



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF THE SOVEREIGN MILITARY ORDER OF MALTA NASSAU/SUFFOLK AREA

VOLUME I, WINTER - SPRING 2005 NEWSLETTER

Letter From Our Area Chair

Dear Members,

The Order of Malta on Long Island is growing stronger and more vibrant as we develop new programs and add new Members who are helping us fulfill our mission, the task of extending and defending the faith in Jesus Christ and in his Gospel (tuitio fidei) and the work of raising people from sickness, need and suffering (obsequium pauperum).

We congratulate our recently installed Members. Their investiture ceremony took place at St. Patrick's Cathedral on November 12, 2004. Several Long Islanders are now preparing to enter Membership in 2005 and 2006, working with us in local Malta projects and participating in our days of recollection and retreats. Bob and Peggy Dillmeier, our Membership Chairs, have accepted the assignment of helping us recruit new members.

We have a number of Malta projects on Long Island, and we invite you to join us in working on these projects. A few are highlighted in this newsletter.

Thank you for your contributions over Christmas for our neediest parishes on Long Island and for our retired priests residence and, most importantly, your good works and prayers. We hope you like our Newsletter which we plan to publish semiannually. God bless you and your families in the New Year.

Sincerely yours,

A. Patricia McCarthy, DMOB
Area Chair

Welcome

New Knights and Dames

- Matthew De Marco, KM
Amityville
- Ann Dillon, DM
Rockville Centre
- Kathleen Kreig, DM
Garden City
- Donna O'Brien, DM
Garden City
- Thomas O'Brien, KM
Garden City
- Erin von Uffel, DM
Huntington
- Kurt von Uffel, KM
Huntington

Erin and Kurt have reflected upon what the Order means to them:

For the last 900 years the Order of Malta has been defending the faith and assisting people in every difficulty of life. So much has changed over the years and yet, so much has remained the same. You only need to pick up a newspaper or turn on the T.V. to see the need for the Order of Malta. Whether it is seeing people who managed to survive a natural disaster, hearing the various stories of God being stripped from our communities, or witnessing the number of poor and sick people suffering, there has always been a need for help in these situations.

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Letter From Our Hospitaller

Dear Members,

Your Hospitaller is responsible for encouraging programs to serve the sick and the needy and to defend the Faith. We are fortunate to have many new opportunities to do this on Long Island. When we go on pilgrimage to Lourdes each April (last year some 27 Long Islanders did this) we are all hospitallers, serving our beloved malades. We encourage you to make a Lourdes pilgrimage if you have not already done so.

We are also happy to tell you about our work at the Rising Star Summer Virtues Camp for disadvantaged children, held at Molloy College each summer. Last summer a dozen of our Members were mentors at the camp.

Malta volunteers are working with the staff of Rachel's Vineyard Retreat, a program for women (and men) suffering the effects of an abortion. Matthew DeMarco, KM, and Ernest Scalandre, KM, have taken on the responsibility of organizing volunteers to assist in welcoming those on retreat held quarterly at Kellenberg High School in Uniondale.

We are exploring new programs to help seniors at Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home in Bayshore, and to mentor to unwed mothers at the Regina Residence in Merrick.

We are fortunate that four of our LI Members are on the Board of Councillors of the American Association: Carl Schwarz (Secretary), Paul Durnan, Des McCarthy and myself. Two of our Members, Bob Dillmeier and Des McCarthy, are members of the Board of the Malta Foundation. The Board is working on several exciting new programs, and you will hear more about them soon.

Fraternally,

Joseph G. Metz, KMOB
Hospitaller



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LI MALTA ACTIVITIES



Malta Volunteers spent six weeks in June and July 2004 mentoring 60 children at Rising Star Summer Virtues Camp, teaching them the natural virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and courage. This camp was run under the auspices of the Office of the Nassau County District Attorney, Denis Dillon, KM, and Molloy College, Rockville Centre. The Order of Malta hosted a Christmas Party for the campus on December 4th. Special thanks go to Ernest and Daphne Scalamandre for providing Christmas presents to each camper, to the Chairperson of the Party, Mary Lou Torykian and to her son and daughter-in-law, Jim and Melissa, who stood in for Santa and Mrs. Claus. We look forward to the 2005 Camp Session. The Camp has received a \$10,000 grant from the Malta Foundation to expand its program.

Malta volunteers, mentors and boosters at the 2004 Summer Camp included Denis and Ann Dillon, Bob and Peggy Dillmeier, Paul and Sherry Durnan, Dr. John and Fran Finn, Elissa and Joe Metz, Des and Pat McCarthy, and Mary Lou and Dick Torykian.



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Santa Claus, Jim Torykian, Mrs. Santa Claus, Melissa Torykian, a Happy Camper, and Chairperson, Mary Lou Torykian



A Molloy College camp counselor and his campers



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Mentors, parent, campers, and camp counselor



Area Chair, Pat McCarthy and Bob & Peggy Dillmeier, mentors at the Camp Christmas Party



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Order of Malta
20th Anniversary
Lourdes Pilgrimage
April 27 – May 4, 2005



Join the thousands who have come to Lourdes since our Pilgrimage began in 1986. Our expectation is to have at least 50 malades in 2005. We need you to help us wit them. Please come with us to this special place where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette and where we are so close to Our Lady.

Our Lady of Lourdes – Pray for us.

For information on 2005 Pilgrimage call Pat McCarthy or Joe Metz.



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Most of the time we shake our heads, we shed a tear, we open our checkbooks and it all ends there. The next moment comes and our busy life takes over again. We continue our revolving cycle of work, taking care of our children and running from one thing to the next. Day after day, week after week, year after year, the cycle continues.

In our busy life, we turn to God for strength and comfort. Our faith deepens, our hearts open, our prayer life fosters and our quest to help others begins. There is no better feeling than knowing you can make a difference in someone's life. The gift of giving our time, our hands, or our hearts is something to be shared. We felt strongly that we could give of ourselves to the Order of Malta. There are so many ministries within the Order, we will never tire of seeking new directions to help others.

We have been deeply moved by the way the Order reaches out to those around the world as well as in our own communities. We are especially touched by the spirituality of the Order. What a blessing it is for all of us to be able to combine our faith with our deeds! As new members of the Order of Malta, we hope to continue these works and traditions that have been set before us.



The Order of Malta on Long Island will be assisting the Regina Maternity Services in Merrick, a residence for unwed Mothers, by providing a mentoring program. Several of our Members have served the Regina Residence for many years as Board Members, fundraisers, and volunteers and Malta's presence at the Regina Residence will continue this tradition.

Lenten Reflections *Patricia McCarthy*

As we enter into the holy season of Lent, let us strive to be more spiritual: attend daily Mass, say the rosary, and pray the daily prayer of the Order of Malta.

Please continue to pray for our priests, for our men and women in the military, and for one another.

May there be peace in our world and within our own hearts.



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Contacts

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Chaplain	Msgr. Frank Caldwell (516) 481-2550
Executive Director Malta Office, American Association	Dr. John Shine (212) 371-1522



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LI Malta Projects*

<u>Project</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Location</u>
1. Rising Star Summer Camp	July – August 2005 Malta Mentors	Molloy College
2. Rachel's Vineyard Retreat	Quarterly weekend retreats in 2005 – Malta volunteers	Kellenberg, High School
3. Pius X Residence for Retired Priests	Assistance in driving retired priests to appointments, Christmas decorating, preparation of Annual Directory of Retired Priests	Uniondale
4. Regina Maternity Services	Home for unwed Mothers (mentoring to begin in 2005)	Merrick
5. Our Lady of Consolation Nursing Home	Nursing Home (mentoring to begin in 2005)	Bay Shore

Save the Date

<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>
Day of Recollection, Kellenberg High School, Uniondale	Saturday, March 19, 2005 10: 00 AM to 5 PM
Lourdes Pilgrimage	April 27 to May 3, 2005
Lourdes Pilgrimage (Malades) Mass, St. Agnes Cathedral (followed by reception)	Wednesday, May 17, 2005 5:00 PM
Malta Dinner Manhasset Bay Club Port Washington	Thursday, June 9, 2005 6:00 PM

* Call Pat McCarthy or Joe Metz for more information