kong

If you wish to support and join the camp, please contact us:

**Email:** [info@orderofmalta.org.au](mailto:info@orderofmalta.org.au)

**Telephone:** +612 9331 8477



## Australia to host in 2020!



# Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities



## ▶ Empowering youth with disabilities

We empower them to overcome personal barriers by encouraging a sense of team spirit.

## ▶ Building Relationships

We create a loving and friendly environment so that youth with disabilities can easily mingle with people of the same age, have fun and build friendships.

## ▶ Multi-Nationals

We have guests and volunteers coming from many different countries. Friendships are forged across language and cultural barriers.

## ▶ Once in a life time experience

We enable people with disabilities and young volunteers to experience various activities - sport games, cultural visits or staying up late at the disco dance.



## Oct 23-26

Jockey Club  
PHAB Camp,  
Pokfulam  
Hong Kong



If you wish to support and join the camp, please contact us:

**Email:** [info@orderofmalta.org.au](mailto:info@orderofmalta.org.au)

**Telephone:** +612 9331 8477

*Australia  
to host in  
2020!*





SOVRANO MILITARE ORDINE DI MALTA  
POSTE MAGISTRALI





Bernardino Gatti: *Presepio*. Cremona, Chiesa di San Pietro al Po  
©2019



ORDER OF MALTA  
AUSTRALIA

The Order's website in Australia: [www.orderofmalta.org.au](http://www.orderofmalta.org.au)

 /orderofmalta.org.au  /orderofmaltaau

The Order's international website: [www.orderofmalta.int](http://www.orderofmalta.int)

The Malteser International website: [www.malteser-international.org](http://www.malteser-international.org)