

May the Birth of our Savior Bring Peace and Blessings To All This Christmas Season

KNIGHTS OF ST JOHN INTERNATIONAL 68th ANNUAL NATIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

April 27 to April 29, 2018

TRANSIT LANES 7850 TRANSIT ROAD WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

Friday, APRIL 27- Supreme Officers Match- Time TBD Saturday, APRIL 28- Doubles/Singles- 10 AM and *2 PM Sunday, APRIL 29- 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 30, 2018 All Entries <u>MUST BE POSTMARKED</u> by Saturday March 31, 2018

> Headquarters Hotel: MILLENNIUM BUFFALO 2040 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York 14225 Phone Reservations- 716-681-2400

Room Reservations \$109.00 per night plus tax. Please Mention Group Name – **Knights of St. John Bowling** while making room reservations.

Reservations Close on Friday, April 6, 2018

Mass at the Hotel Saturday in the McKinley Room.

-Note Captains from the last three tournaments have received applications, if interested; please contact the chairman at 315-723-7585 or email commandery41sports@yahoo.com for an application.

Make your plans NOW!

As of the date of this printing, NO Supreme Convention registration forms are available. The March 2018 issue of our Journal should have all forms needed.

POSTMASTER

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SUPREME

MESSAGE

SECRETARY'S



SUPREME President's Message

Greetings to my Brother Knights, Ladies, and their families around the world. By the time you receive this message, our Thanksgiving will have passed and the joy of Christmas will be upon us. On behalf of myself and the entire Supreme Executive Board of Directors, we wish you and your families a Very Merry and Joyful Christmas. We as Knights and Ladies must reflect the true meaning of this festive season, the birth of Jesus Christ, the only Son of our God. For all who read my message today, you must understand that God has given you a sustained life. He has granted us the time to continue His work of caring for those of us that have stumbled or fallen, and the strength to lift them up to salvation. For those who are hurting and believe the Lord has abandoned them, we as Knights and Ladies must show them the life of our God, and they will find the way. Unfortunately, as the festive season comes to an end, so does the concept that the needy and underprivileged still need assistance. We as Knights and Ladies of our great organizations must reach within our hearts and faith in God to believe that the care for the needy isn't just for the holiday, but for every day! May God bless us all.

Moving forward with my message, I wish to inform the membership that the Supreme Executive Board of Directors conducted our meeting in October and I personally am pleased with the outcome. The officers were very active in the discussions and we had the pleasure of the new Supreme Subordinate Presidents joining the elected officers on the Board. We spend as much time as possible with the Ladies Auxiliary Board to discuss such issues as General Order 2, Executive Action on Constitutional matters, finance issues, and compliance with the Restructuring Act of the State of New York, USA. The Knights established the structure of a bal-

I can't believe that this year is coming to a close. So quickly! Guess there is some truth to the old adage, "Time flies when you are having fun".

Just a quick reminder to you Local Commandery Presidents, the Annual Year End Reports have been forwarded to your Supreme Subordinate Presidents and I expect that they would have forwarded them to your Grand President for distribution to his Local Commanderies. (Sometimes this "Chain of Command" thing can be a little discomforting. At one time, I remember sending copies to each Commandery myself.)

The Year End Report Form, also captioned "Special Notice to the Recording Secretary" should be in the hands of each Local Commandery President by the first week of December. If you haven't received your copy by the time you receive this copy of the KSJI Journal, call your Grand President immediately.

Once your Local elections have been completed, your secretary is responsible to complete the form, remembering to do both sides, attach a copy of your current roster and send to your Grand President. (Specific instructions are on the top of the form). These completed forms MUST be in my hands by 15 January 2018. Failure to do so will result in a fine to the commandery.

We have made great progress on our KSJI Website and I ask you to look it over. There is still more changes and improvements to come. We welcome your opinions and comments. Send them to either myself or the Supreme Webmaster, B/G Dominic Pepe. Address of our site is: KSJI.org

Amazing that Christmas is already upon us. Please accept my sincere wishes for aBlessed celebration of the Birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. To me, Christmas is a time

(Continued on page 15)



SUPREME Spiritual Director's Message

Dear Bother Knights and Ladies Auxiliary,

May Our Loving and Merciful Savior be with you!

It is often said, as you get older, time flies. Where has the time gone? It seemed like summer was just last month. Now we are preparing for the season of Christmas and New Years. Time waits for no one. For this reason, it is important that we take each moment and each day seriously - and look at them as a blessing. Also, take advantage of each day with Christ, the Prince of Peace, sharing it with you.

Let me share a reflection I came upon. Reflect on it and maybe share this reflection with others.:

"I am the Prince of Peace. As I said to My disciples, I say also to you: Peace be with you. Since I am your constant Companion, My Peace is steadfastly with you. When you keep your focus on Me, you experience both My Presence and My Peace. Worship Me as King of kings, Lord of lords, and Prince of Peace.

You need my Peace each moment to accomplish My purposes in your life. Sometimes you are tempted to take shortcuts in order to reach your goal as quickly as possible. But if the shortcut requires turning your back on My peaceful Presence, you must choose the longer route. Walk with Me along paths of Peace; enjoy the journey in My Presence."

May the Peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ fill you abundantly, and may you share that Peace with others.

Merry Christmas to each of you, and Have a blessed Happy New Year. See you at our Convention in Philadelphia.

Sincerely yours in Christ.

Rev. Msgr. Federico A. Britto Supreme Spiritual Director

Welcome to our New Members

September, 2017 to December, 2017

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|-----|----------------------------------|--|
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| | 0 , - - - | Julian Obeng, Christian Gyamaa, James KwakuDuah, HyacintheAhiamadjie, Charles Tannor, ChijiokeAchiluhu, Eze Solomon Chukwuebuka |

Supreme Officers Receive Honors

On Sunday, October 1, 2017, the Philadelphia Chapter of the Knights of Columbus, named our Supreme Spiritual Director, Rev. Msgr. Federico A. Britto, as their, "CATHO-LIC MAN OF THE YEAR".

Msgr. Britto was honored at their 116th Annual Columbus Day Dinner Dance for his extremely active service on committees and Boards of Directors promoting the role of Black America Catholics in the Roman Catholic Church. His Holiness, Pope Francis has granted the Papal Honor of Knighthood to our Supreme 2nd Vice President, Lt. Gen. Dan Anaebo Okekenta into the Order of St. Gregory the Great.

Most Rev. Bishop, Dr. Paulinus Ezeokafor set the site of this Investiture Ceremony at St. Patrick Cathedral in Awka, Anambra State, Nigeria on Saturday, 21 October, 2017. With the approval of the Vatican, Supreme Secretary, Lt. Gen. Sir Tom Zdanowicz and his spouse, Lady Jeanne Zdanowicz, were promoted within the ranks of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre to Knight Commander and Lady Commander, respectively.

The Promotion Ceremony was conducted by Timothy Cardinal Dolan at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City on Saturday, October 21. 2017.

Abuja Grand Commandery

The Abuja Grand Commandery had in the past few months, been involved in a number of activities which included the following, among others:

1. Installation of Six Newly CharteredCadet Commanderies

The Abuja Grand President, Brig. Gen Jerome E. Nwokeji on 2nd September, 2017, inaugurated six newly chartered Cadet Commanderies and installed their charter officers. The unique event was witnessed by members of the Abuja Grand Board, Cadet Organisers from the concerned Local Commanderies, parents and members of the Grand Commandery. It was held at the KSJI, Hall, Our Lady Queen of Nigeria Pro-Cathedral, Garki, Abuja. In his address, Noble Bro. Nwokeji congratulated the newly installed officers and described the Cadets as the princes and the future of the Order. He called on them to step into the shoes of their parents. The Grand President also congratulated the Cadet Organisers, parents of the Cadets and praised them for their diligence.

2. Consecration of Fatima Centenary Grotto Pilgrimage Centre, Sheda, Abuja

The Abuja Grand Commandery/ Laux led by the Grand President, Brig. Gen. Jerome E. Nwokeji on 7th October, 2017, trooped out en-mass to Sheda, Abuja to witness the consecration of the above project, a brain child of the Grand Commandery. The ceremony which was presided over by the Local Ordinary, Archbishop John Cardinal Onaiyekan, witnessed the presence of a large number of clergy men and women and thousands of lay members. Knights of St. John International of Abuja Grand were highly commended by the Cardinal for conceptualizing, designing and building the Grotto. It will be recalled that Abuja Grand President had a few months earlier written to the Cardinal seeking permission for the Abuja Grand to design and build the Grotto. Located on the approaches to Abuja, the project is also intended to serve as a Pilgrim-Centre. Abuja Grand age Commandery has so far completed the first Phase of the project under the expert direction and supervision of the Grand President Brig Gen. Nwokeji who also designed the project. Work is ongoing on the second phase.

3. Visit to Local Commanderies

The Grand President, accompanied by some Grand officers visited some local Commanderies within Abuja Grand for Muster or other official engagement in accordance with KSJI Constitution. The Commanderies visited included Holy Trinity, #574, Maitama, St Theresa's, #695, Bwari and St. Luke's, #877, Kubwa. During the visit, the Grand President, Brig Gen. Nwokeji inspected guards of honour, inspected and signed their books and had useful dialogue with the hosts. The Grand President and his entourage also visited sick members including Capt. Paschal Ahizi, the Commander of Commandery 574, Maitama, Abuja. The entourage prayed for his quick recovery while promising to render financial assistance through the Grand Benevolent Fund.

4. Fallen Colleagues

Abuja Grand Commandery announces the sad loss of some illustrious colleagues. These included:

Bro. Donald IfeanyiOpara, the erstwhile Recording and Corresponding Secretary of Commandery 574, Maitama and Grand Publicity Undersecretary. He was laid to rest on 11th August,2017;

Bro. Sylvester Ayih, the Worthy President of Comm 672, Akwanga. Bro. Ayih who was the traditional ruler of his Community was buried on 19th September, 2017;

Noble Bro. Jonathan Abanobi of Commandery 472, Garki, Abuja passed on to greater glory on 7th Sept. 2017. He will be buried in early November, 2017; and

Lt. Col. Damian Inyama who passed on on 10th October, 2017. Bro. Inyama was from Immaculate Conception, #541, Lokoja.

Respectfully Submitted Col. Anselm OnuoraOnyemekwu Abuja Grand Secretary

Owerri Grand Commandery

In the last quarter Owerri Grand took bold steps to move forward as encapsulated in: **Sat. 8/7/17** Supreme subordinate Nigeria President, Maj. Gen. Sir Anslem Okafor visited Owerri Grand to commence his farewell official visits to Grand Commanderies, with a call on Owerri Grand to Sow Seed of hope and cooperation.

Thurs. August 31, 2017

Archbishop Obinna blessed KSJI hostel complex. The hostel is fully completed and ready for use with air conditioners in all the rooms and 24 hours light courtesy Bro. Tony Enukeme.

Sat. 21/10/2017

St. Patrick Catholic Diocese, Awka, 2nd Vice President Owerri Grand, Noble Bro Anthony Enukeme was invested a papal Knight alongside Noble Bro. Dan Okekenta by His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Paulinus Ezeokafor, Bishop of Awka Diocese.

Owerri Grand Initiation 2017 Wed 25th – Sat. 28/10/17

57 able bodied men joined Knights of St John International. This swells the number of brother knights in the Grand. The name of the squad is Fatima Squad with Bro. Bartholomew Ikechukwu



KSJI Grand Hostel

Ohawe as Squad leader and Sis. Catherine Ada Nwachukwu as Squad leader laux.

Sadly Sat. 12/8/17 IN THE SPIRIT OF CHARITY:

Owerri Grand raised the sum of N800,000.00 to assist a Cadet and Senior Seminarian Matthew Chimdirinma Opara of St. Joseph Major Seminary Ikoto Ekpene who needs kidney surgery at India Hospital. N300,000.00 to help sick bros and sisters.

Let us remember our sick brothers and sisters, given them a call, a prayer, a visit a support and above all forgive one another.

We have not lived today until we have done something for someone who can never repay us.

> Lieut. Vincent Azubuike Under Sec. Owerri Grand

Cadet Organizers

From: Supreme President Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr.

To: ALL KSJI Cadet Organizers

As a result of the Supreme Executive Board meeting, the Supreme Cadet Committee has been ordered to update all cadet information.

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: Maj. 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 *bruces1906@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 December 30, 2017.

Fraternally, Maj. Gen. F. Jerome Countiss, Jr. Supreme Cadet Organizer

Knicht of StJohn

Buffalo Grand Commandery

Over the past few months I have heard the same word used in many applications and seen it's Blessings. The word "SERVICE". I determined it fitting to dedicate this quarter's journal article on that very word: "SERVICE". We as Knights support our Faith in many ways. We take on the Armor of God and serve our Faith guided by the teachings of Christ. We serve within Lay Ministries, Faith Formation programs and organize fundraising events to provide charitable beneficence to those of our parishes and communities.

This publication of the Journal sees Msgr. Paul J.E. Burkard traveling to Rome. Msgr. Burkard, the pastor of Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, NY is visiting the Vatican to discuss the Venerable Nelson Baker's cause for canonization. Msgr. Burkard serves as vice postulator for Father Baker's cause for canonization. He will be meeting with the Congregation for the Cause for Saints to answer any questions regarding the Venerable Nelson Baker's case for canonization. The Congregation is currently reviewing the miracle for Father Baker to be moved to beatification. In 2011, Father Baker was found to be of heroic virtue and took on the title "Venerable". Our Brother, The Venerable Nelson Baker a Buffalo-born priest founded Our Lady of Victory Basilica and its many institutions that support orphans, widows, unwed mothers, and the poor. His life of SERVICE is an inspiration to us all. Please keep the cause for his canonization in your prayers.

A continual question arises within the Order. What will attract men to the Order? I fell back on my leadership training as a US Marine to answer this question. Ask those that you lead. Though, a leader must be prepared for the answers to an openended question posed to subordinates. The truth will humble and provide a roadmap to developing a successful plan. I present an article authored by Sir Knight Timothy Gastle of Local Commandery No. 382. He has been a Knight for a year and a half and was provided a uniform by his Commandery.

KSJI~A Sir Knight's Perspective

"I am Timothy Gastle, Sir Knight

and proud member of the Knights of Saint John, International, Local Commandery #382. I was invited to join the Knights about a year and a half ago by a longtime friend and associate. Upon entering into my late 40's, I found I was looking for something more in life. The Knights offered me a sense of community, friendship, brotherhood and comradery in the midst of one of the warmest welcomes I have ever received, all in the context of the Church I love so dearly. In a culture that does not often encourage close, authentic male friendship and associations, what could be better to help fulfill these most basic desires and needs of every man, as well as challenge me to grow in my faith? As it says in Proverbs: "Iron Sharpens Iron, and so does one man for another". The Knights offers all these things, and so much more!

I was humbled to make my first full uniform military turnout just this past July, at a celebration for Venerable Father Nelson Baker at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, NY. This was especially fitting and profound for me, as I have a deep love and devotion for Fr. Nelson Baker and the magnificent Church he built. I was so proud and awed to don this stunning uniform in such a beautiful and holy place! Fast forward to just last week, when we turned out for Confirmation there for the very first time, and Major General Gibbons invited our Bishop Malone to inspect our line. What an honor to shake hands and briefly converse with this important leader of our Diocese. It made me feel a part of a great team.

In all I have seen as a public school teacher and in working for the Church, I truly and firmly believe an organization like ours can only succeed by fostering true servant leadership, as Christ was a servant to all. He must remain our model in all things. In addition to our turnouts, my favorite part of being in the Knights is seeing these qualities displayed in the leaders and members of our Commandery. I so enjoy serving alongside them in the fundraisers we hold to raise money for charities and our parish. Even better, I always have such a



The Venerable Nelson Baker

good time doing so in the context of this newfound brotherhood and within the process of our labors and good works. Serving in and through the Knights is my small way of giving back for all the blessings I have received in my life, and I'm so honored to be able to do this with a group of some of the best men I have ever met. They have truly challenged me and helped me to become a better man."

I thank SK Gastle for his perspective on being a Knight within the Order. The greatest responsibility a Leader must accomplish is to fulfill the needs of our Order's Knights. Tim chose to take on the mantle of the "Armor of God". Now, we must fulfill in him what he requires to be a Roman Catholic Knight.

On Sunday, September 10th the 2nd Regiment Commander, Lt. Col. Hammer held the annual 2nd Regiment Communion Mass at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, NY. Mass was celebrated by Monsignor Burkard and was followed by breakfast at Curly's Restaurant. During the breakfast, Capt. Vincent Binder was awarded the 2nd Regiment "Knight of the Year". Good job Vinnie. Capt. Binder is best known for serving our Order by authoring the KSJI "Armor of God Blessing & Investiture Ceremony".

My sincerest wishes to all my Brothers and your families, for a Merry Christmas and Happy and Healthy New Year.

> Fraternal Blessings, MGen. James M. Gibbons II Buffalo Grand President

Makurdi Grand Commandery

It had been long since we featured in this wide read publication, the Journal of our great Order. I have to chip in this year for the last quarter to push in the sad news of one of the brothers who worked hard for the creation of Makurdi Grand Commandery. Since I am no longer the Grand Scribe, it may be difficult to report on activities of the Grand Commandery but one thing I am sure is happening this year is the election that will usher in a new administration which will hopefully hold in December 2017. I was present at the burial ceremony of our dear late Captain Samuel Manaseh Shamo, the District Second vice Commander of District 40, Makurdi, When I was at the burial. I remembered how we used to stay late night together and awake for quite some times, days and weeks trying to meet the requirement of the supreme Commandery to produce evidence to prove our qualification for our own Grand Commandery from Abuja. Brother Shamo was obediently working in the secretariat with me and was hardworking. We have really missed him. We have to join his family and the family of the Knights of St. Theresa's Commandery 593 High Level and District 40 Makurdi respectively, to pray for the repose of his soul. Below is a dirge by one of his daughters, the eldest in the family:

"With tears in the eyes I mourn my dearest dad who was also a mother figure when I lost my mother twenty-one years ago, what else can a daughter wish for, than to have a hero as a father. I used to be so boastful for having a prayerful father, with him I felt so safe nothing to be afraid of, now he is gone, missed, his advice, his gist, jokes and laughter and constant smiles. I have missed the way we used to sit together and talk about family issues. After my major operation in 2016, I gave up hope of living; but he told me with a smiling face, that he would not bury a child again. That he would pray that I add another fifty-five (55) years to my age, giving me hope that I will be the one to bury him, but I thought it was just one of his many jokes I never knew it would happen soon. For some past years, I used to have the same dream repeatedly that he was dead. In that dream, I would cry my heart out and wake up with swollen eyes in the morning. I kept on telling him about the dreams but he just laughed over it and said, as a soldier of Christ, he was not afraid of death. That he had served and worshiped God, so when the time would be ripe for him he would happily go. That I should pray when the time comes I would know and my worst fear became a reality on 23/05/2017 a day I will never forget, he left us with nobody but God. He left me as confused as ever, my life was meaningless without him, the worst thing in this life is losing both parents but who am I

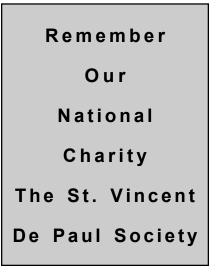
to question the will of God? My dearest dad and mum continue to rest in peace. When you were alive, you always prayed for your children now that you are in heaven continue praying for us to follow the right path. The good path you always thought us, to be always prayerful in good and bad time. If I had an opportunity of next life and were to be given an opportunity to choose a father, I would still choose you, my hero, my mentor, an upright man who would always stand by his words. Your teachings will never be in vain, rest in peace daddy".

On my part as someone who worked with Shamo when I was District Commander of Abuja District which was in fact one of the largest Districts in Nigeria that time late Shamo was a Recording and Corresponding Secretary of St. Theresa Commandery 593 High Level, Makurdi. When I was elected Grand 1st Vice President of Abuja Grand commandery, Shamo was a Grand Undersecretary and we still worked together. Frankly, that time, we held series of meetings to actualize the dream of what we have today as Makurdi Grand Commandery. Brother Shamo, we miss you but we shall meet in heaven to part no more. Rest in peace. I want to wish our teaming readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2018.

> Sir Godwin Ageebee Nen-na Past Grand Secretary

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Kentucky Grand Commandery

Greetings from Commandery # 103 in Louisville, Kentucky. Year 2017 has been a busy year. Commandery # 103 held our annual card party on April 2, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. We held our annual Derby Eve fish fry and sweepstakes raffle on May 5, 2017. We worked in a sausage / bacon booth at St. Joseph's Children's Home Picnic on August 12, 2017, something that our commandery has worked for over 70 years. On September 9, 2017, we worked in a picnic booth to help Incarnation Church.

The Knights of St. John International Supreme Subordinate - U. S. A. Formation Meeting was held on September 16, 2017 at the Knights of St. John Commandery # 103 Hall at 2100 St. John's Place in Louisville, Kentucky. Twenty-five Brother Knights attended from the Grand Commanderies of Baltimore – Washington, Buffalo, Cincinnati, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, New York, Ohio, and an unattached commandery in Los Angeles. Also in attendance were Supreme Officers: President, Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr., Secretary, Lt. Gen. Thomas Zdanowicz,



Treasurer, Lt. Gen. Terrence McCann, and Past President Gen. Dale Gossiaux all who officially installed the new Supreme Subordinate-USA officers. A Mass at Incarnation Church at 5:00 p.m. followed the meeting with our brother Knights in full dress uniforms and marching uniforms.

On October 8th our 66th Annual Living Rosary (100th year of Our Lady of Fatima) was held at Trinity High School in Louisville, Kentucky at 3:00 p.m. In November 2017 we had our annual Memorial Mass at St. Lawrence Church. We lost three dedicated Brother Knights: Albert Clemons, Joseph Miller and Martin Harley this year. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Although our numbers are small, we still try to be as visible as we can in the Louisville, Kentucky area and spread the word about the Knights of St. John.

> Fraternally, Anthony Tabler Kentucky Grand Secretary

Jos Grand Commandery

Celebration of the Feast of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist on 29/8/2017 by Com. #507

The feast was celebrated with a Mass at the Yola Prisons located in Adamawa state by 9:00 am. In attendance at the Mass were Christian inmates, Knights and laux. Rev. Fr. Martins Hayatu who is our spiritual adviser delivered his Homily on "The virtues of St, John the Baptist". He encouraged the inmates to emulate the good deeds of St. John the Baptist during their confinement in prison and thereafter. It is worth mentioning herein that the Mass was celebrated in a Chapel built and donated to Yola Prisons by Sir John Elias Danruwata. After the Mass gifts of cartoons of soaps, pomade and other sanitary items were donated to the prison inmates by the commandery and ladies auxiliary through the deputy comptroller of Yola prison. Additional donation of two (2) string guitars were presented to the Prison chapel by a Brother Knight when it was discovered that the chapel lack this instrument. In his response, the Deputy Comptroller who is the most senior Officer in charge of the Yola



Worthy President, Col. Ubale Cyril presenting gifts to the Deputy Comptroller of Prisons Yola.

Prisons expressed his appreciation to the Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary for the fellowship and kind gesture. He urged for more of such visits, and gestures and strongly maintained that such religious visits will go a long way to soften the otherwise hardened hearts of the Prisons Inmates and give them a sense of belonging within their immediate society.

> Col. Ubale Cyril Worthy President

Baltimore-Washington Grand Commandery

The Catholic Church recognizes November as Black Catholic History Month in the Archdiocese of Washington, DC. These Masses were developed to pay tribute to the influence of blacks and slaves on the history of Catholic Church. The Knights of St. Johns presence was requested at both Masses to serve as escorts the Bishop. The Archdiocese of Washington celebrated their Mass at St Joseph's Catholic Church on November 10, 2017. The parish at Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church celebrated their Mass on November 12, 2017. Auxiliary Bishop Roy Campbell, who is currently a member of the Knights of St. John, was the celebrant for both Masses.

From Commandery #287:

On August 15, 2017, the Knights of Saint John Commandery #287 of Atlantic City, NJ, joined with The Knights of Columbus to lead the Procession for the Mass at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. The



The Maryland Regiment Knights participated in the Procession of the Blessed Mother through Laplata, Maryland.

event was the annual "Wedding of the Sea Festival".

The Knights of Saint John Commandery #287, founded in Atlantic City, NJ, in 1919, celebrate the historic Plaque unveiled on August 27, 2017. The Plaque was dedicated to remember the former Saint Monica's Church. The Knights of Saint John had been active in this Church since it was founded.

Maryland Regiment:

The Maryland Regiment of the Baltimore Washington Grand Knights participated in the procession of the Blessed Mother through the town of Laplata, Maryland. This is just one of the six celebrations that occurred in Charles County, Maryland. The Maryland Regiment participated in four of the six celebrations.



2017 will soon come to an end and a new and exciting year will be upon us. 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 1st Vice President, Supreme Subordnate~USA



Members from Commandery #287 at the newly dedicated plaque.

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

Knight of St. John

Ohio Grand Commandery

Cleveland Welcomes New Bishop, Bishop Nelson Perez

On September 5, 2017, the Ohio Grand Commandery participated in the installation Mass of the new Bishop of Cleveland. Sir Knights Nate Sabo and Dominic Madonia lead the procession of lay organizations and clergy, into the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, for the Installation of Bishop Nelson Perez. The two knights represented the Knights of St. John Ohio Grand Commandery, in uniform, at this very historic and special celebration. On October 18th, the Knights of St. Rocco Commandery #330 served as an honor guard for Bishop Perez, at his welcome Mass, held at the Shrine Church of St. Stanislaus in Cleveland, Ohio. Bishop Perez formally welcomed the Knights of St. John, at socials following both Masses.

Commandery #330 Supports Their Parish

As it has been the tradition for the past few decades, the Knights of St. John, St. Rocco's Commandery #330 showed up in force for the 103rd St. Rocco Italian Festival. They set-up, ran, and took down a gaming booth for the parish, raising money which the parish will put to good use. The knights volunteered their time for the entire Labor Day weekend, selling tickets, running their booth, and even serving food. The St. Rocco Italian Festival is west side of Cleveland's largest Italian Festival, which draws thousands of visitors each year. The festival coincides with the Feast of St. Rocco, and the



parish holds Mass followed by a procession through the streets of Cleveland, in which the knights also participate. Later in September, the knights fulfilled a request from the pastor, and participated in uniform for the closing ceremonies of the Forty Hours of Adoration. Throughout the year, the Commandery will participate in several masses, run socials, and help with various activities for the parish.

2nd and 3rd Degree Exemplification Held

The Commandery held a 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} degree exemplification on October 8, 2017. At the noon Mass at St. Rocco Parish, seven brother knights received the honor of the 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} degree. Mass was celebrated by the Pastor Fr. James Mayer, O.de M., along with the chaplain of Commandery #330 Fr. Paschal "Pat" Rosca O.de M. After much



preparation, the brother knights were able to receive their degrees, with a flawless ceremony and a beautiful Mass. The newly exemplified brother knights celebrated the degree ceremony with a traditional Italian meal, put on for them by brother knights of Commandery #330.

Our Lady of Fatima

The Knights of St. John Commandery #330 participated in a special Mass, in honor of Our Lady of Fatima, on the Hundredth Anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun. On October 13th, the Traveling Statue of Fatima visited St. Rocco Church where prayer, Mass, Benediction, and a procession were held. The Knights of St. John served as an honor guard for the Mass and participated in the procession around the grounds of the parish. Four knights of Commandery #330 also carried the statue of Our Lady during the procession, as was requested by the pastor. Other knights served as the honor guard for the statue, during the procession. In August, the Knights also participated in a Mass, with the traveling statue, at the historic St. Casimir Church, located on the east side of Cleveland.

> Respectfully Submitted, 1st Sergeant Nate Sabo Sergeant-at- Arms, St. Rocco Commandery #330

Knight of St. John

Port Harcourt Grand Commandery

Since our last report, four major activities of the Grand Commandery stand out.

2nd / 3rd Degree Exemplification, July 8, 2017

First, is the 2nd / 3rd degree exemplification of brothers, mainly of the Bishop Fitzgibbon Squad, and others who had missed out on previous exemplification exercises. 69 of these had been attending catechesis in their various Commanderies in the past year (were also subjected to drill practices).

They were also required to have passed through our Young Brothers Workshop, a post initiation training that aims at deepening their experiences and understanding of the "rough road", and of introducing the new initiates into the culture, history and ethics of our fraternity.

The Grand President, Brig Gen. George Ikioumoton, commended the candidates for their performance and urged them to strive hard to learn all they could about their faith which they have undertaken to defend as Knights.

Then, he conducted the exemplification ceremony at the end of Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Kabari, our Spiritual Director.

The happy brothers showed their appreciation by voluntarily raising about N700,000 to tile St Joseph's Catholic Church, our Spiritual Director's Parish.

KSJI Annual Grand Retreat – July 28 - 30th

A second principal event in the Grand Commandery was our annual retreat, on the theme **"Do whatever** *he tells you*", John 2:5.

The retreat took place in our Lady of Fatima Secondary School, Borokiri. The students were on holidays during the period, July 28 - 30. The humble accommodation arrangement in the girls' hostel was a sobering experience for the 'big' men and ladies of Knights of John International. Our Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Dr. Joseph Kabari, and the Episcopal Laity Vicar Rev. Fr. Polycarp Henetu, preached the three day retreat. Confessions, group discussions, question and answer sessions were prominent features of the retreat. One visible fruit of the retreat was a charity outreach



to one of our sick brothers on medical sojourn in far-away Germany, Bro Nwankwocha about N550,000 was raised to assists him.

2^{nd} Tier Military Workshop August $24^{th} - 25^{th}$

Following chronologically, the Grand Commandery held its 2nd Tier Military Workshop at the Holy Family Catholic Church, Woji. The Sole Administrator of the School of Knights, Noble Bro Adebayo Ejele, explained that the 2nd Tier Military Workshop was directed at raising able Commanders, and preparing brothers for colour party, funeral party, and honour guard outings. Specialized parade movements are also taught and practiced.

Thirty five brothers and thirty sisters took part in the programme which lasted for two days. Col. Ben Etim, Supreme Subordinate Assistant Inspector led the team of instructors which included Capt. Ebitimi Berezi, and Maj. Benjamin Iwuoha, Port Harcourt Grand Commandery Inspector. Certificates were issued by the Grand President, Brig. Gen. George Ikioumoton to the happy participants who now felt more confident in their Sword Manual maneuvers and better understating of the Order.

Cadet /Junior Holiday Programme Sept 1, 2017

Cadets and Juniors held their oneday 2017 holiday programme at the Sacred Heart Seminary, Rumuibekwe. All eight existing Cadet Commanderies participated in the outing. The Cadets looked absolutely smashing in their new uniforms. The Grand Spiritual Director said the opening Mass, assisted by our Cadet Priest, Rev. Fr. Ayarekpe, Simeon. The march-past, animated by a brass band of the Mater Misericordiae Cadet Commandery, was a great joy to behold.

The Grand Cadet Organizer and the Grand Auxiliary Junior Organizer were respectively Bro. Harry Oruma and Sis. Maria Mogba, who simply had done a marvelous job on the children. The past (2012) Supreme Cadet Treasurer, Cadet Tonye N-Chris Banigo addressed the cadets.

The programme consisted in Confessions, Mass, a colourful march-past, lectures, discussions and a sumptuous lunch.

The occasion attracted many Catholics, including Knights of St. Mulumba, and others. It was a huge evangelization success. Charters for four new Cadet Commanderies are awaited.

Joint Grand BOT September 30, 2017

This is the last event in the quarter. On 30^{th} September, the Grand President and his staff officers, District Commanders, Worthy Presidents and their Grand delegates assembled in Our Lady of Lourdes Commandery #634 for the Joint BOT meeting. At roll call, more than 80% were in attendance.

The agenda was long but discussions were animated and frank. Major issues were the 1st Degree Initiation due in October, increases in the premium of our Death Benefit Insurance Scheme, the Bishop's renovation project and the Cadet's Holiday Programme.

Far reaching decisions were taken. The Board meeting which started with Mass ended about 5:00 pm with a sumptuous fraternal meal.

> Col Dan Onuoha Grand Secretary

Knight & StJohn

New York Grand Commandery

News and Events from District 4 District 4 Delegates Meeting:

The Third Quarterly Delegates and Officers meeting of District Four of the New York Grand Commandery was hosted by Commandery # 626 New York on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at St. Clement Pope Parish, Jamaica Queens, New York. The meeting was presided over by Major Patrick Mombo – the District Commander and was fully participated by delegates and members of Commanderies 626 NY, 676 Trenton NJ and 680 Newark NJ.

2nd & 3rd Degrees Initiation:

Capt. Titus Brown Osuagwu, Chairman of the Committee for the 2nd and 3rd Degrees Exemplification gave an update on his committee's successful preparation for the hosting of this ceremony. The three-man committee was made up of the three Commanders from the three Commanderies of District 4. According to Capt. Osuagwu, Commandery 680 Newark NJ will host the event on Sunday, November 12, 2017. He stated the Committee resolved that only candidates who qualified according to Chapter 11 Section 18 of the KSJI Constitution will be eligible for the initiation. The list of qualified and verified candidates for exemplification from the three Commanderies were read to the members. At that meeting the District Commander, Maj. Patrick Mombo, directed the Committee's Chairman to get in touch with the Parish Priest of Blessed Sacrament



Some participants at the New York Grand Pilgrimage. Please go to http://frontiernet.net/~nygrand and click on Photos for Full Documentary of the 2017 New York Grand Pilgrimage.

Church, Newark NJ for the Liturgy preparations and Maj. Mombo also stated that he had liaised with the Supreme and Grand authorities of the KSJI for further necessary actions and invitations. Maj. Mombo is also liaising with other Grand and District Commanderies in other metropolitan areas to take advantage of this upcoming initiation in the 4th District and send in their qualified candidates to participate.

New York Grand Retreat 2017

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 30, 2017. The retreat commenced with a Eucharistic Celebration which was officiated by Rev. Fr. Henry Okenu of Nnewi Diocese, Nigeria who filled in for Monsignor (Col.) Anselm Nwaorgu, NY Grand Spiritual Director who was inadvertently absent resulting from a prior event/meeting already scheduled with Cardinal Joseph William Tobin at the Cathedral Basilica, Newark Diocese.

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.

> Fraternally submitted: Capt. Titus Brown Osuagwu Media and Information Officer District 4, New York Grand

~ 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, **THIS** is the proceedure now being used.

All articles submitted via email should be saved in a <u>MicroSoft</u> <u>Word</u> format (<u>WITHOUT PHOTOS</u>) 12 point TimesRoman.

All photos should be of highest resolution possible and **<u>attached</u>** to an email. **<u>DO NOT</u> 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 MAXIMUN.

Articles submitted <u>after the deadline</u> (see page 11) will be included on a space available basis.

Thank you for your assistance.

Gentlemen, and EVERYONE sending in articles for publication, The information in the box to the left is most important and <u>MUST BE</u> <u>FOLLOWED TO THE</u> <u>LETTER</u>. The Journal is produced using a program known only to those professionals who work in the printing/ publishing field.

(Supreme President from page 4)

anced budget, approved recommended Constitutional changes, established structure for operations of the Advisory Board, etc., and we look forward to presenting all of our work to the membership at the Convention.

As we move to the future of our organization, there are still members that choose to stay in the past. These members are a very small portion of our order and wish to disrupt our progress. However, we as a unified membership will continue to move forward and do the work of our Lord. For those who don't understand that change and progress for the betterment of our organization is inevitable, we pray.

May the Lord watch over us all and may He give us peace, health, and happiness, and the strength to be charitable to those in need. God Bless, and Merry Christmas to all our Brother Knights and Ladies throughout our world.

Respectfully, Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr. Supreme President Knights of St. John International

(Supreme Secretary from page 4)

to be in love with all of creation. To forgive and pardon those who may have hurt you, and to surround yourself with those whom you love dearly. May the Infant Jesus extend His hand to you and grant you a happy heart.

Deus lo vult

In Memoriam Commandery: 282 St. Wendel, IN Harry Seibert 300 Fort Laramie, OH Albert Hoelscher 300 Fort Laramie, OH Lester Kemper 351Derby Ave., Accra. Ghana Edward Aboagye Dominic J. Terranova 377 Lancaster, NY 385Utica, NY George Picente 385 Utica, NY Michael Colucci Owerri, Imo, Nigeria 422 Cyriacus A. Nwaeboh Hormidas Peter CarniciousKyogkureh 426 Nandom, Ghana 433Orlu, Imo, Nigeria Aloysius Ironuma 436 Tarkwa,Ghana Thomas BonsuMinnah 445 Aba, Abia, Nigeria Cornelius O. John Nwaukwa IsialaMbano LGA, Imo, Nigeria Cosmos ChukwuemekaIkeka 445Hyacinth Osunwoke 460 Port Harcourt, Rivers, Nigeria Godwin Njeje 469 Umuahia, Abia, Nigeria Garki, Abuja, Nigeria Jonathan Abanobi 472487 Katswa, Katsina, Nigeria Andrew Sunday Aliu 520 London, U.K. Albert Okeke 534 Aba, Abia, Nigeria Joseph Agu 567 Zonkwa, Kaduna, Nigeria James Sarki 469 Umuahia, Abia, Nigeria Sylvester ChilakaIbe Peter IjiomaOkorie 469 Umuahia, Abia, Nigeria Damian Inyama 541 Lokoje, Koji, Nigeria 561Eziale, Umuoda-Nguru, Imo, Nigeria Boniface O. Unamba 574Maitama, Abuja FCT, Nigeria Donald IfeanviOpara 580 Awgu, Enugu, Nigeria Gregory Okongwu NenBussa, Niger. Nigeria Francis Mary Nwusu 597600 Abakaliki, Ikwo, Nigeria Linus N. Ovuna 604 Madina, Ghana James KwabenaDenteh 630 Ashaiman, Ghana Moses A. Amesimenu 636 Umuaka, Imo, Nigeria **Raphael** Okpara Anyigba, Kogi, Nigeria Patrick Oiogbena 639 Sabo, Kaduna, Nigeria Michael Kapio 665666 Kafanchan, Kaduna, Nigeria Stephen Makkah Godwin Ayamtyok 667 Funtua, Katsina, Nigeria 672Akwanga, Nasarawa. Nigeria Sylvester Avih

735 Lawra, Ghana 736 Cantonments, Accra, Ghana

753 Nsukka, Enugu, Nigeria

692 BirninKebbi, Kebbi, Nigeria

100 D J H J D' N'

800 Port Harcourt, Rivers, Nigeria Innocent Akuvue September, 2017 to December, 2017

Togo Grand Commandery

Subsequent the 21^{st} Togo Grand convention held from 8^{th} to 10^{th} September 2017 at Kara.

We are pleased to submit to you the roll of the new elected Grand officers issued from the elections for the period of 2017 to 2019.

They are as follows:

Spiritual Director most Rev. Jacque Longa, Bishop of Kara; Grand president: Brig. Gen. Edward Aristide Agbodjan; Grand past president: Brig. Gen. Michel Dosseh Anyron; Grand past president: Brig. Emmanuel Gnassounou; Grand past president: Brig. Gen. Emile Anthony; Grand 1st vice president: Col. Victor Vovo; Grand 2nd vice president: Col. Raphael Lemou; Grand secretary: Col. Daniel Melomey; Grand financial secretary: Capt John da-Ernesto; Grand treasurer: Lt Olivier Gomez; Grand judge advocate: Lt. Jocelyn Gnassouno; Grand trustees: 1st Capt. David Atayi, 2nd Lt. Antoine Amegadji, 3rd Maj. Urbain Assimtoke; Grand sergeant at arms: Maj. Bruno Sossou; Grand messenger: Capt. Innocent Amegandun; Grand guard: Lt. Lionel Wabi.

Cyril ChuksEneremadu

Simon BangfodemeDier

Dr. Dominic Avogo

Joseph Ochi

The Togo Grand commandery avails the opportunity to renew to the supreme secretary and to the entire supreme officers the assurances of its highest consideration.

Yours fraternally in Knighthood, Brig. Gen. Edward Aristide Agbodjan Grand President

MUSTER & INSPECTION ORDER

Reports must be filed before January 15, 2018

(OFFICIAL)

September 1, 2017

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, 2018.

You will submit a full and detailed report of the results of said inspection not later than Janauary 15, 2018.

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, 2017

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, 2017; 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, 2018. 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, 2018. 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, 2018.

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