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Spirituality in Action

Inspiration from Our Areas and the Order of Malta Worldwide

November 2017



Prelate Encourages Participation in 2018 Pilgrimage for Life



H.E. Reverend Monsignor Jean Laffitte, Prelate of the Order of Malta, has commented on participation in the Pilgrimage for Life. He wrote, "I have reviewed the plans for the Pilgrimage for Life and approve the Pilgrimage as a worthy activity of the Order, the American Association and its members: Culture of Life is truly an important focus area for our Order."

The Prelate's official message about, and registration for, the 2018 Pilgrimage for Life is available in the Members Only section of the website. Please [click here](#) to login and view these materials.

New York City Area

Upcoming Association Events

November 19

[Feast of All Saints of the Order](#)

November 19

[World Day of the Poor](#)

December 2

[December Spiritual Outreach Call](#)

December 4

[Run-Off Election Ends](#)

January 18 - 19

[2018 Pilgrimage for Life](#)

Featured Areas

If you would like us to feature your Area in an upcoming Spirituality in Action: Monthly Update, please email Margarite Heintz at mheintz6@yahoo.com.

Update Your Information

Auxiliary Members:

Home who were in NYC to do periodic site visit and evaluation of the American Association. In addition to meeting with the Officers and staff of the American Association, the Government Council visitors requested a visit to one of the local Area projects. The Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center (TCC) was selected because of its convenience and because members are involved in several different activities at the site.



One of the key works of the NYC Area involves the severely disabled children of TCC for whom volunteers organize sing-alongs every month and sponsor a circus each spring. Maggie Ludwiczak, DM, has been participating in these efforts for about 18 years and she was present to lead the dignitaries through the children's floors. In recognition of Maggie's efforts over all of these years, Jack Pohrer, GCM, President

of the American Association, awarded Maggie the Cross Pro Merito Melitensi while at TCC.

Congratulations, Maggie!

The Role of Religious Leaders and the Responsibility to Protect

On September 25, Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, the Holy See's Secretary for Relations with States and Head of Delegation to the General Debate of the 72nd Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, gave an address during a Ministerial Side Event dedicated to "The Responsibility of Religious Leaders Regarding the Responsibility to Protect," which was sponsored by the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the UN, the United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, and the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect.

Religious leaders can greatly facilitate the understanding and application of the principle of the Responsibility to Protect, because the Responsibility to Protect is deducible from the fundamental ethical principle of the Golden Rule. Because this principle is intrinsically connected to the universal juridical patrimony that rejects genocide, ethnic cleansing, war crimes and crimes against humanity, religious leaders have the duty to promote this patrimony, which is called the natural law. They also have the obligation to remind those they lead and all society of the fraternity and solidarity, the respect and cooperation, that are the bulwark against totalitarianism and atrocity crimes.

Religious leaders can strengthen the Responsibility to Protect by reminding everyone of the higher principles that can prevent atrocity crimes, by helping people live in such a way that atrocity crimes never occur, and to bringing about dialogue and

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