The Changing Nature of Prison Ministry

Robert J. Fredericks, PhD, KMOB

A number of developments have taken place in the last several months concerning Prison Ministry in the Order of Malta in the United States. Permit me to briefly report on them.

**WORKSHOP IN DALLAS**

On the 23rd of March, John Santa and I traveled to Dallas to give a prison ministry workshop, at the invitation of Shirley Vilfordi, the Hospitaller for the Diocese of Dallas. Approximately 40 attended the workshop (60% were from the Federal Association). We even had one member from our newly-formed Austin/San Antonio Area.

We covered all aspects of prison ministry—visiting prisons, getting jobs and a place to live for ex-offenders, working with children in threatened areas, corresponding with inmates. The workshop was well received by those in attendance. What is particularly important is that the two Associations are jointly working together in this apostolate. A similar situation is developing in Chicago where the American and Federal Associations are collaborating on prison ministry.

Both Dwight Riskey, the American Association’s Area Chair for Dallas, and Kip Rolland, the Hospitaller for the Federal Association in Dallas were present for the workshop and were totally supportive. (continued on page 10)
Dear Confreres,

I begin this writing as I return from our Lourdes Pilgrimage so my heart is very light and happy. The annual pilgrimage is at the beginning of spring and summer, so it represents the shedding of winter. This also mirrors the same bright, welcome spiritual feelings that are generated and begin in Lourdes.

The spiritual rejuvenation from the Blessed Mother's special place is transmitted to the attending Dames and Knights through our beloved Malades.

My special gratitude is extended to our many donors and participants for their generosity that allows us to make this annual journey of healing grace. A special thanks goes to our pilgrimage Co-chairs Jo Anne and Carl Kuehner, our Team Captains and all the Dames, Knights, Auxiliary, and Volunteers that make the Pilgrimage a success. Next year’s Co-chairs, Kristy Snyder, DM, and Jack Sise, KM, are already planning the 2014 pilgrimage with the support of next years’ Co-Presidents Michael Castine and Ken Craig.

LEGAL UPDATE

As reported at our Annual meeting last November, in Miami the Treasurer had embezzled funds from the Miami Area Treasury. The matter was turned over for prosecution to the US attorney’s office and subsequently, a settlement was reached. It should be noted that safeguards have been instituted in all areas to prevent a similar occurrence in any American Association Area.

AREA VISITS

It is my goal to personally visit all of our areas. I have managed to visit Albany, Allentown, Miami, Palm Beach, Vero Beach, Boston, New Jersey, Naples, Austin, and Dallas so far. In each instance, I am so proud and humbled by the extraordinary accomplishments and works of our Dames and Knights that are performed in each of these Areas. This effort also allows me to assess what is successful in one Area which may be something that would appeal to another Area as a hands on work.

MARCH FOR LIFE

This past January, I attended the March for Life gathering in Washington DC for the first time as part of over 500,000 participants in the March against abortion. We joined over 1,000 clergy consisting of Seminarians, Deacons, Priests, Bishops, and Cardinals celebrating the Vigil Mass with over 15,000 high school children at the Immaculate Conception Basilica the night before the March.

The Order of Malta American Association was represented by a small but committed group of Dames, Knights, and young adults. We plan on growing our presence in the future. Karen Dutkowsky, DM, and Dr. Joseph Dutkowsky, MD, KM, have volunteered to Chair this effort for the January 2014 March for Life which guarantees a success. I have spoken to some of our Board Members about this effort and Peter Muratore from New Jersey is already planning to take a bus load of Dames and Knights and high school students to the March. Other plans will be forthcoming.

PRESIDENTS’ MEETING

After the Lourdes Pilgrimage, there was a world wide meeting of the Order of Malta Presidents in Paris in preparation for a Chapter General meeting next June 2014. The Chapter General meeting is held by the Order of Malta every 5 years. The purpose of the Chapter General is to elect the members of the Sovereign Council — the Governing Board and Officers of the Order of Malta. The Grand Master, HMEH Frá Mathew Festing, serves for life but the offices of the Grand Chancellor, Grand Commander, Grand Hospitaller, the Receiver of the Common Treasure, serve five year terms until the next election in 2019. I was elected at the Paris meeting as one of the Presidents to represent and attend the June 2014 General Chapter meeting to vote for the Knights to fill these important governing offices of the Order of Malta.
A short time before our departure to Lourdes, the theme of our Pilgrimage, “Our Lady Queen of Peace”, was made even more relevant by the terrorist bombings at the Boston Marathon. I’m sure that many of us offered prayers for the families of the victims during our Pilgrimage. For 12 long years, the United States had been spared the horror of the wanton destruction of its citizens and property by terrorists, but it was inevitable that we would again experience the same human suffering that occurs daily in Afghanistan, Libya, and other places across the globe.

(continued on page 4)
As a result of our 360 pilgrims’ visit to Lourdes, we hope that our prayers to Mary will help in a small way to foster the peace that only Christ can bring to the world. We do know that many of our beloved Malades have found the inner peace necessary to accept whatever illness that they brought to Lourdes.

Our trip was especially blessed with the presence of Cardinal Timothy Dolan, whose witness, affability, enthusiasm and warm personal manner endeared him to everyone, particularly to our beloved Malades and their caregivers. His focus and individual attention with each Malade and caregiver during the distribution of medals was as touching, as it was full of good humor. He is the essence of a true shepherd!

The list of people whose efforts made our Pilgrimage such a wonderful experience is too long to enumerate; in fact, some of their names will never be known. The clergy, the medical team, the Knights and Dames, the Auxiliary, the volunteers, the New York staff, the advance group, the airport teams, and especially the caregivers and our Malades, all had vital roles in making this Pilgrimage as memorable as it was. The team captains were a vital resource, ensuring that our 360 person army of pilgrims gathered, moved and participated in each event on time.

Perhaps the most important role was played by our 50 hosts. They were the face of the Order to each of their Malades. From their initial phone call, to insuring a safe departure from Newark Airport upon our arrival home, our hosts truly performed the work of Jesus.

Many Malades could not physically come to Lourdes, but traveled with us in our hearts and our prayers as Malades-in-Spirit. It was our faith that brought us to Lourdes; it was our faith that let us put our trust in Mary; and it was our faith that led us to search for peace as we joined together at the Grotto to offer Mass for our Malades, our Malades-in-Spirit, and all of their caregivers.

Hundreds of you who were not able to travel assisted us financially. You truly made the Pilgrimage a reality for the Malades and their caregivers. Without your generosity, the Pilgrimage would have operated at a several hundred thousand dollars deficit. With your gifts, we will actually report a small surplus! The future of the Pilgrimage will always depend on your generosity — please accept our heartfelt thanks for your continued willingness to share in this most important work of the Order.

In closing, we offer a simple thank you — thank you for the trust you put in us, thank you for the honor it was to serve you, thank you for the generosity of your time, your treasure, and your talent. As we pass the mantle on to Kristy Snyder and Jack Sise, the co-chairs for the 2014 Pilgrimage, we pray that they will find the same love that you so freely showered upon us.

Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us!
Our Lady Queen of Peace, pray for us!

JoAnne M. Kuehner, DM, Co-Chair
Carl J. Kuehner, KM, Co-Chair
Lourdes Pilgrimage 2013: Moments Of Grace

When three hundred fifty pilgrims from the American Association processed on their first afternoon in early May to the Rosary Basilica for the Tri-Association Opening Mass, many of them did not know what the week would bring to them. In addition to one hundred Malades and their caregivers, this year’s pilgrimage, the Association’s 28th Annual journey, included many first time Knights, Dames, and candidates in their year of preparation.

Veteran pilgrims from the Association worked hard to give these new pilgrims a sense of what was ahead for them, but for many first-timers, words did not do justice to the moments of grace that awaited. And for many, there was no disappointment.

Rain on the first several days did not dampen the enthusiasm for the new pilgrims who jumped right in after a long overnight flight and the cold, damp weather that is so familiar to travellers to this special place in the Pyrenees. The Domain rose through the mist as it came into view as the Association’s procession moved down the hill at Saint Joseph’s Gate to the Rosary Basilica on that Thursday afternoon.

The rain soon left the region and the sunny days and clean mountain air replaced the wet greeting; spirits were lifted by the change in the weather that was accompanied by liturgies and processions that followed in succession. For some, it seemed like a blur but few will forget the moving homilies and the grace-filled Eucharistic celebrations that built on each other.

There was more than formal prayer time on this pilgrimage. The Knights, Dames, Auxiliary, Clergy, Medical Team and Volunteers opened their hearts and their history of camaraderie to the fifty Malades and their caregivers who traveled to Lourdes in hope of finding some special blessing — some change, some insight, some feeling of peace and acceptance. Through the hands and feet of so many dedicated and selfless servants and the generosity and prayers of so many who were still at home, the Malades were able to experience the special grace and closeness that comes from the holy place where Mary touched the earth and left behind a message of hope for all who put their faith in her Son.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan told a story in his homily at the Grotto Mass on Saturday that outlined the special connection that Mary has made with the human race. He visited the shrine where Mary appeared to Saint Catherine Labouré at Rue du Bac, revealing to her the Miraculous Medal. The Cardinal told more than a thousand pilgrims from the United States and additional hundreds more who gathered around the Grotto about a unique encounter he had witnessed.

In the warming sunlight next to the rushing hum of the River Gave, the Grotto crowd heard the story of a mother with faith and her child with vision. As the Cardinal visited the shrine at Rue du Bac, it was clear that a mother was determined that her young daughter who had Down’s syndrome would sit in the chair where Our Lady had been seated so many years ago. Her repeated attempts to seat her daughter on that chair were thwarted by a vigilant nun who kindly but consistently turned her away. As the Cardinal explained, such was the duty of the patient nun to protect the blessed relic from the onslaught of pilgrims and tourists who would have destroyed it over the centuries if left to their own devices.

When the nun and the guards were “closing shop,” the mother saw her chance and sent her daughter to the chair with the instruction to sit in it. Much to the mother’s dismay, when the daughter reached the chair, she knelt before it and put only her head on the chair. As the daughter returned, the mother who had waited so long to give her daughter the chance to sit in that blessed chair asked her why she had only knelt before it. The daughter explained that the Lady sitting in the chair had told her to put her head on the Blessed Lady’s lap. In Lourdes, as in so many other places, miracles, big and small, unfold in the lives of those whose faith is tested and found to be strong.

At the International Mass on Sunday, more than twenty-five thousand pilgrims from every corner of the globe processed, assembled and participated in a sign and a symbol of the universal nature of the Church. For many, this was the largest gathering for Mass they might ever attend — and the most diverse crowd as well. Not many would argue about the energy and endurance required to participate in this Holy Sacrifice; not many would argue about the amazing gift of the witness of so many to the central prayer of our Catholic Faith — the Mass. There were many elements that inspired: the procession of Cardinals, Bishops, and clergy; the distribution of Communion throughout the basilica; the choir leading the pilgrims in praise; the multiple languages all proclaiming the Word; even the collection; taken by children who traveled among the crowd, collecting the euros and dollars and coins of the realm from around the world.

Among the religious activities were interspersed chances for people to speak, to share and to bond. Mealtimes afforded an opportunity to get to know each other better. The receptions before dinner on the upper level of the hotel brought many people together in close proximity, sharing the good feeling of being together on this special journey. And this year, the American Association hosted a reception for all the Associations from the English-speaking countries. Good weather, good food, good spirits, and a delightful setting all contributed to a memorable late Sunday afternoon gathering on the lawn to close out a remarkable day.

The pilgrimage chairs, JoAnne and Carl Kuehner, spoke for just a few moments, welcoming the guests and Association members to share in each other’s company and to celebrate the 900th Anniversary of the Papal Bull that gave official recognition to the Order of Malta.

The special place that the Order has chosen to gather each year provides the perfect backdrop for what many consider to be the best the Order and its members have to offer the world — an annual demonstration of each Knight and Dame’s commitment to serve the sick and the poor — and in doing so, to stand up for the faith that so clearly lives in that little town in Southwest France that calls so many each year.

You can read the inspiring homilies from Father David Caron, Father Joseph Cavoto, and Father Joseph Johnson which were delivered in Lourdes. Please go to the Association’s web site: www.orderofmaltaamerican.org; open the Association Newsletters section under the “News&Events” tab. Links to the talks will be there.
Communications Update

THE PRESIDENT’S VISITATIONS TO THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION AREAS: I look forward to the visits to the Areas, it provides me with the opportunity and pleasure of meeting our members in person. It is also extremely informative learning what each Area does to uniquely fulfill our Mission. I also have an opportunity to answer questions from the members as to what other Areas are doing as well as responding to inquiries about the international aspects of the Order, Lourdes, and other questions. I emphasize that a deep persona spiritual commitment is what makes the hands-on work with the sick and poor so rich, rewarding, and successful.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION WEBSITE is the very cornerstone of information about our Order concerning activity in all Areas of the American Association. It includes an up to date directory of our membership, our history and our rules, our Leadership and our committees. Available are DVDs of our past Pilgrimages, the works and the activities along with the efforts of our Auxiliary. The necessary forms for grants, for Lourdes, for membership, for Investiture are readily available and up to date. The site also brings current news events and activities that are of interest to our membership. Pictures of many of our events along with live interviews are also available.

The website was updated last year and has become the first choice of most information searches. Any topic that is relevant can be found and if it is not there you have a choice of links that will offer even more information. The Order of Malta/Rome is also easily accessible from our site.

DISTANCE LEARNING CALLS provide a communications channel between the Association Hospitaler and Vice Hospitaler and the Area Chairs and Area Hospitallers. Each call has a focused topic, a presenter and a discussion period following the presentation. The calls have continued each year under the auspices of the Association Hospitaler, Vice Hospitaler and the Works and Ministries Committee.

THE HOSPITALLERS NEWSLETTER has been published by the American Association since the spring of 2004. This newsletter is intended to provide a regular communications vehicle to keep members up to date on general topics important to the Association. In response to member survey input in 2009, the content and the format of the newsletter were revised to eliminate most officer reports, and to include more pictures, and articles. The newsletter is also used to share a snapshot picture of the Association with the other US Association, with the Order’s headquarters in Rome and with potential members of the Association.

THE MALTA MINUTE is a 60 second story that is played daily on hundreds of Catholic Radio Stations throughout the United States and South America in both English and Spanish. There are approximately 75 segments or stories, all as related by one our members.

Each segment tells the story of one person observing the anguish of a fellow human being suffering from hunger, poverty, illness or distress and determines how in some way that observer is motivated to work to relieve the struggle.

The relief from the Knight or Dame may be as small as bringing a short term smile to an unfortunate or as large as the beginnings a new major health facility or a residence for unwed mothers or street children. The provider is never identified as a Knight or Dame and our Order of Malta is only mentioned as the source of the Malta Minute programming. The stations playing the Mala Minute may be found on our Web site.

MALTA’S MINUTE WITH THE CATECHISM is a participation in one of Malta's principal charisms, Defense of the Faith. It is hoped that the Minutes’ help Catholics better know and understand the tenets of their Faith through these one minute reflections on teachings from the Catechism, written and broadcast in layman’s language by Dame Peggy Stanton and vetted by Monsignor Douglas Mather of the Archdiocese of New York, a Canon Lawyer. Almost 200 messages have been prepared. One or more are played daily on the Ave Maria 200 radio station network.

THE MALTA FORUM is a structured educational program designed to equip our members with an understanding of the Church’s position on current issues so that we might more easily respond to the challenges we encounter in the Church as well as in our American civil life.

During two 40 minute sessions we first consider relevant Scripture, tradition and history that provide the foundation for the Church’s teaching. These sessions are separated by a period of Theological Reflection during which we explore the meaning of this teaching in our lives, in the life of the Church and in our society, developing confidence for speaking intelligently with family, friends, colleagues and neighbors. During the second 40 minute session, the speaker discusses current instances for the application of the Church’s teaching. This is followed by an open discussion with the speaker.

There are twelve topics prepared and available for Areas wishing to hold a Malta Forum.

MEMBER OUTREACH offers the Association an activity which leaves the “driving” to us! Three times annually, one of our gifted Chaplains presents a short spiritual talk via confer-
ence call. Intended for our beloved, long standing members who, for various reasons, no longer attend Area functions, the message is open to others, including family, friends and neighbors, some of whom are terminally ill. We think of it as a spiritual uplift for the homebound. Much appreciated and gratefully received, we are encouraged by participation from the Federal association and callers from Chicago, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island and St. Louis. This is our effort to go to them in recognition of their many years of participation in the Order of Malta, to support them and others, in time of illness and infirmity. Please plan to join us for the next call in the Fall 2013. The New York office will notify you.

SPIRITUALITY IN ACTION: in addition to Defense of the Faith and Service towards our Lords the Sick and the Poor, one of the main tenets of the Order of Malta is the Spirituality of its members. The Communications Committee of the American Association is assisting in this effort by sending out a monthly e-newsletter to all Knights and Dames who have an e-mail address on file. It is a way for the various Areas to be informed of how their fellow Knights and Dames are adhering to the two main tenets of the Order. It also offers the source of information if you are in need.

Spirituality in Action’s main purpose is to inform Knights and Dames of the different ministries and events taking place in other Areas of the Association. We hope that the stories included in the newsletter can inspire Area Chairs about ministries they can initiate or expand in their various regions. The information is always of current activity and includes how people are being assisted by the efforts of members of the Order. The Committee has received positive feedback from Knights and Dames from almost every Area. We hope to be able to continue our work in this Year of Evangelization and beyond. It is delivered on the 1st of the month by email to the membership; all issues including our specials are also available on our Web site.

SPIRITUALITY IN ACTION RESOURCE BOOK 2013 provides our Association with a resource outlining many of the works and ministries in which you are participating. The choices provide a broad spectrum of hands-on opportunities in many areas. This may be helpful for Area Chairs and Area Hospitallers looking for new ways to engage members in the work of helping the sick and the poor and defending the faith and for members to become more aware of activities in their own Areas.

We remind ourselves that our commitment to the Order of Malta requires that we grow spiritually through our embracing the kinds of hands-on works that are represented here.

The complete edition of Spirituality in Action Resource Book 2013 is currently available on the Order of Malta website for “Members Only” under Volunteer Opportunities.

Weekly Reflections have appeared on the Association’s Web Site under the section of “Spirituality” since 2009 when they were implemented at the direction of our then President, Dan Kelly, GCMOb. These weekly reflections are based on the Sunday Mass readings and are offered to help our members with their spiritual lives throughout the year.

THE MEMBERSHIP AND AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE is charged with increasing the membership by identifying potential candidates and supporting the efforts of members working to establish new Areas. The Committee works in strong partnership with Area Chairs, their membership chairs, and Hospitallers. In 2013 a number of activities are underway to support these efforts. We are attending the USCCB in San Diego in order to ensure the Bishops are aware of the Order, its works, and how crucial they are to our success. We will also hope to host events in Buffalo and Scranton to assist these Areas with their efforts to broaden their Areas. Finally, we are supporting Areas across the Association, as they host receptions, information sessions, and individual meetings with prospective candidates to introduce them to the Order.

This article was compiled by Peter F. Muratore, Chair of the Communications Committee

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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<td>August 21</td>
<td>Malta Human Service Board Meeting (New York)</td>
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<td>September 4 – 12</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
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*This article was compiled by Peter F. Muratore, Chair of the Communications Committee*
The meeting in Paris was extremely important and impressive. It was attended by 24 presidents from around the world.* The charitable works and accomplishments worldwide are absolutely endless and life changing for so many people. After listening and learning about the extent and impact of so many life-changing works effecting such positive changes on the poorest of the poor and downtrodden, we should all be proud of the work of the Order.

* The Associations represented were Argentina, Belgium, Sao Paulo & Southern Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cuba, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Ireland, Lebanon, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Scandinavia, Spain, Switzerland, Uruguay, U.S.A.-Western, U.S.A.-Federal, U.S.A.-American.

I ask for your prayers for a former Chaplain of the American Association, Monsignor Kevin Wallin, who was addicted to drugs and was convicted and sentenced to prison. It is so sad for he was an extremely gifted and talented Preacher and for many years served on our pilgrimages to Lourdes. I ask for your prayers for him to heal and be restored to his former talented being.

ORDER OF MALTA — 900TH ANNIVERSARY
In February the Order of Malta celebrated its 900th Anniversary of existence in Rome. The meetings and celebration over four days was concluded by a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica and with an audience by Pope Benedict XVI. The Mass was attended by 4,500 Dames and Knights from around the world.

As it turned out, Pope Benedict XVI’s last audience was with the members of the Order of Malta on the Saturday before he announced his resignation on the following Monday.

The beauty, pomp and ceremony of the processing Dames and Knights into St. Peter’s was breathtaking and a visual banquet of colors. The reception which followed the Mass was spectacular with a symphony orchestra playing while 4,500 Dames and Knights were in one massive room enjoying a stand up brunch and celebration.

NEWTOWN TRAGEDY
The American Association and contributed $10,000 to the Newtown Police for the excellent response and call to action provided by the department during the Sandy Hook incident and the aftermath that followed. The funds came from the Association and from Areas in the American Association that contributed to the special fundraiser; these included Illinois, Nassau/Suffolk, Naples, New Jersey, Saint Louis, and Westchester.

Originally, the money was intended to help pay costs for the funerals of several children. As it turned out all the funeral costs were donated by the funeral homes of the Newtown Connecticut Area. So the funds donated by the American Association contributing Areas were used for the help and healing of the First Responders.

We thank all those who contributed through the Association or through other channels to support the people in the Newtown Community for their generosity.

Thank you for your many works, deeds, and for your generosity as Dames and Knights.

God Bless,

Jack E. Pohrer, GCM,
President

Why a retreat?
The power of the Lourdes pilgrimage is not just the fact that we spend the week serving the Malades at a place where Our Blessed Mother appeared and miracles occur.

It is also powerful because we come together as members of a lay religious order to pray, meditate and unite as a community. All of us who have been on the pilgrimage will remember powerful moments that occurred when we came together to pray or simply to talk, discuss and get to know each other.

How many of you were unable to be on the Lourdes Pilgrimage this year?
The retreat in September will give you the opportunity to come together as members of a lay religious order to pray, meditate and unite as a community. It will also help you to learn about the spirituality of the order and how to deepen your own spirituality.

Come join us in September. Whether you have been members of the Order for many years, are being invested this year or are in your year of preparation you need to meet your community in prayer and understand the power of our spirituality.

It’s only for a weekend and only costs 1/10 of the Lourdes pilgrimage so you can do it!! The Retreat is scheduled for the weekend of Friday, September 20 to Sunday, September 22, 2013 at the Immaculate Conception Seminary in Huntington Long Island. Our retreat master is Father Eric Hollas, OSB, ChM, who serves as chaplain for the Subpriory of Our Lady of Philermo in the Western Association. Cardinal Edward Egan will join us for Mass on Saturday and will deliver one of the talks.

For further details or to sign up, contact Kathy Trabucco at the New York office (kt@orderofmaltaamerican.org). This article was contributed by Thomas Reedy, Hospitaller and Peter Kelly, MD, Vice Hospitaller.
The Year of Faith's Focus on the Sacraments and Malta

and make visible and tangible the unity of the People of God in mutual love and community. In the Church’s Eucharistic sacrifice, we are drawn into the real memorial of the one universal sacrifice of Christ. While baptism and confirmation incorporate us once for all into the People of God, the celebration of the Mass is the ongoing sign of the closest communion with Christ, and at the same time of our own surrender of our life to God. The Eucharist is the enduring proclamation and real application of the redemption given once for all through Christ’s death and resurrection, until He comes in glory. In our common celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the Church grows and the individual Christian also grows to full maturity in Christ. To this extent, the Mass is the center and high point of our Christian life, a life based on faith.

The celebration of the Mass brings us into a dialogue with God. This two-fold movement from God to us and then from us to God is at the heart of the Eucharistic celebration. Salvation is never simply imposed upon people; each person, in his or her dignity, is taken seriously by God, and each person’s cooperation is his or her salvation. Therefore, not only in life, but also in Mass, a person is not merely a recipient, but also a conscious, active, devout and community conscious participant and actor.

In the Mass, salvation is applied to us not merely in abstract validity and as something complete and already unaccomplished, and not simply as the effect of a previous saving action of Christ (in his incarnation, death, resurrection and ascension); instead, the event of salvation itself, which happened once in historical time, becomes present, ‘sacramentally’ present, in sensible signs. We are then drawn, as living beings, into Christ’s saving action ‘for us’ because the historical, once-for-all Christ event given to all times, both objectively and as a real presence in every moment. Time is, after all, only relative; that is, it is simply a quality of our own created order (according to place and time) existing in the succession of events. God’s action transcends and surpasses time. In the ritual symbol, therefore, Christ’s action is really and continually ‘present’ as the agent of this ritual symbolic celebration of the Eucharist in the Church, that is, the Lord himself who continues to live and work in it.

The Mass is the center of the Church’s life. The second Vatican council’s ‘Constitution on the Church’ (Lumen Gentium) clearly states that the nature and activity of the Church are manifested in these ways: in its proclamation, which awakens and gives life to faith, in service to the world (so-called diakonia or caritas) and in the liturgy. ‘Liturgy’ here is another name for ‘sacratification through the sacraments’. These three elements: proclamation, loving service, and liturgy together constitute an indivisible unity. One cannot exist without the other two. Therefore the Church very early combined its proclamation (service of the word) and the charitable efforts (community meal, later a special collection for the needs of the poor) with the Eucharistic celebration. But preaching and evangelization efforts on behalf of the good news and the Church’s service to the world necessarily extend beyond the celebration of the Mass and are not fulfilled within it. Still, the Eucharist is the center and summit of the whole celebration.

Other services such as the liturgy of the hours, the catechism of adults or children and all occasions when Christians assemble in the name of Jesus Christ and the Lord is present among them (Matt 18:20) — all of these take this life from the mystery of the Eucharist, ‘leading up to it and flowing from it’. Moreover, such things as meditation, Lectio Divinia, personal prayer, the prayer of the Rosary, adoration of the blessed sacraments are necessary to support the celebration of the Eucharist and to fill it with personal life. Only in this larger context is the Mass really the center of all devotion, service to others and a dedication of our love to God.

In the spirituality of the Order of Malta, we are nourished, above all, by the Eucharist and know Christ is really present. Through the eyes of faith we confidently lay hold of Him and like Him, we realize how important are the sick and ‘the poor, the forgotten, those who do not matter in the eyes of the world. He understands human suffering, He has shown the face of God’s mercy, and has been sent down to heal body and soul’ (Pope Francis I, Palm Sunday, 2013). We could take these words of Pope Francis as a description of the ministry of Knights and Dames of Malta. He continued in this homily to encourage all of us. ‘The first word I wish to say to you: Joy! Do not be men and women of sadness: a Christian can never be sad! Never give way to discouragement! Ours is not a joy from having possessions but from having encountered a person: Jesus, in our midst, it is born from knowing that with Him we are never alone, even at difficult moments’.

Knights and Dames of Malta are called to be shining examples of joyful, faith-filled witnesses. Members of the Order should be recognizable as people whose religious faith brings an added dimension to the quality of their life and service of our Lords — the sick and the poor. In the Eucharist, we find this life-changing source of life.

This article was written by the Very Rev. John P. McGuire, OP, Conventual Chaplain ad Honorem, Principal Chaplain of the Sub-Priory of Our Lady of Lourdes.
The Changing Nature of Prison Ministry

“The Serv ing Brothe r”

The American Association produces “The Serving Brother” on a quarterly basis and distributes the publication to every diocese in the Eastern United States, Guam and the United States Virgin Islands and, with the cooperation of the Canadian Association, in three provinces in Eastern Canada.

Under the leadership of Steve Caron, KM, the publisher, and Father George Williams, SJ, the editor, the editorial board of “The Serving Brother” has now been expanded to include members of the American, Federal, Western and Canadian Associations. Thus “The Serving Brother” will become a North American publication of the Order of Malta. Steve Caron and Father Williams will continue as publisher and editor.

Prison Ministry Symposium

The Third Biennial Prison Ministry Symposium was held on April 6th at the Renaissance Hotel at Newark Airport. Sixty-nine were in attendance. A dinner for the prison ministers was held the night before.

Speakers from California, Florida, Connecticut and New Jersey spoke at the all-day session.

Dale Recinella and his wife, Dr. Susan Recinella from Florida spoke on their ministry to the 450 men on Death Row in Florida and to the families who have had a loved one executed. Dale and Susan work with our Bill Koenig, KMOb. Father George Williams, SJ, ChM, flew in from California. Father works on Death Row at San Quentin. He has developed a substantial educational program for the 7,000 men incarcerated in this prison. Accompanying him from California was Suzi Desmond of The Saint Vincent de Paul Society’s Catherine Center. Suzi and her team have been doing extraordinary work with female ex-offenders. They have reduced the recidivism rate to close to zero! Suzi was introduced by Roger Hagman, KM, the Chair of Prison ministry for the Western Association. Jim Plousis, Chair of the New Jersey State Parole Board and Eileen Henderson and Wren Ingram from the Center for Family Services in Camden, New Jersey spoke on their remarkable program of mentoring troubled youth in Camden, New Jersey, the poorest city in the nation. They were introduced by Msgr. Mike Mannion, ChM. The final presentations of the day were given by our own John Santa, KM and Tom Moriarity, KM and Geraldine Moriarit from our Connecticut Areas. The emphasis was on Connecticut’s highly successful approach to combatting recidivism.

Tri-Association Meeting on Prison Ministry

Prior to the symposium, on Friday afternoon, the organizational meeting of the Tri-Association Prison Ministry Committee was held. Present were Roger Hagman, KM, of the Western Association, Collins Whitfield, KM, Chair Prison Ministry, Federal Association, Steve Caron, KM, Joe Feitelberg, KMOb, Andy Vissicchio, KM, and Bob Fredericks, KMOb. A program to coordinate prison Ministry throughout the United States was discussed and agreed upon. The committee will meet several times a year in different parts of the country.

With these developments, we have come a long way in responding to the charge given to us by our Grand Master, Frá Matthew, that Prison Ministry become “The National Work of the Order” in the United States.

This article was contributed by Robert J. Fredericks, PhD, KMOb, chair of the American Association Prison Ministry Committee.

Deceased Members: January 1, 2013–Present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Katherine B. Ahrens, DM</th>
<th>Indian River Shores, FL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Joseph Carey, Jr., KM</td>
<td>Greenport, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>William L. Clayton, KM</td>
<td>Green Village, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jacqueline DaCosta, DM</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
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<td>Michael Anthony DeCicco, KM</td>
<td>South Bend, IN</td>
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<tr>
<td>John A. Dyer, KM</td>
<td>Larchmont, NY</td>
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<td>Henry J. Elmendorf, KM</td>
<td>St. Charles, MO</td>
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<td>Robert Joseph Fahey, KM</td>
<td>Rye, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ray A. Gerritzen, KM</td>
<td>Creve Coeur, MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charles M. Grace, KM</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eugene V. Handy, Jr., KM</td>
<td>Alpine, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>George W. Katter, MD, KM</td>
<td>Johnstown, PA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leo E. Linbeck, Jr., KM</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorothea Angela McEliduff, DM</td>
<td>New York, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>John C. McGiff, MD, KM</td>
<td>E. Patchogue, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giles E. Mosher, Jr., KM</td>
<td>Wellesley, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>James F. O’Donnell, KM</td>
<td>Flushing, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>George C. Riley, KM</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spyros S. Skouras, KM</td>
<td>Rye Brook, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Paul Winkelmann, KM</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fred A. Yannantuono, KM</td>
<td>Bronxville, NY</td>
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## Grant Synopsis: 2013

### Domestic Strategic, International and International Strategic Grants

Approved by the Board of Councillors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant Name</th>
<th>Grant Amount</th>
<th>Grant Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Domestic Strategic</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>AmeriCares Free Clinic Stamford, CT</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>A free clinic will provide high quality care to low income, uninsured people in Stamford, CT.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Housing for All Corporation Hyannis, Massachusetts</td>
<td>$45,900</td>
<td>Professional training programs in basic trades and skills will be provided to the to give the poor opportunities to work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diocese of Camden, New Jersey — Office of Community Relations, Pennsauken, NJ</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
<td>To support youth being mentored in Camden, NJ by assigning an Education Advocate to complement the social-emotional development from mentors with academic advocacy and planning for post-secondary education.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>The CRUDEM Foundation, Inc. Ludlow, Massachusetts</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
<td>Replenish greatly needed essential medications at the Hôpital Sacré Coeur pharmacy for inpatients, outpatients and the mobile clinic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>From Houses to Homes — Guatemala, Inc. Mt. Tabor, New Jersey</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>To construct ten cinder block homes (replacing corn stalk huts with a dirt floor) for poor families in the communities surrounding Antigua, Guatemala.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>International Strategic</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>From Houses to Homes — Guatanala, Inc. Mt. Tabor, New Jersey</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>To buy medical equipment, including ultrasound, to provide obstetric and gynecological care for women in dire need of such help.</td>
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<td>Hope for Haiti Naples, FL</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>To purchase/outfit/maintain a specialized vehicle for use as an emergency and healthcare transport vehicle in Les Cayes and the nearby rural area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>House of Friendship Foundation Spring Lake, New Jersey</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>To modify and expand an existing building into an eight room visitor center to provide income and to minimize the security risks for visitors.</td>
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**Grand Total Grants** $393,400

These grants are in addition to over $245,000 appropriated by the American Association for Grants at the Area level.

In addition, a reserve of almost $70,000 has been set aside to address potential emergencies.
In this “The Year of Faith”, we Catholics are invited to re-commit ourselves to the essential items which we hold as central to our own faith. As members of the Order of Malta, we are called to live out this faith in such a way that we are seen to embody that reality which is at the heart of our Catholic faith and the Order of Malta. Most of all, that reality is nothing less than the divine indwelling of Father, Son and Holy Spirit. As members of the Order of Malta, eyes of faith allow us to find that vibrant presence within ourselves, within one another, and within the sick and the poor.

It is especially in the sacraments that we Catholics are invited to encounter Christ. It is the special gift of the Holy Spirit who on Pentecost ushered in a new age, in which Christ ascended into heaven. In this new age, Christ makes Himself present to us and continues His work of revelation through the liturgical celebration of the sacraments. Christ lives and moves in His Church acting through the sacraments in what tradition calls “the Sacramental economy.” This is the communication of the fruits of Christ’s Pascal mystery in the celebration of the Church’s sacrament’s liturgy. By the action of Christ and the peace of the Holy Spirit, the seven sacraments efficaciously make present the grace they signify.

In every sacrament God anticipates all human action; God begins the work of our salvation, and without God we can do nothing (John 15:5) In a faith which calls upon the sacraments, we accept God’s offer of salvation, and only through and by means of that offer are we able, through Christ and in the Holy Spirit, to worship God and incorporate our lives in God.

Through baptism in water and in the Holy Spirit we are reborn in faith from the condition of sin and alienation from God into which we were born and enter into a new state of being as children of God; we receive forgiveness of all sin and are received into communion with Christ and membership in the people of God. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit in the sacrament of Confirmation we are confirmed still more to the Lord and enabled to witness to Christ before the world through our lives of faith. In the Eucharistic meal, under the forms of bread and wine, we partake of the Body and Blood of Christ (continued on page 9)