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IN GOD WE TRUST

December, 2015

Gen. Thomas C. Graziano, Sr.

August 28, 1922 - October 19, 2015

Supreme President

July, 1988 - July, 1992

Gen. Thomas C. Graziano passed away on Monday, October 19, 2015. He followed after his beloved wife, Jo, who was his hearts delight. Josephine, true to her nature and love of Tom, went on ahead to make a comfortable place for him. She passed away on June 29, 2015, four months prior.

We all knew and remember Tom as a tireless worker and dreamer for the Knights of St. John. He was a founding member of St. Anthony of Padua Commandery #385 in Utica, NY and went on to fill the offices of Treasurer, Vice President and President of the New York Grand Commandery.

Tom was elected as Supreme Treasure and held that position until he was chosen to serve as Supreme President in July, 1988 through July, 1992. While in office, Gen. Graziano brought along his closest friend and advisor, Msgr. Carl J. Denti to serve as our Supreme Spiritual Advisor.

Gen. Graziano was devoted to his parish, St. Anthony of Padua in Utica, and a member of its Parish Council, as Trustee and Chair of the Financial Committee. He was a self-employed accountant, and had served on the staff of New York State Senator William S. Calli for many years.

Tom's work is now over. He and Josie rest in the arms of the Lord they served so well.

Remain at Rest, Dear Friend



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THOMAS ZDANOWICZ, EDITOR
238 KERBER RD.
FRANKFORT, NY 13340-4365
supremesecretary@yahoo.com

James Schaffhausen, Asst. Editor
4224 Green Cook Road
Westerville, OH 43082-9706
KSJnews@aol.com

Supreme Spiritual Director - Monsignor Federico Britto, Saint Cyprian Rectory, 525 Cobbs Creek Parkway, Philadelphia, PA. 19143 Tel. 215-747-3250, -fabritto10@juno.com

Supreme Spiritual Director Emeritus - Rev. Fr. Lawrence Burns, Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, 3688 So. Park Ave., Blasdell, N.Y. 14219.

Supreme President - General Dale Gossiaux, 7375 E. Baldwin Rd., Grand Blanc, MI 48439 - Tel. 810-694-0203, -dgossiaux1@aol.com

Supreme First Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Thomas DeLuca, 132 Rushford Hollow Dr., Cheektowaga, NY 14227 - Tel. 716-827-8934 LtGenTJD@roadrunner.com

Supreme Second Vice President - Lieut. Gen. Dan Anaeb Okekenta, Darumi District of Area One Flyover, P.O. Box 6252, Garki, Abuja, Nigeria, WA. Tel. 011-080-37-872835 - anebsons@yahoo.com

Supreme Secretary - Lieut. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz, 238 Kerber Rd., Frankfort, New York 13340 - Tel. 315-733-8694 supremesecretary@yahoo.com

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Past Supreme President - General Daniel R. Vaske, 13 Pike St., Cincinnati, OH 45215 - Tel. 513-733-0198 - danvaske@gmail.com

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OVERSEAS GRAND PRESIDENTS

Accra-East - Brig. Gen. Anthony Chinebuah, Box 8399, Tema, Ghana, W.A. - MOB: +233-24-4330217 achinebuah@cocacola.com

Accra-West - Brig. Gen. William Adjei, Box AN8356, Accra-North, Ghana, W.A. - MOB: +233-24-4356277 - bill_2202@yahoo.com

Cape Coast - Brig. Gen. Francis Koomson-Barnes, P.O. Box CC1471, Cape Coast, Ghana - Tel. +233-274-775733 - franco_marie2002@yahoo.co.uk

Koforidua-Ho - Brig. Gen. Peter C.N. Sangber Dery, ADB, Box 4191, Accra, Ghana, W.A. - MOB: +233-20-2019848 - psangbery@yahoo.co.uk

Kumasi - Brig. Gen. Dr. Anthony K. Edusei, Department of Community Health, School of Medical Sciences, Knust, Kumasi, Ghana, - Tel. 233 24 470 9687, 233 32 206 0293, eduseiak@gmail.com

Tamale - Brig. Gen. Dr. Kenneth B. Pelig-Ba, Box 24, Navrongo, Ghana - Tel. 233 54 156 9735, 233 27 859 0273, kbpeligba2012@yahoo.com

Wa - Brig. Gen. Sylvester Dery, North West Consortium Ltd., Box 487, Wa, Ghana, - Tel. 233 24 496 1081, 233 20 278 0011, sfdery@yahoo.com

Sierra Leone - Brig. Gen. Assed Shallop, 1B Regent Rd., Hill Station, Freetown, Sierra Leone, WA - Tel. 232-76-602-715 - assed_shallop@yahoo.com

Abuja - Brig. Gen. N.N.N. (Jude) Nwanesi, Transworld Materials, Impex Ltd., Plot 377, Deidei/Jabi Rd., Deidei, P.O. Box 5675, Garki PC 900001, Abuja, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. (9) 7805533, 2907285, Mobil# (806) 555-6644 quadranta@yahoo.com - Abuajagrand@hotmail.com

Awka - Brig. Gen. G. N. Muotolu, 69 Ifite Rd., Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria, W.A., - Tel. 08033570026 - godfreymuotolu@yahoo.com

Benin - Brig. Gen. Anthony A. Ihenyen, 4 Jemide Drive off Goodwill St., Benin City, Delta, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. +08030595764, ihenyenmedicalcentre@yahoo.com

Calabar - Brig. Gen. Joseph Onah Odey, 9 Agabi Estate, Ogoja, Calabar, Cross River, Nigeria, WA. odeyosephonoh@gmail.com

Enugu - Brig. Gen. Anthony N. Wajago, 10 A Savage Crescent, G.R.A. Enugu, Nigeria, W.A. - patricknwajago@gmail.com

Jos - Brig. Gen. Theophine Nnoli - sirtheocon@yahoo.com

Kaduna - Brig. Gen. Anthony Okechukwu, 2 Rabah Rd., Malari, G.R.A. Kaduna, - Kaduna, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 011-080-33-117053 - info@tycol.net

Lagos - Brig. Gen. Patrick Igwilo, Plot 103, F Close, 3rd Avenue, Gowon estate, Egbeda Alimosho, Lagos, Nigeria, W.A. - patyigwilo@yahoo.com

Makurdi - Brig. Gen. Simon Aondona, 29 Kashim Ibrahim Rd., Old Gra Makudi, Benue State, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 08038153264 - simonsengev@yahoo.com

Nsukka - Brig. Gen. Michael Amadihe Ezugu, 63 Ugwuechara Road, Box 815., Nsukka, Enugu State, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 08034723804 - mamadiheezugu@yahoo.com

Onitsha - Brig. Gen. Alex Nnabuife, Ikeobi Royal Palace, Unuike, Anambra State, Nigeria - Tel. 080-37-224828 - alexnnabuife@yahoo.com

Orlu - Brig. Gen. Valentine Oboh, 14 Owerri Road, Box 105, Orlu, Imo State, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 08035527440 - obohvale@gmail.com

Owerri - Brig. Gen. Ezekiel Ihionu, Dept. of Chemistry - University Owerri, Calabar, Imo, Nigeria - Tel. 0-703-8281537 - ezyyihionu@gmail.com

Port Harcourt - Brig. Gen. George Ikioumoton, Bungalow A25, Senior Civil Servants Estate, Ovom, Yenegoa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. +2348033416318 - drikioumotongeorge@yahoo.com

Gbarnga-Cape Palmas Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Patrick Lougon Lah, P.O. Box 2035, 10 Liberia, W.A. - luogon@yahoo.com

Monrovia Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Moenti E. Young, Liberian Bank for Dev. & Inv., 9th Street/ Tubman Blvd., P.O. Box 10-547, 1000 Monrovia 10, Sinkers, Monrovia, Liberia, W.A. - nyonmoenti@yahoo.com

St. Paul River Bank Grand (Liberia) - Brig. Gen. Andrew N. Nimley, Jr., Archdiocese Youth Secretariat, Catholic Archdiocese of Monrovia, P.O. Box 2078, 46 Ashmun St., Monrovia 10, Liberia, W.A. - papajnimley2009@yahoo.com

Togo - Brig. Gen. Edward Aristide Agbodjan, 23 Rue AnikoPalako, Lome, Togo, W.A., or B.P. 4232, Lome, Togo, W.A. - Tel. +228 90 08 92 35, +228 22 40 39 17, - edwardaristo@yahoo.fr

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QUARTERMASTER GENERAL

Brig. Gen. Matt Trossman, Quartermaster General - PO Box 266, Oldenburg, IN - Tel. 812-212-9483 - quartermaster@etczone.com

UNDER SECRETARY / JOURNAL

Assistant Editor Knights Journal - Brig. Gen. James (Jim) Schafhausen, 4224 Green Cook Rd., Westerville, OH 43082-9706 - Tel. 740-965-8274 KSJInews@aol.com

UNDER SECRETARY / RITUAL

Col. Richard Morse, 1143 Newport Rd., Utica, NY 13502 - Tel. 315-735-8081, cell# 315-796-5346 undersecretaryritual@aol.com

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UNDER SECRETARY / OVERSEAS NIGERIA

Brig. Gen. Chidi Arinze, C-Fraternity Diagnostic Laboratory, 94 Zik Ave., Uwani, Enugu, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 011-080-36-660526 lachidorinze@gmail.com

APPOINTED KNIGHTS JOURNAL CORRESPONDENTS

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SUPREME PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all of my brother Knights of St. John International and may the joy and happiness of the Christmas season be with all of you!

It is that time of year again where we, as Catholics, prepare ourselves for the celebration of the anniversary of our Lord's, Jesus Christ, birthday. Part of that preparation must include an examination of ourselves, what we are, how we have treated others, and our own spiritual life in the last twelve months. Once we have completed that examination, we can then work on how we can become better Catholics, Christians and people to serve all who need our help and assistance. We can begin again to emulate Jesus Christ to serve one another as He served us.

Service is defined as, "the action of helping or doing work for someone," and can mean doing a favor, a kindness or lending a helping hand. There are many different ways that we can serve our fellow man (and woman). When Lt. Gens. Thomas Zdanowicz, and Terrence McCann and I visited our brothers in West Africa, we were shown many of the outcomes of the services that they provided to their communities and churches. These services were provided by their Grand Commanderies, Districts and local commanderies. Many of these were performed over a number of years and included schools, churches, building improvements as well as donations to the less fortunate among them. Here in the United States, I have seen service provided to our churches and charitable organization who also help the less fortunate among us. And yet, with our membership, organizational skills and resources, we can and should be doing more. If you are at a loss as to what can you do, look to your church. Do they need readers, Eucharistic ministers ushers, choir members at Mass? These too are ways of giving service to others. Do

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SUPREME SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

My home town, Utica, NY has been hit with the passing of two great men, members of the Knights of St. John. One of them was Gen. Tom Graziano, whom most of us have known and respected throughout the years. Tom was always there for me when I needed sound, unbiased advice. He was a friend.

I would like, however, to dedicate this article to another Knight of St. John who passed away a day before our Tom Graziano did. This was Joseph A. Schmitt. Not to be confused with his son, B/G Joseph F. Schmitt, of our Supreme Bowling Tournament fame. This Joe Schmitt was 96 years old and a member of the Knights of St. John for 65 years. (his wife Mary, boasted to me that she had him beat, being a member of the LAUX for 70 years)

I remember going to a Thanksgiving Turkey Raffle Nite at St. George Comm. #41 clubhouse. It was their Fall fundraiser. I watched him come into the room, hunched over with arthritis and using a cane to walk. He sat at a corner table in the room. The teeth were sparse in his mouth and his white hair was sticking out all over from under a railroader's cap. He was an oddity in a room of "proper" people. I introduced myself and we sat down to talk.

For the next hour, at least, I was mesmerized by this man. He loved the Knights of St. John, and of his five sons, three were active members of their commandery. He told me stories of his railroading days and a lot of what he believed. The Church, this Country and of his love for both.

What fascinated me the most about Joe Schmitt was his brilliance. This was a man with a great mind and a heart to match. When he spoke you listened. Not because he commanded you to, but because you wanted to hear more. When he opened his heart and spoke, he filled you with a fire that was unquenchable. I later reflected on what a motivational speaker he would have made. He was a genius, a thinker, and a very wise man.

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SUPREME SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

May our loving and merciful Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

I was trying to figure out what I wanted to share with you that would sustain and nurture you until our next publication of the Knights of St. John Journal. What kept coming to mind was Pope Francis visit to the United States, and in particular, his visit to my home city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The last time I wrote to you I informed you of our Holy Father's pending travel to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families.

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and city, continues to feel the effects of Pope Francis' visit. People of all faith communities continue to share it's joy and enthusiasm of the Pope's visit and the World Meeting of Families Convention. Meeting people from many parts of the world, priests, and religious sisters was exciting. In addition to the World Meeting of Families and participating in the Mass with Pope Francis, another joy for me was seeing our good friend Fr. Ralph Madu as well. He and a delegation from his diocese also shared in this historical event.

What everyone received from this exciting and uplifting week was the importance of nurturing our families, continuing to share our faith with our children and remind ourselves that Jesus Christ loves us unconditionally. It also reminded everyone that Jesus Christ remains to be our hope and redemption, even in the midst of turmoil, temptations, struggles with one's faith, and a fragile world.

For families, and our personal spiritual journey, Jesus Christ is the answer to everything. He is our Hope and Joy! He is full of mercy, kindness, and forgiveness.

Soon, we will enter into the seasons of Advent and Christmas. Each of these seasons offers us hope, faith, joy, determination, and conviction. May we enter into these sacred seasons knowing that we will

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Welcome to our New Members

September, 2015 to December, 2015

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813 Bibiani, Ghana	Rev. Fr. Simon OseiBour, Henry Ahiatsi, Sylvanus M.A. Amuzu, Samuel K. Asante, Justin Awi Dallas, John Kuu-ImPaaga, John Paul
814 37-Accra, Ghana	AlexAsaa, Anthony Komasi, Abraham K. Aziamaley
815 Kaneshie, Ghana	Emmanuel KwesiEghan, Gideon Banson, Edwin Quist, George Tomra, Francis Boaen, Daniel Ofori, Derek Amerkortu Bright Frimpong, Winfred Setordgie Benedict G.K. Aidoo

(Continued on page 6)

(Welcome New Members from page 5)

825	Dansoman, Ghana	Marvin Gyan
826	Asankrangwa, Ghana	Francis Ntaamah, Jr., Richard Ofosuhene Boateng, Daniel K.B. Eshun, Clement Antwi Samuel Kwame Nti Adams, Stephen Bright Parku, Peter Kofi Asamoah, Isaac Frazer Armoh David KwabenaNsesonkpa
828	Kwashieman, Ghana	Gamashie P. Duelove, Tettey Abraham, Derby Sebssstain, Ampenh Samuel, David Anthony, Fiagah Daniel Thaddeus
830	Naka, Benue, Nigeria	Samuel Dam, Kenneth K. Perga, David Ahon
833	AshaleyBotwe, Ghana	Anthony Komla Avorgbedor, Samuel J. Kofi Manu, John Agbotso, SelormNoagbedzi, Simon Addai, Anthony EdemAwumey, Kwaku Sarpong, Dumenyo Samuel, Dr. Peter Boahin, James Cromwell, Emmanuel Agorbias, Isaac BoakyeTawaih
836	Tanoso,, Ghana	Albert AppiagyeiOsei, Ishmael OseiOwusu, KwakuAdumattaDonkor, Joachim Kwarteng Koba, Samuel OSei-Tutu, Ebenezer Takyi Yeboah, Prince Acheampong, Bright Adjei
841	Odorkor, Ghana	GeofreyNketia, George Gyamfi, Kenneth Asare Appreku, Benjamin Aseidu
848	Abelenkpe, Ghana	Edmond Nkemjika, Edward K. Zannash, Ambrose Ibe, Isaac SelasiKpodo, Jonathan Onyame, Cyril Daniel Eli Aniewu, Lawson N. Gandaa, Joseph Kontor-Yeboah, Cyril Kafui Deh, Victor Dotsey Vast Degbor, Winfred KodjoKedapey, George G. Degbor, Francis Ayem, Emmanuel Adzige, Justice Anku, Raphael Degbor
849	Darkoman, Ghana	Edward Amfoh, James Ebo Hagan, Maurice BalamaBakimsa, Ernest Papa Arkoh, Robert Russel Banson, Stanley Tagoe, Peter Kwame Asare, Ebenezer Ghansah, Simon Peer Nii Tackie, Michael Amfoh, Alex K. Nuvor, Collins K. Labada, Gershon K. Labada, James David Gyekye, Frank AnomDarko, Mark Taylor, Benjamin Boadu Abrokwa Stephen, Peter Sabin-Quarm, Anthony Kamenoo, Bernard KwesiAmfoh, Philip EkowBismark, Peter Antwi-Bosiako, Richard Amegavi, Jesse Daffour, EkowHaizel, Amos Yankey, Glago Charles, Louis Kpankpi, Edward Amoo, Daniel Amartey
853	Kwesiminsim, Ghana	Rev. Fr. Daniel AdjeiAgoagye, Benedict Ian Duku, Raymond Ayamga, Michael Nii Ayeequaye, Benjamin NiiAyeequaye, Augustine Owusu, Frank Ambaba, Francis Mensah, VitalisBagbini, Moses Yelsoma, Eric Toppar, Christopher Nunyanu, Pius Maison, Emmanuel Tsiamah, KwekuAmoakoAttah, Michael AtoNtsiful, Andrew Oware Kyeremanteng, Martino Debrah, Emmanuel Quarshie, Frederick Blay, Joseph Mensah, John DansoQuaicoe, Cletus AniahAyarne, Phillip AniahAyarne, Baba AyineAkatili

2016 Supreme Convention Theme Basket Raffle

The city of Buffalo, New York will be the site for the 2016 Supreme Convention for the Knights of St. John International and Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of St. John International. The "Theme Basket Raffle" has been a very successful endeavor during our past conventions. It was recommended that the "Theme Basket Raffle" once again be held during the 2016 convention to defer expenses for the convention.

The Committee is encouraging and inviting all Commanderies and Auxiliaries to participate in this effort and to donate at least one "Theme Basket" for this project. The cost of each basket should not be more than \$40.00 to \$50.00. The goal is to make your basket attractive enough to sell as many raffle tickets as possible. We are also welcoming monetary donations in lieu of "Theme Baskets". All baskets should be delivered to the convention by Tuesday, July 19, 2016.

The following is a list of suggestions for your "Theme Basket":

Bath and Body Basket	Romance Basket	Candle Basket
Snack Basket	Wine and Cheese Basket	Imported Beers Basket
Sport Snack Basket	Assorted Chocolates Basket	Hair Product
State/Country Basket	Religious Basket	NFG/NBA Theme Basket
Game Basket (Assortment of Adult or Children games)		

The baskets will be displayed at the Convention and the raffle tickets will be sold during the week of the convention. Each sheet of raffle tickets will cost \$5.00 or 5 sheets for \$20.00. Drawings will be held Saturday afternoon and winning numbers posted to aid winners in picking up baskets. The winning ticket numbers will be displayed throughout the convention center.

Let's work together to make our "2016 Theme Basket Raffle" another tremendous success!

To obtain a "Theme Basket" commitment form, or have any question or need additional information, please Contact:

Capt. Ed Orrange
 Phone: 716-674-0468
 Email: eorange@gmail.com

McCANN RECEIVES PAPAL KNIGHTHOOD



Sir Terrance McCann is congratulated by Sir Thomas Zdanowicz on his investiture into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, as wife, Madonna McCann and Lady Jeanne Zdanowicz look on.

On Saturday, October 31, 2015, Lt. Gen. Terrence McCann was invested into the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre by His Eminence, Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Grand Prior of the Order, at St. Patrick's Cathedral, in New York City.

On Friday, October 30, 2015, at the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, in preparation for his investiture, Sir Terrence spent a day of confession, prayer and meditation, celebration of Holy Mass and Benediction concluding with his formal, signing of the oath of membership to the Order. Following his investiture into the Order, on Saturday, a Grand Celebration followed at the Waldorf-Astoria.

(Supreme President from page 4)

you have a talent or skill that might benefit your parish? Are you an engineer or architect? If you are you might consider then to help with your church's building and grounds committee. Are you an accountant, do you work at a financial institution? If so you might consider your parish's finance council. The possibilities are endless. I know that parishes are always looking for good talent in these and many other areas. I wrote once about stewardship and these acts of service fit nicely with that stewardship role that we all can play with our parish community, and greater secular community at large.

In late October of 2015, Lt. Gens. Thomas DeLuca, Thomas Zdanowicz and I attended the funeral of past Supreme President General Thomas

Graziano in Utica, NY. Gen. Graziano was a very good and faithful member of the Knights of St. John International and his local commandery. May his soul and all the souls of the faithfully departed through the Mercy of God rest in peace. I ask that you say a special prayer for his soul and for his family.

I also would ask that you say some special prayers for another past Supreme President, General Daniel Vaske. Dan has been fighting the good fight for his health and is in need of our prayers. Please pray for him and his family at this time.

I would be remiss if I didn't bring up the upcoming 2016 International Convention in Buffalo, NY. Please, when voting for your commandery's delegate to the con-

vention, elect a member who is willing and able to attend. We are going to limit the number of "last-minute" substitutions at the conventions itself. We will NOT have chaos at the credentials desk as we have had in the past!! The local convention committee, headed up by Brig. Gen. James Setlock has been working very hard to make this a very successful convention. I will have more on this in the next Journal.

So, for now, may all of you have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of the officers of the Supreme Board!

Fraternally in Christ,

*General Dale Gossiaux, President,
Supreme Commandery, Knights of
St. John International*

(Supreme Spiritual Dir. from page 4)

be blessed, nourished, and filled with a special grace from Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Always turn to Jesus Christ who unconditionally offers us these blessings.

Have a blessed Merry Christmas, and always be assured of my constant prayers for your and your family.

*Sincerely yours,
Monsignor Federico A. Britto
Supreme Spiritual Director*

~ 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 12) will be included on a space available basis.

Thank you for your assistance.

Buffalo Grand Commandery

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

On October 10th, 2015 the Buffalo Grand had a very successful 4th Degree Exemplification and Banquet. It was a pleasure to see so many of our Brother Knights from across the country receive the accolade of this Nobel Ritual.

At this time I wish to thank the entire Degree Team who worked diligently before and after the Exemplification. They spent many hours of their own time making the Ritual a success for all our Brother Knights. God Bless you for all your service to the Buffalo Grand, you truly made this Ritual happen.

In attendance we had numerous honored guests. The following Supreme officers graced our event: Supreme President Gen. Dale Gossiaux; Supreme 1st Vice President Lt. Gen. Thomas DeLuca; Supreme Secretary Lt. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz and Supreme Treasurer Lt. Gen. Terrance McCann. I know all candidates thank them sincerely and appreciated their attendance.

The Buffalo Grand is in the process of creating a membership committee with the aid of Col. William Pocobello and Capt. Joseph Miller. The purpose of this committee will be to aid all Commanderies in their efforts to promote Knighthood within their home Parishes.

Hopefully the work of this committee will lead to reaching out to additional parishes that have no Commandery. May God bless this committee and make fruitful their efforts as they move forward.

Two Commanderies of the Buffalo Grand celebrated Anniversaries. Commandery 377 of Our Lady of Pompeii Parish, Lancaster, NY celebrated their 60th anniversary on October 18th. A Parish Mass was followed by a breakfast which was well attended. Their honored guest was 1st Lt. Anthony DiStefano, both a charter member and their 1st Commandery President. Capt. Raymond Gwarek deserves a special thank you for all his hard work in putting this Anniversary event in place.

Commandery 710 of Brampton, Ontario, Canada, of St. Jerome Parish celebrated their 5th Commandery Anniversary on October 24th. They cel-

ebrated with both a Mass, followed by a Commandery Dinner. Col. Peter Ozemoyah, is both a charter member and their first President and Commander. Their continued Commandery growth has been exceptional and will continue to prosper under his guidance. Brothers, keep up the good work for our Order.

Lastly, please remember to turn out for all Buffalo Grand, Regimental and Commandery functions. If a Commandery requires additional help from members of our Order, please make an effort to help. Remember, God's reward will be great for those to aid Brothers in need. This is what has made our Order so successful and will continue to do so in the future.

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

God Bless America and Canada.

BUFFALO REGIMENT: Colonel's Comments: Col. Dennis Potozniak:

As we enter the final few months of this calendar year and we turn our attention to closing out one year and beginning another we often take a few moments to take stock in the progress we've made and our plan for the immediate future. With this being said perhaps it is a perfect time to do the same for our Fraternal Order. Perhaps we grade ourselves on the progress we have accomplished in certain areas and to acknowledge the need to improve in other ones.

As I look at the Order in general and look our Local Grand and Regiment I do see areas where we have made improvement such as our overall recognition in our Diocese or the additions of "new" members in several of our Commanderies. Saying this though, I believe we need to examine some areas where have not been as successful, such as the charitable works we've accomplished or the ability to grow our Order in "new" parishes or strengthen ones that need more men.

I have said it many times and I feel compelled to say it once more. I truly believe OUR future for our Fraternal Order depends on us continuing to work and build on supporting one another and always remembering the principles of it. We must put

aside the desire to think of ourselves and our ambitions, our personal agendas. We need to focus on our service to our parishes and our diocese. By working together with these principles clearly in sight we can accomplish so much.

Brothers, I keep harping on this and I do so because I believe it to be true and I believe in our Order. We need work together and remember we say we do this because we believe in our Order's principles of FAITH, HOPE and CHARITY. This is what makes us different than so many other organizations that exist. It makes us special, different and special can be better. It also can be harder to do and take more of a commitment. Are we up to this challenge? Are we willing to commit to working together and checking our egos at the door? I hope so and I pray we will.

I again say thank you to all my Brother Knights. May our Lord ALWAYS be with each one of us and our families every day of our lives. I truly appreciate all of my Brother Knights of the Buffalo Regiment and beyond. I can never express in words how grateful I am and privileged to say I am a Knight of St. John!

Don't forget those who are 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.

May the soul 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.

*Col. William Pocobello,
Buffalo Grand Secretary*

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

Orlu Grand Commandery

The 29th of August every year marks the solemnity of the beheading of our patron Saint St. John the Baptist, Orlu Grand Commandery directed Commanderies under her jurisdiction to celebrate this great feast under Commandery levels while a team of Grand Officers toured round to supervise the ceremony.

Sept. 19th 2015: The first muster and inspection of Commanderies in Orlu Grand Commandery on Saturday 19th Oct with three Commanderies - Sacred Heart Commandery 433 Orlu, St. Michael's Commandery 532 Urualla, and Regina Pacis Commandery 566 Ihioma were mustered of 433 Hall Orlu.

During the inspection, mock meetings were conducted by the three Worthy Presidents during which the Grand President Corrected errors in conduct of meetings where applicable.

Sept 25th 2015: Orlu Grand Commandery attended the last quarterly Joint Supreme Subordinate Board (JSSB) Meeting of the SSCN hosted by Awka Grand Commandery. During the meeting, copies of the uniform Burial rituals for KSJI Nigeria were made available to Grand Commanderies.

Oct 10th 2015: The last quarterly Grand Board of Trustees (GBOT) meeting was held at the Grand Hall 433 Orlu. During the meeting, the committees for the pioneer 1st degree initiation of aspirants to Orlu



Grand were called out and Commissioned to start work.

Oct. 17th 2015: The second half of the remaining three Commanderies of St. Gregory's Commandery 531 Amaigbo, St. Theresa's Commandery 559 Uli and St. Mary's Commandery, 636 Umuaka were mustered and inspected at St. Mary's Hall Umuaka. Mock meetings were also conducted by the Worthy Presidents to test their competence in the conduct of meeting.

Oct. 24th 2015: The first exemption exercise into the 2nd and 3rd degrees for brothers initiated two years ago at Aba 2013 and

Akabo 2014 when Orlu Grand was in Oweeri Grand was conducted, the successful candidates after the exemption will be invested with Sr. Knights Uniform in December 2015. It is pertinent to record that during the exercise, brother Luke O. Uzoigwe emerged the Over all best candidate with a score of 90% while brother Cyriacus Egwunwoke came Secord with a score of 86%. The two Candidates are from St. Gregory's Commandery 531 Amaigbo.

Upcoming Events:

Nov 7th 2015: Memorial Mass for all deceased members slated for Saturday 7th November 2015.

Dec 3rd-6th 2015: The pioneer 1st degree initiation of successful aspirants will take place between 3rd-6th Dec 2015:

Dec 3rd 2015: The annual General meeting (A G M) will precede the initiation Programmes.



The visit of Grand B.O.T. of Orlu Grand Commandery of the Knights of St. John International to the Bishop of Orlu Doocese, his Lordship, Bishop Augustin Ukwuoma.

Happy Christmas

*Fraternally Submitted
Col. Jude F. Otum
Grand Secretary*

2016 Cadet Convention Registration Form

Please register me for the
2016 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name _____
 Last/Sur Name _____
 Title, Officer, Delegate _____
 Cadet Number _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Country _____

Price of advance registration - \$2.00
 Price of Registration at Convention - \$3.00
 Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**
 Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
 39 Jesella Drive
 North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 Junior Convention Registration Form

Please register me for the
2016 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name _____
 Last/Sur Name _____
 Title, Officer, Delegate _____
 Junior Auxiliary Number _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Country _____

Price of advance registration - \$2.00
 Price of Registration at Convention - \$3.00
 Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**
 Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
 39 Jesella Drive
 North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 Welcome Party Adam's Mark Hotel

Tuesday, July 19, 8:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Admission (Advance) \$20.00
 Admission (At Door) \$25.00

Light Refreshments
 Cash Bar

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Country _____

Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**
 Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
 39 Jesella Drive
 North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 Farewell Party Millennium Hotel

Saturday, July 23, 8:30 p.m. – midnight

Join us for a fun-filled evening
 Awards Presentation

Admission (Advance) \$20.00
 Admission (At Door) \$25.00

Light Refreshments
 Cash Bar

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____
 Country _____

Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**
 Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
 39 Jesella Drive
 North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 CONVENTION RESERVATION SUMMARY

Form	Number	\$ Paid
Registration	___ @ \$25.00	\$ ___
Cadet Registration	___ @ \$ 2.00	\$ ___
Junior Registration	___ @ \$ 2.00	\$ ___

Form	Number	\$ Paid
Welcome Party	___ @ \$20.00	\$ ___
Farewell Party	___ @ \$20.00	\$ ___
Banquet & Ball	___ @ \$70.00	\$ ___
Total Amount Enclosed \$		_____

2016 Convention Registration Form

Please register me for the
2016 Supreme Convention

First/Given Name _____

Last/Sur Name _____

Title, Officer, Delegate _____

Grand _____

Commandery or Auxiliary Number _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Country _____

Price of advance registration - \$25.00

Price of registration at Convention - \$35.00

Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**

Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
39 Jesella Drive
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 Convention Knights of St. John International Hotel Reservations Millennium Hotel 2040 Walden Avenue Buffalo, New York 14225

To reserve your accommodations, reservations
can be made on the internet or by phone.

On the internet go to: **www.millenniumhotels.com**
select **Buffalo, New York** from the dropdown, then
select dates for arrival and departure. Next enter the
the group code **1607 suprem**

By phone call: (716) 681-2400
tell them you want to make reservations at the
Millennium Hotel, Buffalo, New York and you
want the **Knights of St. John special room rates.**

The special rate for the 2016 Knights of St. John
Convention is \$139.00 plus applicable taxes.

The absolute cut-off date to make reservations is:

June 11, 2016

2016 Supreme Convention Banquet & Ball

Please register me for the
2016 Supreme Convention Banquet & Ball

Friday, July 22, 2016

Cocktails: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Ball: 9:00 p.m.

Dancing – Cash Bar

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Country _____

Price of advanced registration - \$70.00

Price of registration at Convention -\$75.00

Please confirm__reservations at \$70.00 per person

**Reservations made after
June 11, 2016 will be \$75.00**

Make checks payable to: **Knights of St. John**

Mail to: Col. William Pocobello
39 Jesella Drive
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

2016 Convention Ladies Auxiliary Knight of St. John Hotel Reservations Adam's Mark Hotel 120 Church Street, Buffalo New York 14202

To reserve your accommodations, reservations
can be made on the internet or by phone.

On the internet: [https://bookings.ihotelier.com/
Adams-Mark-Buffalo/bookings.jsp?hotelId=15259&
groupID=149751](https://bookings.ihotelier.com/Adams-Mark-Buffalo/bookings.jsp?hotelId=15259&groupID=149751)

Enter this and it will take you directly to the web
site for the Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York.

By phone call: (716)-845-5100
Tell them you want to make reservations at the
Adam's Mark Hotel, Buffalo, New York and you
want the special rate for the **2016 Ladies Auxiliary
Knights of St. John**, which is \$139.00 plus
applicable taxes.

The absolute cut-off date to make reservations is:

June 11, 2016

Makurdi Grand Commandery

We are glad to be on news again through our Journal which had been so educative as far as activities of the Grand Commanderies around the World are concerned. We did not do much but we had an initiation ceremony where thirty new members were admitted. Some activities are lined up by District 40 Makurdi which includes: District Military Workshop, election of new officers and Retreat. The Saints Peter and Paul Commandery 591 Aliade held a retreat on September 25 2015 with a theme: "Behind Jesus To Follow Jesus". After an address by the Worthy President Brother Thomas Kyuioir other activities were carried out at the retreat which includes: Spiritual talk, interactive session, Holy hour when members were made to recite the Holy Rosary, go to confession and do some consultations. The retreat was rounded up with a Holy Mass by the Commandery Spiritual Adviser Rev. Fr. John Asen who himself is an initiated brother and the current Principal of one of the famous Catholic Secondary Schools, Mount St. Gabriel's Secondary School Makurdi. We want to appreciate the fact that despite the tight schedule of the Spiritual Adviser in his present posting as a Principal he has time for the Order. In his presentation Fr. Asen thanked God for having a retreat in commemoration of the "Beheading of St. John De Baptist" which was celebrated on August 29 but the Commandery could not hold retreat on that same day due to obvious reasons. Father was however convinced that God wanted to draw some lessons into us at the time of the retreat which is directed by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. He reminded Knights to have time for God. Jesus Christ wants us to have time for him but some knights have little or no time for Christ. He said once in a while Knights should come and have time with the son of God where we could pray for our intentions, that of our families, our Order, Country, the World and the Church. He admonished Brothers and Sisters who attended the retreat to learn to listen to God when they pray. He said that listening is very important but sometimes we continue to ask without lis-

tening to the response to our prayers. He said good listeners can always get something new in their lives. He gave an example of how Mary chosed a better part by listening to Jesus Christ. Fr. Asen said we should always examine ourselves to enable us correct our mistakes where necessary and seek forgiveness and reconciliation with those we might be in conflict with. Dwelling on the theme: "Behind Jesus to Follow Jesus" Fr. Asen observed that many people do not want to be followers. They want to lead even in Christian Organizations. He observed that if Jesus Christ would come back to this World today some people will not be comfortable and they will tell him to go back to heaven as they will take care of the affairs on earth for him. He said many people go to Church to ask for blessings to be rich and protect them from illness or for cure but not to make them holy. He said people who embezzle funds go to Church to thank God for the opportunity to steal without sense of guilt. According to Father Asen, very wicked people are always in the Church and sometimes at the headship of some organizations, they are considered to be Christians in the Church but whenever they leave the Church premises they become something else in all ways and they have no sense of guilt. He went ahead to say that in our present situation, there are so many Churches, so many preachers, so many followers including Knights yet there is much evil in the society. According to Father, This is what God says to a man who claims to have faith in God but does not practice his faith, "Now thus says the Lord of hosts: consider your ways! You have

sown much, but have brought in little; you have eaten but not been satisfied; you have drunk, but been exhilarated; have clothed yourselves but not been warmed; and he who earned wages earned them for a bag with holes in it. Thus says the Lord of host: consider your ways! Go up into the hill country; bring timber, and build the house that I may take pleasure in it and receive my glory, says the Lord." (Haggai 1: 5-8). He advised members not to be empty as empty people are far from God. We can not live as temples of the Lord if we are not behind Jesus. Jesus in an encounter with his disciples asked them who the people said he was. Peter came out with the correct answer but in his mind was inexact as he thought Jesus would establish a very powerful kingdom on earth. Jesus refused to withdraw a single word; he continued to talk of how He would be handed over to men who would put him to death. The disciples were upset and disappointed. Peter had to react on behalf of the others; he was not ready to make sacrifices. Jesus tells him, "Get behind me Satan" was not actually intended to push Peter away but to remind him to get "behind Jesus to follow him". Father Asen called on Knights to renounce themselves, think about others first, stop making oneself centre of interest forgetting others. Anyone who wants to follow Christ must take up his cross. The cross is the sign of love and self giving. John De Baptist followed Christ the light and the truth in simplicity. What are you following?

*Col. Godwin A. Nen-na
Makurdi 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:

BRIG GEN. JAMES SCHAFHAUSEN
Under Secretary / Journal
Assistant Editor
4224 GREEN COOK RD.
WESTERVILLE, OHIO 43082-9706

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

Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery

Papal Visit to Washington and Philadelphia

During his historic first visit to the United States, Pope Francis graced us with his love and humility. Pope Francis celebrated Mass in the Archdioceses of Washington (September 23, 2015), New York (September 25, 2015), and Philadelphia (September 26, 2015). In Washington, the Archdioceses of Washington invited Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery to act as Honor Guard at the Papal Mass celebrated at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the University Mall at the Catholic University of America. Brig. Gen. Jerome F. Countiss and Capt. Lamont Neal from Comm #309 and S.K. Anthony Curseen and Maj. Eric Gay from Comm #388 served as honor guards. In Philadelphia, Maj. Gen. Martin M. Bella, Col. Sam Okyne, Capt. Pay Thomas Dahn, and Brother Matthew Scott, participated in various volunteer activities throughout the Papal visit.

The Solemnity of The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary and Wedding of the Sea Celebration

The newly united citywide Parish of Saint Monica in Atlantic City, New Jersey celebrated with the city the unique tradition of the "Wedding of the Sea" on August 15, 2015. The "Wedding of the Sea" is an annual event in Atlantic City with the bishop or priest throwing a wreath of flowers and a ring from a boat symbolizing the union of the city and the sea. The occasion included Holy Mass celebrated by the Most Rev. Dennis Sullivan, Bishop of Camden, New Jersey. Honor Guard was provided jointly by the Knights of St. John International and the Knights of Columbus.



Among the special guest were Mayor Don Guardian who provided words of hope for Atlantic City and participated in all the ceremonies and Miss America 2015 Kira Kazantsev who provided words and a beautiful performance of "God Bless America".

Knights Fourth Degree Exemplification

On October 10, 2015, five candidates from Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery were initiated into the Fourth Degree of the Knights of St. John International Order of Chevaliers Buffalo Chapter No. 2. Capt. Alexander K. Boyah (Comm #615), Brig. Gen. Francis Countiss, Jr. (Comm #309), Capt. D. Garkpe Gedepoh (Comm. #296), Maj. James I. Holley (Comm #4), and Col. Chijoke Okafor (Comm #286) received the Fourth Degree. Congratulations to the entire Brother Knights who received their Fourth Degree.

Deacon Barnes Celebrates Thirty-Years In The Deaconate

Deacon John Barnes, member and Spiritual Leader of Sacred Heart Commandery #309 celebrated thirty-years as Permanent Deacon of St. Joseph's Church at the 4:00 pm Mass followed with reception and dinner

in the church hall in Pomfret, Maryland on October 10, 2015. Knights from Sacred Heart Commandery #309 and the Knights of Columbus served as Honor Guard. The celebration was well attended by the parishioners, family, friends, Ladies Auxiliary, and Knights. Deacon Barnes is one of most pleasant and hardest working Deacons in the Archdioceses of Washington with a busy schedule assisting at Mass, officiating at funerals, visiting the sick and home bound, attending meetings, etc. Deacon Barnes spoke about his love for the deaconate and his spiritual desire to serve others.

Events-Activities

On Sunday, September 27, 2015, members of Sacred Heart - Ladies Auxiliary #301, Commandery #309, and Junior Auxiliary #51 sponsored a Gospel Singing Program in LaPlata, Maryland. This is an annual fund raiser to raise funds for the Junior Auxiliary.

The First Maryland Regiment held its regiment meeting and Inspection hosted by Sacred Heart Commandery #309 on September 19, 2015 at St. Catherine's Hall in McConchie, Maryland. The inspection was administered by Inspector Lt. Col. John Windsor.

Sacred Heart - Ladies Auxiliary #301, Commandery #309, and Junior Auxiliary #51 prepared and served fifty food baskets to families for Thanksgiving.

The First Maryland Regiment held its Annual Memorial Mass on Sunday, November 8, 2015 at the Assumption Catholic Church in Washington, D.C.

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



Owerri Grand Commandery

Owerri Grand Initiates 52 Brothers and 70 Sisters

In fulfillment of his promise earlier this year to host 2015 Grand Initiations on the premises of Owerri Grand, and the 75 rooms Grand hostel housing delegates and initiates grand president Brig. Gen. Ezekiel A. Ihionu has launched Owerri Grand into the Orbit of fame as 42 gentlemen and 70 gentle ladies passed through the tunnel of initiation into the Ancient and Nobel Order of Knights of St. John International.

Friday 23 to Sunday 25th October, 2015, Owerri the capital of Imo State, Nigeria witnessed upsurge of visitors. The three days retreat were jam packed with activities leading to initiations of aspirants into the order. There were lectures, drills, inspection of kits, masses, final screening and then the initiation.

In a colourful outing service ceremony Sunday, 25th October, at the podium of St. Mark Station, Assumpta Cathedral Parish Owerri, the new initiates were presented to the church for blessing.

Grand president proclaimed the squared name as "Bishop V.V Ezeonyia's Squad" in honour of the Late friendly Bishop, Knights of St. John international. The squad leader for the Knights is Bro. Dr. Christopher Aharauka of 533 Aba and Sister Emilia Iloghalu of Laux 350 Owerri.

Grand president enjoined Christians to join Knighthood which is a lay apostolate for practical evangelization of Christ's message of salvation.



Parade Inspection



Grand Officers at Church Service

He reinstated the need for the Catholic men and women of Assumpta Cathedral Parish to embrace Knighthood so that work at the cathedral will be enhanced. Grand Respected Noble Sis. Lizzy Shiweobi advised the new initiates to live practical and good exemplary life of emulations. She urged the sister initiates to love and lead their families in the apostolic work entrusted to them.

Under the auspices of Sub. Supreme respected Nigeria, Noble Sister Prof. Viola Onwunliri, Owerri Grand presented N500, 000 in total to the cathedral parish, St. Mark Station, Owerri Girls Choir that sang the mass and the cathedral priests.

The colourful ceremony ended with parade dismissal at 1.35pm and the initiates perched in their tents to host their well-wishers.

This feat achievement has earned the grand president a new baptismal name "talk and do" president by Brothers and Sisters in expression of their happiness. This year's initiation theme is "Discipline"

*Lt. Vincent Chukwuemeka Azubuike
Under Secretary, Owerri Grand*

FROM THE DISTRICTS:

District 13 ABA Holds 2015 Muster and Inspection

Sat. 17th October, 2015, CKC Commandery 445 Aba, district 13 held its 2015 muster and inspection for brother in the 4 Commanderies that make up the district. Bro. Martin Agala, J.M Alozie and Mike Okereke conducted the inspection of kits.

The Grand President Brig. Gen. Ezekiel Ihionu impressed by the turn out advised that muster is to see all brothers in good standing not for those on suspension. More so to know their ranks, how they dress, inspect their kits and observe how they conduct their meeting to ascertain uniformity and effect correctness.

Debtor Commanderies within the district nearly marred the muster but for those who paid reasonably into their debt profile with a strong pledge to liquidate their indebtedness before grand initiations.

Grand president who insisted that they must pay reminded brothers that when brothers are not in good standing, it affects the commanderies, districts, regiments, grand, sub-supreme and the supreme

Hallmark of the muster was the commissioning of Bro. Anthony Akunyulam of 533 to 2nd lieutenant by the Grand President. This was to recompense commandery 533 Aba for having paid all their dues, levies, and per capita for the year 2015. Bro Akunyulam who was peeped is the financial secretary of 533. Past Grand President, Noble Brother Godwin Shiweobi assisted Grand President in decorating the officer.

2.16 pm, Dist. 13 commander, Col - Lawrence Ofocha thanked Owerri Grand and particularly Grand President for personally attending this year's muster and inspection. He wished him and his entourage safe journey home and promised a more successful one next year.

*Lt. Vincent Chukwuemeka Azubuike
Under Secretary, Owerri Grand*

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery

Here are some activities that have kept the Grand Commandery busy.

Second Tier Military Workshop – School of Knights

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery School of Knights opened its doors to its Second-tier Military Workshop, from 28th – 30th August, 2015. It was an intense course designed for District Commanders, Adjutants, District Inspectors, Worthy Presidents, Local Commanders and other brothers who had undergone the 1st Tier Workshop. 45 brothers attended the 4-day workshop. There were external facilitators including Col Celestine Ozuzu of Owerri Grand Commandery. Apart from the sword drill activity conducted by Capt. John Akpan and Col Celestine Ozuzu, there were lectures on leadership, decision making and activity management in emergency situations, safety awareness and accident prevention, and current health controversies (HIV AIDS, Sickle Cell, Rhesus factors, Prostrate and Hepatitis). Lectures on Spirituality include “*Ambassador of Jesus Christ in KSJI Uniform*”; and “*The Need for Fasting by a Knight*”. These spiritual, health and management lectures together complement the physical training to produce the ideal Knight of St John.

The Grand President, Brig Gen. George Ikioumoton, used the occasion to inaugurate the Governing Council of the School of Knights for Port Harcourt Grand Commandery. The Council is headed by Capt. Prof. Adebayo Ejele.

Initiation into 1st Degree September 11 – 14th

Our evangelization effort paid off in the rich harvest of 69 brothers. The candidates had been under catechesis since May this year, and some even earlier.

The initiation took place in St Thomas Aquinas College, Elele, while the outing Mass was celebrated at St Joseph’s Church, in Alimini. The theme of the retreat was Reconciliation and Generosity – the Role of the Knight. The theme was presented by Rev. Fr. Kingsley,

Amadi, Dean of Elele Deanery. Rev. Fr. Polycarp Henetu, Spiritual Adviser to St Mary’s Commandery #460, presented a paper on the Life and Times of St John, the Baptist. Among the initiates were a member of House of Representatives, for Ogba/Egbema Federal Constituency, and the Deputy Commissioner of Police – Operations, Rivers State Command. The outing Mass was a carnival at Alimini. It was planned to provide ocular evangelization for the region, to raise aspirants for nearby St Peter’s Commandery #844, Ahoada, and St Mary’s Commandery, #837 Omoku. The hosting parish had cash rain of over two million naira in donations. All in all, the name of the Lord was glorified.

Hosting the Conference of Catholic Bishops of Nigeria in Port Harcourt

Preparations for the hosting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Nigeria started some three years ago when the ground breaking ceremony for the Pastoral Center, where the conference was held, took place. Since then, the Bishop Most Rev. Dr. Camillus Etokudoh, sought for funds from all statutory bodies in the Diocese. Naturally, the Knights of St John spearheaded the hunt for funds.

But, matters came to a head in August when the hosting Bishop, Etokudoh, gave assignments to major organizations in the Diocese. KSJI was to provide souvenir conference bags. For the hundred or so Bishops, it was an outlay of ₦1.8 million. The Bishop was greatly elated and wrote:

“Deeply appreciate your generous contributions and gifts during the Bishop’s conference which took place from 10th – 18th Sept., 2015”.

St Mary’s Commandery #837, Omoku, Outing Mass October 11, 2015.

St Mary’s Commandery #837, Omoku, celebrated its Outing Mass with pomp and pageantry on October 11, 2015. St Mary’s Catholic Church is a semi-rural parish; the young Commandery draws its membership from outstations in Aggah,

Obirikom, Okwuzi, Ndoni etc. It was necessary to come out in high profile for evangelization. The outing attracted a great congregation and distinguished personalities in the community. Dr. Peter Odili, a founding member of St Mary’s Commandery #460, was appointed the Grand Deputy Organizer for the new Commandery.

A rich harvest of new aspirants is expected from this outing, to the glory of God.

Commander of District 50, Buried – October 17, 2015

The District Commander of District 50 was called home by the Lord on August 20, 2015. Until his death, initiated into the Order in 1998, Major Gabriel Deede Pidomson held several positions in St Mary’s Commandery #460, Port Harcourt and in St Patrick’s Commandery #635, Bodo. A laureate of Bishop Okoye Chapter of Chevaliers (BOCC), he had applied for admission into the Nigerian Temple of the Noble and Exalted Knights of the Holy Cross. He was waiting for induction into the Temple when the Lord called. He was buried with great solemnity on October 17, 2015. The presence of the Bishop and eleven priests at the funeral, is eloquent proof of his numerous contributions to the Church and Community.

Donation and Charity

In the period under consideration, the Grand Commandery has spent, in donations to the Church and charity, the sum of 3.7 million.

*Col Dan Onuoha
Grand Secretary*

**May the
Peace of Christ
be with One and All
This Christmas Season
and Throughout the
Coming Year.**

New York Grand Commandery

New York Grand News:

A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Brother Knights and their families from all of us in the New York Grand.

The 2016 New York Grand Delegates Meeting will be held in Utica, NY and is being hosted by Commandery #41. Informational letters will be sent out; and the information will also be available on the Grand's Web site at frontiernet.net/~nygrand.

From Utica:

For the past 6 years members from the Third District Battalion have turned out for the annual Irish Mass held during the Great American Irish Festival. The event is a large cultural gathering that takes place every summer in Central New York. Members from both Utica Commanderies (41 & 385) have participated in this unique Mass which is attended by hundreds every year. This year the Knights were presented with a plaque which expressed the gratitude the event organizers have for our service each year. We are honored and humbled the organizers took the time to recognize the Knights for our participation. The members of the Third District look forward to serving at this event for years to come.

From Rochester:

The following Knights and Ladies are ill or recovering from surgery, Most Rev. James Moynihan, Frank



and Elizabeth Meleca, Tom Meleca, Charles Perri, Michael Perri, George Schum, Al Keidel, Kenneth Scholl, Tony Perrotta, Loretta Perrotta, Joseph and Joyce DeFranco.

Please keep these and all our Brother Knights and Ladies who are ill or recovering from surgery, and all those ailing at home, in hospitals and in nursing homes in your prayers.

*Publicity Chairman
Brig. Gen. George Hoffman Jr.*

From District 4:

We thank the Almighty God to be given the opportunity to make beautiful contributions in our efforts to move the Order in a positive direction in this Region. Our condolences go to the New York Grand President, members of Commandery 41 and the family of Brig. Gen. Joseph Schmitt whose father, also a member of Com-

mandery 41, passed away recently. We commensurate with Gen. Thomas Graziano's family on his recent transition to eternity. Gen. Graziano was Past President of Commandery 385 and Past Supreme President. Our condolences also go to Brother Ben Onwegbu and Sister Ann Onwegbu of Commandery 680 who lost their step-mother in Nigeria; brother & sister Eluma Asogwa who was bereaved of their father and father-in-law in Nigeria. Knights of Commandery 680 and Ladies Auxiliary 592 paid last respect and fully participated in the wake held in honor of the departed. May the Almighty Father in His infinite wisdom and mercies grant them eternal rest.

New York Grand Retreat:

The annual pilgrimage of the New York Grand was held at the Sacred Villa of Our Lady Retreat House, Mount Pocono, PA on Saturday, September 12, 2015. The Villa of Our Lady Retreat House is a sacred place that 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. Please go to <http://frontiernet.net/~nygrand> and click on Photos for Full Documentary of the 2015 Pilgrimage.

Upcoming Events:

1. Sunday, December 27: District 4 Delegates Meeting, Com. 626 NY, St. Clement the Pope Church.
2. December 13, 2015: Com. 680 Initiation Ceremony for Aspirants and Annual Christmas Party. All are invited.

*Fraternally submitted:
Capt. Titus Osuagwu
Media and Information Officer*



Brothers of the New York Grand in the Villa of Our Lady Retreat House.

Accra West Grand Commandery

Accra West Grand Organises Successful Maiden Biennial Convention and Cadet/ Junior Jamboree

The Grand Convention

Apostolic Vicar of Donkorkrom Vicariate, Most Rev. Gabriel Edoe Kumordjie has admonished Christians especially members of the KSJI to remain steadfast and have faith especially in the trying moments that the country is currently facing. Most Rev. Edoe Kumordjie repeated this remark during the opening ceremony of the maiden Biennial Convention of the Accra West Grand Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary held at the Methodist University College, Dansoman in Accra.

The convention was held under the theme “with God all things are possible” and brought together more than three hundred members drawn from all 20 Commanderies and 20 Ladies Auxiliaries across the Accra West Grand Commandery.

Activities commenced on Thursday July 9, 2015 with the registration of delegates and observers. The first business sessions were held in the evening of Thursday. Activities on Friday commenced with a Memorial Mass held for departed brothers and sisters after which the opening ceremony began with a guard of honor. The parade commander was Captain Jude Anane.

After the inspection, officers marched into the hall for the opening ceremony to begin. The Registrar of the Methodist University College, Mr Peter Bennett Yarquah in his welcome address expressed the institutes solidarity with the order.

Delivering his keynote address, and speaking on the theme for the convention, His Lordship Bishop Kumordjie indicated it was very relevant and essential to our lives today. He encouraged members to demonstrate fortitude in our dealings and remain loyal to the principles of our Order.

Bishop Kumordjie touching on standards of education, encouraged members to contribute their quota towards the restoration of the right standard for the transformation of society.



He also decried the deterioration of basic norms and admonished us to challenge society with our lives as knights and ladies.

This was followed by delivery of fraternal messages from the First Vice Presidents of the Supreme Subordinate Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary as well as from Marshallan Association, a fraternal organization also based in the Catholic Church in Ghana.

The day was also used to launch the official website of the Accra West Grand www.accrawestgrandksji.org, where both members and non members could go and read about the order, the Grand and its activities.

Grand President, Brigadier General William Adjei in his closing remarks urged all members to join the campaign in building a better nation. Friday ended with an entertainment night.

Saturday July 11 also saw the district competitive drills taking place with Third District Commandery and their lady counterpart, District One Ladies Auxiliary taking home the trophies. The day was gracefully climaxed with a traditional and variety night show where brothers and sisters showcased the unique cultures of the ten regions in Ghana.

The event ended on Sunday with a Mass during which the Grand Boards of the Grand Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary were introduced to all members.

Cadet/Junior Auxiliary Jamboree

One hundred and seventy-one Cadets and One hundred and sixty-six Junior Auxiliaries in the Accra West Grand of the Knights of St. John International and Ladies Auxiliary participated in their Maiden Jamboree

organised by the Accra West Grand from Friday, 21st to Sunday, 23rd August, 2015 at the Achimota Senior High School on the theme “The Role of Cadets and Junior Auxiliaries in the New Evangelization”.

The Jamboree was officially opened on Friday, 21st August, 2015 by the Chairperson for the occasion in the person of Sir Mathias Victor QuayeFoli. The theme was broken down into three key areas: 1) *What is Evangelization?* 2) *What is the New Evangelization and its characteristics?* 3) *What are the roles of Cadets and Juniors Auxiliary in the Church?*

Participants were addressed by Noble Sister Francesca Bright Adu, the Respected Grand President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Accra West and the Cadet Organiser, Captain Jude Apreku.

Rev Fr. Michael Apaloo, Assistant Parish Priest of St. Peters Catholic Church, Amanfrom led participants through a Recollection and Mass on Saturday, 22nd August, 2015.

Cadets and Juniors dressed in their respective uniforms, to attend their separate meetings to discuss pertinent issues.

On Sunday, 23rd August, 2015 Cadets, Juniors, and organisers smartly dressed in their military uniform for a turn out. The Mass was celebrated by Rev. Fr. Benjamin Ohene, the Grand Chaplain. There was a short route march after Mass. The Grand President, Brigadier General William Adjei addressed the parade. He said he was impressed about the number of participants and congratulated all assembled for a wonderful Jamboree 2015.

The jamboree was a wonderful experience encountered by the Cadets and the Juniors.

Cincinnati Grand Commandery

Missionaries of the Precious Blood Celebrating 200 years of Ministry. 1815~2015

The Precious Blood Bicentennial was celebrated on August 15, in a grand way! The day started out with fantastic weather as many people scurried to finish up the last few details. The event started with talks from Fr. Barry who travels the world giving talks on Precious Blood spirituality and bringing the Gospel message of Christ's peace and reconciliation to all. Fr. Bill Nordenbrock, C.P.P.S. moderator general, spoke next followed by witness talks from local parishioners whose ministry in a mission setting had changed their lives.

Mass followed with Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr presiding. Concelebration Bishops were Rev. Joseph Binzer, Rev. Frederick F. Campbell, Rev. William L. Higi and Bishop Emeritus. The Mass was absolutely beautiful and full of awe! After Mass the 1500 plus people made their way to the picnic area for a wonderful BBQ chicken dinner made by the Schnipkke Brothers. The food was amazing! Dessert and fellowship concluded the fantastic celebration.

(by Becky Kunkler. Reprinted from the "Northern Lights" published by the St. Mary's Deanery.)



The Honor Guard at Mass consisted of Knights of St. John Commandery 313 and members of the K of C.

Accra East Grand Commandery

1st Biennial Grand Convention of the Accra East Grand Commandery

The 1st Biennial Grand of the Accra East Grand Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary came off at the Central University College, Miotso Accra from 29th July, 2015 to 2nd August, 2015 under the theme, "The Family and the New Evangelization: The Role of the Knights".

Over 500 Knights, Ladies, Cadets and Junior Auxiliaries from the Accra East Grand Commandery took part in the convention which is the first after the split of the erstwhile Accra Grand Commandery.

The keynote address was delivered by the Archbishop of Accra, Most Rev Gabriel C. Palmer-Buckle. In the address, the Archbishop stressed need for the maintenance of human life and moral values within the family setting and to explore new methods for evangelization.

In his welcome address, the Grand President of the Accra East Grand Commandery, Brig. Gen Anthony Chinebuah, said the theme of the convention was meant to challenge members to evaluate their lives carefully with the family as a focal point.

Brig Gen Chinebuah said as we converge for the convention we should demonstrate our love for one another as true knights and set a shining ex-



ample of ourselves to the world as a whole.

The opening ceremony was preceded by Memorial Mass to pray for the souls of members transited into eternity since the last convention.

Cash amount of two thousand Ghana cedis (GH¢2,000.00) was later donated to the upkeep of seminarians through the Archbishop.

The following officers were elected to lead the Grand Commandery for the next two years; Brig. Gen Anthony Chinebuah, Grand President, Col Bekoe Palmer Buckle and Col Anthony Fesu, 1st and 2nd vice presidents respectively, Col Emmanuel Afetsi, Grand Secretary, Capt. Emmanuel Lamptey, Treasurer, Lt. Albert Assan, Financial Secretary, Maj. Harry Anim, Judge Advocate, Lt.

Col. Samuel Amoasi, Messenger, Lt. Emmanuel Ahiabile, Sgt At Arms, Maj. Michael Quarm, Guard. The trustees were Capt. Walter Atiegar, Maj. Eddie Yankey Jnr and Maj. Daniel Tambro.

The Grand chaplain was Very Rev. (Maj.) Fr. John Benyah Mensah. The Past Presidents of the Grand Commandery are Lt. Gen. Joseph Biney and Maj. Gen. Samuel Asubonteng.

The convention was climaxed with a joint resolution which was read by the Grand President, Brig. Gen Anthony Chinebuah with the support of the Accra East Grand Ladies Auxiliary Respected President, Noble sister Emma E. Asomani.

Submitted by,
Col. Emmanuel E. Afetsi
Accra East Grand Secretary

Togo Grand Commandery

The 20th of TOGO Grand Convention biennial was held at SS Peter and Paul College at Aneho from 21st to 23rd August 2015. The newly elected officers were as follows. Grand President: Brig. Gen. Edward Aristide AGBODJAN, Grand 1st Vice President: Col. Victor VOVOR, Grand 2nd Vice President: Col. Raphael LEMOU, Grand

Secretary: Col. Daniel MELOMEY, Grand Financial Secretary: Capt. John DA ERNESTO, Grand Treasurer: Lt. Oliver GOMEZ, Grand Judge Advocate: Lt. Blaise AMEYAPOH, Grand 1st Trustee: Lt. Jocelyn GNASSOUNOU, Grand 2nd Trustee: Capt. David ATAYI, Grand 3rd Trustee: S/K Antoine

AMEGADJI, Grand Sgt at Arms: Capt. Bruno SOSSOU, Grand Messenger: Lt. Innocent AMEGANDJIN, Grand Guard: Capt. Firmin ASSAGBA.

*Yours Fraternally,
Brig. Gen. Edward Aristide
AGBODJAN, Grand President*

(Supreme Secretary from page 4)

Most of the Catholic clergy in town knew him, as while he was able, was a daily communicant at his Church, St. Joseph's, and occasionally at Historic St. John's Church, both in Utica. Typical of Joe, who always let his point of view be submitted to the local paper's, editorial pages. During one hotly contested race, he didn't voice an opinion, but asked voters to first pray for guidance before casting their votes. That is how he thought. "God will guide me in what to do".

Joe, we will miss you, but you are finally at rest. May God hold you close to His Heart and give you peace.

This is our Christmas edition of the Knights Journal. I would like to wish all of you, my brothers all over this great world a warm and joyous holiday season, one that you can be at home with all of those who love you and care for you. May you be surrounded by smiling faces, the laughter of children, soft music and a prayer in your heart to the Christ Child who brings all of this to us this Christmas.

Lt. Gen. Tom Zdanowicz

In Memoriam

Commandery:

- 41 Utica, NY
- 172 Richmond, IN
- 296 Washington, DC
- 345 Haubstadt, IN
- 382 West Seneca, NY
- 385 Utica, NY
- 385 Utica, NY
- 385 Utica, NY
- 405 Koforidua, Ghana
- 412 Navronga, Ghana
- 427 Jirapa, Ghana
- 429 Elmina, Ghana
- 431 Adabraka, Ghana
- 436 Tarkwa, Ghana
- 443 Bolgatanga, Ghana
- 460 Port Harcourt, Nigeria
- 495 Mataheko, Ghana
- 497 Achimota, Ghana
- 560 Izombe, Imo, Nigeria
- 564 Isiala-Mbano, Imo, Nigeria
- 594 Vandeikya, Benue, Nigeria
- 618 Kpehe, Ghana
- 630 Ashaiman, Ghana
- 635 Bodo, Gokana, Nigeria
- 736 Cantonments, Ghana
- 741 Tease, Ghana
- 751 TwifoPraso, Ghana
- 760 Pokuase, Ghana

- Joseph A. Schmitt
- Sam Rich
- James E. Thomas
- Robert Ward
- Donald Fuest
- Samuel Foresti
- Thomas C. Graziano
- Anthony Pelle
- Daniel Tunyo
- Bernard Rogers Bagnabu
- Lawrence Ssumah
- Joseph Anthony Ewusie
- R.S.J. Acolaatse
- Joseph Nkrumah Boateng
- Gabriel Tabliba
- Cajetan UkuchukwuNneyelike
- Baffoe Bonnie William
- Prince Amuah, Sr.
- Boniface EgbuleEgwagu
- David Ike
- Simon Uzuativ
- Daniel Dugbatay
- J. Martin Duadzie
- Gabriel Pidomson
- Enoch Doe
- John Kwadwo Asante
- David Castro Baidoo
- Michael Anumel

September 2015 to December 2015

The image shows two forms from the Knights of St. John International. The left form is a 'Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation' for the September 2015 issue, showing a circulation of 2,194 copies. The right form is a 'Statement of Financial Operations' for the same period, showing a total revenue of \$2,730 and a total expense of \$2,740, resulting in a net loss of \$10.

This year of 2015 will soon come to an end, so let me 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*

2015 MUSTER & INSPECTION ORDER

Reports must be filed before March 1, 2016

(OFFICIAL)

November 1, 2015

General Order No. 1

To: MGen. James M. Gibbons II , KSJI , Supreme Commandery , Inspector General.

You are hereby respectfully commanded to order a Muster & Inspection of all KSJI Local Commanderies. Said Muster & Inspection to be held not later than March 1, 2016.

You will submit a full and detailed report of the results of said inspection not later than July 1, 2016.

By Command of General Dale Gossiaux, KSJI, Supreme Commandery, President.

Knights of St. John International
Supreme Commandery
Office of the Inspector General

November 1, 2015

To: All Supreme Subordinate Commandery Presidents, Grand Presidents and Unattached Local Commandery Commanders:

In compliance with General Order No. 1, issued by General Dale Gossiaux, dated November 1, 2015; you are hereby respectfully commanded to order a Muster & Inspection of all subordinate Local Commanderies within your jurisdiction to be held no later than March 1, 2016. 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 Form 1s & 2s (KSJI M&IR Forms 1 & 2) will be sent to you and you will send two copies of KSJI M&IR Form 1s to all your subordinate Local Commandery Commanders, within your jurisdiction, to prepare the muster roll for their Local Commandery. The Local Commandery Commanders will present the two sets of the KSJI M&IR Form 1s to the Muster and Inspecting Officer(s). The Muster and Inspecting Officer(s) will complete the KSJI M&IR Form 1s Muster for each Local Commandery annotating on the KSJI M&IR Form 1s those Knights present or absent. The Muster and Inspecting Officer(s) will then complete the Inspection of each Local Commandery annotating on the KSJI M&IR Form 1s the inspection of each Knight's uniform. One set of completed KSJI M&IR Form 1s will be retained by the Local Commandery Commander (for future reference) and one set presented to the Brigade, Regiment or District Commander(s) ordering the muster and inspection to assist that officer in completing the KSJI M&IR Form 2s. When the KSJI M&IR Form 2s are complete you will receive said form, review for correctness, file a copy for reference and forward a copy to the KSJI Supreme Commandery Office of the Inspector General. It is highly suggested to forward copies of the completed KSJI M&IR Form 2s to all your subordinate commanders with the order to read the report at their next business meeting.

Unattached Local Commandery Commanders or the designated senior Military (uniformed) Knight will execute this order. Unattached Local Commanderies will complete two sets of the KSJI M&IR Form 1s, keep one set for future reference and forward one set to the KSJI Supreme Commandery, Office of the Inspector General.

A fine will be imposed by the KSJI Supreme Commandery upon any subordinate command that fails to execute this order.

By Command of MGen. James M. Gibbons II, KSJI, Supreme Commandery, Inspector General.