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IN GOD WE TRUST

December, 2016

*Wishing you and yours
a Peaceful and
Holy Christmas*



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Effective July 2016 ~ July 2018

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Gentlemen, and anyone sending in articles for publication, The information in the box below is most important and must be followed to the letter. The Journal is produced using a program known only to those professionals who work in the printing/publishing field.

~ PLEASE NOTE ~

Due to the ever-growing number of members who submit articles and photos to be printed in the Knight of St. John Journal and an endless number of computer programs available, new procedures are now being used.

All articles submitted via email should be saved in a **Microsoft Word format (WITHOUT PHOTOS)** 12 point TimesRoman.

All photos should be of highest resolution possible and **attached** to an email. **DO NOT embed photos in Word files;** captions may be included at the end of the submitted article or in the email message.

PLEASE LIMIT ENTRIES TO ONE (1) PAGE MAXIMUM.

Articles submitted after the deadline (see page 6) will be included on a space available basis.

Thank you for your assistance.



SUPREME PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to take this time to wish all of our Knights and Ladies, and your families, a very Merry Christmas from the entire Supreme Executive Board of Directors. As we move through this festive season, we must reflect on the true purpose of this holiday; the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of our God. Our Lord has been good to us all, and has walked with us in good times and has carried us through the bad times.

My mother taught me that the Lord will never put anything in front of us that we can't handle. Although there were times in my life I had doubts, my faith and love for the Lord has indeed allowed these times to pass and strengthen my faith. Attending Mass every Sunday, not just for holidays and Holy Days, is solitude for me; it allows me time to be in a sanctuary to talk to the Lord, and sets me at peace with myself. The house of the Lord is our house, and we as a Catholic organization must support and attend Masses at our individual parishes; being at peace with the Lord is our greatest virtue.

As this "Year of Mercy" has come to a close, we must remember that the season is not only about what we receive, but also what we give. Helping those in need is not only something we should do, but something we want and need to do. Our Lord fed so many from so little and showed us that none should suffer or be without. If we all reach out to the needy with just a little, our efforts as an organization also will turn into a lot, and many will experience the true meaning and reason to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Personally, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and prosperous New Year. May our Lord keep us and our families safe and guide us in our faith. May God Bless not only the Knights and Ladies, but all in this world.

"Happy Holidays"



SUPREME SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Now that we set the track for the future during this summer's Supreme Board Meeting and Supreme Convention, we are rolling right along. The inaugural meeting of the Supreme Executive Board went off without a hitch on the last weekend of September. Continuing to follow the accords of the New York State Revitalization Act for Non-Profit Organizations, studying our funding sources, and a determination to accomplish all our plans within a balanced budget, were the highlights of discussion at these meetings. The new structure has allowed the Executive Board the time and space to discuss the needs of the Order at length and the ability to act quickly to move us forward.

The Supreme President has announced his appointments and they are listed throughout this Journal. On a personal note, we are very pleased to announce one of those appointments, that to the Supreme Secretariat. Brig. Gen. Chijioki Okafor has been appointed the Undersecretary for Advisory Board Affairs. He will sit as a non-voting secretary of the Supreme Advisory Board that will meet for the first time in July, 2017. C.J., as he is commonly called, is a dedicated Knight of St. John coming to us from the Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery. He currently serves as their Grand Secretary. If you attended the Supreme Convention you will note that he was the Grand Secretary who was credited for volunteering to work closely with the Supreme Credentials Committee throughout the week. He has proven himself as a committed, hard worker for the Order. C.J. will represent the Supreme Secretary's office at these Advisory Board Meetings. As the Grand Presidents gather to discuss their issues of concern he will serve as their conduit directly to the Executive Board. We welcome you to the Supreme Secretariat and look forward to working with you.

(Continued on page 15)



SUPREME SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

May Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, be with you!

The Year of Mercy has come to an end. Every Catholic throughout the world was encouraged to participate and engaged themselves in a service or act of mercy. We were reminded of the importance of the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and how we could incorporate them into our daily lives. Since the inception of the Knights of St. John International and Ladies Auxiliary, these Works of Mercy have been practiced. I am always grateful to every Brother Knight and Lady Auxiliary for engaging yourselves with these virtues. Although the Year of Mercy is over, we know our response to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy will continue.

Now we enter into the season of Christmas. What a beautiful and spirit-filled time in the Church's calendar. We celebrate our faith, our families, and most importantly, we celebrate our salvation. We thank Our Lord Jesus Christ for coming into the flesh, and His presence known in our lives. Enjoy this season of grace, and may you always be rich in His love, kindness, and mercy.

I wish every Knight of St. John International and Ladies Auxiliary a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

I want to leave you with this Christ Prayer, taken from the Eleventh Century Latin Hymn:

Lord of light, shine on us;
Lord of peace, dwell in us;
Lord of might, protect us;
Lord of love, enfold us;
Lord of wisdom, enlighten us.

Then, Lord, let us
go out as your witnesses,
in obedience to your command;
to share the good news
of your mighty love for us
in the gift of your Son,
Our Savior, Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Welcome to our New Members

September, 2016 to December, 2016

Commandery:

220 Oldenburg, IN	Martin A. Brockman
243 Batesville, IN	Doug Amberger
300 Fort Laramie, OH	MirenWical
313 Maria Stein, OH	Eric Schlaman
351 Accra, Ghana	Jerry John Foli, Bennett Laryea, Stephen Takyi
382 West Seneca, NY	James G. Murphy, Charles Binder, Warren Ristine, Gary Varagovic
391 Blasdell, NY	Robert Owrcarczak
443 Bolgatanga, Ghana	Dr. Freeman Samson Samani, Peter Ayinbota Agombila
491 Damongo, Ghana	Dr. Solomon Ganda, Solomon Dekumwini, Abraham Braimah Gbanso, Moses Fueini AsumahLasani, Joseph HuduAbdulai
515 Bawku, Ghana	Jacob Azumah, Ayiiga Moses Zanya, Torbi Benjamin Lafia, Boniface Yelewere, Anambe Agbaung Joshua, Emmanuel AzumAsigri, Caesar Musah
517 Wa, Ghana	DerySranas, Tuujani Michael, Lenaa Samuel
604 Madina, Ghana	Bright Affum, Frederick Penu, Victor Wadeku Liadekuu, Michael Carbonu
677 Bolgatanga, Ghana	Patrick AganaAmogma
683 Tamale, Ghana	Emmanuel Dokurugu, Richard Atia, Joseph Manuka
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Cadet Corner

To All Cadet Organizers

The Supreme Cadet Committee is in the process of updating all cadet information pertaining to commandery affiliation as well as contact information for organizers.

Please provide the following information:

1. Grand Affiliation
2. Commandery Number
3. Contact Information
 - a. Name
 - b. Address
 - c. Telephone # (home & cell)
 - d. Email address
4. Number of Cadets

Please send all required information to:
 Brig. Gen. F. Jerome Countiss, Jr.
 fjcountiss2@yahoo.com:

If you had training and were fingerprinted through your Diocese to work with children and received a certificate/card, please send a copy to the Supreme Secretary at supremesecretary@yahoo.com and the Supreme Cadet Committee at fjcountiss2@yahoo.com. If you have not had this training, you are being required to obtain the training at the earliest opportunity.

The deadline for submitting the approved and documented training information is March 15, 2017.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at the above email address.

*Fraternally,
 Brig. Gen. F. Jerome Countiss, Jr.
 Supreme Cadet Organizer*

Abuja Grand Commandery

Update of Activities of Abuja Grand Commandery

1. 2016 Supreme Convention:

The Abuja Grand President, Brig Gen. Jerome Nwokeji led a contingent of brothers of Abuja Grand Commandery to the 2016 the Supreme Convention which took place between the 18th to 23rd July, 2016 at Buffalo, NY USA. Our participation was very activity as some of our brothers served in various convention committees. Our charter Grand President Lt. Gen. Dan A Okekenta was re-elected as Supreme 2nd Vice President. His election was unopposed. We equally secured charter for 6 new cadet Commanderies, with these numbers our cadet Commanderies have increased to 9; the charter certificates are being awaited. Generally, our conduct during and throughout the convention was impressive.

2. Abuja Grand BOT and Joint Initiation:

Abuja Grand Commandery held her 2nd quarterly GBOT on 25th June, 2016 the meeting was a joint meeting with the sisters. In addition a total of 22 aspirants were initiated into the 1st degree and 31 brothers exemplified into 2nd and 3rd degrees between 23rd to 26th June, 2016.

3. Cadets/Junior Retreat:

Retreat programme was organized by most local Commanderies for our cadet and juniors namely Mararaba, Kubwa, Matiyama, Kura, Gwagwalada, Garki etc. It was an opportunity of the Cadets and Juniors to interact actively and also learn about the order. In most of the retreat skills were learn by these young lads.

4. Charity Visits to Orphanages, Prisons, and Homes:

The last Lenten was an opportunity for many of the local Commandery to developed their spiritual well being it was also opportunity to carry out charity visits to homes and prisons. These local Commanderies namely: 472, 574,



Inauguration of new Commandery #877 St Luke Kubwa, by Abuja Grand President, Brig. Gen Jerome Nwokeji

595,671, 805 etc carried out various charity work amounting to about N1,500,000.00

5. Suspensions and Expulsions:

Some brothers were expelled for months of absenteeism and indebtedness to their local Commanderies leaving Abuja Grand Commandery with a Total of 569 brothers.

6. Contiued Call for Donations:

Abuja Grand continued the call for donations in respect of Br. Godwin Ekwueme who is recovering from a major brain surgery[A bread winner of a family of seven]. Abuja Grand Commandery and the Supreme Subordinate Commandery/LAUX have and continue to donate to this great work of charity.

8. Abuja Grand Commandery participated actively during the burial ceremony of Late Rev. Fr. Dr. Willy Ojukwu (A Noble Brother) who was buried on Friday 21/10/16 in Abuja. He was in attendance at the last Supreme convention held in July at Buffalo, New York. May his soul rest in peace. Amen.

9. The Grand President Inaugurated and Installed officers of the newly Chartered commandery #877 St Luke Kubwa Abuja

*Respectfully submitted by
Col. Anselm O Onyemekwu.
Abuja Grand Secretary.*

Local Commanderies, Grand Commanderies, Districts, and Regiments, send your articles to be printed in the Knight of St. John Journal to:

KSJInews@aol.com

or mail to:

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Articles need to be submitted
BEFORE the copy deadline:

March Issue: by February 1st

June Issue: by May 1st

September Issue: by August 1st

December Issue: by November 1st

Buffalo Grand Commandery

Buffalo Grand Commandery: Grand President's Comments - Brig. Gen. James J. Setlock

Commandries of the Buffalo Grand are preparing their many projects and charitable events to complete this year. "Christmas Wish Trees and Meat Raffles", are just a few events that will aid many members of their Parish and area communities.

The "Knight of the Year Award" always has and will continue to go to a very deserving member of the Buffalo Grand 2nd Regiment, who has shown exemplary qualities of leadership and caring for all members of his Parish and community. Maj. James Wheeler of Commandery 204 was the honoree. He was presented his award at the recent Regimental Mass and Breakfast, with his family in attendance.

The most honorable and prestigious award for a Brother Knight to receive is the "Jewel of Honor". This year we have the honor to have three members of our Grand receive this award. They are: Capt. Anthony Stang, Commandery 204; Capt. Robert Reynders, Commandery 347 and 1st Lt. William Bauer, Commandery 382. Congratulations and God bless these deserving Knights of St. John.

Longevity of service within our Order, Brother Knights are awarded "Fifty Year Pins" for their dedicated and faithful service. We are blessed in having two recipients this year, Capt. Anthony Stang and 1st Lt. Benedict Perry, both members of Commandery 204. Congratulations to these faithful members of the Knights of St. John.

May God, bless all of my Brother Knights, keep them in good health and free from all harm.

God bless America and Canada.

Buffalo Regiment:

Regimental Comments - Col. Allen Hammer

The regimental meeting held on September 14th, Capt. Joe Miller of Commandery 204, was promoted to major and commander of the second battalion with 2nd Lt. Timothy

Redinger being appointed battalion adjutant. Lt. Col. Allen Hammer made the motion to elect SK Paul Wasch to regimental adjutant with the rank of captain. Motion passed. On September 18th the regiment held its annual Mass at Our Lady of Victory Basilica with breakfast following immediately at Illio DePaol's Resturant. Between Mass and breakfast, about 100 people were in attendance.

Now that we are coming to the end of the year, I want to thank all those members who made the effort to attend our turn outs. However we need to make an effort to get more members to attend. We only have three required turn outs; Memorial Day, Regimental Mass and Breakfast and Muster and Inspection.

But we must not forget those members who have gone to the final reward. Attendance at the wake and funeral shows how we honor their memory.

At this time I want to wish all the members of the regiment and their families a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Joyous New Year.

Don't forget those who are ill or recovering from surgery:

Note: Let us know if a Brother Knight is ill or recovering from surgery.

We have quite a few Knights and spouses that are ill or recovering from surgery. They have been faithful members for many years and now can use our support. If you know of a member who is ill or homebound, give them a call, see what you can do to help them. They would appreciate your prayers, so that they all may experience a speedy and a full recovery.

May the Heavenly Father bestow on them his healing power and give them, every grace and blessing in this life and everlasting joy in His presence.

The following Brother Knight has passed away since our last Journal article:

SK Richard Stoddard, Sr. a member of Commandery #381, and Q/Sgt. Horace DeLuca a member of Commandery #135

May their souls and the souls of all departed Brother Knights through God's Mercy and Compassion rest in peace.

Brothers, when contacted please turn out for Wakes & Funerals.

Please visit our present web site at: www.ksjibuffreg.com

*Col. William Pocobello,
Buffalo Grand Secretary*

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Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery

St. Ignatius Catholic Church Celebrates 375th Anniversary

On October 9, 2016, St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Chapel Point celebrated its 375th anniversary. It is the oldest Catholic church in the United States still run by the Jesuits. The guest celebrant for the mass was Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington. The concelebrants at the Mass included Jesuit Father Thomas Clifford, the current pastor and Msgr. John Brady. The Maryland Regiment participated in the celebration.

District No. 1 Ladies Auxiliary Celebrates 100th Year Anniversary

The Knights of the Baltimore-Washington Grand participated in the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Maryland District No. 1 Ladies Auxiliary. It was a grand affair. Baltimore-Washington President Brigadier General F. Jerome Countiss congratulated them on their longevity and wished them continued success.

Maryland Regiment Supports Votive Mass of St. Peter Claver

The First Maryland Regiment served as Honor Guard for the "Votive Mass of St. Peter Claver". It was the opening Mass for the annual United States Conference of Catholic Bishops held at St. Peter Claver Catholic Church in Baltimore, Maryland, established by the Josephites to service the community of West Baltimore. Archbishop



Joseph E. Kurtz, president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops was the celebrant for the Mass. The voices from an African-American filled the church with more than 250 bishops from across the country and other clergy in the pews.

Cardinal Donald Wuerl Installs New Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

The First Maryland Regiment served as Honor Guard for the installation of Fr. Francisco M. Tovar, as Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church located in Takoma Park, MD. He was installed as the new pastor of the newest commandery in the Baltimore-Washington Grand (No. 875). The guest celebrant was Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington.

Events-Activities

Commandery #309 hosted the First Maryland Regiment Annual Muster and Inspection on October 16, 2016. The inspection was coordinated by Col. John L. Windsor, Commander of The First Maryland Regiment. Captain Theodore Short conducted the inspection assisted by Captain P. Thomas Dahn.

Knights of Commandery #309, Ladies' of Auxiliary #309, and Juniors of Auxiliary #51 prepared over 45 Thanksgiving food baskets and provided them to families in the community.

Good of the Order

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, please give thanks and praise to our Lord and Savior for His many blessings. Also, as we approach Advent let us prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. Please remember that when we gather to meet or to socialize keep in mind those Brothers and Sisters who are ill or confined to their residence or to a private nursing home. They will appreciate your telephone calls, any help to them, personal visits or cards to show that they are not forgotten. But most of all keep them in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted

*William B. Young, Jr., Historian
Sacred Heart Commandery #309*



Awka Grand Commandery

The rainy season is gradually coming to an end and we expect to enjoy a dry but relatively cold weather in the coming months. In the same way, the October devotion to Our Lady has just ended and we are happy to be part of the daily devotion to Mary our mother. Also, the Grand Commandery is gradually bringing all its activities to an end.

The Grand President has concluded all his presidential visits to all Local Commanderies and will soon visit all the Four District Commanderies within its control. The Grand President, during his visits to these Commanderies continuously reminded them of the need to be faithful to their callings as Knights of the Holy Catholic Church. To up lift the spiritual efficiency of the Grand Com-manderies around the Country, the Supreme Subordinate Commandery organized a spiritual retreat for all officers of the Grand

Commanderies. At the end of this retreat, Awka Grand Commandery is planning to set up a committee to look into issues arising from the retreat and see the possibility of organizing and implementing same within the Grand.

As the Districts complete their screening exercises for aspirants seeking to join the Order, the Regiment on its part is preparing for its annual memorial Mass. The memorial Mass will take place on the 5th of November, 2016 at the Grand Hall. This is to be followed by initiation of new members from 10th to 13th of November, 2016. About 35 members are being screened for this exercise.

The Grand participated in the ordination ceremony of Awka Diocesan Priests and in the Dedication ceremony of St. John's Parish Neni. Neni has just gotten a Charter with 16 members on their role and waiting to be inaugurated and Charter officers

installed by the Grand. As the Grand prepares for a workshop for all the Recording Corresponding Secretaries and Adjutants, it is equally preparing to attend the grand breaking ceremony of the appreciation of our own worthy brother, Brother Okekenta, the second vice Supreme President, by his town and the diocese of Awka.

We thank the good Lord for his mercies and our patron saint, St. John the Baptist, for his continuous inter-section. Like the ancient crusaders, we shall continue to raise the banner of Jesus in all circumstances. As we appreciate the Church for reminding us about the saints and the departed souls during this month of November, we wish all our brothers responsible for the production of the KSJI Journal a grace filled month. God Bless us all – Amen.

Col. Peter C. Egwui
Awka Grand Secretary

Major-General Sir Samuel K. Asubonteng, Supreme Subordinate President of the Knights of St. John Internal, was recently awarded the Jewel of Honour, the highest Award in the Order for his 40 years of dedicated and selfless service to the Order.

The Award was given to him by the Supreme Commandery in the United States of America and was presented to him during a thanksgiving Mass at the Holy Spirit Cathedral in Accra to climax the 33rd Anniversary of the Holy Spirit Commandery 431 and the Immaculate Heart of Mary Ladies Auxiliary 360.

Sir Asubonteng was also presented with a Citation which lauded him for his immeasurable services to the Order and the Church in Ghana for which he had been honoured by the Vatican as a Papal Knight of St. Gregory the Great.

He expressed gratitude to the Order for the honour done him and dedicated the Award to all brothers and sisters of the Order, especially those with whom he joined the Order in 1976.

In a homily on the day's readings, Rev. Fr. Samuel Filton Mensah, the Cathedral Administrator, spoke against injustices to the poor and advised the rich not to exploit or turn a blind eye to the needs of the poor.

Sir Asubonteng joined the KSJI on August 14, 1976 and received his First, Second and Third Degrees the same year.

At the local level, he served as the Recording or Corresponding Secretary, Second Vice President, First Vice President and President.



He went on to serve as Secretary of the West African Grand and the Ghana Grand between 1987 and 1991 and became President, attaining the status of Brigadier General.

Between 2011 and 2015, Sir Asubonteng served as First and Second Vice President of the Supreme Subordinate Commandery and became President in 2015.

He is the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Standard Newspapers and Magazines Limited, publishers of *The Catholic Standard*. The Paper congratulates him for his selfless services to the Church and the Paper.

By Angela OfosuBoateng

Enugu Grand Commandery

Workshop for Military Officers

On 16th July 2016, a workshop for the military officers ie commanders of regiments, districts and local commanderies was held. This lasted for 3 days at the premises of the KSJI Nigeria temple. The workshop was supervised by Major Ezeilo Edmund and had three resource persons who talked on military aspects of the Order.

Presidential Visits

The Grand President, Brig. Gen. Peter Adimorah on his return from USA where he attended the Supreme Convention at Buffalo continued his monthly visits to local commanderies with his team of some grand officers. On August, 28, they visited St. Olivers Commandery 708, Ngbo and St. Peter Commandery 660, Ezzangbo. On 17th September, it was the turn of Holy Rosary commandery 709 Okposi and St. Anthony's commandery 839 Ishiagu. Finally for the year, they visited St. Mary's commandery 529, Afikpo.

Knights of St. John International College, Agba

The board of governors of Knights of St. John International College, Agba

met on 24th September 2016. Board members were entertained with welcome songs and dancing by the students. The Principal, Rev. Sr. Carol M. Enwuru, DDL addressed the board stressing her successes which included 100% success in the West African Junior school certificate exam (the maiden presentation of students by the college) and challenges (like low student population, inadequate power and water supplies).

Supreme Convention at Buffalo, New York USA.

Enugu Grand Commandery was represented by 12 members who included the Grand President, the Grand Secretary, Presidents of some local commanderies, delegates and observers. On their return, a 28 page report of the proceedings at the convention was made available to all commanderies during a grand board of trustee (GBOT) meeting held at the Nigeria temple in Enugu on 10th September, 2016.

Initiation and exemplification

On 26th-27th October, 31 brothers made up of 8 from comm #414, 1 from

comm #446, 2 from comm #583, 1, from comm #584, 3 from comm #585, 3 from comm #638, 3 from comm #658, 1 from comm #660, 1 from comm #707, 3 from comm #761, 2 from comm #764, 1 from comm #765, and 2 from comm #823 were exemplified into 2nd and 3rd degrees and invested. 27th - 30th October saw 20 aspirants initiated into the 1st degree. They included: 3 from #414, 1 from #529, 4 from #583, 2 from #584, 1 from #638, 1 from #707, 2 from #708, 2 from #761, 1 from #762, and 3 from #764. We very warmly welcome them.

Activities of the Supreme Subordinate Commandery.

Enugu Grand Commandery participated in two meetings of the Supreme Subordinate Commandery, Nigeria in the period being reported. Enugu Grand Commandery also participated in the Year of Mercy retreat held at Daughters of Divine Love Retreat and Conference Centre (DRACC) Emene, Enugu on 27/28th October 2016.

*Col. Charles Nwakanma
Enugu Grand Secretary.*

Orlu Grand Commandery

Saturday June 11th 2016 history was made in Regina Pacis Commandery #566 Ihioma. The function was the official reception of the pioneer Grand President of Orlu Grand Commandery. Brig. Gen Val.E. Oboh accorded him by his local Commandery.

The Local ordinary of Orlu Diocese His Lordship most Rev. Dr. A. T. Ukwuoma was the chief celebrant for the Eucharistic celebration. The Mass was co-officiated by the Grand Spiritual Director Rev. Fr. Dr Hyginus N. Chigere with the Commandery Spiritual advisers in attendance.

After the Mass, the ceremony featured addresses, speeches and the personal profile of the Grand President Scripted and read by the Grand secretary Col. Jude F. Otum through which he presented the Grand president as a disciplined, focused, determined and goal oriented officer whose wealth of knowledge of military disposition in the order has made to become encyclopedic.

Friday/Saturday 3rd /4th June 2016: Our delegates for 2016 Supreme Convention attended the work shop mounted by SSCN at DRACC Enugu during which the Supreme Subordinate President major General Anslem, I. Okafor and his team highlighted the delegates on behavioral etiquette and how best to conduct themselves during the Convention.

July 18th - 23rd 2016: Delegates from Orlu Grand Commandery headed by the Grand president represented Orlu Grand in the 1st Supreme Convention since her inception Jan. 24th 2015.

Saturday August 13th 2016: Cadet/junior holiday programme was organized. The Eucharistic Celebration was officiated by Rev. Fr. Joseph Alaekwe the Spiritual Adviser of #433 Orlu the programme featured drills and lectures. The Grand Secretary lectured on "A good and Worthy Cadet/Junior" while the Grand inspector Major Anthony Nnadi talked on discipline in the Order.

September 17th and October 15 2016 witnessed the inspection of #433 Orlu, #531 Amaigbo, #566 Ihioma, #532 Urualla, #636 Umuaka and #866 Isiekenesi.

Thursday October 27th -Saturday 29th: Orlu Grand Commandery was represented in the year of mercy retreat organized by the SSCN. The venue was DRACC Enugu, the retreat was enriching for it up lifted participates spiritually, emotionally and socially.

Up coming events: Nov. 5th: District Memorial masses for fallen brothers / sisters

Nov.19: Completion of inspection for #559 Uli, #867 Awo- Omamma and #868, Mgbidi.

Nov.25 - 26: AGM at the Grand Hall.

Dec. 8th - 11th 1st Degree initiation of aspirants.

*Col. Jude F. Otum
Grand Secretary*

Nsukka Grand Commandery

All these were the milestone achievements of the Commandery #706, Knights of St. John International Aku, under the leadership of Captain Patrick C. Idike (Worthy President) who was elected in 2013.

Introduction:

St. James Commandery #706, of the Ancient and Noble Order of knights of St. John International, Aku got its charter to operate as local Commandery in 2010 and was inaugurated and Officers installed in January 2011, by the Grand President Brig. General P.S. Nwajagu of Enugu Grand Commandery, Knights of St. John International. The membership roll of the Commandery rose from 11 members at inception to 25 members in January 2016.

The Commandery dedicated itself to the works of evangelization, principles of charity and brotherly love among members and our neighbors and respect for the spiritual authority of the mother Church, the Catholic Church. St. James Catholic Parish Aku from where Commandery #706 derives its name is a deanery of Catholic Diocese of Nsukka and with about 13 parishes under the deanery, and all these parishes are under the jurisdiction of our Commandery.

Spirituality in the Commandery:

The Commandery organizes a one day Lenten retreat annually during the period of Lent and our Spiritual Adviser has always done justice to the retreat to the spiritual satisfaction of all members. The grand Commandery also annually organized 3 or 4 days retreat for members in which local Commandery Officers of the grand usually attend and the Spiritual Director of the grand and other invited Priests delivered powerful topics during the period of the retreat. Members of our Commandery as a matter of rule are under obligation to deliver spiritual talk on a rotation basis on every regular meetings of the Commandery as a way of encouraging them to read their bibles and building the spiritual capacity of the members.

Feast of St. John the Baptist (Evangelization):

The Commandery uses the occasion of feast of St. John the Baptist every year to visit the above 13 parishes on evangelization and using the occasion as platform to talk about the Knights of St. John and the role of the Order to the Church and Community as well as using it to prospect for new members. In every parish visited, the Commandery as well as individual brothers usually made generous donations to the tune of hundreds of thousands of Naira in support of their Church/Presbytery building projects to the admiration of the Parish Priests of the parishes and their parishioners and we have visited six (6) parishes so far since 2011. The Ancient and Noble Order of Knights of St. John International is highly respected in Aku town not only because of the effective evangelization method of the Order but the support the young Commandery and its members are giving to the Church and humanity. The Commandery has been very active in the affairs of the activities of Enugu grand Commandery until Nsukka Grand Commandery was created in 2014 where St. James Commandery is one of the 11 Commanderies of Nsukka Grand Commandery. (Editor's Note: The picture submitted was unusable due to the format in which it was submitted.)

Charity to the Needy:

The Commandery had conducted charity to the needy after Lenten period each year with food items e.g bags of rice, beans, vegetable oil, Onions, cartons of tomatoes paste, costing hundreds of thousands of Naira usually distributed to the various parishes in Aku town for onward distribution to those vulnerable groups/poor ones identified within the parishes. (Editor's Note: The picture submitted was unusable due to the format in which it was submitted.)

Priests Welfare:

The St. James Commandery #706, had since its inception donated money for the welfare of newly ordained Priests in Nsukka Catholic

Diocese, the Dean of Aku Deanery and Parish Priest of St. James Catholic Parish, Assit. Parish Priest, Our Spiritual Adviser during Christmas and Easter celebrations. We also attended the burials/funeral of late Priests, Mothers of some of these Priests in sympathy with them. The Commandery has always made generous donation to the newly ordained Catholic Priests in Aku town and identified with all the Parish Priests in one way or the other in our town as the need arises to the Glory of God.

Program Achievements of the Commandery:

Under the Leadership of Bro. Patrick C. Idike, the Worthy President of Commandery #706, Aku, the Commandery since its inauguration in 2011, is conducting its regular meetings in a primary school of St. James Catholic Church. The Worthy President in efforts to have a permanent hall for our meetings, applied for a parcel of Land to build a hall (duplex) from the Parish and got approval for the land, fenced it and commenced development of the hall in 2015. The hall will house both Knights and Ladies. The Commandery has consistently paid all per capita dues to all the high echelons of the Order as and when due in line with constitutional provisions.

Business Venture:

The Commandery is exploring way of undertaken business venture to help raise funds to assist brothers and sisters in need, support our aspirants who are good practicing Catholics and interested in joining the Order but not financially capable, and support the Church and the development of our hall project instead of over levying members. In the light of this, the Commandery has registered a Multi-purpose Corporative Society to actualize this dream by the Grace of God.

To God Almighty be the glory.
St. John the Baptist, pray for us.

*Capt. Patrick C. Idike
Worthy President
Com.#706, KSJI, Aku*

New York Grand Commandery

News Report From District 4:

This was a beautiful season as we transitioned from summer to fall. We have continued to demonstrate our commitment to the Noble Order and practice our values in this region. The District experienced three losses of human lives during this quarter. Our condolences go to the President and members of Commandery 680 who lost a visiting member from Nigeria – Noble Lady Theresa Onunkwo from the Orlu Grand Commandery. Our condolences go to Brother Kenneth Mbah (Commandery 680 Sergeant at Arms) who lost his mother in Nigeria; brother Bonaventure Duru (NY Grand's Guard) who lost his father also in Nigeria.

District Four Delegates Meeting:

The Third Quarterly Delegates meeting of District Four of the New York Grand Commandery was hosted by Commandery 680 Newark NJ at the Blessed Sacrament Church, 610 Clinton Avenue, Newark NJ on Saturday, September 24, 2016 and was presided over by Major Patrick Mombo – the District Commander. This meeting was previously scheduled to hold in June at the same venue but was rescheduled due to the conflict with the Celebration of the Annual Feast of St. John the Baptist. The District's business meeting was fully participated by delegates and members of Commanderies 626 NY, 676 Trenton NJ and 680 Newark NJ. Impressive reports on the good of the Order was received from the three Commandaries of the District. An atmosphere of brotherhood and fraternity was in existence. The District resolved to hold her fourth quarterly meeting in November instead of December due to the obvious reasons that the month of December is a traveling period for most members vacationing with families in overseas.

New York Graand Retreat 2016:

The annual pilgrimage of the New York Grand Commandery was held at the Sacred Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, Mount Pocono, PA on Saturday, September 10th, 2016. The retreat commenced with a Eu-



Brothers and Sisters of the New York Grand in the Villa of our Lady Retreat House.

charistic Celebration which was officiated by Rev. Fr. Peter Iwuala of the Blessed Sacrament Church Newark in the absence of Monsignor (Col.) Anselm Nwaorgu, NY Grand Spiritual Director who was on vacation. There were reflections, adoration and Stations of the Cross, confessions and Benediction. The Villa of Our Lady Retreat House is a sacred place that provides hospitality for various types of retreat groups. It provides a quiet, contemplative, and prayer-filled environment for all to touch God and renew their spiritual life. Knights and Ladies Auxiliaries under New York Grand Commandery fully participated. In his closing remarks, the Grand President – Brigadier General John R. Russo, Sr., thanked members for finding time to come and wished them God's travel mercies back to their respective places of abode. Please go to <http://frontiernet.net/~nygrand> and click on Photos for Full Documentary of the 2016 Pilgrimage.

New York Grand Officers and Delegates Meeting:

New York Grand Annual Grand Delegates & Officers Meeting was held at the Commandery 41 Club House, Utica New York, on Saturday, October 29, 2016.

Progress Reports were received towards the preparation and hosting of the New York Grand Convention coming up in Utica New York in May 2017.

Commandery 680:

Rev. Fr. Erasmus Okere, Coordi-

nator of the Igbo Catholic Community Blessed Sacrament Church, Archdiocese of Newark, was installed as the Spiritual Adviser of Commandery 680 and LAUX 592 at her regular business meeting on Sunday, September 11, 2016. Fr. Erasmus Okere had, in the past, served as spiritual director in the Order of Knights of St. Mulumba for over 10 years.

Good of the Order:

The Igbo Catholic Community of the Blessed Sacrament Church of the Archdiocese of Newark NJ had her 2016 annual Harvest and Thanksgiving Celebration on Sunday, October 16, 2016. In continuation of her charitable works to promote the good of the Order and the Church, KSJI 680 and LAUX 592 participated actively and made a cash donation of \$2000.00 as a group in addition to individual family thanksgiving and gift offerings. The event commenced with a Eucharistic celebration which was officiated by Rev. Fr. Erasmus Okere - Spiritual Adviser.

Upcoming Events:

1. Supreme mandated inspections and muster of all the Commanderies
2. Commanderies' Christmas Parties and End of Year Events.
3. May 5-7, 2017: New York Grand Convention, Utica, NY

Fraternaly submitted:

Capt. Titus Brown Osuagwu
Media and Information Officer

Owerri Grand Commandery

**Saturday, 24 September, 2016,
Owerri Grand Hall, the 3rd
Quarter.**

JGBOT was held. Noble Bro. Anthony Eukeme, 2nd Vice President said the opening prayer entrusting OWGC and the Knights of St. John International into the good hands of God Almighty.

Grand president Brig. Gen. E.A. Ihionu fresh from the Supreme Convention thanked the full house at the Board Meeting.

He reeled off how it went at the Supreme Convention. It was a busy convention for brothers as decisions mapped out for the future of the order were reached.

Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Liberia and USA were granted Supreme subordinate commandery status. Unattached commenderies in USA were attached to USA Supreme Subordinate Commandery.

Structural organization of the order was discussed ranging from Local Commanderies, Grand and Supreme Subordinate levels.

Grand Presidents shall hence forth receive supreme journals as the only channel of circulation. All Grands are therefore instructed to open an e-mail so that supreme journals are produced for brothers and sisters to buy.

Discipline:

Grand President reiterated that discipline which is a cardinal point of the order includes obedience to decisions taken at all levels. He frowned at brothers who flouted the orders of Grand Commandery and promised that hard times await them.

Grand President matched out brothers wearing National dress for Owerri Grand functions. They were made to buy the Owerri Grand anniversary cloth.

The national anniversary cloth is specifically meant for sub-supreme functions only. He urged Worthy Presidents to enforce this directive.

Roll-call:

Grand Secretary, Col. T.K. Nwachukwu reminded brothers that as from Nov. 2016, all absenteeism at Grand functions shall be compiled and defaulted com-

manderies be made to pay the fines as collectively decided at JGBOT of January, 2016.

Brief report July – September, 2016

The 1st Vice Grand President Noble Brother F.A. Chukwu who functioned as Grand President in acting capacity gave the report of his stewardship.

The paper report presented by Noble Bro. F.A. Chukwu was moved for adoption by immediate past Grand Respected Noble Sis. Tessy Emenalo and was seconded by Bro. B.C. Okoro W/P #705 Umuacha.

Thereafter, Noble Bro. Chukwu stood down for the Grand president who in turn hailed his 1st Vice.

SSC Centre of Excellence:

G/P called on Local Commanderies to pay up the SSC hall of excellence levy.

Authority to Bury:

The Grand urged the Local Commanderies to distribute the authority to bury forms and return same to the Grand.

Grand Cadet & Junior Report:

The cadet organizer, Bro. Charles Okafor, gave report of 2016 cadets holiday programme promised to submit a comprehensive report to Grand while Grand Junior organizer presented hers.

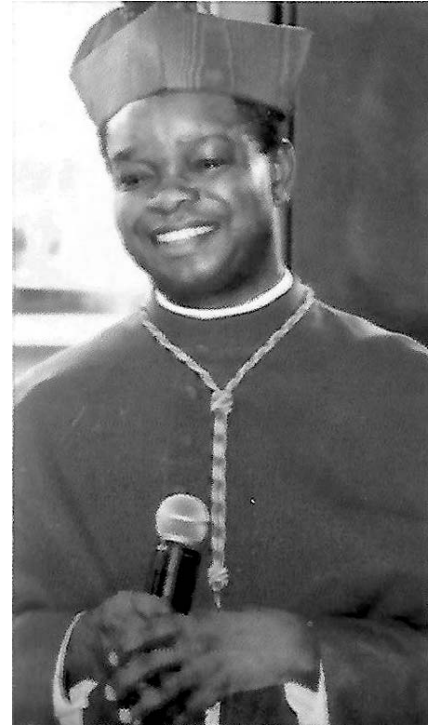
Grand president thanked them, reiterating the importance of cadets and juniors in KSJI.

He informed brothers that KSJI Anthem has been adopted while **“Ancient”** is corrected to **“Earliest”**, hence **“Earliest and Noble Order”**.

Apostolic Nuncio of Nicaragua Buries Mother:

Saturday 29/10/16 the world gathered at St. Benedict Catholic Parish Ntigha, Isiala Ngwa North, Abia State, Nigeria to commiserate with Arch Bishop, Nwachukwu, Apostolic nuncio of Nicaragua as he buried his mother Noble Sis. Nneoma Bridget Uchanma Nwachukwu.

Supreme Subordinate President Nigeria, Maj. Gen. Sir Anslem I. Okafor represented by Owerri Grand President as well as Supreme



Subordinate Respected President Nigeria Noble Sis. Prof. Viola Onwunliri and Grand Respected Owerri Noble Sis. Lizzy Shiweobi were all present at the burial.

Districts 13 and 14 were turned out to welcome the Supreme Subordinate Commandery Nigeria.

The burial attracted all the Nigerian Bishops, sea of clergy and other government dignitaries.

The eldest son of the deceased Bro. Fidelis Nwachukwu, St. Agnes Commandery #447 Lagos and special adviser to Abia State Governor, Dr. Okezie Ikpeazu PhD on NDDC was on hand to welcome people to his mother's burial.

The Diocesan Administrator Catholic Diocese of Aba, Very Rev. Fr. Innocent O. Ajuonu was present in person to welcome the clergy.

In the Spirit of Charity:

OWGC donated the sum of ₦50,000 to assist the Carmelites in their Golden Jubilee celebration.

Let us remember our sick bros. and sis; give them a call, a prayer and a support, above all forgive one another.

*Lieut. Vincent Azubuike
Under Secretary Owerri Grand.*

KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN INTERNATIONAL**67th ANNUAL NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT****April 21 to April 23, 2017****STERLING LANES
32200 SCHOENHERR
STERLING HEIGHTS, MICHIGAN 48312**

Friday, APRIL 21- Supreme Officers Match- Time TBD

Saturday, APRIL 22- Doubles/Singles- 10 AM and 2 PM

Sunday, APRIL 23- 4 Man Team Event- 10 AM and 1 PM

Please note the second squad will only be used if the first squad is full.

Entries Close- Friday March 24, 2017

All Entries **MUST BE POSTMARKED** by Saturday March 25, 2017

Headquarters Hotel
WYNDHAM GARDEN – STERLING HEIGHTS
34911 Van Dyke Road, Sterling Heights, Michigan 48312
Phone Reservations- 1-586-979-1400

Room Reservations \$99.00 per night plus tax (13%), or you can upgrade to a
Suite for \$250.00 per night plus tax (13%).

Please Mention Group Name- **Knights of St. John Bowling** while making
reservations.

Reservations Close on Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Mass at the Hotel Saturday- 6:00 PM

*Note Captains from the last three tournaments have received applications, if interested; please contact the
chairman at 315-723-7585 or email bgenjoe@gmail.com for an application.

Make your plans NOW!

(Supreme Secretary from page 4)

This being our Christmas Issue of the Journal, I would like to share some thoughts and wishes. So many times we take for granted all the good things that come our way. Now is the time to thank our Father for all that He gives us. Many times adversity is placed in our path and it seems the Lord is waiting to see just how we will handle it. Will we bluster and condemn a God who seems to be looking in another direction or do we get down on our knees and pray for the strength to accept what comes our way. I was always taught that God is love. Perfect love. He loves me like no one ever has. He loves you with the same intensity. We must always remember that, and in accepting His love, know that we accept whatever He plans for us. It is good. It must be good, because He wills it. As you and your family kneel before the Christmas Crèche thank God for sending us His Son to die for our sins. To give His life so that we could eventually enter the Kingdom of Heaven and be with Him forever.

Have a Blessed, Happy Christmas.

*Tom Zdanowicz
Supreme Secretary*

In Memoriam

Commandery:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 282 St. Wendel, IN | Arthur Glaser |
| 282 St. Wendel, IN | Freeman C. Will |
| 282 St. Wendel, IN | Richard Hall |
| 345 Haubstadt, IN | Charles Schwartz |
| 345 Haubstadt, IN | Anthony Mayer |
| 345 Haubstadt, IN | Bernard Spindler |
| 381 West Seneca, NY | Richard Stoddard |
| 385 Utica, NY | Robert J. Gelfuso |
| 418 Akim-Oda, Ghana | Baah William Fred |
| 430 Nsukka, Enugu, Nigeria | SergiusOgoh |
| 433 Orlu, Imo, Nigeria | Hillary NnannaAqunenyne |
| 439 Tumu, Ghana | Justine Teng-Yang |
| 445 Aba, Abia, Nigeria | August AriwodoEhirodoIbegbulam |
| 445 Aba, Abia, Nigeria | Edwin Ikechukwu Obi |
| 446 Abakaliki, Ebonyi, Nigeria | B.T.U. Onueze |
| 450 Uyo, AkwaIkom, Nigeria | Paulinus E. Asugko |
| 460 Port Harcourt, River, Nigeria | Dennis Onowu |
| 483 Ogoja, Cross River, Nigeria | Ferdinand Okwori |
| 493 Idah, Kogi, Nigeria | Matthew Ameh |
| 495 Mataheko, Ghana | Joseph Kwami Mensah |
| 561 NguruMbaise, Imo, Nigeria | Longinus O. Aquobor |
| 561 NguruMbaise, Imo, Nigeria | Ambrose OnwuegbouchembaEgbulefu |
| 562 Ezinihitte, Imo, Nigeria | Ignatius M. Anyanwu |
| 565 Ehime Mban, Imo, Nigeria | DonatiusDuru |
| 581 Obollo-Afor, Enugu, Nigeria | Joseph Odoh |
| 640 Badagry, Lagos, Nigeria | Festus ChiwikeOgumba |
| 698 Abouchicha, Cross River, Nigeria | Joseph Abulumphe |
| 745 Kaleo, Ghana | Dong John Bosco |
| 745 Kaleo, Ghana | John b. Kundisao |
| 763 Ibagwa Aka, Enugu, Nigeria | George Eze |
| 782 Ikot Ansa, Cross River, Nigeria | James EneBoco |
| 846 Baatsonaa, Ghana | George Samuel Nsiah |

September, 2016 to December, 2016

**SIGN
UP
A
NEW
MEMBER
TODAY**

A New Year will soon be upon us as 2016 comes to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to make our Journal the newsletter that it is today.

From my wife Connie, and myself, from our home to yours ~ may you and yours have a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a most Prosperous New Year.

*Brig. Gen. James Schafhausen
Supreme Under Secretary/Journal*

MUSTER & INSPECTION ORDER

Reports must be filed before January 15, 2017

(OFFICIAL)

September 1, 2016

General Order No. 1

To: Major General Sean Dey, KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Inspector General.

You are hereby respectfully commanded to order a Muster & Inspection of all Local Commanderies. Said Muster & Inspection to be held not later than January 15, 2017.

You will submit a full and detailed report of the results of said inspection not later than January 15, 2017.

By Command of General Frank Waseleski, Sr., KSJI, Supreme Commandery, President.

Attest: Lt.Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz, KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Adjutant General.

Knights of St. John International
Military Department
Office of the Inspector General
21515 Military, Dearborn, MI 48124, USA
September 1, 2016

To: All Supreme Subordinate Presidents, Grand Presidents, Brigade, Regiment, Battalion, District Commanders and Unattached Local Commandery Presidents:

In compliance with General Order No. 1, issued by General Frank Waseleski, Sr., dated September 1, 2016; you are hereby respectfully commanded to order a Muster & Inspection of all Local Commanderies within your jurisdiction to be held no later than January 15, 2017. Said Muster & Inspection to be conducted as prescribed in the official Knights of St. John International Drill Regulations (Reprinted, June 2008), Sections 486-496. KSJI Muster & Inspection Report Forms 1 & 2 (KSJI MIR Forms 1 & 2) will be sent to you and you will send two copies of KSJI MIR Form 1 to each Local Commandery Commander, within your jurisdiction, to prepare the muster roll for their Local Commandery. The Local Commandery Commanders will present the two KSJI MIR Forms 1 to the Muster and Inspecting Officer(s). The Muster and Inspecting Officer(s) will complete the Muster Roll for each Local Commandery annotating on the two KSJI Forms 1 those members present or absent. The Muster and Inspecting Officer(s) will then complete the Inspection of each Local Commandery annotating on the two KSJI MIR Forms 1 the inspection of uniform items. One completed KSJI MIR Form 1 will be retained by the Local Commandery Commander for future reference and one sent to each District Commander, or in Brigades to the Colonel of each Regiment. As soon as these reports are received from all Local Commanderies, the Colonel or District Commander will transfer the information contained therein to the KSJI MIR Forms 2. When the KSJI MIR Forms 2 is complete, the Colonel or District Commander will have a number of copies made. The Colonel or District Commander will submit the KSJI MIR Forms 2 to their Supreme Subordinate Commandery or Grand Commandery who will compile all of their subordinate commands KSJI MIR Forms 2 for follow on submission to the KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Inspector General no later than January 15, 2017. The Colonel or District Commander will send one copy of the KSJI MIR Forms 2 to each Local Commandery Commander, within the reporting officer's jurisdiction, with the instruction that same is to be read to the members of the Local Commandery in order that they may know how their Local Commandery compares with the other Local Commanderies within their command. An additional copy will be sent to the Colonel or District Commander's Supreme Subordinate President, Grand President, Brigade, Regiment, Battalion and District Commanders. KSJI, Unattached Local Commanderies will submit the KSJI MIR Forms 1 & 2 to the KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Inspector General not later than January 15, 2017.

By Command of Major General Sean Dey,
KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Inspector General.