

SPIRITUALITY IN ACTION

What's going on throughout the Areas of the American Association of the Order of Malta

August 2017

INSPIRATION FROM THE AREAS AND THE ORDER OF MALTA WORLDWIDE:

FROM ROME: Dialogue on the Role of Religion in Peace - On July 9th, Dr. Alon Ben Meir, Professor and Senior Fellow at New York University's Center for Global Affairs and Senior Fellow at the World Policy Institute, published an interview with Archbishop Auza from his radio show, "Global Leaders: Conversations with Alon Ben-Meir." Dr. Ben-Meir is



an expert on Middle East politics and affairs and his show features conversations and debates with world leaders.

On the radio program, Archbishop Auza and Professor Ben-Meir discuss the fight against terrorism and against the propaganda spread by religious extremists. They agree that religious leaders have a role in promoting peace in their communities and discuss the importance of interreligious dialogue in achieving peace, noting the common threads between Christianity, Judaism and Islam. They also discuss the importance of religious freedom and Pope Francis' efforts to promote peace in the Middle East. Archbishop Auza and Professor Ben-Meir end their conversation in common agreement that world peace starts with the transformation of the human heart.

NJ Area: *(Pictures and information graciously provided by "The Beacon")* On June 24th, the Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist, the Mass of Dedication of the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist was celebrated. The Cathedral was handed over to Bishop Serratelli

by Msgr. James T. Mahony, Vicar General, to signify that the Bishop, as shepherd, is the chief pastor of souls and the high priest of sacred worship in the local church.



In attendance for the reopening and rededication of the Cathedral were Bishop Serratelli, who was the principal celebrant, Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, apostolic nuncio to the U.S., Bishop Emeritus Frank Rodimer, Benedictine Abbot Richard Cronin of St. Mary Abbey, Morristown and bishops from around the state and nation.



Also present were a large contingent of Knights and Dames from the Order of Malta, many of whom have a long history with the Cathedral.

The Cathedral, which was originally a parish church for 70 years, closed in the fall of 2010 after ceiling tiles fell. After inspections, it was determined that there were more extensive issues requiring repairs before the Cathedral could reopen.

Indiana Area: On Thursday evening, July 27, 2017, Bishop Charles Thompson knocked at the door of St. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, IN for evening vespers preceding his installation as the 7th Archbishop of the Diocese of Central and Southern Indiana. The Cathedral's door was joyfully opened by the Apostolic Papal Nuncio Archbishop Christophe Pierre.

The Knights and Dames of the Order of Malta, American Association, Central and Southern Indiana, were honored to be a part of the procession welcoming Archbishop Thompson.





The Order was represented by Dames: BJ Maley, Maria Scheidler, Jody Pruitt, Torie Geisler and Jeanne Weber-Rush. Also in attendance were Knights: George Maley, James Scheidler, John Fink, Hans Geisler, Lee Ashton and Elza Howard. We were pleased that one of our Preps for 2018, Eric Eichholtz, was also able to participate.



Vespers were moving and enriching, and the reception welcoming Archbishop Thompson following evening prayers was enjoyable. We look forward to the opportunity to invite our new Archbishop to join in our local works on behalf of the Order.



Website: Please take the opportunity to view the new website, orderofmaltaamerican.org. The website is frequently updated with news pertinent to members of the Order. The website has a [calendar of events](#) and links to [Area webpages](#). It is easy to navigate and we are certain you will want to refer to it again and again. [Click here](#) to visit the Spirituality in Action section of our website.



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