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HOSPITALTERS

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2010



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Earthquake Devastates Haiti *Relief and Recovery Continue*

In January, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere was devastated by an enormous earthquake. The world looked on in horror and sadness at the destruction that was brought to the nightly news. And the world was motivated to act. But the destruction of Haiti's infrastructure prevented relief and rescue teams from even landing at the airport as planes backed up on the tarmac and incoming flights were diverted. Rescue teams went to the Dominican Republic and traveled by land or sea to reach the desperate people. Teams with dogs and equipment searched the rubble in the hopes of finding survivors.

The Association sent out an appeal letter to our Knights and Dames. You may recall the letter to which so many of you responded so generously.

"We send you an urgent plea for help. The people of Haiti are suffering from the devastating effects of the earthquake that hit Haiti on Tuesday, January 12th, creating havoc, death and injury to millions of Haitians."

To date, over six hundred thousand dollars have been collected and over two hundred thousand more dollars have been pledged. In addition to your generosity, please continue your prayers for the people of Haiti and the teams helping them. Both financial resources and prayers will be needed for years to come. Estimates are that billions of dollars will be needed to rebuild Haiti.

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www.
maltausa.
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Web-only articles:

Click on "News & Events." Click on "Association Newsletters." Click on the "Web Only Articles" under the Spring 2010 issue of Hospitalters to link to the Malta Minutes where you can hear the actual content of the radio spots described in the article in this issue. You can also find an article, reprinted with permission from the Associated Press, on the care of children at Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center.



The American Association continues to be alive with activity. The earthquake in Haiti, so devastating in its consequences, opened the hearts of the world to join us in serving the sick and the poor. The problem is that the response of the world is often a quick shot of adrenaline which helps, no doubt, but the long-term prospects are dim for the country unless there is a coordinated effort to help them rebuild the infrastructure. Billions of dollars in aid have already been offered and have helped to bring hope to those hardest hit. But as you are reading this, the rainy season is upon the country and the risks of disease increase with the contamination of the water supply. We must continue to support the people of Haiti.

Elsewhere in this issue of the Hospitaller, you will find two articles on Haiti — one is about the response from the Order of Malta and major organizations the Association and its members support. The other is the second part of a three part series that began in the Winter issue, before the earthquake struck. Both serve to demonstrate that our Association and the Order of Malta are and have been committed to Haiti for decades and will continue to provide immediate assistance while developing and implementing long term plans for rebuilding.

Malteser International, the immediate disaster response arm of the Order, differs from some relief and rescue organizations in that its focus always is two-fold — to provide immediate relief in disaster and help to rebuild from within. The Haitian Health Foundation, Hope for Haiti and Hôpital Sacré Coeur join with Malteser International in committing the resources and the expertise, coupled with the commitment, to make a difference in the long term for Haiti. Peter Kelly, JoAnne Kuehner, Jerry Lowney, Jim O'Connor and Geoff Gamble, as well as many of you, have all been working tirelessly. The efforts of those on the ground in Haiti, those working in the background to support the ground team in Haiti, and those who have offered prayers and donations have made a real difference in Haiti. And your response to our appeal for help has been amazing — as of March 12th, you have contributed over \$670,000 in cash donations and pledges of over \$200,000 have been received, as well.

Other organizations connected with Knights and Dames have also become involved. There is an article in this newsletter about what the clients at Saint Patrick Center in St. Louis did to raise \$57,000 in less than two months to support the work of Crudem in Haiti. It is only one example of the many works and sacrifices that have been made by so many.

In each issue of the Newsletter, we plan to feature an Area of the Association. In this issue, please find an article on the New York City Area. Also, see the article on the reception hosted in New York for the Capital Campaign. As the Grants Committee will be meeting in a few weeks, it is a good time to focus on the importance of the Capital Campaign — its purpose is to raise money that will generate income to support the Grants Program of the American Association. It is likely, according to Peter Krause, chairman of the Grants Committee, that we will have requests for grants that exceed four dollars for every one dollar we have available for Grants. Please be generous to the Capital Campaign. I ask you to support the receptions that are being held in your Area. Your response will be appreciated when you get a call or a letter to participate in a reception or to make a contribution to the Capital Campaign.

BOARD OF COUNCILLORS MEETING

In February, the Board of Councillors met in New York City. With five new members of the Board and four members who were just re-elected, there was a great deal of energy and enthusiasm for the work of the Association. Committees are meeting and action plans are in place for the year. The fruits of the work of the Education and Defense of the Faith Committee have come alive as the first four episodes of "Living Your Faith" have been sent to diocese around the country. An article about this program and another about Malta Minutes radio spots are in this issue. Paul and Sherri Durnan and Peter Muratore have done a great job in bringing these projects to reality.

The Board has agreed to hold its May meeting in Cincinnati. Declan O'Sullivan is coordinating the logistics. It should be a great meeting. Over the last several years, the Board had met in Dallas, Philadelphia and Minneapolis-Saint Paul. These travelling meetings give Board members the opportunity to share ideas as well as to meet with their confreres throughout the country.

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Lourdes Pilgrimage 2010: *Renewing our Vocations*

by Gail T. Berardino, DM, and Joseph F. Berardino, KM

(continued on page 4)



A street in Lourdes

“Will you let me be your servant/Let me be as Christ to you/Pray that I may have the grace to/Let you be my servant too”
The “Servant Song” perfectly summarizes our vocations as members of the Order.

Our signature event, the twenty-fifth annual Lourdes pilgrimage of the American Association will depart on a chartered airplane with 325 pilgrims from Newark International Airport on April 28th and return on May 4th. Joining us from Boston and New York on commercial flights will be more than fifty additional pilgrims who will be on the ground in France at about the same time as the charter lands. This Anniversary Pilgrimage of the Association will join us globally with thousands of members of the Order, malades, caregivers, volunteers and medical teams in prayer and supplication in front of the Grotto where Mary enjoined the faithful to come in procession and drink and wash in the waters.

As we pray at the Grotto, along with our Malades and their caregivers, we will be reminded of our theme, “Renewing our Vocations”. The Lourdes Pilgrimage gives us the opportunity to live in a concrete way the vocation we have chosen as members of the Order. In our prayers in the holy place where Mary came to a poor young girl and left her message to the world, we will renew our commitment to the words of our Daily Prayer of the Order, “to practice charity towards my neighbors, especially the poor and the sick.”

The “Servant Song” continues... “We are pilgrims on a journey/ We are travelers on a road/ We are here to help each other/ Walk the mile and bear the load.”



As the preparations continue, we are happy to report that we have invited more than fifty malades along with their caregivers to accompany us to travel to Lourdes. Many more sick people were proposed; some were too sick to come; and our numbers are always limited. All those proposed and many others will be included in our Malades in Spirit program where pilgrims will remember them in a special way. This important program allows us to carry in our hearts and in our prayers the intentions of so many more of the sick than we could physically bring with us.

The financial impact of this million dollar pilgrimage includes over \$350,000 in costs for Malades and Caregivers. Many of you have made sacrificial contributions toward the cost of the pilgrimage, even in light of your contributions to the Haiti Relief Fund and other demands on your generosity. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by all of the Lourdes planning team, and especially by the Malades for whom this pilgrimage most likely will be a life-changing experience. If you still would like to contribute to the costs of bringing the Malades to Lourdes this year, your contributions would be most gratefully appreciated.

In this Anniversary Year, it is with great joy that we will be accompanied on our Pilgrimage by many of the past chairs of the Pilgrimage; we will have at least twenty of the forty-four past chairs accompanying us on this special pilgrimage. So many lives have been changed by the work of these past chairs and the pilgrimages on which they led thousands of Malades, Caregivers, Knights, Dames, Auxiliary, Clergy, Doctors, Nurses and Volunteers to the Domain. We are all grateful for their past leadership.

In celebration of this 25th anniversary we are asking each of the chairs of past pilgrimages to contribute their memories of the early trips to Lourdes. Do you have photos of our intrepid early leaders in 1986... Ann Peabody, Cissie Ix and Aggie Kiernan? Please send copies of photos and any oral or written contributions to Gail Berardino c/o Carla Gunerard at the American Association's offices at 1011 First Avenue, Suite 1350, New York, NY 10022. If you have questions, call Meg Lyons at 203.869.7267.

It is not a revelation to any of you but it is always amazing, especially from the vantage point of being chairs, that so much work is done by so many to make the pilgrimage a reality. The planning for our pilgrimage this year started before last year's pilgrimage was over. So many volunteers and a dedicated New York office team work diligently for so many hours over many months to lead to liftoff in just a few weeks. We look forward to seeing many of you in Lourdes. We ask those of you who are not coming on this year's pilgrimage to keep us in your prayers, for the safety of all those who travel and for the success of the journey.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Pray for us.



Living Your Faith: Television Series Brings the Catechism to Life

Our mission as Knights and Dames of the Order of Malta is, above all, to defend the Catholic faith. As members of the single largest faith in the United States, Catholics have a tremendous opportunity — and a significant responsibility — to evangelize the world by first evangelizing ourselves. The Order of Malta is making use of modern communication technologies to introduce a powerful, informative new program that will help fulfill this mission for the Catholic Church.

“Living Your Faith,” a new television series produced by the Education and Defense of the Faith Committee of the American Association, will bring the Catechism to life and help make it relevant to the everyday lives of millions of Catholics — in America and around the world. Designed as a stimulating TV panel discussion program, the series is centered on building awareness among Catholics about living out the Catechism of the Catholic Church in order to bring a higher level of understanding of the teachings and precepts of the Church to the lives of the faithful.

The program features a panel of theologians from the Catholic University’s School of Moral Theology and Religious Studies, including Very Reverend David M. O’Connell, President of Catholic University. It is hosted by nine-time Emmy award winner Jane Hanson, well known for her work as the lead anchor of “Today in New York.” Programming content explores the challenges and blessings of The Compendium to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and covers key doctrinal themes of the Catechism in the light of four of the literally hundreds of charitable missions of the Order of Malta worldwide. The series demonstrates for viewers how the Dames and Knights of Malta sacramentally live out the tenets and principles of the Catholic faith in their everyday

lives, as well as show various Malta ministries serving the sick and the poor and defending the faith.

The series was two years in the making, and the end product reflects the high quality and care that went into the production of the episodes. All programs were taped in the state-of-the-art Telecare Studios located in Rockville Centre, New York under the guidance and direction of the Education and Defense of The Faith Committee and in particular the leadership of co-producers Paul H. Durnan, KM and Sherry L. Durnan, DM. As a way to boost awareness of the series among the public at large, the services of Syndicate Pictures, a New York/Philadelphia area marketing

firm, with a specialization in communications outreach for Catholic institutions and organizations have been employed.

Production is now complete on 4 of 8 episodes of the series, and the American Association has begun distributing the first four episodes of the series, sending DVD packages to each Diocesan Ordinary to distribute to local TV outlets. It has also been distributed to Catholic Television Syndicators nationally. The series is available

for Broadcast TV purposes and a limited number of DVD sets are available free of charge.



The series “Living Your Faith” has received ringing endorsements from prominent Church leaders. “The DVD series is designed to not only make Catholics more aware of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, but also to make the teachings of the Catechism more credible,” said Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan, Archdiocese of New York. “It is my hope ... that this DVD series will be an effective aid in helping our Catholic people better understand and appreciate the beauty of the Catechism.”

For questions or more information, please visit www.LivingYourFaith.com.

Lourdes Pilgrimage Flight Arrangements

Many of those traveling on the charter will need to make flight arrangements to arrive at Newark International Airport on Wednesday, April 28th and return flights on Tuesday, May 4th.

Please book your flight into Newark International Airport on Wednesday, April 28th to arrive by 2PM Eastern Time.

Your return flight on Tuesday, May 4th leaving out of Newark International Airport should be booked no earlier than 4:30 PM Eastern Time.

We encourage you to make these arrangements with our travel agency, Corporate Travel Service, in case alternate flight arrangements become necessary due to flight delays. Corporate Travel will be able to assist you more efficiently if your arrangements are made through their office.

Sue and Bob Bosak from Corporate Travel will travel on the charter with us to and from Lourdes and will be available, should alternate flight arrangement be necessary for you to book at any time.

You may contact Corporate Travel Service at 1-800-727-1999 or 1-313-565-8888 and ask for Kim at extension 293 or Julie at extension 299.

Regardless of how you plan to get to Newark airport, if you are traveling on the Charter flight, please send Carla an e-mail Carla@maltausa.org with details on how you plan to arrive at Newark (bus, car, rail, or flight details), where you are coming from and approximately what time you expect to arrive by April 1.

Earthquake Devastates Haiti

Relief and Recovery Continue

(continued from cover)

Malteser International, the disaster response team of the Order of Malta sent a medical team to Haiti within days of the earthquake. They have also sent water purification systems, so critical following the earthquake which destroyed much of the infrastructure in the most populated areas of the country. Without clean water, the after-effects of the earthquake would be even more devastating. Malteser International also will continue to work with local resources to build a plan for long term rehabilitation of the infrastructure.

Hôpital Sacré Coeur quickly became a center for the treatment of the most critically injured survivors. A sixty-four bed hospital doubled its capacity, doubled it again, and doubled it again as critical patients were airlifted by the US Navy from the earthquake center to the Hospital for treatment. At its peak, over five hundred beds were occupied. Critical care, surgery and medication continue to be administered as patients are moved to post-critical care beds to make room for those needing immediate critical care. The increased demands for the services of the hospital will continue for the foreseeable future. Long-term plans to permanently increase the hospital's capacity are already being developed.

Hope for Haiti has flown seven cargo planes loaded with supplies and medical aid; in addition, ten private plane flights have arrived with medical teams and additional life-saving supplies. Well over 600,000 meals have been provided; in most cases, no other source of food would have been available. Displaced Haitians have set up tent cities, some of which have been at risk because of flooding. Hope for Haiti teams have been providing supplies and relief to thousands of these displaced people. Much more has been done; much more work needs to be done.

The Haitian Health Foundation has been meeting the continuous flow of refugees into Jeremie with open arms and supplies that address the immediate needs of these people. In the meantime, they continue to serve their original constituents, many of whom are suffering because of interruptions in supplies from the capital. Water and food are critical to life; the Haitian Health Foundation is working tirelessly to provide both to tens of thousands of persons affected directly or indirectly by the earthquake.

For the latest information that has been reported, visit the Association's website: www.maltausa.org. You can also visit the websites of the Order of Malta, Worldwide Relief, Malteser International-Americas at www.maltarelief.org; the Haitian Health Foundation website is at www.haitianhealthfoundation.org; Hope for Haiti's website is at www.hopeforhaiti.com; Hôpital Sacré Coeur is at www.crudem.org.



Malta Human Services Foundation Capital Campaign Gets a Boost

On January 25th, many members of the New York City Area and invited guests gathered at the home of Christopher Hyland, a Knight invested in November, 2009. Cardinal Edward Egan and Archbishop Timothy Dolan were able to attend and spoke of the works of the Order.

Also in attendance were Honorary Capital Campaign Co-Chairpersons Mary Higgins Clark and John Castle along with Joseph Miller, President of the American Association, and New York City Area Chairs Rory and Camille Kelleher. Approximately fifty Dames and Knights came to the reception. Invitations were mailed to approximately 150 Area members; a small Event Committee encouraged attendance.

To date, \$1,069,000 has been committed as a result of the reception, making it the most successful fundraising event to date in support of the Capital Campaign. Most commitments have been made in

the form of pledges to be paid over a period of three to five years. Again, a small committee, headed by Peter Krause, former Area Chair and member of the Malta Human Services Foundation and Board of Councillors, included Marissa Blackett, a Dame of Malta who was invested in November, 2009, Rory and Camille Kelleher, and Michael McMorrow, Director of Development, followed up with letters, phone calls and personal visits. At press time, contacts were continuing so that the final total could be considerably higher.

Other areas are planning future events including a reception in New Jersey at the home of Mary Higgins Clark. Receptions are also being planned in Connecticut, Westchester County (New York), in Boston and in Florida.

Michael J. McMorrow, Director of Development, in commenting on the success of the New York City reception and the overall progress of the Capital Campaign said, "Thanks to enhanced involvement by the members of the Malta Human Services Foundation Board and the Area Chairpersons, there is a new level of energy in the Capital Campaign as we begin the third year. New resources and heightened Campaign activity have positioned the American Association to broaden its base of support and carry the fundraising effort to expanded levels of success."

"This success is due to a number of factors — all of which come down to a recognition of the proper sequential nature of our fundraising strategy, i.e. approaching leadership prospects first and then broadening the base of support. With each year, as more people see the impact that participation of each member has in every aspect of our grant-making capacity, the culture of giving expands," he said.

When you are invited to a reception, it is hoped you will attend. If you would like to help, contact your area chair. If you have questions or comments, please contact Michael McMorrow at 212-371-1000, extension 2683 or MMcMorrow@maltausa.org.



Top Row: John Castle, Cardinal Egan, Rory Kelleher, Camille Kelleher, Joseph Miller, John Cafaro, Christopher Hyland, Archbishop Dolan. Seated: Mary Higgins Clark, Janet Cafaro.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

(continued from page 2)

The Berardinos gave the Board an update on the Lourdes Pilgrimage. At this point, the pilgrimage looks like it could be one of the largest pilgrimages in recent years. For those of you who are going on the Pilgrimage, I look forward to seeing you. For those of you who won't be with us, keep the Malades, the pilgrims, the support teams all in your prayers. And pray especially for the Malades in Spirit, those sick people who will not be able to travel with us to Lourdes. We are planning to take over fifty Malades on this special journey — our twenty-fifth as an Association.

Jack Sise, Treasurer of the Malta Human Services Foundation and a member of the Board of Councillors, gave an update on the Foundation. We also had a report from Michael McMorrow, Director of Development for the Foundation on the progress of the Capital Campaign. Almost \$3,000,000 in commitments have already been received toward our ten million dollar goal.

In March, Mary McCooey represented the Association at a meeting of Hospitallers from around the world. Jim O'Connor attended the Malteser International meeting. Both meetings were in Vienna. Later in March, Jack Pohrer, Mary McCooey, Jim O'Connor and I joined the other North American Associations in Detroit to meet with the Government Council, which has been charged by the Grand Master with further opening lines of communication between the Grand Magistracy and the National Associations.

God bless you for all you do for the sick and the poor and to defend our faith.

Joseph H. Miller
Joseph H. Miller, KM



Hope for Haiti: When You Care Enough, You Do Your Very Best

(Second of a three part series on major works in Haiti)

The recent earthquake in Haiti highlighted the great need the people of Haiti had for help, even before the devastation of the quake. It also brought to the forefront the important work done by Knights and Dames of the Order of Malta in ministries that have been serving that population for many years. Amid the poverty and sometimes hopelessness, there are beacons of hope, lights that shine with a stream of generosity. Some of that light comes from the work of

members of the Order of Malta. Members of the American Association are deeply involved in on-going aid to these beautiful people, many of whom have nowhere else to turn. Members of the American Association are giving of their time and their treasure to help and have been particularly generous following the January 2010 earthquake.

This is the second of a three part series on three major works supported by members of the Order of Malta that help to make a difference in Haiti.

When a group of eye witnesses are asked to describe what they have seen, every observer has a different story based on their perspective and on their background. When people see the poverty of the Haitian people, many see a chance to make a contribution to help in a desperate situation. Not many will see the same desperate situation as an opportunity. And almost no one will consider mortgaging their home and

using the proceeds to change the world for the children there.

That is how Hope for Haiti got its start. JoAnne Kuehner saw a desperate world and has tried to change it. And in doing so, she changed her own life forever and the lives of so many Haitians. Hope for Haiti has as its mission to improve the quality of life for the Haitian people, particularly children, through programs of education, nutrition and healthcare.

And this commitment is not something that has come and will go as a sudden whim. This is the 20th year that Hope for Haiti has been serving the poor and the sick of Haiti, supporting a variety of programs including 37 schools (four of which were built by Hope for Haiti), three nutrition programs which nurse extremely malnourished children back to health. They support 2 nursing homes, a clinic which employs 1 Haitian doctor, a nurse and a lab technician who see about 200 patients a week. And Hope for Haiti takes 8 to 10 medical mission groups a year to the areas in which Hope for Haiti works; these teams see an average of 200 patients a day, often in places where no other medical care is available.

This remarkable organization distributes medications to 60 different outlets and estimates that they are reaching more than 500,000 people a year, not including the Vitamin A and de-worming medication program that was recently started to administer to children under the age of five.

Recently, the Hope for Haiti team added another project to their broad set of programs, implementing an Emergency Disaster Relief program to supply survivors of catastrophes with essential fortified dry meals, water purification tablets, blankets, personal sanitation kits, candles, and matches. Thanks to their longstanding contacts with local community leaders, buckets filled with supplies will be easily accessible to a wide geographic area when the next storm arrives. The buckets became part of the first wave of support that the organization was able to deliver after the recent earthquake.



Hope for Haiti reaches out to take several donor groups each year who stay at the Hope for Haiti House in Les Cayes and have a hands on experience feeding babies, giving arm and leg massages to those in nursing homes, filling buckets for the emergency relief program or doing whatever needs to be done at the time of their visit.

One of the most critical needs in the impoverished rural areas of Haiti is access to clean water. The links between contaminated drinking water and illnesses finds its realization in the clinics and homes of the weakest, often the children who suffer most from its effects. Several years ago the staff at Hope for Haiti resolved to do something about the lack of clean drinking water. And when they resolve to tackle a problem, you can bet that something good will come out of that resolve.

After researching solar powered UV water purification systems that could be installed in rural or urban areas to provide 500 gallons of clean drinking water daily, Hope for Haiti launched its Clean Water Initiative in March of 2007. The first system was successfully installed in July 2007; they established a goal of installing 14 systems in partner program locations (orphanages, schools, and clinics) in order to provide 7,000 gallons of purified drinking water a day and over 2.5

million gallons a year to Haitian men, women, and children who otherwise would lack clean water to drink.

Earthquake Update: Hope for Haiti has been heavily involved in the rescue, relief and restoration work following the devastating earthquake that hit Haiti on Tuesday, January 12, 2010. It is estimated that approximately 300,000 people were killed in the earthquake and many more were injured. Because of the nature of the injuries and the lack of critical medical care, many more Haitians will

continue to be at risk in the aftermath of the quake. In addition, malnutrition and lack of clean water will continue to plague the population. The Haitian community will continue to fight disease, often without the proper medicines or medical supplies. Hope for Haiti will continue to be there, fighting the good fight for the people of Haiti.

For more information, you can visit the Hope for Haiti web site at www.hopeforhaiti.com or contact JoAnne Kuehner, DM, at JoAnne@hopeforhaiti.com.



JoAnne Kuehner, DM,
works with the children
of Haiti.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 28 – May 4

25th Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Members of the Order of Malta from around the world join together in pilgrimage.

May 12

Malta Human Services Foundation Board meets in New York City.

May 20

Board of Councillors meets in Cincinnati.

June 24

Feast of Saint John the Baptist. Members of the Order around the world will attend Masses to celebrate the feast of the Patron of the Order of Malta.

September 8

Feast of Our Lady of Philermo. Masses in honor of the Patroness of the Order will be celebrated around the world.

November 11

Board of Councillors meets and New Member Orientation is scheduled in New York City.

November 12

Solemn Mass of Investiture, Annual Meeting, Annual Dinner in New York City.

November 13

Mass and Hospitaller Presentation



Camille and Rory Kelleher, New York City Area Co-Chairs.

What's in an Area?

Focus on New York City

When Camille and Rory Kelleher said they would be willing to become co-chairs of the New York City Area, they knew it was not going to be easy. Peter Krause, a very active Area Chair, had left things in good shape when his term expired and he promised his continued support. The New York City Area Leadership team was fully engaged and ready to continue the work they had started and ready to move on. So, an effective organization was in place and the Area had a good number of active Knights, Dames and Auxiliary to keep the works, ministries and activities of the Area going strong.

What Peter Krause may not have mentioned to the Kellehers but they knew in their hearts and quickly found out on their calendars was the amount of work connected with the role of Area Chair. There is a complex set of circumstances in the New York City Area that would require careful attention and continued support of a great team.

New York City is a complex area because of a number of factors: there are two dioceses within its boundaries, the New York Archdiocese which includes the boroughs of Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island and the Brooklyn Diocese which covers Brooklyn and Queens. The Headquarters for the American Association is also in New York City, which sometimes leads to overlapping responsibilities. The Principal Chaplain of the Association is also the Archbishop of New York. The Order of Malta has its Ambassador to the UN in New York City and now, the city is also home to one of the members of the Sovereign Council.

Even ignoring the organizational complexities, New York City has hundreds of parishes, millions of Catholics

and a diverse set of problems which Knights and Dames can volunteer to address. There is an active group of Knights and Dames and an active group of Auxiliary who give their time and their hearts to their volunteer efforts.

The Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center is a focal point for a variety of activities. The list of activities ranges from visiting with patients, to volunteers singing with the children, transporting residents to Mass, and helping to feed patients, many of whom have debilitating problems that will keep them as residents at the hospital for the remainder of their lives.

Abraham House in the Bronx presents an opportunity for those interested in Prison Ministry to work with a project that is one of the oldest prison ministry projects in the Association. Deacon John Powers leads a group who tutor and mentor the children of incarcerated prisoners. Pro-life efforts are under the guidance of Gregory Oussani. A newer initiative is the Kateri Residence on Manhattan's Westside. It is a 520-bed skilled nursing and sub-acute rehabilitation facility which offers a variety of volunteer opportunities similar to those offered at the Terence Cardinal Cooke Center. George Irish has recently taken over as coordinator for the Order's volunteers there.

Eucharistic Ministry, which is in some ways at the heart of spiritual assistance to the sick and the poor, is a very active ministry in New York City with volunteers going to Hospitals and residences to bring Christ in the Eucharist to many who can not get out to church. There are also food pantry and soup kitchen opportunities.

An important resource for members and a recruiting tool for potential members is the "Volunteer Service Opportunities Manual" which the Area has developed. The Area also has been in the forefront in building and updating the content of its web section of the American Association's web site. Volunteer opportunities are described there in the Works and Ministries section. You can find their web information and that of other areas as well at www.maltausa.org and click the Area Web Sites tab on the left navigation bar and make your selection.

In the area, there are over one hundred fifty Knights and Dames and more than twenty Auxiliary members. The Area is served by more than ten chaplains, with efforts being made to have a chaplain in each of the five boroughs. The chaplains actively support the numerous spiritual activities of the Area: a monthly First Monday Mass in St. Patrick's Lady Chapel; Masses on the feast days of Our Lady of Lourdes, St. John the Baptist, and Our Lady of Philermo; and Advent and Lenten days of recollection. The Kellehers know that the number of members is large but they also know that the numbers can be deceiving. With only about a third of the NYC members actively involved in the Order's activities, a new ministry has been formed to try to re-engage the inactive members, by calling them, offering transportation to area events, and keeping them in the communications loop about the Area's and the Association's calendar. Mrs. Kelleher indicates *(continued on back page)*



Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center Children's Wing

Making A Difference — One Hug, One Song at a Time

When the Grand Master visited the Children's wing of the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center (TCCHCC) last fall, he commented that the Center gave care to children that would not exist in many places — because the parents would have terminated the pregnancy. In providing care for children whose medical conditions make them ineligible for care at many institutions, TCCHCC is unique. In keeping with the focus of its namesake, Cardinal Cooke, the emphasis is on the sacredness of human life.

The Grand Master's observation that the TCCHCC provides care that might not be available in many other places is not lost on the Knights, Dames and Auxiliary who share their time and their love with children who need a friend. In some cases, even their families have abandoned these children because it is so difficult for them to deal with the challenges of their child's situation.

"When a child is born with severe disabilities or complex medical problems, parents often face one of the most difficult decisions of their lives — choosing to care for their child at home or placing their child in a program equipped to handle their many needs. In some instances, there is no choice — the child's physical and emotional needs can only be met through placement in a specialized facility.

Since 1978, Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center's Specialty Hospital has provided comprehensive medical treatment and skilled nursing care to infants, children, and young adults who are diagnosed with developmental disabilities and

demanding medical conditions. Often, these children are ineligible for both acute care and conventional disability programs.

A Warm and Caring Environment — Patients in the Specialty Hospital become part of the facility's extended family of health professionals and caregivers. They receive developmental programming in the Hospitals classrooms and participate in daily recreational activities. Parties are regularly held for birthdays, holidays and special occasions.

Bedrooms are cheerfully decorated and mementos and photographs contribute to a personal, home-like atmosphere. At mealtimes, the children, when able, join together in the dining room, and throughout the day, each patient is showered with kind words, affection and a calming touch." (from the TCCHCC website)

The Auxiliary and friends create moments of joy with fun-filled sing-alongs for the children at the Center's Specialty Hospital. As part of a program initiated a number of years ago by Maggie Ludwiczak, DM, when she was a member of the Auxiliary, songs of the season now echo through the halls of the Center on the first Saturday each month from September to June. It would not be unusual to hear strains of Wheels on the Bus or the Brady Bunch theme...these volunteers act silly, smile, play and clap with the kids and try their best to make the human connection as with other boys and girls. The Auxiliary also hosts a colorful and energetic Circus Party for the children at the beginning of the summer. Voices blend with voices in angelic music — at least, to the children, the music is a treat that might as well be coming from the angels.

Children whose disabilities will prevent them from living a normal life, whose medical issues make them among the poorest of the poor in our society, are sheltered and lovingly cared for at TCCHCC. Many in our society never get a glimpse of children such as the residents of the Specialty Hospital; and many who come in their presence do not know what to do. The adults who visit for the first time are themselves helpless. The Auxiliary can tell you what to do for the children — just love them.

There are many other opportunities to volunteer at the Center. The range of services they provide and the varieties of patients they care for open the door for so many choices. You don't need a medical degree — you just need a heart open to the care of the sick and the poor. It sounds like the perfect place for the Order of Malta to be of service.

For more information on the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center, go to www.tcchcc.org. For more information on how you might be able to help, contact Adam Chazan at (212) 360-1099.

For an interesting and informative perspective on the care provided at the Specialty Hospital for Children at TCCHCC, see the December 2009 story on our website, reprinted with permission from the Associated Press. Go to www.maltausa.org, open News & Events on the left navigation bar and open the Association Newsletters tab. The article, "Inside a home for brain-damaged youths," is under the Spring 2010 issue of the Hospitalers.



Major Projects in St. Louis Work Together to Help in Haiti

St. Patrick Center homeless clients present \$57,000 to CRUDEM Foundation to fund Haitian disaster relief

by Jan Rasmussen, Saint Patrick Center

On February 22, 2010, several homeless clients of St. Patrick Center, Missouri's largest provider of homeless services, presented a check for \$57,000 to CRUDEM Foundation for the total funds they helped raise during the "Helping Hearts Cookies for Haiti" initiative following the January earthquake in Haiti. Both St. Patrick Center and CRUDEM Foundation are projects funded by the Order of Malta, American Association.

More than two dozen homeless men and women volunteered their time in January and February to bake heart-shaped sugar cookies to sell to local businesses, churches, schools and organizations for community bake sales. Hollyberry Baking Company donated time and materials to train and supervise the homeless clients in the production of cookies. St. Patrick Center donors, including Wells Fargo Advisors, World Wide Technology and GFI Digital, covered all ingredient costs, allowing 100 percent of the proceeds to go to the CRUDEM Foundation's Hôpital Sacré Coeur in Milot, Haiti.

Following the quake, St. Patrick Center homeless clients were looking for a way to assist with the relief efforts. "Our clients were moved by the news reports about Haiti," said St. Patrick Center CEO Dan Buck. "They wanted to do something to make a difference for the victims. One of our clients suggested holding a bake sale, and Helping Hearts Cookies for Haiti was born in our Culinary Suite in the BEGIN New Venture Center."

Beginning on January 19, St. Patrick Center clients and community volunteers baked, packaged, distributed and sold more than 30,000 Helping Hearts Cookies in one of the St. Louis area's largest bake sales. In addition, the St. Louis business community embraced the endeavor. On February 12, 2010, GFI Digital employees and several other local companies volunteered their time to pass out more than 15,000 Helping Hearts Cookies at Scottrade Center prior to a St. Louis Blues game. All donations collected went directly to Haitian earthquake relief efforts.



Turning cookies into dollars for Haiti relief.

"We don't get the opportunity to sit on a board or work for a foundation but we got a chance to show our love," said Eric Burse, St. Patrick Center client. "We'll never know the magnitude of what \$57,000 will do for our brothers and sisters in Haiti," added client Roger Mudd.

"We were honored to be involved in this wonderful, grassroots effort on the part of St. Patrick Center clients to assist the earthquake victims," said Holly Cunningham, president of Hollyberry Baking. "Every penny raised during this effort will help to rebuild the lives of those affected by this disaster."

Representatives from the CRUDEM Foundation, including Dame Susan Reese, attended the event February 22, 2010 to collect the check. Reese's husband Carlos co-founded Hôpital Sacré Coeur and CRUDEM Foundation with Dr. Ted Dubuque. "Helping Hearts Cookies for Haiti was a spectacular idea," said Charles Dubuque, CRUDEM Foundation board member and son of Dr. Ted Dubuque. "Our entire board was stunned by the creativity and generosity of St. Patrick Center clients, staff and partners who looked outside of their needs and into someone else's."

The CRUDEM Foundation operates the largest medical facility in Northern Haiti, about 100 miles north of Port-Au-Prince. Prior to the devastation, the facility held 73 beds. Since the disaster, the hospital has housed as many as 400 people.

This article was prepared by Jan Rasmussen at Saint Patrick Center. For more information on the Cookie Program, on the Crudem Foundation or on Saint Patrick Center, visit the following web sites: www.stlhelpinghearts.org; www.crudem.org; www.stpatrickcenter.org

Blessed Vilmos Apor, Bishop and Martyr

by John Dick, KM, Area Hospitaller from Minnesota

During this Year for Priests we have a worthy example from our Order of not only a “Good Shepherd” but also one who spent his life serving the sick and poor and whose final sacrificial act was the supreme example of defending the Faith.

A bishop-martyr and Chaplain ad Honorem of the Order of Malta from Hungary, Vilmos Apor was born on February 29th 1892, the eighth child of Baron Gabor Apor and Countess Fidelia Palffy. When Vilmos was almost seven his father died unexpectedly and the family was raised by their mother, a devout Catholic strictly attentive to her children’s religious education. She used to tell them, ‘When you come to a crossroads in life, always choose the more difficult route, for it is obviously the right one.’ In the family tradition Vilmos studied at the Jesuit college in Kalksburg, Austria where, before the image of Mary, Mater admirabilis, he heard the first murmur in his heart of a vocation to the priesthood.

He was ordained on July 24, 1915 and assigned as curate-chaplain in Gyul where he spent much time in the hospital, serving the sick, praying and hearing confessions. Later he served as chaplain of a military field hospital of the Red Cross. Toward the end of WW I Vilmos became the pastor of Gyula.

Not known as a dazzling preacher he nevertheless touched the hearts of his faithful by his strength of conviction formed by his deep faith. His charity in the confessional won all hearts over to him, his generosity was limitless and he was affectionately called the “Pastor of the Poor.” One story tells of an important visitor finding Fr. Vilmos sitting barefoot behind his desk because he had given away his shoes to a poor father of seven and the cobbler was busy resoling an old pair.

The war and the social and political upheaval of the 1920’s that followed caused people to become disillusioned and antagonistic toward religion and many stopped going to Church. To counter this he sought to implement the teachings from the papal social encyclicals by involving as many people as possible in social works. Fr. Vilmos set out his plan for renewal with a letter in the newspaper which recounted the gospel story of the good shepherd, “The priest’s task is to be a good shepherd who knows his flock and to be known by them...”

Not known as a dazzling preacher
he nevertheless touched the hearts
of his faithful by his strength of
conviction formed by his deep faith.

In 1941 Fr. Vilmos was raised to the episcopate by Pope Pius XII choosing for his motto, “the Cross makes the gentle strong, and the strong gentle.” As Bishop of Györ, he continued his social reforms but was primarily concerned with the spiritual life of his people, and especially a deeper fervor and apostolic spirit among the clergy. Personally he led a fervent life of prayer and often made several visits before the Tabernacle throughout the day.

By 1945 during the siege of Györ, the Bishop was hiding some 300-400 refugees in the cellars of his residence, reminiscent of the early Christians in the catacombs. Around supper time on Good Friday a confrontation took place in the cellar as Russian soldiers came seeking young women to please them. Bishop Apor came and calmed the situation temporarily, giving the young people time to hide.

A short time later four or five of the drunken soldiers returned. Suddenly a young girl ran from her hiding place and was pursued by the soldiers. She screamed for Bishop Apor who came running up and confronted the Russians, “Out! Get out of here!” Initially caught off guard they moved towards the exit but then one of them turned and fired a burst of shots.

The bishop’s seventeen-year-old nephew jumped in front of him and was hit by three shots but three more struck the bishop, the most dangerous one, penetrated his abdomen. A woman cried out, “Our father bishop, you have done this for us!” In a low voice the bishop replied: “Willingly. Very willingly.”

The next day, Holy Saturday, his condition improved slightly and the bishop was able to take Holy Communion. After hearing everyone else in the residence was safe he replied, “I thank the Lord for having accepted my sacrifice.” But on Easter hope was fading and his condition deteriorated rapidly. The bishop made his confession and was given the Sacrament of the Sick. His pain increased but his mind remained lucid as he offered these last words:

“My warmest greetings to my priests. May they remain faithful to the Church! They should preach the Gospel courageously... and lead our poor, misled people back to the right road...”

On Easter Monday, the Bishop Vilmos died. His funeral was celebrated at the bishop’s palace and he was quietly buried in the Carmelites chapel.

Bishop Apor was beatified by Pope John Paul II on Sunday, November 9, who remarked, “He was not fearful about raising his voice, in accord with evangelical principles, to denounce injustice and abuse...”

For more information on the life of Bishop Apor, go to http://www.katolikus.hu/hun-saints/apor_en.html.



Spiritual Reading

by Msgr. James P. Cassidy, Assistant Principal Chaplain

“God’s most fervent desire is to give us His Grace, since He wishes the salvation of all. He gives Grace under certain conditions...Now, what are those conditions under which God gives strength and Grace? I can answer in one word: ‘Prayer’ ”

– Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

When Jesus walked the earth, the Evangelists tell us that He spent much of His time in prayer. He challenged His Apostles to pray with Him. Saint Paul tells us to pray unceasingly. The Saints through the ages have given us examples of many prayers. Prayer is at the core of our relationship with God. It is important that we learn to pray; it can take study, ready and prayer itself to grow in communication with God.

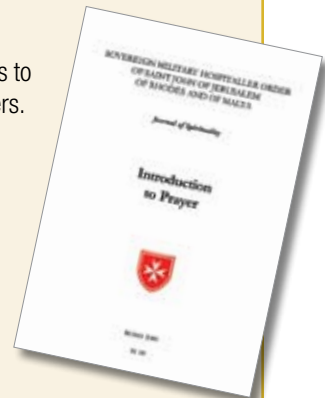
The Order of Malta periodically publishes books that can help us in our journey toward a more spiritual life. Reading them and studying them can be an effective tool in our education. Volume 10 in the Journal of Spirituality series was recently released by the Order — it is titled, “Introduction to Prayer.” This small book is large with instruction, explanation and encouragement to the reader who wants to grow in his or her prayer life. The Journal contains a dozen essays, each of which focuses on a different aspect of prayer.

In one essay titled “The Prayer of Listening: Eucharistic Adoration”, Rev Frá Georg Langerke tells the story of the peasant sitting in the church when the Curé of Ars notes his presence early in the morning. When the Curé returns later in the day, he sees the peasant and asks him what he was doing there all day. The peasant responds, “Well, Reverend, He looks at me and I look at Him. That’s enough.” For a short but deep discussion of the meaning and value of Eucharistic Adoration, you should read this very helpful sixteen page essay.

That the Mass is the core of the spiritual life of all Catholics should be understood. That the Mass is the center of the prayer life of the Church is a basic concept that all Catholics should appreciate. Father Bruno Martin explains in his essay, “The Eucharist, Source and Summit of the Order’s Life,” that “Wherever the Order...installed itself, it always built a church or a hospital...It is significant that the Order’s oldest regulatory text, the very brief Rule of Raymond du Puy, contains explicit references to the celebration of the Eucharist.” He goes on to say, “If we want to fully live the Order’s charism, all of our Eucharistic celebrations must be a source of strength for us, a source of charity for all the suffering members of Christ’s body, of strength to accomplish our mission among them.”

There are essays on the Rosary, the Divine Office, and meditation. The small but powerful Journal can help to open the eyes of the seeker looking to grow his or her prayer life, can help to renew the commitment of the faithful whose prayer life might be in a rut, and offer valuable suggestions to those committed to a serious prayer life.

If you would like to receive a copy of the Journal of Spirituality, volume 10, “An Introduction to Prayer,” send an e-mail note to staff@maltausa.org or call the New York office at (212) 371-1522. Be sure to provide your name and mailing address.



Knight of Justice in Temporary Vows

Gus Grace, a familiar face in the Boston area, recently took his first temporary vows as Knight of Justice as he progresses toward his goal of becoming Solemnly Professed in the Order of Malta.

Cardinal Sean O’Malley wrote of the occasion on his blog as follows:

“The Order of Malta gathered at the Pastoral Center for the occasion of Augustus ‘Gus’ Grace being professed as a Knight of Justice. The Very Rev. John McGuire, O.P., Principal Chaplain for the Order’s Sub-priory of Our Lady of Lourdes, was the principal celebrant for the Mass, with Msgr. Dennis Sheehan and Father Mark Hession, both Magistral Chaplains of the Order, serving as concelebrants.”

Desmond McCarthy, a Knight in Obedience and Chancellor of the Sub-priory, participated in the profession ceremony, assisting Gus in making profession to Fra’ John Dunlap, a member of the Sovereign

Council of the Order, who represented the Grand Master.

Becoming a Knight of Justice, Gus professed poverty, chastity and obedience, giving witness to the Order’s history of being founded by Religious Knights more than 900 years ago and governed by professed religious ever since then.

We congratulate Gus on this honor and give thanks to God for his commitment to the work of the Church!”

The Association is blessed to have a Knight make a commitment to become a Knight of Justice. Keep Gus in your prayers as he travels the special journey to his final vows!



Deceased Members January 1, 2010 – Present

Martin DeMatteo, Jr., K.M.	<i>Hingham, Massachusetts</i>
Elizabeth K. Gammino, D.M.	<i>Wakefield, Rhode Island</i>
William Francis Harrington, K.M.	<i>Pound Ridge, New York</i>
Robert J. Wormington, K.M.	<i>Overland Park, Kansas</i>

Web-only articles

Be sure to go our web site at www.maltausa.org.

- There you will find the link for more information on Blessed Vilmos Apor. Also, please look for a picture that has the last five area chairs for the Boston area all in one spot at one time. It is not often that so much leadership gathers for a photo.
- Dr. Hans Geisler, KM, provides insight into the Principle of Subsidiarity as Applied to the Health Care Reform Debate.

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* Standing Committees. The President and Chancellor are ex-officio's on all committees, except the Audit and Nominating Committees.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Malta Minute

By Peter Muratore, KM and Rev. John Catoir

The American Association Board of Councillors in its recently developed Strategic Plan, has charged the Education and Defense of the Faith Committee to develop a media strategy for the use of radio in the work of supporting our dual duties of "tuitio fidei et obsequium pauperum." The Knights and Dames of Malta have been further encouraged in this mission by Pope Benedict XVI who asked all Catholics to use their resources to reach out in the work of evangelization to Catholics and all others in America.

The Committee has been at work since mid-summer in response to this directive and with the help of many volunteers has developed a program to work toward that goal. In response to the challenge, we are preparing a group of radio spots that will be played on Catholic radio stations, commercial stations as well as the wireless network.

The first CD is complete and has been circulated to our Conventual Chaplains for distribution to the Catholic Radio stations in their Area. We are currently developing a relationship with a number of Catholic Radio Associations with well over 60 stations. We also are working on a possible joint venture with The Catholic Café radio program of the Federal Association. We have joined a Catholic Radio Association to further our outreach around the country and are discussing potential pro-bono exposure on some commercial outlets. We also have been requested to develop a Spanish version and will be working on that in the coming weeks.

Each of the ten messages tells the story of how a small or large action of even a single individual can have significant impact. We use stories about Mother Theresa, members of our own association and other members of the laity. We were fortunate to have Emmy Award winning broadcaster Jane Hanson moderate the ten messages and she does so with great feeling. We are currently preparing ten additional messages that will feature the stories of how some of our own ministries began.

We hope to gather some feedback on these messages from our Association web site. You can hear the first group of 10 Malta minutes by going to www.maltausa.org where you can find a link in the News & Events section.

Peter Muratore, KM is a member of the Board of Councillors. Father Catoir is the founder and current president of the St. Jude Media Ministry. For more information you can contact Mr. Muratore at pmuratore1@gmail.com.

What's in an Area?

(continued from page 10)

that many members have volunteered to help but at this point, not a single member has indicated that they would like assistance.

What's in an Area? In the New York City Area, there is a history of former and current great leaders, a strong and diverse set of works and ministries in which many Knights, Dames, and Auxiliary are actively involved, chaplains who are engaged and enthusiastic, and a set of challenges that will offer opportunities for any and all who want to be involved.

For more information on the New York City area, you can visit their web section at www.maltausa.org and visit the Area Web Sites tab. You can also contact Camille Kelleher at camillekelleher@aol.com and Rory Kelleher at rkelleher@sidley.com.

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.

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Change of address (physical or virtual)?

Please notify the New York office of all
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