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IN GOD WE TRUST

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Merry
Christmas!



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CHIJOKE OKAFOR, EDITOR
ksjisupremesecretary@gmail.com

MICHAEL DAYS, ASST. EDITOR
KnightsJournal@yahoo.com

SUPREME EXECUTIVE BOARD

Supreme Spiritual Director - Rev. Msgr. Sir Federico Britto, Philadelphia, PA. 19143
Tel. 215-747-3250, - fabritto10@juno.com

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Supreme Secretary Emeritus - Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas F. Zdanowicz, KC*HS, Frankfort, NY 13340. Tel 315-733-8694, tomzdanowicz@yahoo.com

Supreme Subordinate President - Ghana - Maj. Gen. William Edmund Okang Adjei, Tel. +233 24 435 6277, supsubpresident.gh@gmail.com

Supreme Subordinate President - Liberia - Maj. Gen. Charles Garmodeh Kpan, Monrovia, Liberia, W.A. Tel. +231 886 510812 - charlesgarmodehkpansr@gmail.com

Supreme Subordinate President - Nigeria - Maj. Gen. Remy Uche- email: ucheremy@yahoo.com

Supreme Subordinate President - Sierra Leone Maj. Gen. Gerald Ganda, Freetown, Sierra Leone, +23276222822, geraldhganda@yahoo.co.uk

Supreme Subordinate President - USA- Maj. Gen. Brian Stehlin, Macomb, MI, Tel # 586-876-5612, brianbala@comcast.net

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Accra West - Brig. Gen. Edward Kofi Dabi, Tel. +233 20 558 6277; +233 24 326 1671, grandprez@awgksji.com

Cape Coast - Brig Gen. Joseph Kwamena Brainoo, Tel. +233 20 842 1012, jaybrainoo@yahoo.co.uk

Koforidua-Ho - Brig. Gen. Paul Amoasi Baidoo, Osu- Accra, Ghana, Tel. +233 24 316 0507, bamoasi@yahoo.com

Kumasi - Brig. Gen. Cornelius Baapone Mwinzie, Konongo, Ghana, W.A. Tel. +233 24 470 8184- mwinzie50@gmail.com

Tamale - Brig. Gen. Anthony Amalba, Tamale, Ghana, Tel. +233 24 470 8184 mwinzie50@gmail.com

Wa - Brig. Gen. Naa Thomas Gyereh, Nandom, Tel. +233 20 624 4592; +233 55 147 0720

LIBERIA

Gbarnga-Cape Palmas - Col. Moaes Jarbeh, (acting president), Zwedru, Grand Gedeh

Monrovia - Brig. Gen. Michael C. Clarke, Monrovia, Liberia, W.A. - Tel. +231 886 527139 email: subsecliberia@gmail.com

St. Paul River Bank - Brig. Gen. Theo Kofi D'almeida, - Tel. +231 866 517491; +231 077 026397 - email: kofi_d2006@yahoo.com

NIGERIA

Abakaliki - Brig. Gen. John Nnaji Nwenyi, - Tel +2347034693779

Abuja - Brig. Gen. Ephraim O. Offiah, - Tel. +080 370 42320 - email: okeyoffiah55@gmail.com

Awka - Brig. Gen. Tony Ekeke, - Tel. +080 330 67507 - email: donakcomputers@yahoo.com

Benin - Col. Samuel Iyama Aghulor, - Tel. +234 803 7124 862, samagholor@gmail.com

Calabar - Brig. Gen. Josephat Elah Omang, Tel. +234-804-701-4721, - josephatelehomang@yahoo.com

Enugu - Brig. Gen. Gilbert N. Obu, Tel. +080 373 95232 email: obugilbert@yahoo.com

Jos - Brig. Gen. Augustine C. Udoji, -Tel. +080 602 06750 - email: a.udoji300@gmail.com

Kaduna - Brig. Gen. Titus T.C. Maduba, Kano State, Nigeria W.A. email: santanafoodltd@yahoo.com

Lagos - Brig. Gen. Peter Eluyefa, - Tel. +080 669 11270 - email: petereluyefa@gmail.com

Makurdi - Brig. Gen. George Welgba, Gboko, North Benue, Nigeria, W.A. - Tel. 07085314858 -kperye@gmail.com or georgewelgba@yahoo.com

Nnewi - Gen. Vincent Ejizu, Tel. - +2348034044779, vincentejizu79@gmail.com

Nsukka - Brig. Gen. Chukwusa A. Nwokocha - Tel. +080 592 73769 - whitema_can@yahoo.com

Ogoja - Brig. Gen. Joseph Onah Odey, +2347030532485, odeyjoephonah@gmail.com

Onitsha - Brig. Gen. Evarist Uche Ubu - Tel. +080 332 78827 - email: evaristuba@gmail.com

Orlu - Brig. Gen. Damian C. Ojimba, - Tel. +080 345 48527- allsaints/sec.sch@gmail.com

Owerri - Maj. Gen. Remy Uche, (acting president), Fheegbeada, Owerri, Imo, Nigeria, email: ksji.Owerrigrand@yahoo.com

Port Harcourt - Brig. Gen. Stephen C. Ekwelibe, -Tel. +080 386 98576 email: emekaekwelibe@yahoo.com

Uyo - Brig. Gen. Samuel Umohandikan, +2348083785066, sirumohandikan@gmail.com

SIERRA LEONE

Bo-Kenema - Brig. Gen. Prof. Saidu Challay, Bo, Sierra Leone Tel. 232 764 28532, saidu.challay1966@gmail.com

Freetown-Makeni - Brig. Gen. Andrew P. Ganda, Regent, Sierra Leone Tel. 232 765 83785, andrewganda1212@yahoo.com

TOGO

Togo - Brig. Gen. Victor G. Yawotse Vovor, Lome
Togo, W.A. Tel. 228-91-98-06-28 - vevor@yahoo.fr

SUPREME SUBORDINATE SECRETARIES

Ghana - Brig. Gen. Charles Kofi Arthur Takoradi,
Ghana, Tel. +233 24 482 4732,
supsubsecgh@yahoo.com
-supsubsedgh@yahoo.com

Liberia - Brig. Gen. Michael A. Clarke, National
Elections Commission, Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia,
W.A. Tel. +231-886-527-139 - maclarke65@gmail.
com

Nigeria - Brig. Gen. Cletus Ntong- email:
calgrandsec@gmail.com

Sierra Leone - Brig. Gen. Eustace D.O. Rogers
(Freetown, Sierra Leone, +23276244185, ssubsl@
yahoo.com, rogieroge@yahoo.co.uk)

United States - Brig. Gen. Francis Kollie, Hamilton,
NJ, Tel. 609-892-0939 - supremesubskjiusa@gmail.
com

UNATTACHED COMMANDERY PRESIDENTS

St. Vincent DePaul Com. #520 - Edwin Forey,
Kingbury, Brent London, England - gordore2000@
yahoo.co.uk

Our Lady Queen of Angels Com. #608 - Louis
Anumudu, Caroma, CA 92880 Tel. 949-887-1112 -
Louis.anumudu@yahoo.com

St. Sophien Com. #739 - Capt. Frank Mensah,
Hamburg, Germany, frankmens04@yahoo.dr

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTEES

Supreme Inspector General - Maj. Gen. Sean Dey,
Dearborn, MI - Tel. 313-529-5573 byzantion@
wowway.com

Supreme Counsel - Maj. Gen. Aagon F. Tingba, Jr.,
Sinkor, Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa, -
Tel. +231 (0) 886 578 692, fatingba@yahoo.com

SUPREME UNDER SECRETARIES**QUARTERMASTER GENERAL/
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Maj. Gen. Matt Trossman, Quartermaster General
- PO Box 266, Oldenburg, IN - Tel. 812-212-9483 -
quartermaster@etczone.com

UNDER SECRETARY / JOURNAL

Asst. Editor Knights Journal - Brig. Gen. Michael I.
Days, Trenton, NJ. Tel. (609) 529-1342
- KnightsJournal@yahoo.com

UNDER SECRETARY / RITUAL

Brig. Gen. Richard Morse, Utica, NY -
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- undersecretaryritual@aol.com

UNDER SECRETARY / WEBSITE

Brig. Gen. Dominick Pepe, New Hartford, NY - Tel.
315-737-5464 dpewebmasterksj@gmail.com

**UNDERSECRETARY/ADVISORY
BOARD AFFAIRS**

Brig. Gen. Peter Ozemoya- Hamilton,
Ontario, L8K !E1, Canada, Tel 647-220-5115

IN THIS ISSUE

**Supreme President's
Message** p 4

**Supreme Interim
Secretary's Message** p 5

**Supreme Spiritual
Director's Message** p 6

Cancellations pp 7-8

New Members pp 9-10

Im Memoriam p 11

**Supreme Subordinate
Convention** pp 12-14

Cadets p 15-16

Commandery #41 History p 17

The Living Rosary pp18-19

Owerri Grand p 20

Buffalo Grand p21

Hartcourt Grand p22

Michigan Grand p23

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President's address

As we pass through the final days of this year, we need to take time to reflect on what our organization, our church, and our families have experienced the last couple years. There is no need for me to give you a blueprint of what we have experienced because each of us have lived it, and millions have died from the corona virus.

As we are well aware, the family is the core of all our society; our families solidify our church, community, and our organization. Without the solid base of families, all of these institutions would be in disarray.

Unfortunately, the Supreme Executive Board of Directors was once again placed into a position of determining whether to conduct our Supreme Convention in 2022, or cancel. By unanimous vote, the decision was made to cancel the 2022 Convention and I requested the Supreme Convention Committee to review possible ways to avoid this in the future, knowing this may need constitutional changes. Speaking personally, from the beginning of this pandemic I have placed my feelings forward to the membership. I have always placed the health and safety of our members and their families foremost, and with all my heart and soul, I will never let the membership down.

Personally, I have never had a personal agenda, and as I have stated many times, our goal has been to progress our order, live by our Supreme Constitution, and work with our church and help all grow! I have never imagined, nor would I ever, that I would be "Supreme President for Life." Once my



constitutional responsibilities are fulfilled, my wife Carol and I look forward to retirement. However, for the very few that believe that their personal gains or goals come before the membership and the organization, I would suggest you go to Confession, study the constitution, and pray for forgiveness. My office door remains open, as it has and always will be; email me for information or inquiries.

Now we need to move to the main purpose of this address to the members and their families. We, as the Supreme Executive Board of Directors, wish all of our families across the world, a very Merry Christmas. We can only pray that this year our families can come together, old and young, to celebrate the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. May our faith be displayed within our churches; protected, so we may receive the sacraments, the Body and Blood of Our Lord. I can only hope that we have all helped one of the Lord's children in need so he/she may also enjoy this festive time with us. As a child with nine siblings growing up in a poor family, I fully understand what it is to be in need. Helping others is a greater reward for me than my personal satisfactions.

Again, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and may the new year bring us health, happiness, and a desire to move forward. God bless you all, and stay safe and united.

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

Interim Supreme Secretary



Season greetings to all members of the Knights of St. John International. As the year ends, we are a resilient organization. The virus may have prevented us from having our Supreme convention, however brothers and sister have been able to hold meetings and conventions locally to continue to ensure the business of the organization is moving forward and continued fellowship is held. Across the globe we have had various changes in leadership and administration from the supreme subordinate all the way down to the commandery level. We welcome the new officers and look forward to continuing the good work of the order virtually from the supreme and look forward to meeting in person, by the grace of God, in 2024.

The Executive Board was able to hold a hybrid meeting where we had attendees both in person and virtual to discuss various matters and plan for the future of the organization. Rest assured the board is staying on top of everything that is going on across the globe and continues to identify ways to adapt to the new norm we have currently. Some of the key decisions that came out of this meeting are included in this journal. There were a couple of appointments made at the meeting as well.

I have had some changes on my staff, I want to thank Brig. Gen. Ron Taylor for his service as the Advisory Board Secretary during this period of the pandemic, uncertainty and virtual interactions. Our newly appointed Supreme Advisory Board Secretary is Brig. Gen. Peter Ozemoya, who was also the immediate past president of the Buffalo Grand. Also appointed is Capt. Tim Redinger, who will serve as Assistant

Webmaster to Brig. Gen. Dominic Pepe.

As we all adapt to the changes that has been imposed on us by the pandemic and the various transitions, I want to thank all those that have supported, provided advise,

and been patient with us as we fulfill all outstanding requests made to the Secretariat.

A final note on the business of the organization: I will be sending out various communication to the Supreme Subordinate Secretaries to cascade down to ensure we start 2022 on the right note.

I will leave you with scripture for if you are reading this message then, we are Thankful to God for surviving another year.

James 1:2-4, *“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”*

Psalms 106:1, *“Praise the LORD. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.”*

On behalf of the Knights of St. John International Secretariat Team, we wish you all a safe holiday season and hope you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Fraternally,
Maj. Gen. Chijioke Okafor
Interim Supreme Secretary

Supreme Spiritual Director



May Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior, be with you!

It is often said as we get older, time flies quicker. This statement cannot be truer. For me, time flies at the blink of an eye each day. Mother Nature and Father Time is making its presence felt with conviction and truth. Christmas is here and a New Year is quickly following behind.

During these final days of 2021, may we pause and ponder how blest we are. I can imagine for some of us this year may have been challenging, and for others, it may have been filled with excitement, joy, and hope. May we continue to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus Christ, begging Him to lead, guide, and watch over us.

While our world is still overshadowed with plagues, Covid-19, violence, political unrest, and disrespect for human life, we must not fall under the weight of these hardships, challenging events, and evilness. We must hold onto hope, faith, and a

better tomorrow.

Every day, my prayers include the Knights of St. John International, Ladies Auxiliary, and our Junior Knights and Daughters. I am always grateful for your faith, charity, community service, and commitment to our Order.

Mother Nature and Father Time keep pressing on, but our faith remains our armor and strength.

Keep supporting one another and never forget who keeps us on the right path. Always call on Jesus Christ to smooth our paths, draw us ever closer to Him, and strengthen us with His presence.

Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. I look forward to the day when we will gather again in person.

Peace and blessings,
Rev. Msgr. Federico A. Britto
Supreme Spiritual Director

Knights of St. John International

Office of the Supreme President

Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr.

"In God We Trust"

CANCELLATION OF GENERAL ORDER #1 DUE TO CORONAVIRUS – 2021

DATE: October 31, 2021

TO: Maj. Gen. C. J. Okafor
Interim Supreme Secretary
Knights of St. John International

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

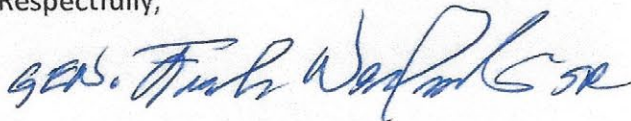
Dear Secretary Okafor;

Greetings! I have been reviewing the status of the world-wide pandemic and it is bleak. Many countries seem to continue to struggle with the coronavirus; the United States has never completely gotten through the virus, and cases have reached world-wide deaths at an astronomical pace, and right now there is no end in sight.

From the beginning, we as the Supreme Executive Board of Directors, have committed ourselves to the protection of the health and safety of our members and their families, and we will not change that position. Therefore, I will not issue General Order #1, Muster and Inspection, for the year 2021, and request you place this communication out to all appropriate officers, the Journal, and our website. At this time, it is inappropriate to ask our members to meet in mass numbers and increase any possibility of them contracting the coronavirus or transmitting it to their families.

In closing, I ask all our membership to continue to follow the guidelines put out by the doctors and protect yourselves and everybody around you. We all must pray for relief from this pandemic and pray for the sick and deceased. God bless and stay safe.

Respectfully,



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



Affixing the Great Seal of Our Order



Maj. Gen. Chijioke Okafor
Interim Supreme Secretary

Knights of St. John International

Office of the Supreme President

Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr.

"In God We Trust"

DATE: November 20, 2021

FROM: Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr.
Supreme President

TO: Iris Turner, President
Ladies Auxiliary
Knights of St. John International

RE: 2022 Supreme Convention

Dear Madam President;

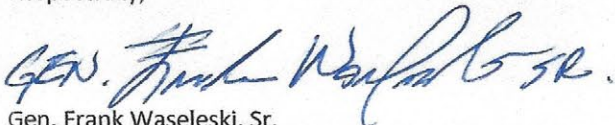
Greetings once again from the Supreme Executive Board of Directors. Recently, we have returned from our Supreme Executive Board meeting where the 2022 Supreme Convention was at the top of our agenda. Unfortunately, we were placed in an unprecedented position by not being able to obtain a copy of the signed agreement with the Host Hotel. Madam President, I personally reached out to you in writing on June 6, 2021 requesting this information, and as of the date of this letter, we have received nothing!

However, our main concern is now, and has always been the safety and health of our members and their families. Presently, the fully vaccinated rate in the United States is just under sixty percent (60%). Most of the countries where our brothers reside have a vaccination rate of less than ten percent (10%). Although international travel has been lifted for thirty-three (33) countries, many of our brothers do not reside within that margin. Furthermore, a strict restriction that all members travelling to the United States must be fully vaccinated and tested. This is not the fault of our members; the vaccine is simply not available to them. To further complicate this issue, the State Department will not render VISA's as they have in the past, without these VISA's our members cannot enter the US. Because of the restrictions stated above, which we have no control over, we are hereby informing you that the Men's Organization of the Knights of St. John International will not participate in the scheduled Supreme Convention in the Baltimore-Washington area in 2022. This decision was not made easily, but due to the government regulations, and other natural conditions that are beyond our control, the safety and health of our members must prevail.

Although we have withdrawn from the 2022 Supreme Convention, we discussed the possibility of any liability requested upon your organization. We are in hopes that within your contract, you have placed a "Force Majeure" clause within it. We highly recommend that you approach the Host Hotel with this clause and our letter to represent the position that any cancellation of service is beyond our control, etc.

In closing, we wish all the ladies a very Merry Christmas, and pray that our families can come together to pray to our Lord. May not only we have a festive time to enjoy the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, but may we help the Lord's children who can't afford such a joy. God bless, stay safe, and again, Merry Christmas.

Respectfully,



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

Cc: Ms. Margaret Short, Supreme Secretary
Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of St. John International

Supreme Executive Board



Affixing the Great Seal of Our Order



Maj. Gen. Chijioke Okafor
Interim Supreme Secretary

Welcome to New Members

(October 2021 to December 2021)

Comm/ Grand	City/ State	Name
619	New Achimota, Ghana	Christopher Conduah
619	New Achimota, Ghana	David Dela Heyman
832	Kwashieman, Ghana	Michael Ofori Kuragu
832	Kwashieman, Ghana	Michael Mensah
911	Legon, Ghana	Derrick Tinkler Owusu
911	Legon, Ghana	Ntim-Gyakari
911	Legon, Ghana	Prince Akantogdaam
911	Legon, Ghana	Emmanuel Boevi Junior
500	Dansoman, Ghana	Christian Dadeboe
500	Dansoman, Ghana	David Kpodo
500	Dansoman, Ghana	Ishmael Kakraba-Quarshie
797	Mamprobi, Ghana	Rev. Charles Kporfor
609	Sakumono, Ghana	Francis Opoku Antwi
609	Sakumono, Ghana	Carlton Continua
609	Sakumono, Ghana	James Kobby Agbedor
609	Sakumono, Ghana	Gabriel Tambro
609	Sakumono, Ghana	Delase Ahadzie
609	Sakumono, Ghana	Marcellinus N
846	Baatsonaa, Ghana	Orlando Kodjo
846	Baatsonaa, Ghana	Aaron Kafe
846	Baatsonaa, Ghana	Charles Agbeworvi
846	Baatsonaa, Ghana	Ernest Seshie
850	Tema, Ghana	Dr Martin Dum
850	Tema, Ghana	Charles Owusu Yeboah
850	Tema, Ghana	Anthony Hubert Essien
850	Tema, Ghana	Charles Selase Tanyegbe
850	Tema, Ghana	Joseph Amoateng Afful

Comm/ Grand	City/ State	Name
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Forster Kwadwo-Atuahene
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Bismark Kokofi Yaw
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Richard Mensah Kojo Sumah
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Saah Campbell Louis
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Francis Boakye
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Mawuli M. Ahiekpor
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Abraham Obeng Sika Antobrah
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Emmanuel Awine Anyorikaya
833	Ashaley Botwe, Ghana	Isaac Owusu Obeng
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869	Ashongman, Ghana	Baffour Nketiah
869	Ashongman, Ghana	Philemon Sumbo
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798	Airport West, Ghana	Richmond Sakyi
799	Nungua, Ghana	Gregory Ahorlumegah Elorm
847	Osu Re, Ghana	Samuel Addo Abankwa
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905	Tamale, Ghana	Collins Dery
905	Tamale, Ghana	Andrews Zuokuu
909	Tamale, Ghana	Dominic Adams
909	Tamale, Ghana	Richard Barnes

Continued on next page

Welcome to New Members

(Continued from preceding page)

Comm/ Grand	City/ State	Name
460	St. Mary's, Port Harcourt	Valentine C. Aralu
535	St. Matthias, Yenagoa	Fidelis J. Osain
535	St. Matthias, Yenagoa	Paul S. Matthew
535	St. Matthias, Yenagoa	Evans Osain Ozeni
535	St. Matthias, Yenagoa	Isaac Ebianya
558	Our Lady of Lourdes, Elele	Bonaventure Nwachukwu
633	All Saints, Oyigbo	Christopher A. Uwadiogwu
633	All Saints, Oyigbo	Godwin Akwafuo
633	All Saints, Oyigbo	Celestine Oriaku
633	All Saints, Oyigbo	Kennedy E. Nwabukwu
634	Our Lady of Lourdes, Borokiri	Kinsley O. Eze
34	Our Lady of Lourdes, Borokiri	Bethrand Nziwu
634	Our Lady of Lourdes, Borokiri	Godwin C. Abazie
635	St. Patrick, Bodo	Smart N. Nzor
635	St. Patrick, Bodo	Princewill I. Ndukwe
779	Holy Family, Woji	Sylvanus C. Kesieme
779	Holy Family, Woji	Philip E.E. Bassey
800	Mater Misericordiae, Rumuomasi	Collins E. Ekezie
800	Mater Misericordiae, Rumuomasi	Christopher Owanlan
800	Mater Misericordiae, Rumuomasi	Everistus Ezeokoye
800	Mater Misericordiae, Rumuomasi	Frederick I. Nnebedum
801	All Saints, Rumueme	Boniface Opara
802	Chapel of Annunciation, Uniport	Jude A. Igbogho
802	Chapel of Annunciation, Uniport	Samuel O. Okere
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Emmanuel Mezu
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Peter Chika
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Solomon U. Ukwaji

Comm/ Grand	City/ State	Name
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Mathew N. Chukwunweike
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Daniel O. Esangbedo
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Jude Osubor
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Raphael O. Abarosah
844	St. Peter, Ahoada	Roland Ikpe
858	Sacred Heart, Diobu	Ken-Hassan Ogbonna
918	Holy Trinity, Tere-Ama	Anthony O. Olatunji
918	Holy Trinity, Tere-Ama	Opara C. Nwabueze
919	St. Augustine, Umuebule-Etche	John Onah
919	St. Augustine, Umuebule-Etche	Joseph Ogomudia
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Fidelis N. Tagbo
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Moses C. Ngumoha
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Francis U. Nwagbara
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Patrick U. Onyemaobi
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Vincent Nwanafio
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Ignatius C. Okuefuna
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Anthony E. Emerenwa
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Peter O. Onuegbu
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Chris D. Ezech
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Lucky M. Nwogu
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Christopher C. Belonwu
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Moses C. Ofodile
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Patrick Uwakonye
921	St. Helen, Ogbogoro	Basil Ahanene
943	Our Lady of Victory, Rumuodomaya	Christopher A. Iroatu
943	Our Lady of Victory, Rumuodomaya	Festus C. Ogwu
804	St. Joseph, Bori	Solomon U. Ukwaji

In Memoriam

(October 2021-December 2021)

Commandery/ Grand	City/ State	Name
204	Depew, NY	John Raichel
381	West Seneca, NY	Lt. Col. Thomas Kelly
282	St. Wendell, IN	Gregg Kiered
345	Haubstadt, IN	Mike Martin
335	Evansville, IN	Mervin Goedde
416	Techiman, Ghana	Richard Dery
903	Nkwabeng, Ghana	Peter Baffour Diawuo
351	Derby Avenue, Ghana	Henry K. Amamu
405	Tema, Ghana	Francis T. Ayidzie
405	Tema, Ghana	Abraham Odonkor
413	Osu, Ghana	Francis Kumah
604	Madina, Ghana	James Nii Teiko
906	Bolgatanga-Soe, Ghana	Benjamin Abugdama

Bro. Lawrence Lionel Gray

June 13, 1945 - October 10, 2021



Sir Knight Lawrence Lionel Gray was born June 13, 1945. Lionel transitioned this life into the loving arms of his heavenly Father on October 10, 2021, at the Hospice Home of Charles County.

Lionel was as a dedicated member of the Knights of St. John International, Commandery No. 309 for 10 plus years and was awarded the "Knight of the Year" award in 2020.

He used his talents to serve God by volunteering at St. Catherine of Alexandria, and Sacred Heart Roman Catholic churches. Whenever the churches called upon him, he was an effective instrument until tasks were completed. He was an outstanding altar server at St. Catherine's Church and always knew to love his neighbor as ourselves.

He would take food to the elderly and make sure they had a ride to attend their doctors' appointments. Lionel was a quiet, kind, and unselfish person who always followed his faith. Father Kendall Gill selected Lionel to represent the community to witness the installation of His Excellency Reverend Wilton D. Gregory, S.L.D. as the seventh Archbishop of Washington D.C.

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Submitted by:
Col. Theodore J. Short
 Commandery No. 309

KSJI SSC-USA Convention 2021



Second Vice President
Brigadier General Emmanuel Toe
(Cincinnati)

On the weekend of November 12, 2021-November 14, 2021, the men of the Supreme Subordinate Commandery (USA) met in Columbus, Ohio. The meeting was to conduct its second biannual convention and to elect new officers. The meeting took place at the Embassy Suites by Hilton in Columbus, Ohio.

We wish to extend our thanks and gratitude to the staff of the Embassy Suites for their hospitality in hosting our biannual event.

Congratulations to the new officers and those men continuing to serve the SSC-USA. These elections are effective as of the convention date, and the men will serve in these roles and offices for a period of two years, until the next convention.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit guide these men and their actions as they lead the Supreme Subordinate Commandery for the next two years.

(Continued on next page)



President
Major General
Brian Stehlin
(Michigan)



First Vice
President
Brigadier General
Paul Amuchie
(Los Angeles)

KSJI SSC-USA Convention

(Continued from preceding page)

We also offer our prayers to the outgoing members of the Supreme Subordinate Board, especially for Major General Jim Schaufhausen, who has led us over the last two years. Thank you for your dedication to the order, and your service to the Supreme Subordinate Commandery.

We look forward to growth in the

next two years and seeing you all at the next convention.

Not pictured are Trustees **Colonel Jay Pfeifer** (Indiana) and **Colonel Paul Jaspa** (Cincinnati)

Submitted by,
Col. Timothy Redinger
*Director/Webmaster of S
SC-USA Communications*



**Treasurer
Brigadier
General
Titus
Osuagwu**
*(New
York)*



**Secretary
Brigadier
General
Francis B.
Kollie**
(New York)

A Much-Deserved Salute

What most people are calling the Keynote Speech of the Supreme Subordinate-USA Convention was delivered by the Supreme Secretary-Emeritus. The response of the gathered Knights was a standing ovation, cheers, song, and salutes. His message follows:

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Let me introduce myself, I am Lt. Gen. Sir Tom Zdanowicz, Supreme Secretary-Emeritus, Commander and Delegate of St. Anthony of Padua Commandery #385, Utica, NY.

Before I begin my, "Good of the Order" sharing, I would first like to congratulate Jim Schafhausen and his team for a job well done.

The idea of a Supreme Subordinate has proven to work very well overseas but was not readily accepted when the idea was presented here in the United States. Our Grand Presidents did not relish another authority between them and the Supreme Commandery. It seemed to be just a lot more bureaucracy that we didn't need. That battle isn't completely over with, but the SSC-USA is on its way. You earned your two stars, General.

Mr. Chairman, Supreme President, Fellow Supreme Officers, Supreme Subordinate Officers, Grand Presidents, Delegates, and brother knights.

To those of you who know me, know that I am not afraid to face the "Elephant in the Room" that no one else addresses. If it's the truth, I will tell it like it is.

I wish to portray two pictures for you. First, let's go to our overseas brothers. In the five nations of West Africa, membership is, and has continued to grow beyond anyone's dreams.

Request for new commanderies and Grand Commanderies continue to flood my office and that of Brig. Gen. Chijioke Okafor, our Interim Supreme Secretary.

I believe that I have discovered the difference between us. The secret of their immense growth and our pending demise.

I saw it with my own eyes during two trips to West Africa. I have countless videos of our African brother Knights in huge uniform formations. Be it turning out for a Supreme Subordinate or Grand Convention, honoring a Bishop or Cardinal, Trooping the Colors,



Photo by Brig. Gen. Titus Osuagwu

or silently, to muted drums, a funereal march leading the procession into Church, or to a member Knight/Ladies final resting place. All done with much respect and grace.

What is it that draws others to the Knights of St. John? It is not only our work for the Church. I believe that first and foremost, it is our pomp and ceremony. It is our rituals.

Without them, we are nothing more than another fraternal club like the Owls, Elks, Eagles and Lions. All who, by the way, are also suffering greatly in recruiting new members.

I no longer see that in the United States of America. I've been to Grand Conventions that were crammed into a Saturday, so everyone can leave bright and early on Sunday morning because the wife will have a pasta dinner or a roast on the table by 4:00 P.M. that afternoon.

I am shocked that this affair has followed the same course. What you are doing, Supreme Subordinate Officers, is setting a bad example for your Grand Commanderies.

At the very least, this weekend should have been a three-day affair. I won't accept excuses that officers, delegates, and members find that an inconvenience. If you run for an office, be sure that you are aware of ALL the responsibilities, which include Conventions, plan ahead and follow through on them.

Friday would have been the time for us to

gather. Registration in the morning, an afternoon meeting, where at the very minimum, Chair and Floor Committees are formed.

Friday evening should host a "Hospitality Party" where old friends meet, new ones are made, and the floor committee is working the room for candidates - content not to just photocopy what the Chair Committee has.

Saturday should be devoted to the business meeting of the Commandery, breaking up in time for members to clean up, don formal attire, and attend the Great Banquet Ball.

Sunday morning should be the "Piece de Resistance." We gather to process to Holy Mass at the Cathedral or Mother Church of the city we are gathered in.

Uniformed knights, non-Uniformed brothers, Ladies, Cadets and Juniors, bearing flags of their units, process into Church.

It should be the "Show of the Century" for that parish body and on-lookers alike, to ask, "Who are these men and women?" and "How can I be a part of that?"

Without demonstrating our pomp, our ceremony, our ritual, we will recruit no one.

Thank you, Brothers, God Bless you.

God Bless the Knights of St. John.

God Bless these United States of America

Report From Cadets Organizing Division

AUGUST 31 – OCTOBER 2021

The Supreme Cadets Chairman, Brig. Gen. Titus Brown Osuagwu, continues to call and check on our welfare and we are grateful to report from Liberia, Ghana, and Togo of good academic performances and good

health for this quarter. There is no report of any deaths or severe sicknesses in the Cadets and Juniors families. We thank the Almighty God for guiding and protecting us throughout this pandemic season.



Cadets and Juniors of Liberia Commandery #607

LIBERIA:

Both Cadets and Juniors had their annual retreat in November. We lost our administrator for all the Catholic Churches in Liberia – Very Rev. Fr. Charles Boyce at Rain Bow Hospital in New Matadi, Liberia. May his soul rest in peace. We had our Commandery General Elections and Cabinet Officers were elected to serve for the period 2021 – 2023. Brother Kevin Logan was elected Worthy President of St. Mulumba Cadets Commandery #607.



Newly elected officers of Commandery #609 at the St. Mulumba Parish after their installation ceremony

Continued on next page

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REPUBLIC of TOGO:

The National Council of Cadets and Juniors held an election of a new mixed National Office with a Junior elected as the President. We congratulate the new President and wish her a good tenure of office.



Togo Cadets and Juniors after election



The new mixed national officers (2021 - 2023)

TRAINING THE TRAINER:

All the Cadet organizers in the local Commanderies must undergo the prescribed training in the Diocese where they serve. This is mandated by the Supreme Cadet Committee. Working with the Youth requires certification and protection by the Diocese to avoid being sued for sexual harassment, etc. This training is vital and highly recommended. It is imperative that Commandery Presidents should be fully aware of this development before appointing or electing Cadet Organizers in their Commanderies.

In choosing or appointing Commandery's

Cadet Organizers, the Commandery Presidents are encouraged to choose those who are veterans in organizing, teaching and supervising the children.

CADETS SYMPOSIUM/WORKSHOP

We encourage Commanderies to hold regular School of the Knights, symposiums, and workshops for the benefit of our members and our Youth. This is part of equipping the Young Mind for Excellence in the Noble Order of KSJI.

Since it is a little difficult to contact all

by telephone, Cadets and Juniors Organizers, please send in the reports and photos of activities in your Commanderies to the Supreme Cadets Chairman: Teemac4@yahoo.com or +1-973-979-0407. Thank you and may the Almighty God continue to strengthen us all in our endeavors towards defending the Church dignity and grant us that longed for spiritual enrichment. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Most Prosperous New Year. "In God We Trust".

From the Supreme Cadets Division
KSJI.

#41 Celebrates 140 Years

On July 20, 1873, the German Catholic Union of Knights of St. Mauritius was formed in Rochester, NY. They equipped themselves with feathered hats, shoulder boards, swords, and belts. They exercised in military drill and participated in religious and civic events.

Within a year, these Knights served as escorts to the convention parade of the Catholic Central Verein of America. Delegates to this convention were so impressed with these Knights that they returned home determined to find a similar organization in their own cities. Knight Societies then came into existence in many cities throughout the Northeast.

In 1879 a meeting was held in Baltimore to merge these societies into a national organization. The new organization was to be known as the Roman Catholic Union of the Knights of St. John.

After attending a joint convention of the Catholic Central Verein of America and the Knights of St. John, the Utica delegates returned home and on October 2, 1881, they formed a Knights Society under the name of Knights of St. George. Their first regular drill was held on December 1, 1881, with 34 members present.

In 1883, a resolution was passed to affiliate with the Knights of St. John and that spring they sent delegates to the Supreme Convention of the Knights of St. John, being held in Rochester, NY.



Historic Utica Commandery



For the next several years there seemed to be some question as to the status of the Utica Knights of St. George with the Knights of St. John, in spite of their paying yearly per capita taxes. Communications went on for a number of years and at last, during the 1886 Supreme Convention of the Knights of St. John held in Cincinnati the matter was resolved. The Knights of St. John were incorporated under New York State Law and the Knights of St. George were granted their charter. The original charter accepts the Knights of St. George as Commandery #41 of the Roman Catholic Union of the Knights of St. John dated October 1, 1886, signed in Cleveland, OH.

The Knights of St. George grew to 156 members and must have been an imposing sight. Not only did they have regular turn-outs at their parish, St. Joseph's Church, but they received invitations from the Knights of the Cross in Syracuse, St. Boniface Union in Rochester, and the Knights of St. Alphonsus in Auburn, NY.

The 400th anniversary of the discovery of America was celebrated in 1892. Newspaper accounts testify to the popularity of the Knights of St. George. A parade, estimated to be 1,000 strong was held in Utica. At the front were the Knights acting as honor guard. It marched through the streets of the city to the Knights of St. George Hall where a gala reception was held.

By 1896, the Utica Commandery became the only organization in the State to own its own building. They purchased what had been

known as the Columbia Club as their new home. It boasted a reading room, gymnasium and a 60' X 70' drill hall. It had billiard, pool and card rooms and was fitted up for a bowling alley. It had a spacious lawn that was used for croquet, tennis, and other outdoor games.

The St. George Commandry history has been full and exciting. Their clubhouse boasts an array of trophies. Drill Competition, Bowling Tournaments, Shuffleboard Tourneys were the norm. They organized a Ladies Auxiliary (St. Mary's #156), a Cadet Corps (boasting 100 boys at one time), presented Minstrel Shows and a Dramatic Club that presented three acts plays each year.

St. George Commandery #41 has shown some wear and tear over the years but keeps plugging along. Although membership has declined, they continue to serve their parish and community. The birthplace and home of St. Mother Marianne Cope is just around the corner and as a child, she attended Mass at St. Joseph Church, and school at the adjacent St. Joseph Elementary School. That school is now the home of Mother Marianne's Kitchen, open to feed the homeless and all those in need. Supporting this charity is the foremost mission of this Commandery of Knighthood.

A special Mass in celebration was held on Saturday, October 30th with a small reception at their clubhouse.



Commandery #41 still serving



Carmelite of Mary Immaculate Father Benni P. Pengiparambil, pastor of St. Teresa of Calcutta Church in Fairdale, Ky., held the microphone as Faustina Michalak, left, and Scarlett Havin, students from Immaculata Classical Academy, prayed during the 70th Annual Living Rosary Oct. 10 on the parish grounds.

(Record Photo by Allison Nichols, Holy Cross High School)

Knights of St. John recall 70 years of devotion to the Living Rosary

By Ruby Thomas

Children from across the Archdiocese of Louisville have been bringing the rosary to life annually during the Living Rosary for decades, most recently on Oct. 10 on the grounds of St. Teresa of Calcutta Church.

But when the first Living Rosary was prayed on April 27, 1952, members of the Knights of St. John and priests from the archdiocese stood in as the cross and beads that form the rosary, said Anthony Tabler, who has been a member of the Knights of St. John since 1979.

Tabler said Ed Williams, who was the president of the Knights in 1952, had a special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. In March of 1952, Williams wrote a letter to Archbishop John A. Floersh, seeking his permission to begin the tradition. The Living Rosary would “honor that one so highly honored by our Lord himself,” the letter said.

The Marian Committee of the Archdiocese of Louisville currently hosts the living rosary.

Laying down clothesline rope and paper

plates — 10-inch plates representing the Our Father and 8-inch plates representing the beads of the decades — a group of Knights fashioned the layout for the first living rosary in Parkway Field, which was a popular ballpark south of Eastern Parkway.

According to the Knights historical records, the Living Rosary was held at the Kentucky State Fair Grounds in 1957, when chairs replaced the paper plates for the rosary layout.

Besides the fairgrounds, the event has been held in many venues, including the old Louisville Gardens on West Muhammad Ali Boulevard, Bellarmine College (now Bellarmine University), according to the records, as well as local Catholic high schools in recent years. The Knights remained dedicated to hosting the living rosary for several decades. Tabler said five years ago, the Knights presented one of its members, James Macpherson, with a plaque for “perfect attendance.” Macpherson, who died shortly after he was honored, had attended 65 living rosary events.

Continued on next page

The Living Rosary

Continued from preceding page

Tabler recalled being present at one of the events hosted at the Louisville Gardens, which he described as a “beautiful ceremony,” filled with candlelight and Marian hymns.

Tabler said only about 30 Knights of St. John remain in the archdiocese and only about five,

including himself, are still healthy enough to attend meetings.

“We’ve fallen on hard times because of (dwindling) membership, but I’m proud of the work we’ve done,” said Tabler.

To join the Knights of St. John, contact Tabler at awtabler@yahoo.com or 448-2476. To learn more

about the Knights, visit ksji.org.

To learn more about the Marian Committee, the Living Rosary and other Marian devotions, visit archloumarian.org.

This article was published with the permission of The Record, the newspaper that serves the Catholic community in the Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky.



A member of the Knights of St. John carried the flag at the start of the 70th Annual Living Rosary Oct. 10 on the grounds of St. Teresa of Calcutta Church in Fairdale, Ky.

(Record Photo by Allison Nichols, Record Intern, Holy Cross High School)



**Archbishop
Obinna
presenting his
book**

Owerri Grand Commandery initiates 61 Aspirants to KSJI

It was a galore of initiation into KSJI as Perri Grand, in her bid to retain the largest Grand Commandery in the world, initiated 61 aspirants and the LAUX 21 into Owerri Grand Commandery and Ladies Auxiliary.

Theme of the initiation: “Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.”

During the opening Mass, the Grand Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Kizito Onyeka, enjoined the aspirants, that “knighthood is to serve God with hope.

Knighthood is not about the glamor of the order, it’s about commitment, making sacrifices and to be good ambassadors of

the Catholic church.”

In his welcome address, the Grand President Noble Brother Prof. Remy Uche, greeted and welcomed the aspirants to the task ahead. “Knighthood is not a social club. It is purely religious. Initiation is a process of advancement into the KSJI order. If by any fault found against anyone, he is to be shown the way out.”

Noble Sister Vero Iwu presented her welcome address to Laux aspirants and urged them all to be supportive of their brothers as they are going to become ladies and sisters.

The three days activities were jam-packed with activities, early morning Masses, lectures, drills, inspection of kits, then the initiation.

Noble Sister professor Viola Onwunliri delivered a lecture on a 4-point agenda: spirituality, discipline, charity, and fraternity.

Saturday’s outdoor Mass was celebrated with families of the newly initiated brothers and sisters, joining in the thanksgiving mass.

SPECIAL COLLOQUIUM IN HONOR OF THE METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF OWERRI ARCHDIOCESE, HIS GRACE, MOST REV. DR. A.J.V. OBINNA

Owerri Grand Commandery followed suit, basking in the euphoria of the initiation. It organized a special colloquium ceremony in honor of the archbishop.

The day’s program opened with a Mass celebrated by the archbishop himself, in Asumpta Cathedral Owerri, the auxiliary Bishop His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. Moses Chikwe, other clergy, and a mammoth of Owerri Grand Knights and Ladies Auxiliary in attendance.

In the reception at Odonigbo Hall, the Archbishop’s twin books were presented and launched by the Knights and Ladies of St John International.

Let us remember our sick brothers and sisters, give them support and prayers.

Above all forgive one another.

Lieut. Vincent Azubuike
Editor, Supreme Journal Owerri Grand

**Grand
President
Noble Brother
Prof Remy
Uche leading
to the books
presentation**





Buffalo Grand Commandery

The commanderies of the Buffalo Grand continue to show great fortitude and piety during this continued time of trial during the continued pandemic. We are, to the best of our ability and in consistency with guidelines and with the safety of the men of our order in mind, keeping up with the business of running the Knights of St. John in Buffalo, as well as continuing to support various charities throughout Western New York who have been severely impacted.

Over the summer, the Buffalo Grand held its 2021 Convention and elections for all positions within the Buffalo Grand were held. Congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Buffalo Grand.

Grand President – Brigadier General Paul Wasch

First Vice President – Colonel Jerome Grasso

Second Vice President – Major Jim Wheeler

Financial Secretary – Captain Timothy Redinger

Treasurer Sir Knight John Rizzo

Sergeant at Arms – Color Sergeant Alan Welch

Secretary – Colonel Jeff Kohler

Judge Advocate – Colonel William Pocobello

Guard – Brigadier General James Setlock

Messenger – Sir Knight Simon Adarkwa

Trustees – Al Hammer, Doug Andrews and Michael Paliwodzinski.

Please keep these men in your thoughts and prayers as they lead the Buffalo Grand for the next two years.

The Buffalo Grand would like to thank Brigadier General Peter Ozemoyah and his outgoing staff of officers, who were unfortunately cut short by the global pandemic in their time of service to the Buffalo

Grand but did so admirably and in keeping the Buffalo Grand on track during this unprecedented time.

The Buffalo Regiment held its meeting in September to put together table and floor committees and will hold elections at its December meeting for new officers.

Please pray the Holy Spirit guides our delegates in choosing our next group of military leaders in the Buffalo Regiment.

Also, in September the men of the Buffalo Regiment were blessed to be able to turnout at Our Lady of Victory Basilica in Lackawanna, NY for their annual Regimental Mass and Breakfast. This has been the first time since the start of the pandemic we have been able to muster for such an event. We had great attendance by all commanderies, with 75 men in attendance for the Mass and breakfast.

The men of the Buffalo Grand continue to meet on the First Saturday of each month for an hour of Adoration, with the men leading the host parish in a rosary, a reflection, and divine mercy chaplet. Our prayers are geared towards peace, unity, and an increase in our holy and noble order, as well as an increase in vocations.

The Buffalo Grand would like all members to join us in congratulating the following men on receiving the Jewel of Honor: Major James Wheeler, Captain Tom Truax, and Captain Peter Becker. These men from commandery 204 have dedicated a life of service to our Holy Mother Church, and to the honorable Knighthood that we profess.

Cpt. Timothy D Redinger, OESSH

Commandery 135, Commanding

Buffalo Grand Communications Director

SSC-USA Webmaster



Port Hartcourt Grand Commandery

The Port Hartcourt Grand Commandery held a three-in-one ritual in September at the Sacred Heart Seminary, Rumuibekwe, Port Hartcourt.

The three rituals were the Exemplification into the 2nd & 3rd Degrees, Investiture of forty-four (44) brothers into Marching and full uniforms and the initiation of fifty-three (53) brother into First Degree of the Order.

The event commenced with Holy Mass presided by the Grand Spiritual Director Very Rev. Fr. Joseph Kabari with the Grand President Brig. Gen. Steve Ekwelibe represented by Brig. Gen. George Ikioumoton with all Grand Officers in attendance. The full rituals of admission into the Order performed in full compliance with NCDC guidelines of Covid-19. All present at the event were scrutinized and ensured that they have been vaccinated for the COVID-19. The cer-

emony concluded with an outdoor Mass conducted by the Auxiliary Bishop of Port Hartcourt Diocese, Most Rev. Dr. Patrick Eluke. The squad was named God's Mercy Squad.

The Grand 4th Trustee of Port Hartcourt Grand Commandery Bro. Emmanuel Ufoma Okene was invested into the Papal Knight of St. Gregory the Great at Idah Diocese in Kogi State on Saturday 25th September 2021. Bro Okene was the Immediate Past Worthy President of Corpus Christi Commandery #843.

Brig. Gen. Steve Ekwelibe
Grand President

Col. Ebitimi P. Berezi
Grand Secretary



Michigan Grand

The Michigan Grand convention was held on October 30th followed by a Memorial Mass on October 31. I would like to thank all the members that attended the convention both in person and virtually. The reports from the different Commanderies indicate continued

growth with possible expansion in Chicago, St. Louis and one additional Commandery in Minnesota.

Below is a list of the newly elected Michigan Grand officers

Title	Rank	Name	Comm.
Michigan Grand Spiritual Adv.	Rev. Fr.	Gregory Tokarski	171
Michigan Grand President	Maj. Gen.	Brian Stehlin	239
Michigan Grand 1st VP	Col.	Ronald Michels	239
Michigan Grand 2nd VP	Col.	Joseph Seibure II	742
Michigan Grand Secretary	Col.	Anthony Ryan	973
Michigan Grand Treasurer	Col.	Michael Dudek	239
Michigan Grand Trustee	B.K.	Frank Burns	171
Michigan Grand Trustee	Col.	Vincent Iteghete	742
Michigan Grand Trustee	2nd Lt.	Gabriel Nah	742
Michigan Grand Trustee	Capt.	Douglas Halleaux	239
Michigan Grand Trustee	Col.	Adam Bush	239
Michigan Grand Guard	Sgt.	Daniel Brandt	973
Michigan Grand Messenger	Maj. Gen.	Eugene Sniezyk	171
Michigan Grand Judge Advocate	Brig. Gen.	Sean Dey	239
Michigan Grand Sgt-at-Arms	2nd Lt.	Jakub Kubas	973



Knights of St. John

Michael Days, Asst. Editor

324 Hamilton Ave.

Trenton, NJ 08609-2717

KnightsJournal@yahoo.com

Visit ksji.org for the latest updates.

All Knights will receive a digital copy of the journal that will be sent to your email address. Printed copies will be sent only to Knights who live in the United States.

To register for a digital copy please type in bit.ly/KnightsSignUp in your browser field. You will be asked for your email

address, your name, and commandery number. For those who do not choose to send us your e-mail address, you can always print a copy from our website, ksji.org.

Please submit articles for publication to KnightsJournal@yahoo.com. For the upcoming issues the deadlines are a month before publication.