

Knight^{of} St. John

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IN GOD WE TRUST

SEPTEMBER 2022



*"This is the day the Lord has made;
We will rejoice and be glad in it."*

— Psalm 118:24

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CHIJOKE OKAFOR, EDITOR
ksjisupremesecretary@gmail.com

MICHAEL DAYS, ASST. EDITOR
KnightsJournal@yahoo.com

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Supreme Subordinate President - Liberia - Maj. Gen. Moentie Young, Monrovia, Liberia
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Whatsapp: +231775037318
moentieyoung@gmail.com

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

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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 - Brig. Gen. Moses T Jarbah, Zwedru, Grand Gedeh Co., Liberia
Tel: +231886457316 / +231777344599
mtjarbah@gmail.com

Monrovia - Brig. Gen. Patrick G. Brown
Monrovia, Liberia
Tel: +231886516759 / +231775708703
pgb841200@gmail.com

St. Paul River Bank -
Brig. Gen. Scheaplor R. Dunbar, Monrovia, Liberia
Tel: +231886553787 / +231775873584
srd0362@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, samaghulor@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

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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

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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 - vavor@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. Joseph Kandy Pupo II,
Monrovia, Liberia
Tel: +231886594263 / +231776756134
subsecliberia@gmail.com; jkandypupo@gmail.com

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Louis.anumudu@yahoo.com

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- KnightsJournal@yahoo.com

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President's address

Fraternal greetings to all my Brother Knights!

These past few months have proven to demonstrate that the Knight of St. John International is back with aggression of activities since the COVID pandemic.

All the sectors of our organization are meeting properly and planning for the future to strengthen our will and commitment to our Church, our communities, and our order.

On the weekend of August 26 – 28, 2022, my wife Carol and I had the great pleasure of attending the Noble Degree Exemplification in Newark, N.J. For anyone to witness this event with over 90 candidates would be amazed. As for myself, I drew energy from watching the enthusiasm and eagerness of the candidates to pledge their Noble Degree oath to Most Rev. Elias R. Lorenzo, OSB.

I wish to commend the heartfelt efforts of all who worked so hard to ensure this event would be a memorable one, the Degree Team Committee, Bishop Lorenzo of the Archdiocese of Newark, Col. Monsignor Anslem Nwaorgu, the New York Grand Spiritual Director, all the clergy, the ladies, and many more.

This was an event that made me proud to be your Supreme President.



Recently, we received a letter from the Catholic Bishops Conference - Nigeria reinstating the Knights of St. John International back into the Catholic Church of Nigeria. I will not discuss any of the negotiations, but we, as the Supreme Executive Board wish to thank the Bishops of the CBCN for lifting the ban and allowing our thousands of members to once again participate in our Church as Knights of St. John.

We now must utilize this crisis as a learning tool. We must learn what caused it, learn what it spiritually cost each member, and most of all, learn how to conduct ourselves so this will never happen again. I personally want to thank Lieut. Gen. Anslem Okafor, Supreme Second Vice President

and Maj. Gen. Remy Uche, Supreme Subordinate President – Nigeria, for their relentless and dedicated pursuit in resolving this issue, and to our Brothers in Nigeria, a special thank you for your patience and resolve for allowing us the time to work through this problem.

May God bless us all.

Respectfully,

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

Interim Supreme Secretary



Greetings to I bring greetings to all members of the Knights of St. John International.

We have been getting all the reports of activities happening across the order from new commanderies, to Noble degree exemplifications and various others. We are pleased with all the hard work to bring in new members and the continued progress. We look forward to more success across the order.

My message this month is focused on some reflections of various readings throughout the period. The first reflection is about service, the call that we all embraced when we joined the order. A homily I recently heard, Luke 16:19-3, was centered on Lazarus and the rich man. It was mentioned that striving to avoid sin is not enough to enter the kingdom. Rather we must strive to not only avoid sin but do good, help others, be charitable, serve as our Lord did, these are the things that make us good Catholics. The rich man may not have committed any sin; however, he had an opportunity to help Lazarus and he did not and hence was not able to enter the kingdom.

Another reading that resonated with me, Amos 8:4-7, noted that it is important for us to keep in mind as we go about our daily lives and especially for those in positions of power with the ability to influence is that the Lord hears the cry of the poor and will protect his own.

Finally, when we have challenging situations in our lives and have doubts on how to overcome things, let's look to the readings in the book of Job 1:6-22. The Lord is aware of all our needs and will come through for us in due time, do not let your mind be clouded with distractions when put to the test by the evil one, even our Lord was put to the test. As with Job all things that were taken away were returned in abundance. With God all things are possible.

I am wishing everyone success in your endeavors.

Faternally,
Maj. Gen. Chijioke Okafor
Interim Supreme Secretary

Supreme Spiritual Director



May the grace and peace of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

We have come to the end of our summer months. The time for vacations and holidays has ended, at least for many of us. I hope your summer months were relaxing and blessed.

Now we move forward and plow through the next several months in 2022 and then move into 2023 with a sense of determination, commitment, enthusiasm, and vision.

We are a Catholic/Christian organization with the task of defending our Catholic faith and proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ in speech and action.

Many of our bishops are encouraging all Catholics to engage in a program called Disciples in Mission. This program instructs all believers of Christ to fulfill the Great Commandment.

This Great Commandment is to “go and make disciples of all nations....” (Matthew 28:19). The life of the Disciple of Christ is one of action. We share, and teach, our faith in action and speech, charitable endeavors. While many of our Commandries are doing this, we must move forward with an intense and eager energy. As a reminder, Disciples in Mission is not a matter of conversation, it is a matter of a true heart following after Jesus Christ.

My brother Knights, this fragile world is in need of a spiritual injection. As defenders of the faith, may we strategize, and develop a vision, and a task to bring people to the faith and to Jesus Christ. Be that true Disciple in Mission, that Disciple for Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. Federico A. Britto
Supreme Spiritual Director

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382	West Seneca, NY	Michael Harris
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282	Evansville, IN	Bryce Martin
345	Oakland City, IN	Gary Weber
239	Detroit, MI	Mark Beck
608	Los Angeles, CA	Kenneth Igwebuike
608	Los Angeles, CA	Maurice Akor
405	Accra East, Ghana	Joseph Anderson
405	Accra East, Ghana	Kafui Komla Dorgbedo
596	Accra East, Ghana	Maxwell Badu-Nyarko
596	Accra East, Ghana	Eric Albert Opoku
604	Accra East, Ghana	Rev Fr. Jean De Dieu Ahorloo
630	Accra East, Ghana	Wilson Edu
630	Accra East, Ghana	Victor Agbekponu
630	Accra East, Ghana	Anthony Kwao Kofi
630	Accra East, Ghana	Richard Darko
834	Accra East, Ghana	Maxwell Missoday
846	Accra East, Ghana	Godwin Amonzem
846	Accra East, Ghana	Nartey Nartey
846	Accra East, Ghana	Felix Ablo
898	Accra East, Ghana	Dr. Stephen Arthur
898	Accra East, Ghana	Winfred Kweku Dansu
945	Accra East, Ghana	Kwame Dankwah Osei
482	Accra West, Ghana	Alexis Ataogye
482	Accra West, Ghana	Lawrence A. Afagbegee
618	Accra West, Ghana	Henry Kumi
618	Accra West, Ghana	Felix Siglo

Grand	City/ State	Name
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829	Accra West, Ghana	Antwi Dominic Yamoah
829	Accra West, Ghana	Kpodo Derick Forson
354	Cape Coast, Ghana	Jude Thaddeus Nyame
354	Cape Coast, Ghana	Pascal Yankey
354	Cape Coast, Ghana	Isaac Arthur
354	Cape Coast, Ghana	Eric Amissah
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664	Kumasi, Ghana	Augustine Weburah
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492	Tamale, Ghana	Daniel Ayamga
677	Tamale, Ghana	Mathias Afina
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972	Tamale, Ghana	Clement A. Affah
972	Tamale, Ghana	Eric Serme-Sai
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In Memoriam

(June 2022-September 2022)

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Togo Grand Commandery

In Memoriam

The Life of Brigadier General Emile Evans Komi Anthony

March 27, 1926 – June 9, 2022

The Noble Brother, Brigadier General Emile Evans Komi Anthony, born March 27, 1926 in Lomé, was initiated in 1948 to the 1st degree of the Order in the Commandery Sacred Heart # 351 in Accra. With other Brothers, he endeavored to create, in 1952, the Commandery of St. Augustin # 364 Amoutivé, Lomé, the ever first Commandery of the Knights of St. John International in a French-speaking country, attached to the then Grand Commandery of West Africa.

He held several positions in this Commandery, such as Secretary Archivist and Correspondent (1952-1954), Messenger (1954-1957), 1st Vice-President (1958-1960) and President (1961-1967).

He climbed all levels of the Order, notably the 2nd and 3rd Degrees on July 27, 1957, the 4th Degree on June 28, 1986 and finally the Noble Degree on June 25, 1988, all in Accra.

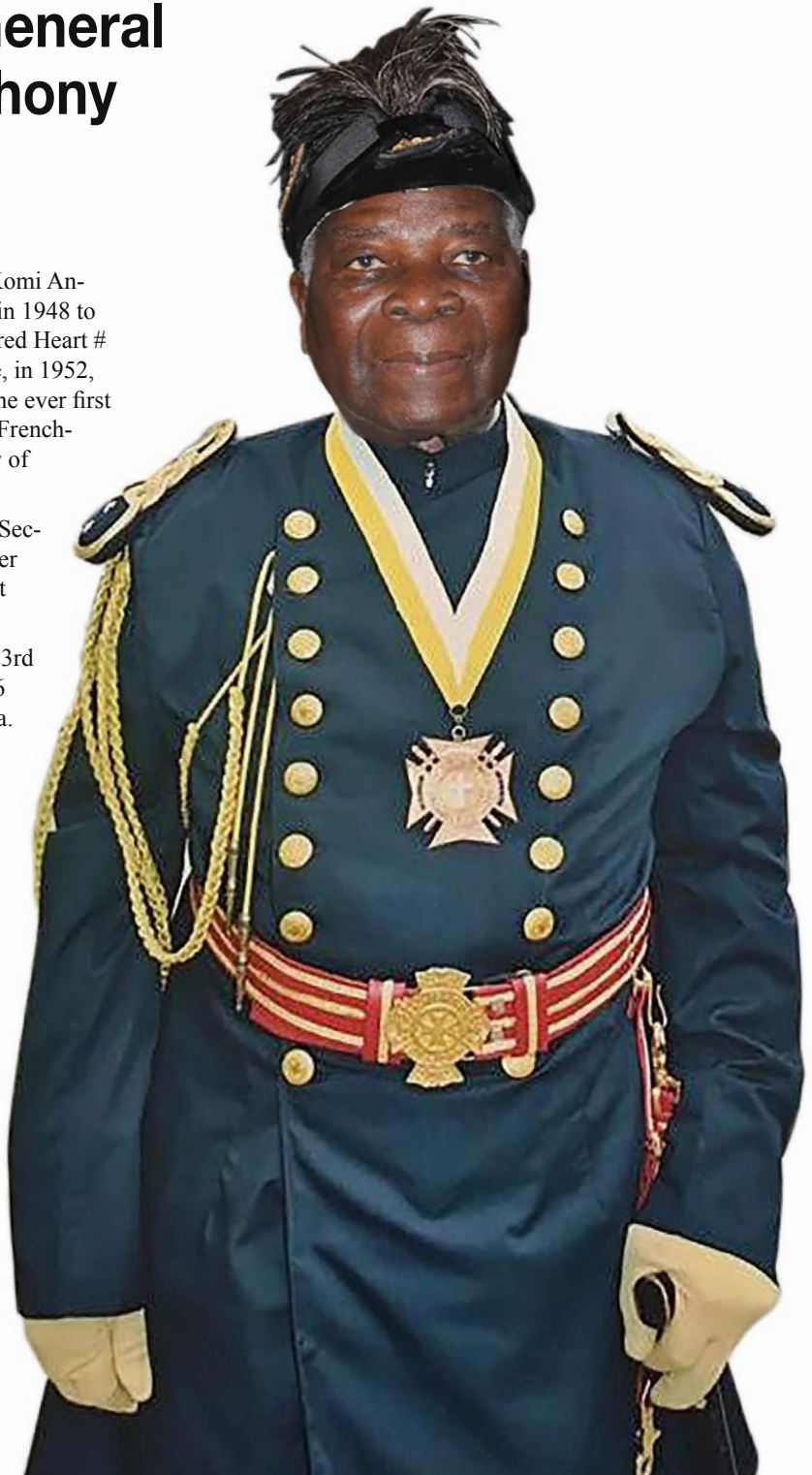
He contributed to the creation of the Grand Commandery of Togo, of which he was the first Grand President from 1974 through 1989.

He was also an active member of the Saint Augustin Parish of Amoutivé where he was appointed "Fidei Custos" in 1984 to help priests bring the Holy Eucharist to the disabled and sick who could not attend the Holy Mass. From 1989 to 2002, he was Vice - President of the Parish Pastoral Council and helped the clergy in the management of the affairs of the parish.

He passed away in Lomé on June 9, 2022 at 97 and after 74 years in the service of the Knights of Saint John International, provided with the sacraments of the Church.

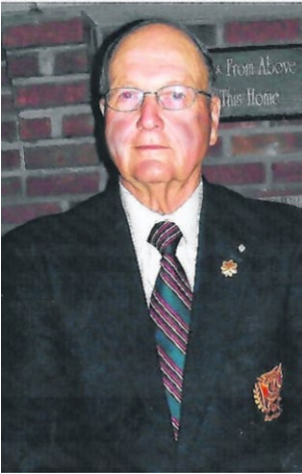
Lord, grant him eternal rest and let perpetual light shine in his eyes without decline.

Brig . Gen. (Dr.) Victor VOVOR
President of Togo Grand Commandery



In Memoriam

Buffalo Grand Commandery



Ron Wendel

In May the Buffalo Regiment gathered at the Knights of St. John Parade Rest Memorial for our annual field Mass in honor of the men we have lost in the previous year. This year carried a more somber tone as that morning as we gathered, we learned of the passing of one of our long-time members, Ron Wendel. Ron was a great friend and a dedicated Knight of St. John and was instrumental in caring for the monument that he held so dear. Ron's loss was felt among our ranks, and we will miss him dearly. Please join us in praying for the repose of his soul.

While the summer months usually mean a lull in activity for the Buffalo Grand, the month of August has a single high point for the Diocese and the men of the Buffalo Grand. On August 7th, 2022, 23 men turned out for the Annual Father Baker Day Mass honoring the Venerable Father Nelson Baker on the 86th Anniversary of his passing and going home to the Lord. Venerable Nelson Baker was a member of the Knights of St. John and was a charter member of the Noble Degree in Buffalo. The event was part of a larger celebration of the legacy and life of Father Baker who from the humblest of beginnings as a

diocesan priest have stood as a beacon of faith, hope, and charity for the underprivileged for over 100 years.

It is an honor each year to be invited to represent an honor guard along with the Knights of Columbus in the liturgy, and in the wreath laying at the tomb of Venerable Nelson Baker. Please join us as we continue to pray for his canonization.



Knights of St John International make history: Exemplify 100 to Noble Degree

On Saturday, August 27, 2022, the Knights of St John International (KSJI) held their Noble Degree Exemplification at St Michael's Church, Union, New Jersey, United States of America (USA). The ceremony was celebrated by the Most Rev. Elias R. Lorenzo, O.S.B., Bishop for Union County and Vicar General, Archdiocese of Newark.

He was assisted by Monsignor Anselm Nwaorgu (the Spiritual Adviser of KSJI New York Grand), and a host of other priests including Rev. Dr. Erasmus Okere (Spiritual Adviser of Commandery 680, Newark), and Rev. Peter Iwuala (Spiritual Adviser District 4 New York Grand). Incidentally, all three of the advisers are recipients of the Noble Degree.

The event commenced with a dinner reception organized by Monsignor Nwaorgu for the visiting Supreme and Supreme Subordinate officers who

Continued on next page



Maj. Gen. Chijioke Okafor, Interim Supreme Secretary KSJI.



L-R: Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr., Supreme President KSJI and Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas Zdanowicz, Supreme Secretary Emeritus, leading the Knights.



Bishop Elias R. Lorenzo, Exemplifying the Noble Ladies

Continued from preceding page
had arrived the previous evening.

The Noble Degree is the fifth and highest degree, the ultimate honor to be bestowed upon members of the Knights of St John International, for their long and meritorious service to the Order and the Holy Mother, the Church.

For the first time in the history of the Order, a total number of 100 members were Exemplified and this was made up of the Knights, Ladies Auxiliary, priests and the Bishop. There were speeches by the Supreme President, General Frank Waseleski, the Interim Supreme Secretary Major General Chijioke Okafor, the Supreme Secretary Emeritus Lt. Gen. Tom Zdanowicz, Brig. Gen. Dale Gosiaux, Supreme Subordinate President Brig. Gen. Brian Stehlin, Brig. Gen. Titus Osuagwu, Chairman of the Noble Degree Committee, as well as Lady Iris Turner, Supreme Respected President, Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of St John International.

Other officers who were present to grace the occasion include: Maj. Gen. Martin Bella, Supreme Trustee, Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Toe, Supreme Subordinate 2nd Vice President USA, Col. Paul Jasper, Trustee, USA Subordinate Commandery and Lady Pauline Opara, New York Grand Respected President, Ladies Auxiliary.

The event was rounded off with a party for the Brothers and Sisters who came from all over the United States and Canada. Chairman of the Noble Degree Exemplification, Brig. Gen. Titus Osuagwu, gave a vote of thanks while the Spiritual Adviser of New York Grand Commandery, the Monsignor Nwaorgu said the closing prayers for the historic event.

Bro. Lawrence Ibe
Adjutant District 4
New York Grand Commandery
Secretary, Noble Degree
Exemplification Committee



Commandery 680 Newark, New Jersey recipients.



676 Trenton KSJI & 598 Trenton LAUX

More photos on next page



Gen. Dale Gossiaux, past Supreme President, Maj. Gen. Martin Bella, Supreme Trustee, Gen. Frank Waseleski, Sr. Supreme President and Lt. Gen. Sir Thomas F. Zdanowicz, Supreme Secretary Emeritus



L-R Gen. Sir Dale Gossiaux, Past President; Col. Paul Jasper, Trustee US Subordinate Commandery; Brig. Gen. Emmanuel Toe, Supreme Subordinate 2nd Vice President and Maj. Gen. Brian Stehlin, USA Supreme Subordinate President.



Col. Dave B. Wilson, Sr. NY Grand Secretary, and Brig. Gen. Titus Brown Osuagwu, Chairman, Noble Degree Committee 2022 and Supreme Cadets

Koforidua-Ho Grand Inaugurates New Commandery



The Koforidua-Ho Grand Commandery of the Knights of St. John International welcomed St. Peter Claver Commandery #977, Jasikan on Friday, April 29, 2022.

The Grand President, Brig. Gen. Paul Amoasi Baidoo, who led the inaugural ceremony, advocated for a godly and knightly bond among the members, as they have accepted to join the noble and ancient order of the Knights of St. John International.

Gracing the ceremony were some official from Supreme Subordinate Commandery, Ghana. Among them was Maj. Gen. William Adjei.

St. Peter Claver Commandery # 977, Jasikan starts off with 19 brothers.

At a thanksgiving Mass on Sunday, the homilist, the

Most Rev. Gabriel Akwasi Ababio Mante, Bishop of Jasikan Diocese, admonished members to be guided by the ideals of the church and the noble order and have a good and healthy relationship with other societies in the church.

Bishop Mante added that the persecution of the Church is closer than we think therefore it was rightly in place to be awake and defend the church at any point in time, if necessary.

The Grand President, Brig.Gen. Amoasi Baidoo, in his congratulatory message emphasized a few core mandates of Knights: Honesty, Discipline, Generosity, Dedication and Love.

He expressed his fervent wish for members to be living witnesses to these mandates of the knighthood.

More on next page

Koforidua-Ho Grand Commandery '22 Delegates Meeting Ends in Jasikan



The Koforidua-Ho Grand Commandery held its 2022 annual Delegates Meeting on April 29 to 30 in the Jasikan Diocese of the Oti Region. This year's meeting was attended by delegates from all local commanderies in the grand, spanning the Volta, Oti and Eastern regions of Ghana.

The meeting was hosted at the Jasikan Diocesan Formation and Counseling Center, Nsuta-Buem.

The meeting presided over by the Grand President, Brig.Gen. Paul Amoasi Baidoo, also coincided with the inauguration of the Grand's latest commandery, St. Peter Claver Commandery, #977 in Jasikan.

Also, in attendance were officers from the Supreme Subordinate

Commandery, Ghana, led by the President, Maj. Gen. William Adjei. Other members of the delegation include Past Supreme Subordinate Presidents- Maj. Gen. Peter C.N Sangber-Dery and Lt. Gen. J. W. Biney.

The Grand President, Brig.Gen. Paul Amoasi Baidoo in his remarks to the delegates, advocated for massive improvement in the activities of the local Commanderies and advocated that all Presidents champion the ideals of our patron saint, St. John the Baptist.

Submitted by:

Sir Knight Vincent Dela Goka.

Koforidua-Ho Grand Chaplain-Rev. Fr. Maj. Vodzogbe Appointed Director at The Ghana National Catholic Secretariat



Rev. Fr. Maj. Samuel Christopher Vodzogbe has been appointed Director of Religious Education and Catechetics at the National Catholic Secretariat (NCS) in Accra. The appointment took effect August 1. Until this appointment, he was the Parish Priest of the Risen Christ Catholic Church, Adidome in the Diocese of Keta-Akatsi of the Volta Region, Ghana.

Ordained in 1994, Father Vodzogbe did his post graduate studies at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, where he obtained the Doctor of Ministry degree with specialization in Liturgy Studies. In 2006/07, he was appointed at St. Peter's Regional Seminary Padu, where he lectured in Liturgy, Homiletics, Catechetics, and Pastoral Theology. He has keen interest in the liturgical and catechetical formation of the Religious and Lay Ministers. He was the Priest in charge of Liturgy in the Seminary.

Father Vodzogbe authored some rich publications on the Liturgy and Catechetics,

including:

- Exploring the Theological Foundations of Catholic Liturgy
- Exploring the Theology of the Advent and Christmas Seasons
- The Catechetical Manuals in use in the Donkorkrom Vicariate

He is a proud member of Knights of St. John International - St. Theresa Commandery #510, Abor.

He currently serves as Chaplain of the Koforidua-Ho Grand Commandery.

Rev. Fr. Maj. Vodzogbe was on Saturday, July 30, 2022 exemplified into the Koforidua-Ho Temple of the Noble and Exalted Knights of The Holy Cross as a Noble Brother.

Submitted by:

Sir Knight Vincent Dela Goka.



SAVE THE DATE
Knights of St. John
International



New York
Grand Commandery
Convention
May 5-7, 2023

Hosted by:

Trenton Commandery 676

Events and Activities Venue:
Crown Plaza Hotel Princeton
Conference Center
900 Scudders Mill Road,
Plainsboro, NJ 08536

Contacts:

Rudolph Weedor	267-394-0293
Michael Days	609-529-1342
Nettie Kollie	609-5321736

Registration and hotel booking
starts on October 15, 2022.
Stay tuned for full details
www.ksj676.org

Knights of St. John International



Supreme Cadets
Organizing Division

"In God We Trust"



Report From Cadets Organizing Division

We thank the Almighty God for giving us the opportunity to meet once again for the promotion of the good of the Noble Order.

Since the Covid-19 appears to be winding down, the Cadets are once again starting to gather in person. Still, we are glad to report that since the beginning of Covid-19 epidemic, we have continued to monitor the welfare and progress of all Cadets and Juniors throughout the entire world. From data available, there has been no reported deaths of the Cadets and Juniors in the Division. We have continued to hold our meetings in our local Commanderies and have been holding healthy discussions at our Cadets' WhatsApp Group Forum. This group discussion affords us the much-desired opportunity to meet as brothers, discuss with

each other on the welfare of the Cadets Commanderies in our various regions since the Covid-19 began. The following countries participate in our group discussions: Togo, Ghana, Nigeria, and Liberia.

We thank the Almighty God for keeping us alive so far. The Beatitudes of Jesus provide a way of life that promises salvation, they also provide peace during our trials and tribulations on this earth.

Liberia:

The St. Mulumba Cadet Commandery #607 bring you warm greetings. We celebrated our anniversary this year on August 21, 2022, with a parade and Thanksgiving Mass. We had a retreat and sports on Saturday, August 19, 2022, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Liberia. This

was the first time since the establishment of the Cadet Commandery of St. Mulumba in August 2007. We have continued to wax strong.

September 15 is my 10 years anniversary in the Cadet. I'm calling on all brothers to please pray for me as I continue to serve God, the Church, and my Country. Congratulations to Brother Kevin Logan from Brother John Osioma from Nigeria.



Kevin Logan (Worthy President)

Republic of Ghana:

Happy International Youth Day to all KSJI Cadets & Junior Auxiliaries!



KSJI Cadets and Juniors observing a minute of silence to honor the International Youth's Day.

Please, we are appealing to our Supreme Cadets Organizer to please allow us to attend this year's Supreme Cadet Convention or, we are appealing to you to approve our organizing one for the Cadets in the West African region.

Brother Kevin Logan – Liberia

St. Francis of Assisi Cadet Commandery #917 Agona Nkwanta, Quarterly Report

Introduction:

We give thanks to the Almighty God for the great gift of life given to us.

Membership:

The said mentioned Commandery above can boast of thirty (30) members with two members pending to be enrolled or initiated into the Noble Order of the Cadets of St. John International.

Meeting:

We had some irregularities with our meetings which was supposed to be scheduled at every first Saturday of every month because of the Covid-19 Pandemic and the recent school system in the country (Ghana). In fact, we are now able to manage our regularities on our business meetings scheduled as mentioned above and hold general meetings on every Sunday after Mass. B.O.T. meetings are scheduled a week before a business meeting in our Commandery but because of the Covid-19 and the school system.

Activities:

Feast of St. John the Baptist: This year, the celebration of our Patron Saint was held by our District Commandery (1st Regiment/District Cadet Commandery) with all its member-local commanderies at Star of the Sea Cathedral for the climax which a talk was given by Rev. Fr. Dolphyne. And on Sunday, where we had our thanksgiving mass at our various parishes which we had ours at St. Francis of Assisi Parish with a proper guard of honor.

Local Church Activities:

We participated in every activity organized by the church; some of which includes Mass, general cleaning, and prayer sessions.

Finance:

Our Knights have always been our bedrock for all our day-to-day financial activities. Members of our noble Commandery are mandated to pay an amount of one Ghana cedi per month as dues of which because of the Covid 19 Pandemic which brought about a lockdown in some areas of our country, it had been very difficult for our members to make payments for our dues.

Challenges:

- Poor payment of dues
- Poor Meeting Attendance

Projection:

We are aiming at rescheduling our business meetings to fit into the school system (temporary) since many of our members and that of our executives are in the secondary school while some are in the final year in Junior high schools but will revert it when everything gets back to normal.



Acknowledgement:

We appreciate our brother in the of Bro Louis Appiah Adjei, our current elected Worthy President, for his selfless initiate of organizing and seeing to it that all activities regarding to our noble Order is well looked at. Another appreciation goes to our brother, Enoch Koomson, our acting Cadet Organizer who supports us in our activities. On a larger scale, to God who delivered the Israelites from Egypt for taking us through this pandemic period till now.

Compiled by: Bro James Nkaane Mensah (General Secretary)

Approved by: Bro Louis Appiah Adjei (Worthy President)

Attested by: S.K. Clement Assuah (Cadet Organizer).

End of Report from Commandery #917 Agona Kwanta, Ghana.

Thank you and may the Almighty continue to strengthen us all in our endeavors towards defending the Church dignity and grant us that longed for spiritual enrichment. All Supreme, Supreme Subordinate, Grand, District and Commandery Cadets are encouraged to join us in our WhatsApp Forum and submit their Reports to: +1-973-979-0407.

“In God We Trust.” Fraternally and respectfully submitted:

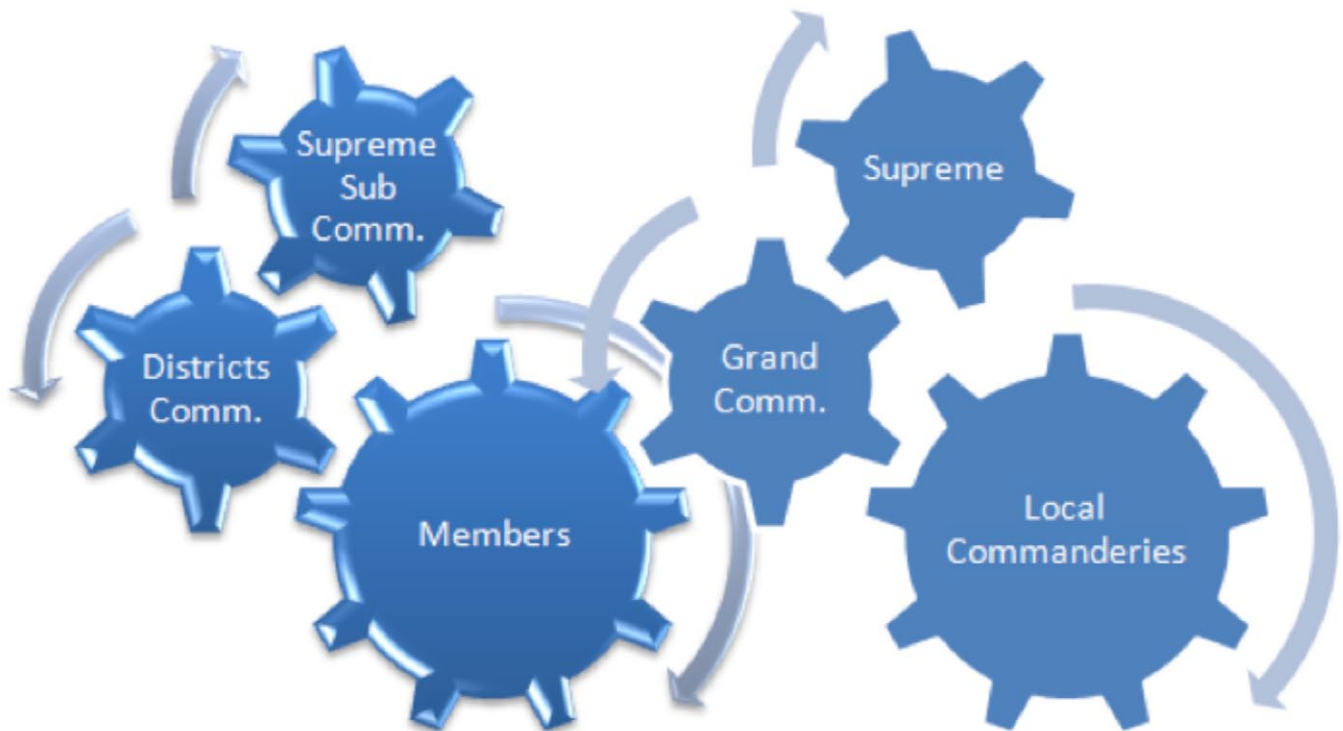
Noble Brig. Gen. Titus Brown Osuagwu, JP, KSJI
Supreme Cadets Chairman

SUPREME SUBORDINATE COMMANDERY – USA

Maj. Gen. Brian F. Stehlin - President

FOOD FOR THOUGHT!

TEAMWORK!



**It only takes one broken gear to stop a machine.
Let's all work together to grow the organization.**

**To all the SSC – USA brother knights -
Keep up the good work!**



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.

Articles and photos for upcoming issues are due on the following dates:

***November 1st for the December 2022 issue**

***February 1st for the March 2022 issue**

***May 1st for the June 2022 issue**

We are very interested in stories about our fellow Knights doing exceptional voluntary work in their respective communities.

Please send materials to KnightsJournal@yahoo.com. Detailed captions for photos are appreciated.