



# HOSPITALLERS

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## Fellow members of the American Association:



### Annual Business Meeting, Investiture, and Dinner

I'm sure that those of you who were in New York for our Annual Event Weekend will agree that it was a great success.

At the Business Meeting on Friday morning, I gave my annual report and we covered the usual other topics. Then we heard two excellent presentations: the first, by Msgr. Kevin Wallin on the subject of "Apologetics"; and the other by Dr. John Haas,

President of the National Catholic Bioethics Center, on "Recent Developments in Catholic Bioethics."

We also announced the outcome of the recent election of eight members of the Board of Councillors, for three-year terms beginning January 1, 2008. They are:

Marjorie Bycraft  
Thomas Carney, Jr.  
Robert Dillmeier  
Justice Marie Garibaldi  
Jack Pohrer  
Thomas Schlafly  
Dr. John Shine  
Peggy Stanton

This year, we had an excellent group of 15 candidates for election to 8 seats on our Board. Inevitably, there were 7 other outstanding candidates who were not elected, but we know that they will maintain their high level of involvement in the works of the Order. The new Board will hold its first meeting on January 10th.

It's very important that we have and will have a great Board of Councillors, to govern the Association's affairs and to plan for the Association's ongoing development. To that end, I plan to launch another strategic planning exercise early next year.

At the Business Meeting, we also gave special recognition to seven outgoing members of the Board, all of whom were outstanding contributors to the success of the Association before and throughout their terms of service. They are:

John Bycraft  
Dr. Joe Hagan  
Frances Hardart, Hospitaller  
D. Desmond McCarthy  
John McManmon  
Joseph Miller, Chancellor  
Thomas Reedy

Also honored for their excellent work over their terms of office were the outgoing Area Chairs of six Areas:

Albany — Edmund & Elaine Luzine  
Dallas — Denis Simon  
Illinois — Mary Clare Starshak & Peter Danis  
Long Island — Patricia McCarthy  
Minnesota — Joseph Micallef  
Philadelphia — Patrick Messina

The afternoon Investiture was fabulous, with a beautiful liturgy celebrated by Edward Cardinal Egan, who delivered a wonderful homily, directed to all of our members — new and old. We invested three bishops as Conventual Chaplains, two priests as Magistral Chaplains, three priests as Deputy Chaplains, and 101 Knights and Dames of Magistral Grace. Terrific!

Friday was capped off with a great dinner dance at the Waldorf, where Frances Hardart, our Hospitaller for the past five years, was awarded the highest honor of Grand Cross of Magistral Grace, in recognition of her outstanding service to the Order, both domestically and internationally. And our guest speaker, Antonin Scalia, Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, lived up to his outstanding reputation by delivering a very interesting and informative speech about how he must deal with the complex issues that come before the Court.

The weekend culminated on Saturday morning with Mass at the Waldorf and an outstanding presentation by Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of Milwaukee, on the subject "The Priesthood and the Future of the Church in the U.S."

The weekend went so well that many of us felt that it will be a real challenge to do an encore of like quality next year.

### Board of Councillors Meeting, November 8, 2007

The main topic was a discussion of the Association's budget for 2008, as presented by Joe Cianciolo, our Treasurer. As always, we are battling rising costs which are not sufficiently offset by increased (continued on page 5)

## Jubilate! Lourdes Pilgrimage 2008

### "Sent to Love and Serve"

by Barbara and Joseph Miller



Barbara and Joseph Miller

We are honored to be the Chairpersons for the Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2008. We made our first pilgrimage at the invitation of Hope Carter in 1992. We went as Volunteers at Hope's suggestion to see what we thought of the Order and to see what the Order does at Lourdes. We liked the people we met and what they did. Joe was invested the next year in 1993 and Barbara followed in 1994. Last year was Joe's 16th pilgrimage and Barbara's 12th.

Sixteen years later we are finding out what a huge undertaking it is to fly 375 people from Newark Liberty International Airport to Lourdes, France for a week of

pilgrimage. There is much work to be done and many people needed to do it. We are blessed to have a Core Committee of 25 people who are "seasoned pilgrims," who offer invaluable advice. They are always there for us. They never say "no." They are enthusiastic and they are our strength.

On April 30th, we will join 4,500 Knights, Dames and Volunteers assisting 1,500 Malades from fifty countries in Lourdes. We will celebrate the Jubilee Year, marking 150 years since the apparitions of Our Lady to Bernadette. At the same time, we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the International Order of Malta bringing Malades to Lourdes on pilgrimage.

It was in 1949 that the first Malta Pilgrimage group from Germany led by the father of our Grand Hospitaller, HE Albrecht Von Boeselager, came to Lourdes. Nine years later in 1958, the first International Pilgrimage of the Order began.

The response to the invitation letter mailed in mid-October has been overwhelming. We will be adding an additional 25 pilgrims to bring the total number to 375 to accommodate as many Knights and Dames as possible.

We need your help...we are asking for more Malades. If you know of a person who would qualify, please use the Malade Sponsor form that was included with the registration packet or call the New York office at 212-371-1522 to have one sent to you. We would like to take 50 Malades with 50 caregivers. Please help us to reach our goal.

We have another goal...We need help to cover the cost of bringing our Malades and Caregivers who come to Lourdes as our guests. In addition to the Malades and Caregivers, we also include 15 Clergy and a subsidized Auxiliary. The budget will be approximately \$1.2 million dollars. After taking into account receipts from Knights, Dames and Volunteers we run a short-fall of \$300,000 plus. We count on your generosity in sponsoring Malades and outright unrestricted donations to make our pilgrimage self-sustaining. So far we have donations totaling \$80,000. We are told this is one of the biggest responses for this period of time. We are grateful...Thank you to those of you who have already given and we ask those of you who have not yet given, please be generous.

Recently there was an article in the Wall Street Journal paying testament to the healing powers of Lourdes. A Dutch health insurer VGZ spends thousands to fly hundreds of the sick and disabled to a city in France world-renowned for faith healing. That would be Lourdes. In this unusual scheme the Dutch company spends about \$280,000 per year to fly 600 of its sickest and most disabled clients to Lourdes. The company doesn't expect the Virgin Mary to intercede. It hopes for a different sort of miracle. "Lourdes leads people to compassion and friendship," says Johan Rozendaal, a VGZ board member. "They remember what it's like to have somebody really care about them." Perhaps they also feel a certain joy...the joy that was felt by Pope John Paul II upon his visit when he said, "I felt here an inexpressible joy"...We, as pilgrims, come away from Lourdes with that "inexpressible joy." How many times have we tried to explain our experience and have a most difficult time putting our feelings into words?

There are a variety of reasons for taking a pilgrimage. For many who travel to Lourdes, the motivation is to request a special kind of healing, whether physical, emotional or spiritual. For others it may be a desire to find some direction or guidance, to express gratitude for some blessing one has received, or even to make amends for some sin in one's life. The intentions dwelling in the souls of the millions who make their way to shrines world wide are as varied as the pilgrims themselves.

Please pray for us as we prepare for our Jubilee Pilgrimage...as we plan to join the millions of pilgrims processing, praying and seeking healing. ✠

*Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us!*

## Our Mission

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



## Walking In the Footsteps of Jesus Christ The 2007 Malta Holy Land Pilgrimage

by Sherry and Paul Durnan, Pilgrimage Co-Chairs



Christmas Mass at Shepherd's Field

As you know, earlier this year, our Grand Master Fra' Andrew Bertie called on all the members of the Order of Malta worldwide to come together in the Holy Land to witness their support and encouragement to our beleaguered brothers and sisters living there.

We were honored and privileged to serve as the Co-chairs of the American Association's efforts to organize our portion of the pilgrimage. All told, there were nearly 1300 pilgrim members from over twenty countries who collectively experienced a week of actually "walking in the footsteps of Jesus Christ across the Holy Land."

Our American Association contingent consisted of 87 pilgrims who left Newark airport on Wednesday, October 3rd and arrived 11 hours later on a non-stop flight into Tel Aviv to commence what some knights and dames expressed as "the most memorable and inspirational week in our entire lives."

Every day we went to wondrously meaningful places, too many to enumerate them all. We visited the only Catholic elementary school in Bethlehem along with a full tour of the magnificent Holy Family Hospital, which is a tremendous Malta Project.

Our first ceremony in Jerusalem was at the Latin Patriarchate, the principal church of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. His Beatitude, Archbishop Michel Sabbah, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, personally bestowed upon the members of our Order who were also members of the Order of The Holy Sepulchre, the "Pilgrim Shell" (Conchiglia del Pellegrino) signifying their journey to the Holy Land.

Also while in Jerusalem, we joined the other members of the Order for a Mass in and among the olive groves on the Mount of Olives, in the Garden of Gethsemane. Just to be there you could internally visualize why Jesus would want to leave the noise and bustle of the city and ask His closest friends to come out with Him to the quiet sloping countryside to rest and pray for a while. Standing there during our Malta Mass for Peace for our fellow Christians in the Holy Land and looking back to the city walls you could easily envision the soldiers coming up to the slight hillside incline into the olive grove just after Judas had betrayed his Master. You were overcome by the sadness as the soldiers took Jesus away and back inside the city to be humiliated, judged and crucified.

Later that same day we visited the Shrine of the Ascension and were able to kneel down and kiss the actual rock upon which Jesus stood before He rose to meet His Father in heaven.

On Saturday, October 6th, we again joined our hosts the Italian Malta Association, along with the rest of the global Malta pilgrims in the beautiful Basilica of the Nativity, the exact location where it is believed Our Lord was born into this world.

We spent the afternoon traveling through various West Bank villages and most memorably celebrated our "Christmas Mass" in Beit Sahour, or "Shepherd's Field" As we sang "Silent Night" and "Oh Come All Ye Faithful" we gazed over the same barren valley through which the shepherds followed the star into Bethlehem to find the Prince of Peace in a manger. Once again we all experienced "being present there" even though it transpired over 2000 years ago.

Our American Association group, led by Monsignor Frank Schneider of the Diocese of Rockville Center, himself a Certified Holy Land Tour Guide, and his friend from the Holy Land, Samir Khoury, passionately guided us through the most memorable Stations of the Cross along the Via Dolorosa. We processed through the same streets and walked the exact path that Jesus so painfully struggled with in His journey with His cross up to Calvary. On the way, various pilgrim members carried a life-sized cross along the unfriendly and raucous marketplace amidst the subtle and not so subtle jeers and negative comments of the current day merchants and families.

One of the most transformational parts of the pilgrimage which we experienced was the morning we boarded a small boat in Tiberias and sailed across the Sea of Galilee looking out to the mountainside where Jesus multiplied the loaves and fish. In the middle of the sea, the boat stopped and Msgr. Frank read the scripture passage about Jesus walking on these same waters. When the reading was finished, all 87 of us remained in a silent trance for a few moments, overcome by the presence of the Holy Spirit among us.

We will finish with some written comments we received during the week or so after all of us "living stones" returned home from the Holy Land Pilgrimage:

"There will never be a trip like we just experienced in the Holy Land."

"Hearing the scriptures read this morning in my parish church was just so different and so much more alive in me."

"It was a lifetime journey of transformation and inspiration for me."

We all truly "walked in the footsteps of Jesus Christ" and we will never be the same. ✠



Stations of Cross along the Via Dolorosa.

## We Are All Hospitallers

By Frances O.C. Hardart



Frances O.C. Hardart

Beginning the indulgence of those who attended the annual meeting in New York at the beginning of November, I am going to repeat some of the Hospitaller's report in this column. It is so important that we understand that the order of Malta is global in its mission and that, in our own local areas, the mission of Malta could not be advanced without the dedication of the area chairmen and the area hospitallers.

At present, we have 26 areas across the country. Four of these areas are quite large, averaging over 200 members but most are much smaller. Our total membership stands at 1,717 plus 71 chaplains. There are over 120 candidates in preparation for 2008. There were 101 candidates invested in November.

**And to serve this population of Malta members, there are 26 area chairs.**

They are each responsible for choosing an area hospitaller and others who will either serve on committees or fill special positions. They will guide their team through all of the necessary avenues of service to the sick and poor and witness to the faith. They will coordinate, with the help of their team, all the various projects, plan spiritual events, handle the financial necessities and direct the preparation program for new members in their areas. *(continued on page 7)*

# Malta Music Room: A Dream Come True

The young boys of Mt. St. Joseph Children's Center (MSJ) in Totowa, NJ will soon have their dream of a music room brought to reality, through the generosity of several members of the New Jersey Area.

Peter F. Muratore, K.M. contacted MSJ's Director, Patricia Verduin, about sponsoring a special project as part of this year's annual Christmas Appeal. Ms. Verduin indicated that she and the boys have long dreamed about creating a music room in a basement space that is currently a storeroom. Many of the boys have musical talent, or at least a secret desire to perform. The floors and walls of this room would be carpeted, a small stage would be built — perfect for "Karaoke Night" and small school productions. Seats and floor cushions would be added. Right now the MSJ piano is over 100 years old and probably sounded better in its heyday. A new piano and a few rhythm instruments and guitars will bring an extra dimension to the lives of the MSJ boys.

Peter F. Muratore, K.M. and his wife Patricia M. Muratore, D.M. have been loyal benefactors and supporters of Mt. St. Joseph's for many years. They have not only made generous donations of their own to the Center, they have also inspired other Knights and Dames to follow their lead and sponsor other projects at MSJ. Approximately five years ago a group of members from this same area completely outfitted the MSJ laundry with industrial washers and dryers.

Mount Saint Joseph Children's Center is a residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed boys, ages six through fourteen. It is operated under the aegis of Catholic Family and Community Services, a Catholic Charities agency of the Diocese of Paterson, NJ. MSJ was originally established as an orphanage in the late 1800's and was transformed to serve its current mission



thirty five years ago. MSJ has a Special Education school on the premises and serves children from throughout the state.

Many of the boys of MSJ have been removed from their homes due to a difficult or challenging home environment and unfortunate family circumstances. Others may have been abandoned or victims of abuse or may have started out their lives already addicted to drugs at birth. Some of the boys do have a more stable family situation, but need to reside at MSJ to work through their issues, which, when you are only eight or nine years old, can be staggering.

At MSJ the boys receive therapy from licensed social workers, a good education from certified Teachers of the Handicapped, and a myriad of recreational activities with our Child Care staff. Their room and board is paid through the Department of Children & Families and their sending public school districts pay their school tuition. Something as special as this new music room, however, can only be accomplished through the efforts of sponsors and benefactors such as this group of Knights and Dames.

Christmas is a time of blessings and hope for the future. The creation of the "Malta Music Room" will bring smiles to the faces of the MSJ boys and instill in them hope for themselves and their futures. It will also help them realize how much good there is in the world and that so many people do care about them.

by Patricia Verduin, Director of Mount Saint Joseph Children's Center

## Questions & Answers

By Chancellor Joseph H. Miller, KM

**Q:** I understand that at the end of the year, your term on the Board of Councilors and as Chancellor will end. Would you please share with us some of the more significant accomplishments you have witnessed in the American Association over that time?

**A:** One major accomplishment that I have witnessed over the last few years is the amount of time and effort spent by both the Board of Councilors and our Confreres throughout the Association in fulfilling our Mission: "to serve the sick and the poor and to defend our faith."

Over the last four years under the leadership of President Dan Kelly, the American Association has become a stronger and more vibrant organization. One of the reasons for this is that President Kelly believed that the Order needed a roadmap for the future.

In late 2003, Dan Kelly decided that the Order would be best served if we developed a strategic plan to help us in achieving our goals. I was asked to chair the project and with the help of the Board of Councilors, a number of area Chairs and members of the Malta Human Services Foundation, the process started.

In February 2004, the Board adopted seven goals which include:

- I. Membership Development
- II. Works
- III. Communications
- IV. Defense of the Faith
- V. Education
- VI. Working with other United States Associations
- VII. Classes of Membership

Listed below are the goals as prioritized and adopted at the September 2004 meeting. At that meeting, Committee Chairmen were appointed and committees formed. Some major accomplishments follow each goal.

### **GOAL I Membership Development — Chair James L. Claus**

By end of year 2005, the Order will grow its membership from 1677 to 1750 net of deaths and resignations across-the-board, in diverse geographical areas and among younger men and women. Interim projections are:

December 31, 2004	1700
December 31, 2006	1800
December 31, 2008	1900
December 31, 2010	2000

Goal I — accomplishments: Including clergy, we have almost 1,800 members now. We also have over 120 in preparation for 2008. To achieve the goal of "2000 members by 2010", each of us has to contribute by identifying strong candidates for consideration for membership. Each year, we lose thirty to forty members through deaths, resignations, and transfers.

### **GOAL II Works — Chair Robert J. Fredericks, Ph.D.**

By 2005, the Association will identify a single Malta Project which can be replicated in each area and have national recognition consistent with the overall mission of the Order. At the same time, allowances will be made for the involvement and good works by individuals in their areas to meet specific challenges and needs.

Goal II — accomplishments: Prison ministry has been identified as the Association's major project and we have active prison ministries in most of our larger areas, with more areas planning to become involved in the near term. Through the prison ministry, English-language Malta Bibles and English and Spanish-language Malta Prayer Books have been made available to be shared by members with inmates as part of their ministry. A Spanish-language Bible is in the works.

### **GOAL III Communications — Chair Thomas J. Flood**

Further develop a detailed communication plan both internally and externally that integrates effec-

tively and efficiently an appropriate balance of knowledge and the written word. This will promote the mission and implement the works of the Order by energizing the membership to defend the faith, serve the sick and the poor, and at the same time, enhance the national image of the Order.

Goal III — accomplishments: The Association's web site is active and current, containing a wealth of information, news, calendar, forms, pictures and links to other Malta-related web sites. The Hospitallers newsletter is published quarterly and distributed to members and friends on a timely basis. These important communications vehicles have received high praise from members.

### **GOAL IV Defense of the Faith — Chair Frances O'C. Hardart**

The Order will serve the faith and stem the tide of secularism by being individual and collective models in their Catholic communities and, as a lay religious order, by word and by promoting and defending the truths and teachings of the Magisterium.

### **GOAL V Education — Chair Joseph Metz, Ph.D.**

By 2006, the Order will participate in passing along to succeeding generations a vibrant and living faith, informed by study, prayers, education and example, symposia and lectures, and a working knowledge and a deep commitment and appreciation of the mission and the works of the order at home and throughout the world.

Goals IV and V — accomplishments: The Board of Councilors merged the committees that focus on goals four and five to ensure a strategic and consistent approach. The Malta Forums are an outgrowth of the focus on education and defense of the faith — the Forums bring education on relevant topics such as bioethics and end of life issues to the areas. Members can grow their knowledge and understanding of important contemporary issues facing Catholics today.

### **GOAL VI Working with Other Associations — Chair Daniel J. Kelly**

The Association will participate in deliberations with the two other United States Associations in an effort to find ways for the three associations to work more collaboratively in pursuing the mission of the Order and in its interactions with the Grand Magistracy.

Goal VI — accomplishments: The relationship among the three US Associations is at a very high level. Dan Kelly has made it a key priority to develop positive cooperation among the three associations. The presidents of the three US associations hold a teleconference once a month to discuss priorities and issues. The New Orleans Home Restoration Project is an outgrowth of this sustained cooperation. Another example is the coordinated assistance to the Latin American Associations by the three US associations.

### **GOAL VII Classes of Membership — D. Desmond McCarthy**

By 2005, educate the members of the Order about the classes of membership and encourage members to consider moving from the Third Class to the Second Class as a means of deepening their own spirituality and seeking greater participation in the life of the Order.

Goal VII — accomplishments: The growth in the numbers of members in the Second Class has led to the establishment of the Sub-Priory of Our Lady of Lourdes which combines the members of the First and Second Classes from the American and Federal Associations. The focus of the Sub-Priory is on the spiritual growth of its members.

The approval to establish the Sub-Priory is a sign of the respect and esteem that the Grand Magistracy in Rome has for the American Association and its leadership.

When you look at all these accomplishments and the active engagement of so many members in the works and activities of the Association in the areas, it is clear that the Association has come a long way. May God's blessings continue to flow on the works of the Association and all its members.

*This column is the responsibility of Joseph H. Miller, KM, Chancellor of the American Association. Please direct your questions by e-mail to [staff@maltausa.org](mailto:staff@maltausa.org) or mail to: Order of Malta, 1011 First Avenue Room 1350, New York, NY 10022*



## New Member Investiture held at St. Patrick's Cathedral



St. Patrick's Cathedral

St. Patrick's Cathedral was the site for the Solemn Liturgy of Investiture for one hundred one new members into the Order of Malta, American Association. The installation of new members occurred on November 9th at a 2PM Mass celebrated by Edward Cardinal Egan, Archbishop of New York and Principal Chaplain of the American Association. Cardinal Egan was joined by five prelates: Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Vatican nuncio to the United Nations, Archbishop Harry J. Flynn of Minneapolis-Saint Paul, Bishop William E. Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., Bishop Michael R. Cote of Norwich, Conn., and retired Bishop Frank J. Rodimer of Paterson, N.J. The Mass was concelebrated by numerous chaplains, deputy chaplains and deacons. Deacons Rev. Dr. Francis P. McQuade, KM and Rev. Mr. John M. Powers, Jr., served the Cardinal.

Cardinal Egan delivered the homily, speaking to the Association's current and new members about using the occasion as an opportunity to bring a fresh start to their lives. The Cardinal commended the Order as "a tremendous blessing." He said, "You are here to proclaim the Gospel and to do works of charity and compassion. What could be more beautiful than that?"

Mr. Daniel J. Kelly, President of the Association, presided at the installation, representing His Most Eminent Highness the Prince and Grand Master, Fra' Andrew Bertie. Regent John Dunlap was Master of Ceremonies for the Association and Father Michael J. Sullivan and Father Michael O'Leary served as the Cathedral Masters of Ceremonies. Music was under the direction of Dr. Jennifer Pascual, Director of Music for the Cathedral. The Principal Organist was Mr. Donald Dumler and the Cathedral of Saint Patrick Choir led the singing.

Attending from the Sovereign Council was H.E. Antonio R. Sanchez-Corea, Jr.

One hundred one new members were invested during the ceremony. Archbishop Flynn, Bishop Cote and Bishop William Murphy of Rockville Center (in absentia) were invested as Conventual chaplains ad honorem. Msgr. Robert Dempsey and Father Frank Sevola, OFM, were invested as Magistral chaplains and Msgr. Robert T. Ritchie, rector of St. Patrick's Cathedral and Father Joseph Johnson of Minneapolis-St. Paul were invested as deputy chaplains.

### Dames of Magistral Grace included:

Katherine B. Ahrens  
Lillian M. Almeida  
Mary Ann Altrui  
Sandra Arias  
Virginia Aoyama  
Mary B. Armato  
Jeannette Brady  
Mary Ann Capellupo  
Elizabeth G. Clay  
Donna Collins  
Anne DeLaney  
Mary Dick  
Ann T. Doyle  
Christine Duggan

Bonnie Jean Eckelkamp  
Dorothy M. Geisler-Tragardh  
Joan P. Guyol  
Mary T. Guyol  
Janan Habba  
Mary Healy  
Christine M. Hussey  
Joanne D. Jorissen  
Linda A. Kelly  
Cynthia Kinney  
Lisa Knysz  
Jacqueline M. Kucich  
Nina Lawlor  
Monica Leary

Jean F. MacCormack  
Kelly A. McCarthy  
Mary E. McGee  
Janet P. Moore  
Sharon A. Niehaus  
Josephine O'Reilly  
Barbara M. Ripp  
Kathleen M. Shine  
Ann Sigurdsson  
Kristy Snyder  
Bonnie Strauss  
Regina A. Warren  
Carol A. Wilson  
Roberta K. Ziolkowski

### Knights of Magistral Grace included:

Keith C. Armato  
Joseph Benoit  
Brian R. Brady  
Roy W. Breitenbach  
Gregory F. Browne  
Joseph P. Caldwell  
John P. Capellupo  
Steven G. Caron  
Paul R. Deslongchamps  
Carlo M. DiNello  
John Francis Dick  
James B. Dolan, Jr.  
Philip T. Doyle, M.D.  
John C. Duggan  
Kevin Dwyer  
Louis B. Eckelkamp, Jr.  
William S. English  
David B. Ermine, Esq.  
Dennis F. Flanagan  
Edward N. Flynn

Mark C. Follett  
Robert E. Gerwin  
William F. Glinka  
Michael S. Grant  
William E. Griffin  
Mark J. Guyol  
William B. Guyol, Jr., M.D.  
James N. Hajjar  
Thomas J. Hayes  
William T. Hazelton  
George Isajiw  
Jeffrey P. Jorissen  
Michael J. Kinney  
Walter Knysz III, M.D.  
Paul M. Lawless  
Gerald T. Lawlor, Jr.  
David T. Link  
James R. Littleton  
James P. Lyons  
Christopher M. Marten

Francis J. McCarthy  
James E. McDonald  
Joseph B. Moran  
Paul E. Morrill, Sr.  
Emmet F. O'Connell  
Thomas F. O'Reilly  
Frank Pasciuto  
Brian P. Patchen  
Gerard P. Peplowski  
Christopher F. Poch  
John B. Powers  
Randall W. Proctor  
Damien Quinn  
Joseph S. Ritter  
Michael E. Rush  
Michael P. Spencer  
James D. Warren  
Kevin E. White  
Benjamin F. Ziolkowski

A Reception and Dinner followed the Mass of Investiture with over seven hundred members and guests in attendance. The guest speaker was Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Antonin Scalia. He spoke about how a Catholic must deal with the issues of being a Federal judge. The Justice was presented with the Croce Al Merito Melitense in recognition of his outstanding work as a Judge and a Catholic.

On Saturday morning, an overflow crowd of members and guests gathered at the Waldorf for a Mass and presentation from Archbishop Timothy Dolan, Archbishop of Milwaukee who spoke following the Mass on the future of the priesthood. His inspiring remarks left members with hope and a commitment to pray for our current and future priests.

All in all, those who attended the Annual Meeting, the Investiture, the Annual Dinner and the Saturday morning Mass and presentation were left with a renewed sense of commitment to the ideals of the Order and a sense of satisfaction at having the chance to participate in many memorable moments. Plans are already underway for next year's events! ❄️



## Fellow members of the American Association:

(continued from cover)

revenues. Every type of expense is being challenged as to need, with the objective of providing a budget for grants of \$1 million. This assumes that the Pilgrimage to Lourdes will break-even financially. The only way we can avoid a loss from the Pilgrimage is to attract member donations in excess of \$300,000 to cover costs attributed to our beloved malades and their care givers.

Other matters of consequence which were discussed at the meeting are mentioned below.

- Last year we announced that we had identified a National Project — one that can be implemented in each of our Areas. It's the National Malta Prison Ministry Program and I'm pleased to say that, under the leadership of Bob Fredericks, we now have prison ministry activities in 11 of our 26 Areas.
- Also last year, we established a new Auxiliary Corps, to be comprised of men and women of any age who wish to participate in the good works of the Order, but who, for one reason or another, do not wish to become Knights or Dames. Jack Pohrer has led efforts to develop the Corps across the Association and we now have 85 members.
- Several of our leaders went to Mexico City over the weekend of November 1st and attended the 7th biennial conference of the Associations of the Order in North, Central, and South America. The primary focus of the meeting was on membership attraction, new member formation, and stimulating activity among existing members. With the attendance of several members of the Sovereign Council, I believe it all went very well.
- During our stay in Mexico, the three U.S. Association's officers, in our case, myself, Fran Hardart, and Joe Miller, held meetings to discuss a proposal by Malteser International to provide disaster relief services in the Americas — North, Central, and South America. Jim O'Connor has been our representative on a task force to study how this could be done in a cost effective way. As a result of our discussions, a Steering Committee will be formed to plan for the development of funds to facilitate relief services in the Americas. A 501(c)3 charitable organization will be formed, owned by the three U.S. Associations. It would not compete in fundraising with our Association or our Foundation; rather it would solicit funding from government sources and large foundations dedicated to disaster relief.
- Before going to Mexico, 87 of us had a trip of a life-time to the Holy Land, on a week long pilgrimage of the Order. Overall, there were 1,340 of us and we needed 29 busses to haul us around. Our group was separate except when we met with the others for Mass on three occasions, once where Christ was born, once in the Garden of Gethsemane, and once where Mary's Annunciation took place. I can't begin to tell you what a wonderful experience it was for all of us, walking in the steps of Jesus, and seeing where He lived and carried out His ministry. Hats off to Paul and Sherry Durnan for their leadership and hard work to lead the pilgrimage, which we all enjoyed so very much.
- Our 2007 National Membership Conference in late September, sponsored by the New Jersey Area, led by Bob and Jeanette Fredericks, and attended by almost 200 of our members also was a huge success. The theme was "Celebrating Life" and the presenters were outstanding. The 2009 Membership Conference will be sponsored by the Long Island Area.
- As you recall, in cooperation with the Federal and Western Associations, the Malta New Orleans Home Restoration Project was developed. This has been a successful project and we are now into Phase II. Many of our members have participated, and if you haven't done so, I urge you to help out too. You'll find it enjoyable and rewarding.
- The year 2008 marks Lourdes' 150th Anniversary of Our Lady's Apparition to St. Bernadette. In recognition of this milestone, the three U.S. Associations are planning an Anniversary Mass at the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. To be held on World Day for the Sick, February 11, 2008, the Mass will be celebrated by Washington's Archbishop Donald Wuerl. I expect that our Association's membership will not only be well represented at this Mass of Healing, but that we will also include some Malades in our excursion to Washington.
- The Association's Education / Defense of the Faith Committee, led by Jack Pohrer, is exploring the idea of producing a year long series of weekly educational programs to be broadcast on Catholic Radio networks across the country. Primarily, the topics would be the "basics" — the teachings of the Church and how they relate to our every day lives. If it's feasible, we will ask the other U.S. Associations to participate.

### Other Comments

Going forward, we will continue to devote attention to the development of the Areas. Some of our Areas are very strong and active, while others are not. In general, we need to focus on clarifying the obligations of Area leadership, on activating or re-activating more of our members, and on the addition of high quality new members. September's Area Chair / Area Hospitaller meeting helped us make some progress on that front.

As far as membership development is concerned, once again I say "Grow or Die!" We are growing, but not by as much as we should. This year's infusion of 101 new members raises our membership count by 77 from a year ago, after considering deaths, net transfers and expulsions because of non-payment of annual dues. It's good to know that we have more than 125 candidates for membership next year. We need to keep the new additions at that level or above in order to keep up the growth in our care for the sick and the poor in the communities where we live. ✠

*I extend my best wishes for peace, good health, happiness, and greater spirituality for 2008 and all the years to come.*

Daniel J. Kelly, K.M.  
President



## Spiritual Reading

by Rev. Msgr. James P. Cassidy, Assistant Principal Chaplain

Spiritual reading has to be a part of our lives. In looking for a good basic book on Spiritual Development, we can turn to the saints. One of the best books on the subject is an "Introduction to a Devout Life" by Saint Francis de Sales.

In the preface to the vintage spiritual classic edition, Cardinal Egan states, "The Church, no stranger to the vortex of ideas in every age, wants to meet the spiritual needs of her sons and daughters, not only with the canon of sacred scripture but with an ever-evolving canon of religious masterpieces."

And, as in other canons, there are some works that have stood the test of time because of their ability to speak to the soul in every age. Among these masterpieces is St. Francis de Sales' "Introduction to the Devout Life".

St. Francis de Sales makes it clear that a devout life is within our grasp. A devout life is within our reach, here and now, even in our modern, ordinary lives.

*"Introduction to the Devout Life is the most popular Catholic "self-help" book of all time. First published in the early 17th century, it has proven its value as a daily spiritual guide and helpful reference for living an authentic Christian life. Written specifically for laymen, it began as letters from Saint Francis to a married woman who was seeking holiness amidst the distractions of her life of wealth and status. It contains treasures of wisdom for every reader, from eager beginner to lifelong Christian."* — from the web site: [www.catholicity.com](http://www.catholicity.com)

- Part I: Attaining a Firm Resolution to the Devout Life
- Part II: Prayer and the Sacraments
- Part III: The Practice of Virtue
- Part IV: Some Ordinary Temptations
- Part V: Renewing and Confirming the Soul in Devotion



Rev. Msgr. James P. Cassidy

### The current recommendation:

*Introduction to a Devout Life*  
by St. Francis de Sales



## Estate and Planned Gifts Can Support the Work of the Association for Years to Come

Each year, the Malta Human Services Foundation provides a contribution to the American Association to support the Annual Grants program. Your consideration of the Foundation in your estate plan or with a planned gift will help to ensure that the works of Malta will continue for years to come. If you have questions about the Foundation, see the Foundation section of our web site at [www.maltausa.org](http://www.maltausa.org). For more information, call the Executive Director in our New York Office at (212) 371-1522.

## 2007 Election Results Are Announced at Annual Meeting

The annual elections for the American Association were completed in early November and the results were tabulated and the winners were announced at the Annual Meeting. Almost eight hundred ballots were cast in total, representing more than 40% of our membership. Voting is done by mail — returns were counted under the supervision of the Chancellor of the Association.

Eight members of the Board of Councillors' terms expired in 2007. Jack E. Pohrer's first term expired in 2007 — he ran and was re-elected to a second term.

Other members who were elected to three year terms were Margaret L. Bycraft, Thomas F. Carney, Jr., Robert L. Dillmeier, Marie L. Garibaldi, Thomas F. Schlafly, John F. Shine, and Peggy M. Stanton.

Members of the Board who will not be returning in 2008 were recognized at the Annual Meeting in November. Chancellor Joseph Miller, Hospitaller Fran Hardart and Councillors John Bycraft, Desmond McCarthy, Joseph Hagan, John McManmon, and Thomas Reedy all served the Association and deserve the thanks of the entire membership.

The Officers of the Association and the entire current Board of Councillors and the newly elected members all wish to thank those members who took the time to vote. In addition, the gratitude of the Officers and the Board is directed to all who willingly agreed to run for office, giving members a choice among many worthy candidates.

Under the Association's by-laws, elections are held every Fall. The participation of all of the members helps ensure that the elected Board represents the collective wisdom of all of the Association's members.

## Web-only articles

Be sure to go our web site at [www.maltausa.org](http://www.maltausa.org)

- Click on "News & Events." Click on "Association Newsletters." Click on the Winter 2007 issue of Hospitallers to read an interesting and informative copy of John Dunlap's presentation at the Annual Meeting on the purpose and meaning of a Sub-Priory.
- Read an article on the Order of Malta's on-going support of leprosy research.

Also on the web are materials about the 2008 Lourdes pilgrimage (in the Members Only section) and an extensive collection of photographs from the Holy Land Pilgrimage (in the Works and Activities section). An Event Calendar of key Association dates is also available in the News and Events section.

## Malta Human Services Foundation President's Report

### Taking the longer term view; looking forward for 500 years and beyond

by Hershel Smith, KM, President of the Malta Human Services Foundation



As members of the Order of Malta, we recite the Prayer of the Order each day, asking God's help to keep us faithful to the commitment we each make as part of our investiture — to defend the Faith and to practice charity towards our neighbors, especially the poor and the sick. The Malta Human Services Foundation is one tool which the American Association uses to steward its assets for the future support of member activities in support of those noble commitments.

Let me give you some background on the Foundation's function: the Malta Human Services Foundation exists for two basic and related purposes: first, the Foundation is charged with protecting and growing the assets of the Foundation — those assets right now amount to some \$9M — and secondly, the Foundation uses those assets to provide annual funding support for the Grants program of the American Association.

The Foundation is a caretaker of resources of the Association — these resources are dedicated to the long-term support of the American Association's grants program. The Grants program supports those organizations that our members and the Order are directly involved in, defending the Faith and providing assistance to the sick and the poor. For the last several years, the Association has distributed grants totaling approximately \$1M annually to local, national and international organizations in which the Order of Malta and in most cases, American Association members, are actively engaged.

Each year, the Foundation provides 5% of its average assets to the Association to complement the funds taken from members' Annual contributions to be used directly for the Grants program. As the resources of the Foundation grow, the ability of the Foundation to support the Grants program grows. Over the last several years, the Foundation has contributed over \$400k annually toward that million dollar effort.

This year, in addition to the 5% funding, the Foundation also provided funding to return the grants to a mid-year pay schedule. A twice a year schedule had been employed in the past to manage the cash flow better — that prevented the payment of grants until December for some of the organizations. The Foundation's one-time action, using funds that had been transferred from the Association to the Foundation in the recent past, will put the grants on a more timely schedule in terms of payout as well as in terms of the income source from which the grants are paid. This action will allow the Association's contribution to come from current contributions, rather than relying of the next year's annual contributions to cover the approved grants.

Requests for grants totaling significantly more than \$1M have been received each year for the last several years. Worthy causes in which our members are actively involved receive priority but it is not possible to fund every request. A grants committee reviews all the requests and recommends to the Board of Councillors which grants it believes should be funded and at what level, based on the funds that are available in the year. The available funds come from a combination of Association and Foundation contributions. The amounts that each of these two sources can provide is equal to the amount that the Association can award as grants in the given year.

The assets of the Foundation grow in two ways: the first is through investment income which is expected to equal or exceed the 5% average which is withdrawn each year. This growth results from conservative, stable investment yields which protect the asset base while providing the opportunity for some modest increase in the value of the assets even after the withdrawals are made to fund the grants. The second source of growth is direct donations to the Foundation. These donations come in the form of cash contributions and in the form of planned gifts such as bequests.

Since 2005, the Foundation has been the beneficiary of donations and bequests totaling \$692K, of which almost \$680K came directly from the estates of four members. These contributions will yield a return that allows grants to be funded for decades to come — a living memorial to the generosity and commitment of those members to the works of the Association. And a way for those members to ensure that the kinds of activities which they supported in their lifetime will continue to be supported after they are gone.

Your continued support of the Foundation through cash contributions and through planned gifts ensures that the causes for which our Association's members are actively engaged will be supported for generations to come. The Order of Malta is over nine hundred years old — the American Association is over eighty years old. Both have withstood the test of time and trial and both will be around for years to come, focused on the charism of the Order, to defend the faith and to assist the sick and the poor. Your contributions of cash in your lifetime and bequests from your estate ensure that funds you so designate will be under the stewardship of the Foundation and will be directed on an annual basis to support your work and the work of your peers and those yet to come who share the vision and the hope of our Order's centuries' old commitment to its Hospitaller works. ☩



## We Are All Hospitallers

By Frances O.C. Hardart

(continued from page 2)

### Do you get the sense of just how important these dedicated people are to the success of the mission of Malta?

The ministries of the association flow through them. They are the ones who must communicate the mission and works of Malta to members and non-members in their area and who report to the Board of Councillors and the Malta office on their activities. They do this by giving selflessly of their time and talent.

At the end of September, at the national membership conference in New Jersey, there was a special workshop planned for the area chairs and area hospitallers preceding the opening of the conference. This meeting started at 8am and lasted until 2pm which meant that those attending had to arrive a day early. It was a workshop with presentations being made concerning many different issues confronting the areas. There were 42 area chairs and area hospitallers present as well as the presenters and the participation was very lively and interesting. There were ideas and problems shared and solutions suggested. The energy and dedication of all present was very apparent.

### Now, why is repeating this so very important?

The success of the work of the area chairs depends completely on our members. That means you. Without your participation everything would come to a standstill. It seems that the busiest people are always raising their hands to do more but there are so many different levels of involvement available and something to fit everyone's time and talent. It could be anything from licking stamps for a mailing or even just showing up for an event. Encourage your confreres to participate and always be on the lookout for new members who are anxious to learn more about our mission. Partner with your area chair and hospitaller and watch things blossom.

The works of the Order for the sick and poor and those that witness to the faith are vitally necessary and beautiful to see and these works are in your hands.

The primary purpose of the Order of Malta is the glory of God achieved through the sanctification of its members. Our interaction with those most in need is the road we take to reach this goal.

### But we have so many people in need right here in our own country, why should we feel a responsibility to care for the world?

The Order of Malta is a worldwide order. There are 12,600 members around the globe. The three US associations are represented at the Grand Chancery meetings in Rome and the presidents of the American, Federal and Western Associations meet regularly with each other and internationally with the European and Latin American Associations. The hospitallers do the same.

The European associations report on their own local work and on their work in Africa, Southeast Asia, Australia, and Singapore. The European Associations have been in existence for a lot longer than we have but still we share and learn from each other. Their work with lepers in Cambodia, with the rape victims in the Congo, with hospitals in Iraq, with the clinics in Lebanon to name just a few, are as true an expression of charity as are their works at home.

In Latin America, the Malta Associations struggle with very difficult political situations, with natural disasters, with challenges to their faith, and with a most incredible number of poor and sick. As we were leaving the VII Conference of the Americas in Mexico City last month, there was a team from Malteser International — the disaster relief arm of the Order of Malta - heading to Tabasco, at the invitation of the Mexican Association, to evaluate the dire needs created by the recent floods which have left hundreds of thousands destitute.

The meetings with other associations bring our worlds together and highlight that the mission of Malta is the same for everyone. Although there are necessary differences in our approach to problems, we are all still on the same path of relieving suffering and protecting the faith.

There are just two projects that are supported by all of the associations of the order. These are the Holy Family Hospital in Bethlehem and Malteser International's worldwide disaster relief.

At the Holy Family Maternity Hospital, 40,000 babies have been delivered since 1991 without a maternal death. The town of Bethlehem is now walled off from the rest of the world and has an 80% unemployment rate; access to the facility is often very difficult and yet women from the poorest settlements still flock to its doors.

It should be considered a very strong element of the peace process in the Middle East when you think of the thousands of Muslim women who have willingly put themselves and their babies in the caring hands of Christian nurses and doctors and received the finest care in the world. They return to the clinics for pre and post natal care for themselves and their babies and those who cannot return are serviced by the outreach van. You can be very proud to be part of such a beautiful undertaking. There is a plaque on the wall at Holy Family Hospital that says "for the poor — the best" and that says it all for the Malta mission.

The Order of Malta disaster relief — Malteser International — is the second worldwide project of the order. This is the arm of the Order that moves experts quickly to the site of a natural disaster. I'm sure you remember the tsunami, the earthquakes in Turkey and Peru, Katrina and many, many others. Their modus is different from other relief efforts because they work with the local people and the local economy and they stay until the area is able to function on its own. Their success rate in restoring stability to an area stricken by disaster is excellent and it is far less costly than other efforts because of its reliance on the local people and economic structure. You will be receiving more information about these works as time goes along. Please take the time to read about the work and appreciate just how fortunate we are to be part of this wonderful mission.

The Good Samaritan was a foreigner, the inn keeper was a local, the robbers' victim, that neither knew, was very much in need of care and so, although strangers to each other, they pooled their efforts to help. This is what we do as members of Malta.

Joyous Christmas blessings to you all and thank you for all you do for those in need. ❄️

## 2007 Deceased Members

Mr. William E. Aubuchon Jr.	Fitchburg, MA
Mr. Philip F. Cacciatore	Weston, MA
Honorable Richard C. Casey	New York, NY
Mr. Edward G. Dunn	Brooklyn, NY
Dr. Anthony A. Formato	New York, NY
Mr. Rene E. Gendreau	Nashua, NH
Mr. John T. Gilbride	Stamford, CT
Mr. William R. Grant	New York, NY
Mr. Edward T. Hanley Sr.	Mashpee, MA
Mr. Robert E. Helms Jr.	Dallas, TX
Mrs. Jean Elizabeth Hickey	New York, NY
Mr. Gerald Anthony Kamm	South Bend, IN
Mr. Bowie K. Kuhn	Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
Mrs. Margaret Millus Maroldy	New Rochelle, NY
Mr. Edward J. McCabe Jr.	New Rochelle, NY
Mr. Rodger Muckerman Miller	Cincinnati, OH
Mrs. Joan D. Murray	Morristown, NJ
Mr. Leavitt J. Pope	Scarsdale, NY
Mr. Omar Albert Sutherland	Woonsocket, RI
Mr. John G. Swanhaus Jr.	New Canaan, CT
Mr. Robert P. Whelan	Brooklyn, NY
Mrs. Patricia A. Wiesen	Greenwich, CT
Mr. William Peter Wunderlich	Chesterfield, MO

Memorial Masses are said for deceased members at the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral of Saint Patrick in New York City by Monsignor James P. Cassidy, Conventual Chaplain ad honorem of the American Association.

## Consolidated Financials

Dear Confreres:

Inserted in this issue of the newsletter, please find a copy of the Consolidated Balance Sheet and the Consolidated Statement of Activities for the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, American Association, U.S.A. and the Malta Human Services Foundation for the year ended December 31, 2006.

A complete copy of these audited statements is available on our website under the Members Only section.

Very truly yours,

Joseph M. Cianciolo, Treasurer

## Guidelines for the Sale of Malta Merchandise

Guidelines have been developed and distributed to Area Chairs regarding the sale of Malta merchandise including the sale of merchandise in Lourdes. See your Area Chair for information. A copy of the guidelines is also posted on the web site in the News and Events section.. Please become familiar with them if you are involved in any way in the sale of merchandise at Malta functions.

## Search Continues for Director of Development

The Malta Human Services Foundation is conducting a search to hire a Director of Development to lead an effort to grow the Foundation's resources. The Foundation exists to support the Grants Program of the American Association. If you or someone you know might be a good candidate for the position, please contact Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Trexler at the New York office at (212)371-1522 or jtrexler@maltausa.org.

## Retrospective of the American Association's 2007 Membership Conference

By Jeanette and Robert Fredericks, Conference Co-chairs

The seventh biennial National Conference of the American Association of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta was hosted by the New Jersey Area over the weekend of September 28-30, 2007. One hundred seventy-five members and guests attended this event, held at Seton Hall University, South Orange, New Jersey. Archbishop Celestino Migliore, Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, was both celebrant and homilist at the Mass of welcome, held at the majestic Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart, Newark. The Bishops of New Jersey and our Malta chaplains concelbrated the Mass.

The conference theme was "Celebrating Life!" The program was designed around several phases of life, its joys and disappointments, from conception to natural death. Four nationally recognized speakers addressed these challenges as both moral and social issues.

Edeltraude (Traude) Knopf Barbiero, President of New Jersey Right to Life, opened the program on Friday evening at the Baltusrol Golf Club with a speech entitled "The Miracle of Life: God's Masterpiece or Man's Master Plan?" Mrs. Barbiero discussed the right of all to a full life cycle and emphasized that many of the social problems we face are the direct result of human manipulation and/or interruption of this God-given entitlement. (Update: In the November 2007 elections, Mrs. Barbiero and her NJRTL organization were highly instrumental in the surprise defeat of a strong effort to create in New Jersey a scientific institute for stem cell research, including embryonic stem cells.)

On Saturday, after the official welcome to the conference by Daniel Kelly, K.M., President of the American Association, Monsignor Stewart Swetland addressed the nagging question of "Our Children and Their Leap from Faith", in which he assured parents that the raising of tomorrow's saints is never easy. (Update: In answer to many requests, Msgr. Swetland's power point graphics are available from the New Jersey Area. Contact Jeanette Fredericks at meadowlark070784@cs.com).

Deacon William Toth presented "What God Has Joined Together... Reflections of John Paul II on the Sanctity of Marriage". Catholic divorce rates have attained the dubious distinction of equaling the national divorce rate. What has one of our most renowned popes to write about this great sacrament? Deacon Toth detailed the answer using John Paul II's series of teachings entitled "Theology of the Body" as his textbook.

Gary E. Fields, National Criminal Justice Reporter for the Wall Street Journal, presented "Comments on the National Prison System", in which he recapped his experience in interviewing prisoners and wardens throughout the U.S. and made some suggestions as to how the Order of Malta might expand its prison ministry.

The New Jersey Area presented a specially commissioned DVD, detailing a number of the works and ministries being performed in New Jersey. (Update: in the near future, copies of this DVD will be available upon request.)

Introduced by American Association Chancellor Joseph Miller, Albrecht von Boeselager, K.H.D.Ob., spoke on "The Order's Obligation for Relief in Poor Countries" during which he updated the membership on Malta's world-wide outreach to the sick and impoverished.

Councilman James O'Connor, K.M.Ob., updated the membership on Malteser International in the Western Hemisphere.

President Dan Kelly presented a review and two videos relating to his visit to Haiti, and, after the Saturday night dinner at Canoe Brook Country Club, presented an award to Doug Perlitz in recognition of his work and dedication to Malta's Pierre Toussaint School for Boys in Haiti.

Mass on Saturday was celebrated by New Jersey's Conventual Chaplain, Bishop Frank Rodimer, at the Immaculate Conception Seminary Chapel on the Seton Hall campus and concelebrated by the Magistral Chaplain, Msgr. Patrick E. Brown. Other American Association chaplains and two of the three New Jersey Area deacons, Joseph Persinger and Dr. Frank McQuade, also participated in the mass.

The "Celebrating Life!" program concluded after Saturday's dinner with the Gregory Floyd family presenting a musical story of their victory over the loss of one of the Floyd sons in an automobile accident.

On Sunday, Mass was celebrated by Arthur J. Serratelli, Bishop of Paterson, and concelebrated by Bishop Rodimer. Also on the altar as the deacon of the Mass was Dr. Jeffrey Trexler, Executive Director of the American Association. Mass was celebrated at the beautiful Holy Family Chapel on the campus of the College of St. Elizabeth in Morristown. Founded in 1899, the College of St. Elizabeth is one of the oldest all-female colleges in the country.

The New Jersey Area was honored to host the 2007 National Conference in order to provide a lovely series of settings in a relaxed environment to pray and study, enjoy each other's company, and celebrate life together. ✠

### Prayer of the Order

*Lord Jesus, Thou hast seen fit to enlist me for Thy service among the Knights and Dames of Saint John of Jerusalem.*

*I humbly entreat Thee through the intercession of the Most Holy Virgin of Philermo, of Saint John the Baptist, Blessed Gerard and all the saints and blessed of our Order, to keep me faithful to the tradition of our Order.*

*Be it mine to practice and defend the Catholic, the Apostolic, and the Roman Faith against the enemies of religion; be it mine to practice charity towards my neighbors, especially the poor and sick.*

*Give me the strength I need to carry out this my resolve, forgetful of myself, learning ever from the Holy Gospel a spirit of deep and generous Christian devotion, striving ever to promote God's glory, the world's peace, and all that may benefit the Order of Saint John of Jerusalem. Amen.*

### The Beatitudes

*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

*Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.*

*Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.*

*Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.*

*Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.*

*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

*Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Matthew 5: 3-10

### The Cardinal Virtues

**Prudence** — act rightly in any given situation.

**Justice** — give to each what is due to him, beginning with God.

**Fortitude** — endure difficulties and pain for the sake of what is good.

**Temperance** — be moderate in the pleasure and use of created good.

### 2008 Meetings/Events

Board of Councillors, January 10th, New York City

Lourdes Pilgrimage, April 30th – May 6th

Board of Councillors, May 22nd

Board of Councillors, September 4th, New York City

Malta, Rhodes, Rome Pilgrimage, September 15th – September 26th

Board of Councillors, November 13th, New York City

Investiture and Annual Dinner, November 14th, New York City

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