



# Order of Malta South Florida Newsletter

September 2011

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**Urgent Notice:**  
Re-Scheduled To:  
**March 16-18, 2012**  
at The Biltmore Hotel, Coral Gables, Florida  
**'Order of Malta 10<sup>th</sup> National Membership Conference'**

**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE...**  
**TO ALL CONFERENCE ATTENDEES & ADVERTISERS**

*Dear Conference Attendee & Advertisers,*  
*Due to an unexpected calendar change, The 10th National Membership Conference previously scheduled to take place on Sept. 23-25 2011 at The Biltmore Hotel in Miami, Florida, has been changed:*

**1. CONFERENCE IS RESCHEDULED for March 16-18, 2012**

*Your Malta Conference Registration and Payment, will remain in effect as originally confirmed. Please contact The Biltmore Hotel to re-confirm your Reservations/Payments and New arrival date. To contact The Biltmore Hotel: 1-800-727-1926 / Fax 305 913-3158 or email: reservations@biltmorehotel.com*

*Also, please note the Change of Date for Advertising materials in our 2012 Malta Commemorative Journal*

**2. NEW ADVERTISING DEADLINE, for Ad Materials will be: February 1, 2012**  
*Please record the new Conference Dates and Advertising Deadline for your records.*

*My Best Wishes and Personal Thank You, for your continued commitment and support for The 10th National Malta Membership Conference in 2012.*

**Please revisit this website in the next few days for the latest conference details and new schedule of events.**

*We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause and look forward to seeing you at the conference.*

Sincerely,  
  
Mark J. Wolff, K.M.  
Chair, 2012 Order of Malta  
National Membership Conference

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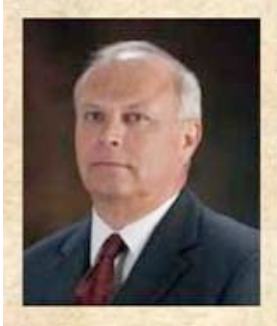
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## From the Chair:



Prof. Mark Wolff  
Area Chair and  
President

The National Membership Conference is scheduled for March 16 to March 18, 2012 in beautiful Coral Gables in sunny Florida. While the North and West may be digging out of snow and likely tiring of the long winter season, we have a great location and great weather. Members who attend will benefit from the expertise and the eloquence of a top-notch group of speakers who are being assembled for the agenda. In addition, the Eucharistic celebrations are sure to inspire, from the carefully selected celebrants and homilists to the sacred places where the Masses will be

offered. "Catholic Social Doctrine: Philosophical and Theological Foundations" is the theme of the conference. Additional sessions during the day will be directed by great speakers such as Most Reverend John M. Smith, Bishop Emeritus from New Jersey. Bishop Smith is familiar to recent Lourdes Pilgrims for his sense of humor, his kindness and for his great insight. Updated information, registration for the Conference and Press Releases can be obtained by going to the website at [www.orderofmaltasouthflorida.org](http://www.orderofmaltasouthflorida.org).

Please let me express my heartfelt gratitude to our Secretary and the Editor-In-Chief of the Order of Malta Southeastern Florida Newsletter Mrs. Lee Da Graca Pinto. Her hard work and dedication in publishing this Newsletter is an inspiration to all members of the Order and an example of what can be accomplished with hard work and determination. I ask each and everyone of our members to thank and assist Lee by providing her with information and articles on activities for future Newsletters. You may contact Lee at [Leepinto@gmail.com](mailto:Leepinto@gmail.com).

*The Special Guest Speaker will be Fr. James Martin, SJ, Author and Culture Editor of America Magazine.*

## Investiture Weekend November 10-12, 2011

This years Investiture promises to be an exciting one for the South Florida Area. In addition to welcoming a new member, we will staff an information table at the General Meeting to meet and greet other members

of the American Association: a "Pre-Welcome" for the upcoming Membership Conference. On Saturday evening, Loraine Kayal and Lee Da Graca Pinto are organizing a special dinner for our

Area members. A full event schedule is available at:

[www.maltausa.org](http://www.maltausa.org)

and for information about the Area dinner:

[leepinto@gmail.com](mailto:leepinto@gmail.com)

If you would like to share news with our members please send:

✧ News or upcoming events/fundraisers regarding Malta South Florida Projects

✧ Photos from members from personal special events such as a 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary..

✧ 2-3 short paragraphs: Photos welcome!

✧ Submissions by the first Friday of each month

Items can be sent to:  
Mrs. Lee Da Graca Pinto  
3571 N. Prospect Dr.  
Coral Gables, FL 33133  
or:  
[leepinto@gmail.com](mailto:leepinto@gmail.com)

## Dottie's Tree

For the last ... the Crippen's have hosted a weekend Spiritual Retreat for the South Florida Area members. And despite her own schedule of cancer treatments, Dottie once again brought together our members with her unflinching love and devotion to the Order. Mark Wolff presented her with a Cherry Willow Tree to stand as a permanent tribute.



Dottie Crippen, Mark Wolff and Fr. Dave Caron

## New Pool for the Marian Center



Mark Wolff, Hershel Smith, Sister Lucia and Fr. Pat

Sister Lucia Ceccotti, executive director, of the Marian Center is very pleased to alert the Order of Malta South Florida that the pool renovation was completed at the Marian Center and as a result over 65 individuals in the Adult Day Training group were able to enjoy the pool this past summer. The upgrade to the whole facility, including the pool and cabana, was a direct result of a personal plea to members of the order by Father Patrick O'Neill. The renovation cost just under \$30,000 and was paid for by our members and their generosity. The pool is an excellent source of exercise and is very effective in physical therapy for these individuals. In fact, four

students from Nova University, who are studying to be occupational therapists, worked with the adults from the Marian Center to maximize the therapeutic benefits from exercising in the water. Please allow me to personally thank Father O'Neill and all of the Dames and Knights of Malta for your kindness and compassion", said Sister Lucia. "We had a need and with the help of Divine Providence and your members, our prayers were answered".

*For further information regarding the Marian Center, please visit their website:*

[www.mariancenterschool.org](http://www.mariancenterschool.org)

## All in a day at Camillus House.....

This happened September 15, 2011.

*"Ray – we got a call this morning from a man who is affiliated with the Port of Miami Tunnel project, regarding a person who is homeless he encountered on the street. The person has a broken leg and the man who found him brought him to the clinic for*

*help. They arrived today at 11:00 a.m. to be seen as a walk-in and it just so happened there was a cancellation on the walk-in schedule (God is good!), so we put him in a time slot to see our Doctor. We will keep you informed and let you know what happens."*

*Response from "one of our own"*

*"God is good! That is why we are here; to help Him give comfort to the least of our brothers and sisters. Please make sure the gentleman gets some nourishment and keep me informed after Dr. Hiriart treats him."*



*For further information regarding Camillus House, please visit their website:*

[www.camillus.org](http://www.camillus.org)



*Congratulation to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond J. Kayal, Sr. K.M., D.M. celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniverary!*

## Calendar of Events

### October 7

First Friday Mass  
12:05 p.m.  
St. Augustine Church  
1400 Miller Drive  
Coral Gables, Fl. 33146

Board Meeting 10:00am  
Pastoral Center

### November 4

First Friday Mass  
Board Meeting 10:00 am  
Pastoral Center

### November 11-13

Investiture Weekend  
Please visit  
[www.maltausa.org](http://www.maltausa.org) for full  
schedule of events

### November 19

Advent Day of Reflection  
Palm Beach

### December 2

First Friday Mass  
Board Meeting 10:00 am  
Pastoral Center

### December 4

Annual Advent Mass  
4:45 P.M.  
Colross Residence  
4300 Toledo Street  
Coral Gables, Fl. 33146

### March 16-18

National Membership  
Conference

### May 2-8, 2012

Lourdes Pilgrimage XXVII

We're on the Web!

See us at:  
[www.orderofmaltasouthflorida.com](http://www.orderofmaltasouthflorida.com)



## Flying Aid to Hurricane destruction zone

Vital Flight [www.vitalflight.org](http://www.vitalflight.org) provides free air transportation for both humanitarian and medical assistance to those that need assistance. Wednesday was a "special" day when three (3) aircraft loaded with over 1,000 pounds of hurricane Irene supplies flew out to the tiny town of Arthurs Town on the north end of Cat Island over 200 miles from South Florida. Tom Powers, pilot and South Florida Malta Chapter Board Member, personally flew one of the planes out to the island with the supplies to experience firsthand the conditions that the islanders had suffered.

Tom met and spoke to Abi, a resident of Arthur's Town, who said that "Hurricane Irene was a category 3 and hit a high tide with a 9 foot storm surge that covered most of the island."

Both Cat Island and Eleuthera suffered the most damage with buildings and other structures damaged. We will still be taking some supplies to them and offering assistance in the future. Because needs change, your generous cash donations will be turned into supplies as they are needed. Thanks so much for helping us HELP those that need assistance.



Tom Powers, K.M. (foreground)  
Vital Flight Pilot

*The following link is a radio interview by The Catholic Café with our Grand Master, His Most Eminent Highness Frá Matthew Festing. The interview took place in Lourdes this past year and is very interesting and enlightening.*

<http://www.thecatholiccafe.com/podcasts/audio/TCC104.mp3>

## First Friday Mass



It is a long standing tradition of the Order of Malta for its members to attend Holy Mass together each month.

Beginning October 7 and continuing through the month of May, we are designating different parishes throughout our tri-county area so that all of our members will have an opportunity to join other members in prayer.

Msgr. Michael Carruthers, Pastor of St. Augustine Church and Catholic Student Center for the University of Miami has graciously welcomed us on October 7<sup>th</sup> to attend the 12:05 p.m. Mass with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following. St. Augustine Church is conveniently located in Coral Gables. The address is:

1400 Miller Drive  
Coral Gables, Fl.  
33146

*Please wear your pin!*

## October Feast Days

October 5<sup>th</sup> Blessed Peter of Imola  
October 8<sup>th</sup> Saint Hugh  
October 11<sup>th</sup> Blessed John XXIII  
October 13<sup>th</sup> Blessed Gerard, Founder and First Grand Master of the Order  
October 21<sup>st</sup> Blessed Charles of Austria