

Cardinal Dolan was Principal Celebrant for Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Mass

On February 11, 2016, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and also World Day of the Sick, members of the Order of Malta gathered for Mass at St. Joseph's Church in Greenwich Village. Our celebrant was His Eminence Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Principal Chaplain of the Order. Concelebrating Mass were Fr. David Skoblow, KM and Chaplain, and Fr. John Andersen, chaplain at The Terence Cardinal Cooke Healthcare Center. Fr. Gerry Murray was also on the altar, along with Deacon John Powers, KM.

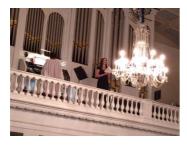
A record 125 Knights and Dames, Auxiliary, Candidates in Preparation, malades and guests were in attendance, along with a number of guests invited from Archcare. The large number necessitated a last minute scramble to find a bigger church and reception facility. Originally the Mass was scheduled to be held at Fr. Murray's church, Holy Family, with a reception to follow at Malta's Mission to the United Nations. With attendance expected to exceed 100, our Area Chairs, George & Jeannie Irish had to revise plans---but all turned out well.

Cardinal Dolan spoke of the importance of Our Lady of Lourdes to the Order and of his first visit to Lourdes while a seminarian at the North American College in Rome. He also discussed the evolving nature of Catholic healthcare in NYC, noting the lamented closure of St. Vincent's Hospital but also recognizing the changing needs of the sick and the poor. He commended Archcare for its service to New York's needy and the assistance of so many members of the Order of Malta in Archcare's facilities and on its board.

Lauren Andree, AUX, gifted the congregation with her spectacular voice as the soloist for hymns during Mass.

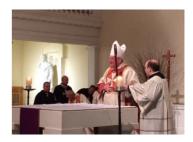
A reception was held in the school gymnasium following Mass. The staff of St. Joseph's is owed great thanks for their help in setting up and cleaning up.















Super Bowl 50 Party at Mary Manning Walsh Home

Of course there were a lot of Manning fans at the Mary Manning Walsh home on Sunday February 7th who were happy to see the Broncos upset the Panthers. Our Junior Committee and others had a lot of fun assisting and look forward to being there at Superbowl LI!





















Don't Walk By Feb 13

Temperatures over Presidents' weekend in NYC were literally freezing, in the teens and below, causing horrible weather conditions for the homeless. Despite the weather, The Order of Malta team was able to be effective in their efforts to "Don't Walk By." During this time, they only saw one person outside in the frigid cold, right in front of the anchor church planning to go in and many others, quite a large number, huddled up in green spaces. Three of these green spaces were in the grid from 53rd to 59th streets & 5th to 3rd avenues, the area covered by the team. The first, and largest, was located under the Citibank building and was open for 24 hours. Normally, they turn out people sleeping; however, in the brutal weather conditions, building personnel were far more lenient. The additional green spaces covered by the team were The Sony building and the area across the street.

The team noticed that the homeless were at first reluctant to leave their spots due to the concern that someone else might take it. As a result of this worry, folks began going back to the anchor church in shifts, tag teaming and watching each other's belongings. In total, we had about 25 people head back to the anchor church for some warm food, a medical visit and information on ways to get off the streets. The hats were greatly appreciated as well.

On Saturday February 20th, in the Lower East Side, there will most likely be a different environment not only due to location, but also because the temperature will be 55 degrees and far more people will be outside.

Overall, this past weekend was effective in our efforts to make a difference with "Don't Walk By." It was nice to see all of those who were able to get involved and we look forward to continuing our efforts this weekend.