

THE WAY

EOHSJ WESTERN LIEUTENANCY

July 2026
VOL VII

What is EOHSJ about?

by Dame Betty Boyd, DHS

Celebrating Pope Leo XIV

*by Sir Clay Hoffman, KC*HS*

100 Years of the American Lieutenancy

*by Sir Clay Hoffman, KC*HS*

Called to Serve Sent to Love

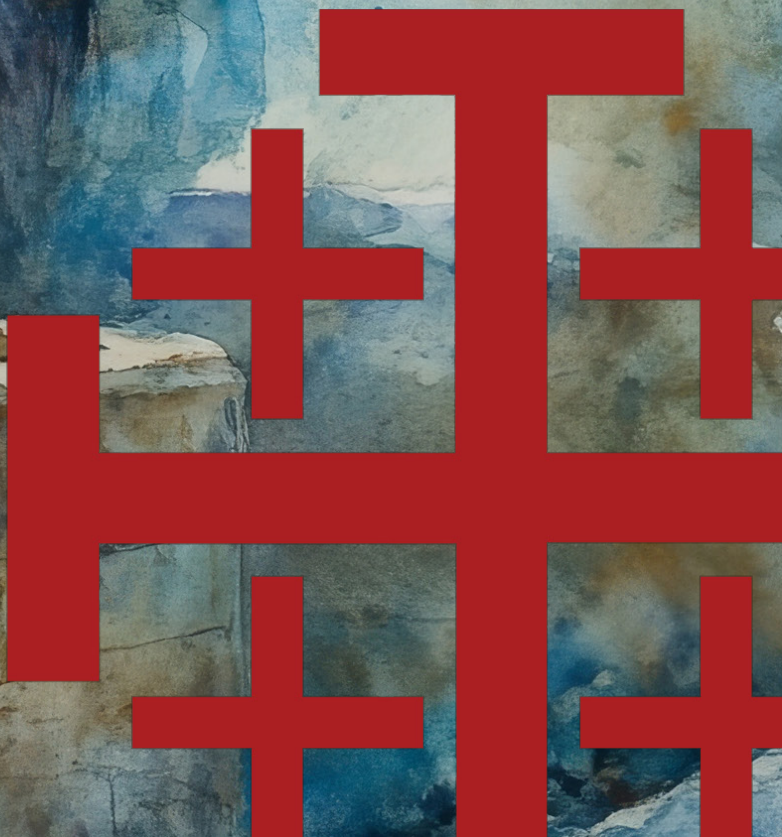
*H.E. Michael Pham, KC*HS*

Crux Hierosolymitana, Charitatis Signum -

Jerusalem Cross, Sign of Charity
*by Sir Michael Weinberg, KC*HS*

Welcome Bishop

James A. Misko, Tucson
by Sir Bill Purciello, KCHS



REMEMBER,
O MOST GRACIOUS VIRGIN MARY,
THAT NEVER WAS IT KNOWN
THAT
ANYONE WHO FLED TO THY PROTECTION,
IMPLORED THY HELP,
OR SOUGHT THY INTERCESSION
WAS LEFT UNAIDED.
INSPIRED WITH THIS CONFIDENCE,
I FLY UNTO THEE,
O VIRGIN OF VIRGINS, MY MOTHER;
TO THEE DO I COME;
BEFORE THEE I STAND,
SINFUL AND SORROWFUL.
O MOTHER OF THE WORD INCARNATE,
DESPISE NOT MY PETITIONS,
BUT IN THY MERCY
HEAR AND ANSWER ME.
AMEN.



H.E. Dame Margaret Romano, DGCHS
Equestrian Order
of the Holy Sepulchre
of Jerusalem,
Lieutenant,
Western Lieutenancy,
The Way Magazine,
est. 2020

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LETTER FROM THE LIEUTENANT

H.E. Margaret Romano, DGCHS



Welcome to the Way!

Called to Serve, Sent to Love.

Each year, The Way magazine committee prayerfully selects a theme that reflects our mission for our magazine. Since deciding on this theme, these simple words took on a very special meaning. Things came up in our everyday lives that showed the importance of answering God's call when he calls us, to serve others with generous hearts and to share His love in all that we do.

We are a small but dedicated team committed to bringing you articles that inspire and inform—from the history of the Holy Sepulchre and the lives of the saints to the stories of our own modern-day saints: our members. These are individuals who live their faith each day by answering God's call to serve and to love, and example of our theme serving through their faithful witness and dedication.

We are especially grateful to Bishop Pham of the Diocese of San Diego for serving as our guest bishop and contributing this year's message in The Bishop's Corner. In addition to being our Guest Bishop for the magazine, we thank Bishop for hosting our Annual Meeting in San Diego.

This year is especially significant as we celebrate the 100th Anniversary of our Order in the United States. We reflect on a century of growth, faith, and service, honoring the rich history of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre and the Knights and Dames who have faithfully carried its mission forward. We hope you enjoy this special edition of The Way. May its pages inspire you to continue living your faith with courage, compassion, and a renewed commitment to Christ's mission.

Deus Lo Vult!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret Romano". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and elegant.

H.E. Margaret Romano, DGCHS
Lieutenant
EOHSJ Western Lieutenancy

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BISHOP'S Corner

Bishop for the
Diocese of San Diego



Called to Serve, Sent to Love *"Siempre Adelante!"*

by H.E. Michael Pham, KC*HS

When Miguel Serra was a boy on the Island of Mallorca in Spain, probably the last thing he was thinking was that someday he would be a priest. He worked with his family in the fields until he went to school, where he excelled as a student. With the influence of his Franciscan teachers, Miguel entered the Order of Friars Minor, taking the name Junipero – after one of the first followers of Saint Francis – and was eventually ordained a priest. He continued to excel in his studies, and ultimately obtained a Doctorate in Theology and taught at the university level. However, something spoke to his heart to expand beyond where he was, and he and a couple of fellow friars volunteered to work as missionaries in the New World. Despite his brilliance and the influential life he could have lived, he was a very humble man. When he and his companions landed in Mexico, Junipero insisted on walking rather than riding a horse all the way to Mexico City. On that long and difficult journey, his leg became infected, probably from an insect bite, a malady that afflicted him for the rest of his life. Nothing could dampen the evangelical spirit of Junipero Serra, which led him to serve missions in Mexico, Baja California, and ultimately, in Alta California where he began what was to become a string of missions from San Diego to north of San Francisco. He was never stopped from his work by setbacks, from whatever source they came. In fact, his unofficial motto was “Siempre Adelante” – “Always Go Forward.” As we know, St. Junipero Serra was canonized for this apostolic zeal and holiness of life by Pope Francis in 2015.

As the current bishop of San Diego I feel close to St. Junipero Serra. As a young boy, becoming

a priest was the farthest thing in my mind. Like St. Junipero Serra, I had to leave my homeland to come to a strange country, learn a new language, and adapt to new customs and way of life. It was only later that the Holy Spirit inspired me to become a priest. Truly, I felt *called to serve and sent to love* and dedicate my life to the service of God and His Church. I know that I have been called in a special way to reach out and bring God's love to His people through my particular ministry as a 'bishop, just as every one of us has been called to do the same,...' especially as we give witness to the love of our Savior to our Christian Brothers and Sisters in the Holy Land, who are experiencing such pressure and tension simply to continue to be the living stones of Christ there.

Our work as Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem cannot be overstated as part of life of the Church in the Holy Land. We are all *called to serve and sent to love* the Holy Land, most importantly, by our prayerful remembrance of those Christians living there, asking God to give them the same strength of endurance and faithfulness that inspired great men like St. Junipero Serra. However, we must also give credibility to our prayer by our physical presence on pilgrimage and by our financial support to keep and maintain those structures the

Continued on page 42
Bishop's Corner



Dame Danielle and Deacon Sir Ricardo Burgos. Photo by Tony Amat.

2025 ANNUAL MEETING Western Lieutenancy

God is Our Hope *by Deacon Sir Ricardo Burgos, KCHS
and Dame Danielle Burgos, DCHS*

O Ke Akua Ko Mākou Manaolana: Finding Hope in the Heart of the Pacific

In the quiet of the Big Island, where the rhythmic pulse of the Pacific meets the stoic strength of volcanic stone, the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem recently gathered for our Annual Meeting. It was a pilgrimage of the heart, set against a backdrop of incredible natural beauty, and a history of incredible suffering. As we convened in this year, declared by the late Pope Francis as the Year of Hope, our theme — O Ke Akua Ko Mākou Manaolana (God is Our Hope) — served as both a prayer and a mandate. We gathered not merely for administration, but to talk story, to hang loose, and to find the silence and quiet necessary to rest in God, all while keeping our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land at the forefront of our mission.

Thursday

A Grace-Filled Beginning

The meeting opened under the warm embrace of the Hawaiian sun, surrounded by luscious greenery and the towering presence of Mauna Kea. On the Feast of the Guardian Angels, our Grand Prior, H.E. José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles, offered a profound gift: the celebration of Mass. Receiving the Eucharist before the official start of the meeting allowed us to settle our spirits after our travels. It was a moment of pure grace, a spiritual grounding that



Above: The beautiful Waikoloa Beach Resort in Hawaii. All photos are by the EOHSJ official photographer, Tony Amat, unless acknowledged otherwise.

prepared us to gather truly as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Friday

Reflection in the Land of Fire and Water

Friday was a day to honor the beauty of creation. Whether on the golf course with its striking volcanic backdrops or sightseeing across the island's diverse terrain, the message was clear: everything in life is a gift. The afternoon transitioned into a deeper spiritual focus. Following a Travelers Mass celebrated by Archbishop José H. Gomez, the Order divided into retreats for Promotees, Investees, and the general membership. In these separate yet united circles of reflection, we meditated on the God of Hope who comes to us in the simplest forms to nourish our souls.



Photo 1: Beautiful Waikaloa Hotel.

Photo 2: Deacon Sir Clyde McDaniels, Jr., KHS and Dame Linda McDaniels, DHS, from Los Angeles.

Photo 3: Dame Marge Ruffalo, DHS, San Bernardino, Sir Rudy Cavolina, KCHS, Phoenix, Sir Armand Brooks, KCHS, of Phoenix and Sir Rob Walsh, KCHS, Las Vegas.

Photo 4: Sir Peter Scholte, KGCHS, Sir Tom Romano, KGCHS, the putter is kept a secret, and Miriam Scholte, DGCHS, all from Los Angeles.

Photo 5: Sir Nathan Richards, KCHS, Sir Tony Moreno, KHS, Fr. John Assalone, KCHS and Martin Gutierrez from Las Vegas.

Photo 6: The Registration Team. Back Row: Sir Mark VanCleve, KCHS, Sir Dennis De Pietro, KGCHS, Dame Susan De Pietro, DGCHS, Sir Lance King, KCHS. Front Row: Dame Gail Gressler, DHS and Dame Kristine VanCleve, DCHS, all from Los Angeles.

Photo 7: Dame Michelle Mitchell, DHS, Tuscon, Dame (unknown), Dame Gracie Quiroz Marum, DHS, Tuscon, Dame Patricia Torrington, DC*HS, Tuscon, and Dame Ginny L. Clements, DGCHS, Tuscon, Dame Fe Varquez, DGCHS and Linda McDaniels, DHS, both from Los Angeles.





Photo 8: Dame Kathy McGaughan, DGCHS.

Photo 9: Back Row: Dame Ann Dickson, DGCHS, Dolores Irwin, Sir Charles Irwin, KGCHS, and Dame Maryann Hockstad, DC*HS. Front Row: Dame Pat Torrington, DC*HS, and Sir Dan Torrington, KC*HS, all from Tucson.

Photo 10: Mass was held in the Monarchy Ballroom in the Waikoloa Beach Resort.

Photo 11: Knights of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem standing to greet the Bishops and Clergy as they process in for the celebration of Mass.

Photo 12: Investees Sir R. Shane Giblin, KHS, and Dame Tuce Giblin, DHS, from Orange, CA., waiting for the Travelers Mass to begin.

Photo 13: Grand Prior Archbishop H.E. José Gomez, blessing the Investees with holy water as part of the ceremony in renewing their baptismal vows.

Photo 14: Grand Prior Archbishop H.E. José Gomez knights an Investee into the Order. Deacon Ryan Adams assists, and Reverend Mikulanis is ready to bestow the Order's decorations.

*Photo 1: H.E. Margaret Romano gave thanks to the outgoing individuals: Dame Emma Stewart, DGCHS, - EOHSJ Secretary, Sir Joe, Micatrotto, Sr., KGCHS, and Connie Micatrotto, DGCHS, - Las Vegas Area Counselors, Sir David and Dame Nancy Schanzlin - Area Counselors San Diego, Fr. Dave Heney - All Member Retreat Master, ?, Fr. Michael Bucciarelli, KCHS, and Sir J.J. Drexel Gregory Bautista, KC*HS.*

Photo 2: The coaster that helped raise monies for the water project in the Holy Land.

Photo 3: Dames ready for Mass.

Photo 4: H.E. Sir Tom Pogge, Vice Governor General of the North American Lieutenancy and H.E. Dame Margaret Romano, Lieutenant of the Western Lieutenancy.



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3



4

Saturday

Chants of Holiness and Global Solidarity

The morning began with the hauntingly beautiful Oli—a Hawaiian chant calling us to holiness—performed by Sir Vincent Souza. This set the stage for the Promotion and Memorial Mass, presided over by our own Very Reverend Clarence “Larry” Silva, Bishop of Honolulu. It was a solemn and moving experience to witness the advancement of our members while simultaneously memorializing those faithful servants who have gone before us. It was informative and inspiring to hear and see during lunch

at the All Members Meeting, the positive impact of our mission and all the good the Order does to help our brothers and sisters in the Land our Lord walked. The reality of our mission was brought into sharp focus by Father Bernard Poggi, Rector of the Latin Patriarchal Seminary in Beit Jala. Hearing of the struggles faced by seminarians in the Holy Land stirred a deep sense of urgency. We responded with local flavor, using Hawaiian-themed carved wood coasters to fund-raise for the seminary—a small token of island craft supporting a monumental cause. We ended the day in true island fashion with



Photo 5: From left to right, the EOHSJ Chancellor Viktor Rzeteljski, Reverend Patrick Crino, Reverend Daniel Rolland receiving the Order's decorations from the Grand Prior H.E. Archbishop José Gomez, while Deacon Ryan Adams looks on.

Photo 6: H.E. Cardinal Archbishop Emeritus of Los Angeles, Roger Mahony, KGCHS

Photo 7: H.E. The Most Reverend Bishop Larry Silva of Honolulu, processing in to open the weekend with Mass.



an authentic Hawaiian Luau at the Lagoon Lanai with a delicious buffet decorated with lively Hawaiian music, Polynesian dances, and fellowship to celebrate the joy of gathering in community.

Sunday

The Saints of Molokai and the Call to Investiture

Sunday's reflections centered on the Heroic Hope found in Hawaii's own history. Our Hawaiian Islands are not only a place rich in natural beauty, but also a place where holiness grew in the midst of the suffering

rampant in the leper colony of Molokai. We were privileged to hear from Bishop Larry and Reverend Lane Akiona about Saint Damien de Veuster, Saint Marianne Cope, and Servant of God Joseph Dutton. Bishop Larry spoke about how life's circumstances shaped both Father Damien and Mother Marianne into the saints they would become. Father Lane, a son of Molokai and Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, U.S. Province, the same order as Father Damien, read from a collection of letters written to and by Father Damien while he was ministering to the leper colony.

Photo 1: Group from Tuscon, Arizona.

Photo 2: Hawaiian dancers performed for the Luau on Sunday.

Photo 3: A few Knights joined in to learn a Hawaiian dance.

Photo 4: EOHSJ Executive Dame Sarah Knob, DHS, and H.E. Dame Margaret Romano, DGCHS.



It was very moving and inspiring to hear of their heroic self-gift to a people dismissed and forgotten by society. Their devotion to those suffering from leprosy on Molokai is an inspiration in our own mission to the outcasts and the persecuted people of the Holy Land. This inspiration continued into the Investiture Mass. As Archbishop José H. Gomez welcomed new members into the Order, the connection between the suffering of Molokai and the struggles of the Holy Land felt palpable. We are a people called and commissioned to bring hope where it is most needed.

The evening concluded with a Hawaiian Style Gala with a lively local Trio playing easy-listening Hawaiian music during dinner, followed by music that filled the dance floor. The evening reached a high point with the announcement that our fundraiser for the Beit Jala seminary had reached an astounding \$230,000, a testament of what we are able to accomplish to keep Christianity and its mission alive in the Holy Land.



Sunday

A Testament of Trust

As we departed the Big Island, we carried with us more than just memories of sunsets and hibiscus. We carried a renewed witness: that for God, nothing is impossible if we trust. Whether in the shadow of a volcano or the streets of Jerusalem, we remain committed to the belief that God is Our Hope.

For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him. — Psalm 62:5-6



Photo 5: This Knight was a hit with the Hawaiian dancers! He danced like no one was watching!



Photo 6: Sir Roger Molieri, KHS, with Dame Maria Molieri, DHS and ? from Phoenix, Arizona.

Photo 7: A Luau with over 500 members! The food was fantastic as well as the fellowship!



AN INTERVIEW

with Abouna Bernard Poggi

by Dame Ann Dickson, DCHS

At the 2025 Annual Meeting in Hawaii, those present were surprised to hear from a special guest from the Holy Land, Abouna (Father) Bernard Poggi, Rector of the Seminary of the Latin Patriarchate in Beit Jala, near Bethlehem. Abouna Bernard had been invited to speak to our assembly by our Lieutenant, Dame Margaret Romano.

Abouna Bernard, as he is fondly known, was touched by the joy, hospitality, and warmth that greeted him. He remarked that out of all the lieutenancies, the western lieutenancy has the greatest eagerness (the most initiatives) to help our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. Every person seems engaged and has knowledge of the situation there, and people have desired to do something for the people of the Holy Land, but did not know what to do.

He came to Hawaii with absolutely no expectations and did not even realize that the lieutenancy was going to do anything for the seminary during the annual meeting.

He spoke to the assembly about the difficulty of not having resources in the Holy Land: running water only once a week, electricity which cuts out a few times a day, natural gas which is sparse, and even fuel at the pumps which is rationed. He explained how difficult it is to run a seminary when these fundamental elements are needed, and he explained the need for a new water purification system. He explained that about three years ago, several seminarians noticed a scalp rash. Medicine helped, but when the prescription ended, the rash returned. Ultimately, doctors realized that the rash was due to bacteria in the water, and the seminary had to quit using its water due to the contamination.



They switched to bottled water for drinking, and had to rely on municipal water for everything else: bathing, laundry, etc., which is extremely complicated because municipal water is only available one day a week.

Several engineering firms have been contacted to determine what can be done, with each firm having different suggestions. First, the seminary needs to figure out what to do, and second, to execute that plan. Right now, the



seminary is in the information-gathering stage. The wells need to be connected to each other and then connected to a third source of water, which would increase the amount of water that could be collected from the municipality. The wells need to be closed off from rain water, and then everything needs to be put on an electronic system. When the project is finished, seminarians will be able to drink clean water from the tap; no more bottled water, no more rashes or bacterial infections, and water every day.

Abouna Poggi's audience responded enthusiastically to this need with an avalanche of donations. Those of us in the audience enjoyed the electric atmosphere as we heard a distinct plan to help. Much to his shock, he returned to Beit Jala with donations totaling \$250,000, enough to make a huge difference in this special project for the seminary.

Top Left: Fr. Abouna Bernard Poggi speaking at the Saturday Meeting. Photo by Tony Amat.



Bottom Left: The audience listened intently to the conditions in the Holy Land. Photo by Tony Amat.

*Above: Sir Tom Romano, KGCHS, with Abouna Bernard Poggi. Photo by Dame Denise Meraz, DC*HS.*

Left: The Latin Patriarchate celebrating Easter Sunday in the Holy Sepulchre. Photo is from the Latin Patriarchate.

Physical work has not yet begun because the engineering studies are not yet complete. Besides the water issue, there are problems with utilities, which means that heat must be provided using liquified natural gas (LNG), and sometimes there is no heat. Occasionally the electricity goes off and the seminary is forced to use a generator dating from the 1960's. There is limited solar energy to heat water.

Even amidst these challenges, a Vocations Awareness Program brought in 73 men in Jordan and 44 in Palestine! In the Major seminary, there are prospects for three or four new seminarians. There is also considerable interest due to the reopening of the Minor (high school) seminary.

Abouna Bernard remains enthusiastic about the work in Beit Jala, and grateful for the interest, care and, contributions that come from the people in the Western Lieutenancy.

What Is EOHSJ About?

The Mission and Meaning - An Interview with Frank McKown, KCHS *Holy Land Ministries Councilor*

by Dame Betty Boyd, DHS

Sir Frank McKown is the Holy Land Ministries Councilor for the Western Lieutenancy. His focus is on member engagement and awareness of the twelve ministries in which the Western Lieutenancy is currently involved.

The mission of The Holy Land Ministries Team strives to raise awareness and engagement of our Dames and Knights with the various organizations and special projects supported by the Lieutenancy. Connecting with these ministries promotes within our Lieutenancy an awareness and education about the plight of Christians in the Holy Land, with the hope that members and friends of the Order will provide material or financial aid and support while fostering prayer for our Brothers and Sisters in the Holy Land.

In 2022, he visited the Holy Land as a member. A key aspect of the trip was visiting two ministries supported by the Order: the Holy Child Program in Bethlehem, a school for children with mental and developmental disabilities, and Bethlehem University. At the university, Frank participated in a student exchange and a Q&A with pilgrims, both of which were fascinating. Visiting these ministries was the highlight of his trip.

Frank previously served three years as Area Coordinator for the old Justice and Peace Council. Frank became Councilor after prayer and discernment. The newly named ministry,



Holy Land Ministries, helps members understand the importance of these ministries and how to support them. Frank is planning a personal trip to the Holy Land for the Lieutenancy in May. During this trip, he aims to meet and introduce himself to the leadership of as many ministries as possible, learn about their specific needs through direct discussions, and assist in completing grant requests for special projects required by those ministries.

This article highlights one of the twelve projects. Frank personally visited the Holy Child Program, which offers therapeutic day treatment and alternative education for children with complex mental health issues in the Holy Land. These children are affected by trauma from their environment, birth conditions, or abuse. The special-needs grade school offers a high teacher-to-student ratio for personalized attention. The Catholic-run school is mostly attended by Muslim students, and there is no equivalent support in the West Bank during the school day.

The Order supports many worthwhile ministries. It is hoped that the new name for Holy Land Ministries will increase members' awareness of Lieutenancy-supported projects.

1 ANTONIAN CHARITABLE SOCIETY

Antonian Charitable Society Home for the Elderly in Bethlehem is the first Home for the Elderly established in Bethlehem, providing care for lonely widows and homeless women who receive no moral or financial support.



BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY AND FOUNDATION

2 Bethlehem University, the only Catholic University in Palestine, but open to students of all faiths, aspires to serve its students in their integral development and to contribute to building a free, peaceful, and vibrant Palestine.

CARITAS JERUSALEM MICRO GRANT

3 Caritas Jerusalem is a humanitarian and development organization that represents the socio-pastoral services of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land. Founded in 1967 in the aftermath of the Six-Day War, Caritas Jerusalem helps individuals from all religious backgrounds in East Jerusalem and the West Bank.



CARMEL OF THE HOLY CHILD JESUS

4 Carmel of the Holy Child Jesus is a Carmelite Monastery in Bethlehem, and their projects serve the surrounding Christian community.

CRECHE HOLY FAMILY CHILDREN'S HOME

5 The purpose of the Creche is not simply to take in children off the street, but to touch them with the healing power of love.

HOGAR NIÑO DIOS

Hogar Niño Dios supports with severe mental or physical disabilities, located near the Basilica of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

6

HOLY CHILD

Bethlehem Holy Child Program provides an intense therapeutic day-treatment program and alternative education for children in the Holy Land who suffer from complex mental health issues brought on by trauma.

7



HOUSE OF THREE KINGS "DAR AL MAJUS"

8

"Dar Al Majus" House of the Three Kings exists to assist, sustain, and enhance the economic and cultural lives of the Palestinian people in the

Holy Land by creating a sustainable center for professional and vocational training, spiritual support, and cultural awareness.

SOCIETY OF ST. YVES

The Society of St. Yves - Catholic Center for Human Rights ("St. Yves") is a Catholic human rights organization, founded in 1991 by Patriarch Emeritus Michel Sabbah, and operating under the umbrella of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. St. Yves has been representing the needy, oppressed, and marginalized in the Holy Land through legal and social services.

9



LATIN PATRIARCH
BEIT JALA SEMINARY

The Latin Patriarch Seminary has welcomed and formed candidates to become diocesan priests in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and in other dioceses for over a century and a half. Adopting a seminarian is a popular way to assist a seminarian throughout his education to ordination.

10



ST. VINCENT AIN KAREM

11

Run by the Daughters of Charity, the Saint Vincent Ain Karem Special-Needs Home provides support for over 60 severely physically and mentally handicapped children and young adults, needing 24/7 assistance.



12

ZARQA SCHOOLS -
NORTH AND SOUTH

Zarqa Schools North and South offer educational resources and support to enhance student learning opportunities.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.eohsjwesternusa.org/ministries-eohsj/holy=land-ministries/>

Called to Serve, Sent to Love

CELEBRATING

Pope Leo XIV

"In Illo Uno Unum" *by Sir Clay Hoffman, KC*HS*

"although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one."

"Peace be with all of you" were the first public words spoken by Pope Leo XIV to the faithful after his election as the 267th Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Church on May 8, 2025. The following day, in the Sistine Chapel, he celebrated with the College of Cardinals his first Holy Mass pro Ecclesia.

Born Robert Francis Prevost on September 14, 1955 in Chicago, Illinois, Pope Leo is the son of Louis Marius Prevost and Mildred Agnes Martinez. He is the youngest of three children and has two brothers, Louis Martin and John Joseph. His father, a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II, was an educator, serving first as a teacher and later as principal. His mother was a librarian. Both parents were members of the parish of Saint Mary.

Pope Leo completed his primary studies at Saint Mary of the Assumption School and his secondary studies at Saint Augustine Seminary High School in Holland, Michigan. In high school, he served as editor-in-chief of the yearbook, president of the Library Club and of the senior class, and he competed in tennis and bowling. In 1973, he enrolled at Villanova University, where he studied philosophy and earned a degree in Mathematics in 1977.

On September 1, 1977, he entered the novitiate of the Order of Saint Augustine, in Saint Louis, in the Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel of Chicago. He made his first profession on September 2, 1978 and his solemn profession on August 29, 1981. Studying theology at the Catholic Theological Union of Chicago, he

obtained the licentiate in theology in 1981. On September 10, 1981, he was ordained a deacon at Saint Clare of Montefalco Parish in Grosse Point Park, in the Archdiocese of Detroit. Sent to Rome in 1981, he studied Canon Law at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas (Angelicum), while residing at the International College of Saint Monica. After being ordained to the priesthood on June 19, 1982 in the Chapel of Saint Monica, he obtained the licentiate of Canon Law two years later, followed by the defense of his doctoral dissertation, which was entitled The Role of the Local Prior in the Order of Saint Augustine.

In 1985, he was assigned to the Augustinian mission in Chulucanas, in the region of Piura, Peru, and served there as parochial vicar of the Cathedral of the Holy Family and Chancellor of the Territorial Prelature of Chulucanas. He briefly returned to the United States in 1987, being appointed Vocations Director and Missions Director of his Province, while residing in Olympia Fields, Illinois.

Returning to Peru in 1988 to the Augustinian mission in Trujillo, he led the first joint formation for candidates from the Augustinian vicariates of Chulucanas, Iquitos and Apurimac. He was prior of the community (1988-1992), Director of Formation (1988-1998), and Master of Professed Brothers (1993-1998). In the Archdiocese of Trujillo, he also served as Director of Studies and acting Rector of the Major Seminary of San Carlos and San Marcelo, where he taught Canon

Law, Moral Theology and Patristics; as Judicial Vicar and as a member of the College of Consultants. At the same time, he served as pastor of Our Lady Mother of the Church from 1988 to 1999, and as Administrator of Our Lady of Montserrat Parish from 1992 to 1999. In 1998, he was elected Provincial Prior of the Augustinian Province of Our Mother of Good Counsel, and returned to the United States to assume office on March 8, 1999. In 2001, he became Prior General of the Ordinary General Chapter of the Order of Saint Augustine, and was confirmed in office in 2007 for a second six-year term. At the

Bishop on December 12, 2014, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. His episcopal motto is *In Illo Uno Unum*, taken from Saint Augustine's exposition of Psalm 127, expressing that "although we Christians are many, in the one Christ we are one." On September 26, 2015, he was named Bishop of Chiclayo by Pope Francis, and four years later, the Holy Father appointed him a member of the Congregation for the Clergy, and a year later a member of the Congregation of Bishops. He was called to Rome by Pope Francis on January 20, 2023, and was appointed Prefect of the Dicastery for Bishops

and President of the Pontifical Commission for Latin America, conferring upon him the dignity of Archbishop.

In the Consistory of September 30, 2023, Pope Francis created him Cardinal, and in the Conclave which began on May 7, 2025, he was elected Successor to Peter the next day. Fluent in English, Spanish, Portuguese, French and Italian, Pope Leo XIV is the first Pope from the United States, and the first Augustinian Pope in the history of the Church.

(Source: The Holy See)



conclusion of his mandate, in October 2013, he returned to his Province in Chicago, where he served as Director of Formation at Saint Augustine Convent, First Councillor and Provincial Vicar.

On November 3, 2014, Pope Francis appointed him Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Chiclayo, Peru, and Titular Bishop of Sufar. He took canonical possession of the Diocese on November 7, 2014, and was ordained as a

Above: Pope Leo XIV American Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost Successor of Pope Francis. Rome, Italy 08-05-2025: The new pontiff appears on the central balcony of St. Peter's Basilica: Pope Leo XIV, American Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost, successor to Pope Francis. Photo by ID 379852628© Marco Iacobucci | Dreamstime.com.



KNIGHTS OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE - INVESTEEES

2025

Sir Joseph Alonso
Sir Daniel Dul
Sir John Dwyre
Sir Geoffrey Forgione
Sir R. Shane Giblin
Sir William Griefenberg
Sir Brian Jacklin
Sir John Majkoskill
Reverend Kilian McCaffrey
Reverend Michael Mesa
Reverend Rogelio Molina
Sir Cristino Moreno

Sir Christopher Murray
Reverend Ala Musharbash
Sir Patrick Niemann
Reverend Camillus Ogaraku
Reverend Tony Park
Sir John Simmons
Reverend Joseph Squillacioti
Sir Robert Stewart
Reverend William Tulua
Reverend Joe Unlayao
Sir Jeffery White
Sir Robert Wicke

DAMES OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE - INVESTEEES

2025

Dame Lisa Alonso
Dame Margaret Cavolina
Dame Bonita Delanghe
Dame Diane Dulac
Dame Elena Dwyre
Dame Leonie Gallegos
Dame Truce Giblin
Dame Michelle Griefenberg
Dame Sadona Jacklin
Dame Patricia Mallinger
Dame Anne Morales

Dame Alma Murray
Dame Rebecca Niemann
Dame Karen Ramos
Dame Jennifer Rodriguez
Dame Somer Sherwood White
Dame Monica Simmons
Dame Mary Sparks
Dame Joan Stewart
Dame Alexandria Tyler
Dame Karen Wicke
Dame Michelle Youssef

We welcome our newest members!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR PROMOTEES!

2025

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF KNIGHT COMMANDER

Deacon Sir Ricardo Burgos
Sir Phillip Caldera
Sir Rudolph Cavolina
Reverend Patrick Crino
Sir David Dornak

Sir John Dubé
Sir Robert Ferrar
Sir Manuel Mallannao
Sir Thoma McCormick
Sir George Michalko

Reverend Preston Passos
Sir Robert Pene
Reverend Daniel Rolland
Sir Daniel Ryan
Sir Victor Siebeneck
Sir Mark VanCleve

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF KNIGHT COMMANDER *WITH STAR*

Sir Drexel Gregory Bautista
Sir Thomas Carroll
Sir Ronald Meraz

Sir James Mersch
Dir Patrick Park
Sir Thomas Rogers

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF KNIGHT GRAND CROSS

Sir Robert Barbarowicz
Sir Faiez Ennabe
Sir Seman Hattar
Sir Paul Hitzelberger

Sir Wallace Matthews, Jr.
Sir Joseph Micatrotto
Sir Vincent Salico
Sir Adel Sayegh
Sir Thomas McCormick

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF DAME COMMANDER

Dame Darlene Boyd
Dame Danielle Burgos
Dame Andree Caldera
Dame Madalyn Dornak
Dame Van Dubé

Dame Mary Ferrara
Dame Anita Flores
Dame Elsa Florez
Dame Clarita Gustafson
Dame Micaela Le Blanc

Dame Lucila Mallannao
Dame Sharon Olson
Dame Debra Pene
Dame Melita Ryan
Dame Angela Siebeneck
Dame Cheryl Wintering

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF DAME COMMANDER *WITH STAR*

Dame Sally Bedotto
Dame Yolanda Carroll
Dame Hilary Crahan
Dame Karen Gordon
Dame Diane Kawamura

Dame Denise Meraz
Dame Julie Mersch
Dame Carol Park
Dame Marie Ricci
Dame Michelle Selig

PROMOTION TO THE RANK OF DAME GRAND CROSS

Dame Wynsdey Adams
Dame Christina Ennabe
Dame Magduleen Hattar
Dame Jane Hitzelberger

Dame Constance Micatrotto
Dame Carol Park
Dame Barbara Salico
Dame Doris Sayegh

CRUX HIEROSOLYMITANA, CHARITATIS SIGNUM

– The Jerusalem Cross, a sign of charity

by Sir Michael Weinberg, KC*HS

No one uses words except as signs of something else; and hence may be understood what I call signs: those things, to wit, which are used to indicate something else. Accordingly, every sign is also a thing; for what is not a thing is nothing at all. Every thing, however, is not also a sign.

--St Augustine of Hippo¹

Within the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, the Jerusalem Cross, understood as a symbol, is ubiquitous and perduring in the experience of every Knight and Dame, and when seen from outside the Order, is its eminent and principal representation. We wear it with great commitment and devotion and by it we are steadfast to be known, but if anyone were to ask us (or were we to ask ourselves) what it is and what it means, would we know what to say?² A full answer with consideration of all the historical and aetiological evolutions and the theological and philosophical explications is, of course, beyond the scope of this article; a sufficient answer, however, with some observations of its value and meaning as a sign and which also addresses the concerns of our times and that which is incumbent upon us Knights and Dames certainly does fit within these pages.

THE SIGN

In his book *The House Was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume: A Spirituality of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre*, the Grand Master Fernando Cardinal Filoni writes succinctly and definitively, "For the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, the Cross – in the form known as the *hierosolimitana*,

enhanced by the addition of four minor crosses inserted in the four corners, all red – is the emblem that distinguishes it."³ Quite simply, the cross of the Order is the Jerusalem Cross. Both for members of the Order and for those who are not, however, this 'design' or 'style' of cross, considered as a symbol, usually also brings to mind a vague association of 'mediaeval'. This would not be irrelevant, for that is, in fact, the historical period of its origin, and the study of the use of the cross as a symbol during that time (and thenceforth) belongs to the discipline of heraldry.

*Jerusalem Cross on the
iron door in the Old
City of Jerusalem.*

*Photo by
adobe stock / Leonid*



J. P. Brooke-Little, *Richmond Herald of Arms*, explains the profession thus: "In its widest sense, heraldry means all the duties of a herald. In the Middle Ages, these included the proclamation and conduct of tournaments, the carrying of messages between princes and armies, and the marshalling of ceremonies."⁴ Today, however, "[w]hile the forms of heraldry are associated with the age of chivalry, its spirit has proved to be capable of change to suit the needs of successive centuries," such that "[m]odern

heraldry is primarily symbolic...” and expresses “many loyalties which interlock to form the social structure.”⁵ With such analytical tools, as it were, we may thus consider the Jerusalem Cross as a heraldic symbol or sign along with those things that are signified or indicated by its selfsame set of features.

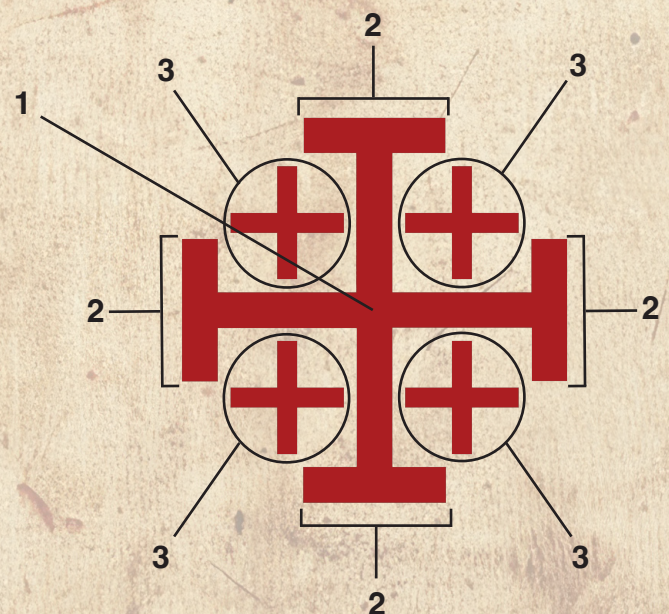
The first consideration of the Jerusalem Cross (and as a symbol with heraldic legacy) is its form. Its technical description is, a “*cross potent between four crosslets*”.⁶ At the initial risk of too much specificity,⁷ the term *cross* is here understood purely formally (geometrically) as a figure composed of two straight lines intersecting at right angles.⁸ (Reference #1 in the diagram.) The principal, large cross has limbs of equal length, which was in fact historically posterior in use to the more familiar form that is variably called the Latin Cross, the Long Cross, or the Passion Cross, which has a shaft longer than its other limbs.⁹

The principal cross also bears modifications, of the type called *potent*, to the ends of its limbs in the form of short bars¹⁰ affixed perpendicularly thereto at their midpoint, and “*potent* is so called because the pieces are shaped like crutch-heads (*potence* ‘a crutch’).”¹¹ (These are the four parts of reference #2 in the diagram.) Although the name of such a designation may indeed seem strange to modern sensibilities and especially so when applied to something with sacred connotations as the Cross of the Order, this form of heraldic cross considered as such may be inferred to be antecedent to its use in the Order and, having developed organically in broader mediaeval culture with various applications, may have instead come to be so called because of the mere similarity of shape to the object. Moreover, the use of a cross potent alone likely precedes the form accompanied by the four smaller, simple crosses in its corners or cantons, which in turn was itself likely preceded by the use of a simple, large cross without bars (that is, the cross potent must certainly have developed from a simple cross), all, again, before its use in the Order.¹² The etymology of the term is largely direct, both phonologically and semantically: late Middle English *potent* ‘staff’, ‘crutch’¹³ almost certainly

derives from Middle French *potence*, ‘crutch’, which is borrowed from Latin *potentia*, which means both ‘power’ and ‘crutch’ (cf. also Latin *potens* ‘powerful’).¹⁴ Nevertheless, because *potentia* also means ‘force’, ‘might’, ‘ability’, ‘capacity’, or ‘efficacy’¹⁵ the semantic evolution to signify an object that gives aid is somewhat more understandable, especially because of the range or the adjacency of these latter meanings, albeit perhaps also nonetheless unexpected (that is, the general indication of the immaterial qualities must certainly have preceded the specific application to the physical object).¹⁶ Finally, to resume, the *crosslets* are smaller, plain crosses set in the centre of the each of the quadrants formed by the limbs, with their potent bars, of the principal cross. (These are the four parts of reference #3 in the diagram.)

The second aspect of the Jerusalem Cross to consider is its colour: it is, as we know it in the Order, red.¹⁷ While today we understand colours by different concepts and describe them in different terms from those of its mediaeval origins, the red of the cross,

THE JERUSALEM CROSS
DIAGRAM



especially in its heraldic sense, has a much simpler and more comprehensive manifestation, as Michel Pastoureau, historian of colours, symbols, and heraldry, explains. For heraldic colours "...were absolute, conceptual, almost immaterial; their shades did not count. For example, ...red...could be light, dark, medium, or tending toward orange or purple; its shade had no importance or significance. What counted was the idea of red..."¹⁸ Red, furthermore, has a notable (and albeit variable) primacy amongst the heraldic colours and in general mediaeval thought. Regarding its social and ethical significance, Pastoureau continues:

Red's prestige becomes very apparent in the treatises on heraldry from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. They go on at length about the symbolism and hierarchy of colors, not only within the area of heraldry itself but also on a more general level, thus constituting a rich source for identifying the chromatic codes of the late Middle Ages... According to their authors, *gueules*¹⁹ often occupies first place among the colors because it is a sign of nobility, beauty, and courage.²⁰

While such good values and concepts are certainly consonant with sacred semantics, the history of the significance of the colour is both deeper and more apt, for besides being, of course, the liturgical color of Pentecost and of martyrs, "[i]t was the red of divine love, the red of *caritas*, a very significant term in medieval Latin designating both the love that Jesus came to provide on earth [...] and, among good Christians, the love that all felt toward their neighbors."²¹ Or as the Catechism today instructs, "'To love is to will the good of another.' All other affections have their source in this first movement of the human heart toward the good."²² In this regard, rightly and more fully, a heraldic consideration of the Jerusalem Cross begins to ascend from a mere technical, historical analysis to its recognition and exposition as a sign that indicates the imperative of present, virtuous action, which, of course, has its due recipient, and inspires movements toward the same.

THE THING

The third aspect thus to consider is the *name* of the heraldic form: it is called the *Jerusalem Cross*. While, again, in a strict, historical sense, the name of the sign denotes the geographic origin of its most prominent or memorable use, for us it shows how, amongst other things, the place where the actions indicated by its attributes are properly applied. The Governor General Leonardo Visconti di Modrone clarifies that "[o]ur mission is directed to the land of Our Lord's preaching, death, and resurrection, because that land must be *loved* as the cradle of our faith, as the Mother Church of Christianity."²³ As a sign, again, it represents the "loyalties which interlock to form the social structure,"²⁴ and we are now reminded of that to which our sign points —Jerusalem— as the recipient of practical, particular, active engagement. To explain, however, the full significance of Jerusalem would require many more pages; suffice for the present the Grand Master's commentary on our Lord's appearance to His disciples on the road to Emmaus after His Resurrection:

We cannot forget that, when Jesus wished peace upon them, that greeting did not concern only those to whom it was addressed, since the word *peace* is part of the name of Jerusalem (City of Peace), a city that was intensely loved by the Lord and that He had known from childhood.

As Members of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, we are not insensitive to the Lord's sentiments, and we are aware of a special *love* for this city, in the not secondary dream of promoting the inclusiveness of the rights of all those who live there and of the pilgrims; respect for rights, in fact, represents the pavement for the path of peace in the Holy Land. We are committed, so to speak, to

Continued on page 32
Jerusalem Cross

John of the Cross

who published The Dark Night of the Soul

A man of small physical stature, but a Spiritual Giant, Juan De Yepes Y Alvarez was born to a poor Spanish family on June 24, 1542, and later adopted the name Juan de la Cruz (John of the Cross). His ancestors included Iberian converts to the Catholic faith who had previously practiced Judaism.

As a young man, Juan was an attendant at a smallpox hospital, and his compassion for patients impressed the director, who offered to pay for his religious education. He studied with the Jesuits, and then entered the Carmelite order. Finishing his education at the University of Salamanca, he began teaching while still a student and was ordained as a priest at age twenty-five.

Soon, he met Teresa of Avila who enlisted him in her effort to reform the Carmelites. Believing that the Christian faithful should embrace poverty, her branch of the Carmelites became known as "Discalced," or shoeless. Father Juan first served as a confessor at a Discalced nunnery, and in 1568, he established the first monastery of the reformed Carmelites.

In 1575, the traditional Carmelites formally opposed the discalced sect, and two years later seized Father Juan and imprisoned him at Toledo, Spain. He was held in a small, windowless cell, and three days a week he was given a meal of just bread and water. Eventually, he was whipped for his unwillingness to recant. In the midst of this dark imprisonment, he wrote poetry that today is admired throughout both the

religious and secular worlds. After nine months, he escaped from the prison and found refuge with nearby nuns.

Father Juan's persecution continued until 1578 when the Superior General of the traditional Carmelites died. Over the following nine years,

Father Juan continued producing writings that brilliantly illuminated the teachings of God. In 1582, Teresa of Avila died, and the Discalced Carmelites again faced opposition, with Father Juan being stripped of his offices and not being allowed to participate in the reformed order. However, he considered this punishment to be a blessing, as it enabled him to re-enter a life of solitary contemplation.

The Dark Night of the Soul, which was published in Barcelona in 1619, is considered Father Juan's most magnificent

contribution to the faith. This great work of Catholic mysticism was composed during his imprisonment in Toledo, and was likely inspired by the Old Testament's Song of Songs. It underscores the Christian need to love Christ and to seek union with Him, and for the soul to empty itself of earthly attachments before being filled with God. This reflects the Discalced Carmelite belief that the true lover of God should own nothing, but possess everything.

Saint John of the Cross died on December 14, 1591, at age 49 in Ubeda, Spain, and was beatified in 1675, canonized in 1726, and named a Doctor of the Church in 1926.



Meet Gustavo Amaral

LEGACY PROGRAM COUNCILOR

by Dame Betty Boyd, DHS

We asked Gustavo about what the Legacy Program means to him and its importance to the Order.

I think some people pray, some missionize, and some give to those in need; we as Dames and Knights of the Order are called to do all three. The “Called to Serve, Sent to Love” theme acts as the spiritual blueprint for the Legacy Program, turning a member’s lifetime commitment into a permanent foundation for the Holy Land. For me, “Called to Serve” represents the duty aspect. During their lives, Knights and Dames are called to provide the vast majority of funding for the Latin Patriarchate’s schools and clinics. Through the Legacy Program, this “call” is answered one final time. By establishing a bequest or endowment, members ensure that their service transcends their own timeframe, providing stability for the Church’s mission for generations to come.

I feel that “Sent to Love” represents the human aspect. This part of the theme focuses on the Christian people living in the Holy Land.

A legacy gift is an ultimate act of love because it provides hope and a future.

- Gustavo Amaral



forgotten. In return, this bond of love is completed through perpetual prayer, as Legacy Society members are remembered in special Masses held at the very sites they spent their lives protecting.

How I came to serve in this role is, for me, the ultimate alignment of my career and my faith—turning my professional mission into a permanent bridge of hope for the Order. In my daily life, I advise families as they navigate their most significant financial and legacy decisions. I see firsthand that true stewardship isn’t just about managing assets for today; it’s about ensuring that a family’s values and faith endure for generations. Because I spend my career guiding others toward these meaningful choices, I felt a profound calling to try to lead by example within the Order. When Her Excellency Margaret Romano, DGCHS, and Sir Viktor Rzeteljski, KGCHS, reached out to me, I accepted with a deep sense of honor and humility, grateful that they felt my professional background might be of some small service to our mission.

Whether it’s funding a child’s tuition in Jordan or supporting a student at Bethlehem University, these gifts tell the local community they are not

I am deeply moved that they entrusted me with this role, perhaps feeling that my experience would allow me to speak to the mission of the Legacy Society from a place of quiet conviction. That mission is to ensure that our commitment to the Christian families does not end with our own lifetime. While our annual contributions meet immediate needs, the Legacy program is our sacred promise for tomorrow.

What I share with the families I advise is exactly what I believe as a member of this Order: Every person and every family can make a difference. It isn't about the size of the estate; it's about the heart behind the gift. Whether it is a modest bequest or a complex trust, every contribution builds a safety net that ensures the schools, hospitals, and parishes we love today will have the resources to thrive long after our own journey is complete.

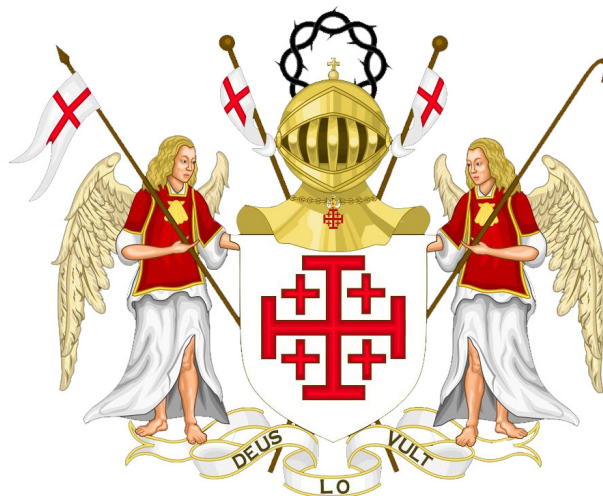
I think that by building a permanent financial foundation through estate planning, bequests, and trusts, we are moving from a mindset of current aid to one of perpetual guardianship.

We are essentially looking at the children in those parish schools and the elderly in those clinics, and saying, "We will still be here for you." In the end, we are not just leaving assets

behind; we are weaving the Order into our final act of stewardship to create a permanent bridge of faith and hope. It is how we ensure that the schools, hospitals, and parishes we support today have the resources to thrive for generations to come, allowing the light of Christ to shine in the place it first began, long after our own journey is complete, I feel that what is so beautiful about the Legacy program is its radical inclusivity. People often think estate planning is only for the "major" donors, but in the eyes of the Order, every gift is a brick in the wall of protection we build around the Holy Land.

Whether it is a modest bequest, a percentage of a life insurance policy, or a more complex trust, every person and every family has the power to make an eternal impact. It's not about the number of zeros; it's about the heart behind the stewardship, as I said before. When we all participate, we create a massive, collective safety net that no single donor could ever provide.

It allows a family today to connect their own story to the story of the Holy Land forever. By joining, a member is saying that their family values of faith and charity will live on as a living testimony. It turns our personal success into a permanent blessing for a community that has held the line for Christianity since the very beginning.



THE AMERICAN LIEUTENANCY CELEBRATES 100 YEARS!

by Sir Clay Hoffman, KC*HS

The year 2026 marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the EOHSJ being formally established in the United States. In 1926, the American Chapter of the Order was organized by the Very Rev. Msgr. Michael Abraham D'Assemani, who was the representative of His Beatitude Louis Barlassina, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.

According to the book *The Cross on the Sword*, written by Msgr. D'Assemani, a formal dinner was held on April 30, 1929 at the Biltmore Hotel of New York City to honor Catholic dignitaries. That evening, the statutes and by-laws of the Order for the Province of the United States of America were drawn up and adopted, with the approval of the Patriarch. The magazine, *The Palestinian*, produced in Philadelphia, became the official publication of the American chapter of the EOHSJ. The first High Protector of the American Chapter was His Eminence Cardinal Dennis J. Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia.

In June 1940, the American Chapter was divided into the Eastern and Western Lieutenancies by the Patriarch of Jerusalem, and it was determined that meetings would be held on an annual basis. In the coming years, with the devastating effects of World War II throughout Europe, it became a high priority of American Knights to maintain the Christian faith in the Holy Land. Only through Christian faith, and the works combined with faith, could the world be preserved against the forces of evil. During the years ahead, the



Above: Cardinal Dennis J. Dougherty, Archbishop of Philadelphia, circa 1918. Image from U.S. Congress's Prints and Photographs. No copyright has been established. Right: Bishop Leo Maher who established the Western Lieutenancy. Photo from Wikipedia / sdlocalboy60.

Order continued growing across the country, requiring the creation of new Lieutenancies. In 1972, the current Western Lieutenancy effectively began when San Diego Bishop Leo Maher introduced the idea of creating the Lieutenancy to leaders of the Catholic

Community. With the EOHSJ having been established decades earlier in the Eastern portion of the United States, he thought it was time to do the same in the West. As the founding Grand Prior, Bishop Maher

recruited a number of individuals who played pivotal roles in establishing the young Lieutenancy, including Dr. William Doyle and John Boyce, who respectively became the first Lieutenant and Chancellor. Dr.



Doyle's wife, Anita, who was also a prominent San Diego physician, worked side-by-side with her husband in the early days building the Lieutenancy. As founding member Mary Knudson, DGCHS, said in 2018, "they literally got the Western Lieutenancy going."

Today, over a half-century later, the Western Lieutenancy includes southern California, Arizona, Utah, Hawaii and southern Nevada, and is one of the largest Lieutenancies in the world --- in both land and number of members --- and is under the leadership of H.E. Lieutenant Margie Romano, DGCHS.

Source: *History of the American Lieutenancies*, published by the Mid-Atlantic Lieutenancy.

TIMELINE

- 1940: The American Lieutenancy was divided into the Eastern and Western Lieutenancies.
- 1963: The Western Lieutenancy was divided into the Southern and Northern Lieutenancies.
- 1965: The Northern delegation was formed and it became the Northern Lieutenancy.
- 1973: The Western states of the Southern Lieutenancy formed a new Western Lieutenancy.
- 1981: The New England states, except for Connecticut, were taken from the Eastern Lieutenancy to form a Northeastern Lieutenancy.
- 1982: Puerto Rico Province was taken from the Southern Lieutenancy to form a Magistral Delegation and in 1966 became the Lieutenancy of Puerto Rico.
- 1986: The Northern Lieutenancy was divided into the Northern and North Central Lieutenancies.
- 1986: The Northern Lieutenancy was divided into the Northern and North Central Lieutenancies.
- 1986: The Southern Lieutenancy was divided into the Southeastern and Southwestern Lieutenancies with Washington D.C. and certain states of the Eastern Lieutenancies added to the new Southeastern Lieutenancy.
- 1993: Delaware, Maryland, Washington, D.C., Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, the Archdiocese of the Military Services, and the Ambassadorial College were taken from the Eastern and Southeastern Lieutenancies and added to the Middle Atlantic Lieutenancy.
- 1993: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska and that part of California north of but not including Santa Barbara were taken from the Western Lieutenancy and formed the Northwestern Lieutenancy.

GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS FROM The Latin Patriarchate

1ST ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Western Lieutenancy 1973

by Dame Denise Meraz, DC*HS



PATRIARCHATUS LATINUS - JERUSALEM

بطريرك القدس اللاتين

Prot. N. (3) 2189/2026

July 3, 2026

Your Excellency,
Dear Knights and Dames of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre in America,
May the Lord give you peace!

On the occasion of the centenary of Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre in America, I extend to you my heartfelt congratulations and profound gratitude in the name of the Church of Jerusalem.

The establishment of the American Chapter in 1926, at the initiative of His Beatitude Luigi Barlassina, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, and through the dedicated efforts of Msgr. Michael Abraham D'Assemani, marked the beginning of a century of unwavering fidelity to the mission of the Order and steadfast commitment to the Holy Land. Throughout these one hundred years, your prayer, witness, and generous support have been a source of great encouragement to the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, sustaining its pastoral, educational, charitable, and social works and enabling the Church to continue her mission of proclaiming the Gospel and serving all the peoples of the Holy Land.

Your commitment has been a visible expression of communion with the Mother Church of Jerusalem. Across changing times and circumstances, you have remained steadfast in your solidarity with the Christian communities of the Holy Land, enabling them not only to endure difficulties but also to continue their witness to the Gospel in the places sanctified by the saving mysteries of our Lord Jesus Christ.

As you commemorate this significant milestone, we give thanks to Almighty God for the abundant fruits of your century of service. We remember with gratitude the generations of Knights and Dames whose dedication, sacrifice, and faith have strengthened the bonds between the Church in America and the Church of Jerusalem.

May this anniversary be an occasion to renew your commitment to the ideals of the Order and to its noble mission in support of the Holy Land. I invoke upon you, your families, and all the members of the Order the Lord's richest blessings, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Palestine.

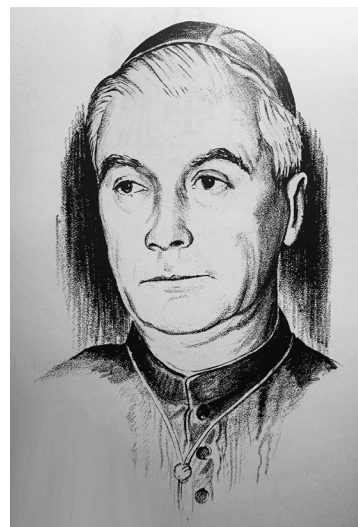
Ad multos annos, and thank you for walking faithfully with the Church of Jerusalem for these one hundred years.



Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Pierbattista Card. Pizzaballa*
Pierbattista Card. Pizzaballa
Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem

H.E. P. Thomas Pogge, KGCHS
Vice Governor General
1715 N. 102nd Street
Omaha, NE 68114-1141 - USA



His Excellency The Most Reverend Leo T. Maher, DD, DGCHS, Bishop of San Diego and Grand Prior of the Western Lieutenancy of the United States along with His Excellency Sir William J. Doyle, MD, KHS,

Lieutenant of the Western Lieutenancy of the United States celebrated the First Annual Meeting and Investiture of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem in San Diego, California, September 24, 1973. Sixteen Knights and ten Ladies (now Dames), were invested.

Liturgies and programs were held at St. Brigid's Church in Pacific Beach. In attendance were His Excellency the Most Reverend Leo T. Maher, Bishop of San Diego, and the Most Reverend Joseph T. Ryan, Archbishop of Anchorage. In addition to special liturgies, A highlight of the weekend was a travelogue, "The Work of the Order in the Holy Land" presented by Sir William J. Doyle.

The next day, the Solemn Investiture and Mass were held at St Brigid's with His Eminence Maximilian Cardinal de Fürstenberg, Grand Master of the Order presiding. Printed in the "Souvenir Book", was this article and sketch of His Eminence Maximilien Cardinal de Fürstentberg, Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, welcoming him to the First Annual Meeting of the "new" Western Lieutenancy, artist unknown.

A CHANGE OF GUARD

by H.E. Margaret Romano, DGCHS

THANK YOU

H.E. Sir Tom Pogge

Vice Governor General of North America.

Leadership in our Order from our Cardinal Grand Master to our Area Councilors are all volunteers. A perfect example of a volunteer with a generous heart, H.E. Tom Pogge, Vice Governor General of North America has been guiding us in our mission and living our theme, Called to Serve, Sent to Love. In addition to serving as Lieutenant of the Northern Lieutenancy, he has spent the last 8 years leading and advising the Order in North America and traveling (a lot!). It was the vision of Sir Tom to develop and bring the Ensuring the Future Campaign to the North American Lieutenancies. He has the commitment and love of the Order and our fellow Christians needed to bring light to the Holy Land in these dark days. It's because of his work with this campaign that we will see the rewards in the education of the children of the Holy Land. His term as



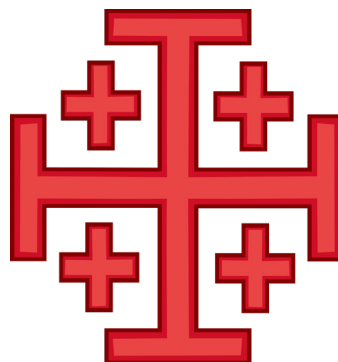
H.E. Sir Tom Pogge, Vice Governor General of North America.



H.E. Sir Shawn Cleary, KGCHS, our new Vice Governor General of North America.

Vice Governor General is coming to an end. We are thankful to H.E. Tom and Dame Ann for their work and friendship.

Change and goodbyes are never easy, but we are excited to welcome H.E. Sir Shawn Cleary, KGCHS as our new Vice Governor General of North America. H.E. Shawn has led the Northern Lieutenancy for the past 8 years. Having worked with Sir Shawn, I know that the leadership of the North American Lieutenancies is in good hands and will continue to grow. We look forward to one day welcoming Sir Shawn and Dame Julie to the Western Lieutenancy!



“shedding” a tear for the Land and the “city of the great King.” We will not be the great architects of peace and civil coexistence; rather, resorting to a well-known evangelical image, we prefer to be small workers in the Lord’s vineyard – not presumptuous, not all-knowing, but happy craftsmen, believing that, in this way, we can make a real and effective contribution, even if [it is] not always visible or recognized by most. If it is up to everyone to contribute to peace, for us the commitment is primary, and we make it a serious reason for our belonging to the Order. It is a great honor! ²⁵

Thus, the love, *charitas*, signified by the Jerusalem Cross is directed toward all who live there whilst inspiring a fervent desire for peace, as the very name of the city implies. This spirit of collaboration, moreover, draws us also specifically toward the Latin Patriarchate, whereof the see is Jerusalem. The Latin Patriarch and Grand Prior Pierbattista Cardinal Pizzaballa explains:

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre does not stand alongside the Patriarchate as an external benefactor; it shares in its life, its weaknesses, and its mission. This bond is expressed primarily through enduring fidelity. The Order’s support is...rooted in a profound ecclesial communion.

[...] Yet even more, the Order offers the Patriarchate something invaluable: the awareness that it is not alone, and that it carries a universal mission. This silent solidarity is a profoundly evangelical expression of *charity*. ²⁶

To love one’s neighbour, therefore, as the attributes of our sign suggest, is to share in their life and to desire that which is good for them for their own sake.

There is yet a fourth and last consideration: while we Knights and Dames of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem wear the Jerusalem Cross, our Order is not named for the geographical indication of the heraldic cross, but instead for a place within it, namely, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which surrounds the Aedicule, within which is the gloriously-empty Tomb of Christ. ²⁷ This observed, perhaps a sufficient conclusion that in turn could conduce personal contemplation and action would be simply the magisterial explications thereof, both that of the Order and that of the Church. For the former, the Grand Master declares:

Together with the Cross, another powerful symbol and shrine that draws devotion in Jerusalem is the place of Jesus’ burial. The sepulcher represents that site where the body of the Lord found a home, where the power of God transformed a place of putrefaction into a source of life and grace. ²⁸

Furthermore, with now great relevance and import to the very name of our Order, the Catechism teaches succinctly, “The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ,” ²⁹ and, lest we not perceive the depth of that signification, the Grand Master clarifies this explicitly: “This is a direct reference to the Order, which derives from it not only its title, but also its very reason for being.” ³⁰ How potent indeed is the sign that we wear.

**"How potent indeed
is the sign that we wear."**

*- Sir Michael Weinberg, KC*HS*

ENDNOTES

- ¹ *On Christian Doctrine* 1:2, 523.
- ² The omitted anecdotal origin of this article!
- ³ Cardinal Filoni. *The House was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume*, 22, note 17. *Hierosolimitana* is a form of the Latin adjective for ‘of or pertaining to Jerusalem’; for other etymological reasons it may also be spelt *hierosolymitana*, as in the title.
- ⁴ Brooke-Little, *Boutell’s Heraldry*, 2. The Richmond Herald of Arms in Ordinary is an officer of arms of the College of Arms (or Heralds’ College) in England, Wales, Northern Ireland, and

- some Commonwealth realms. The duties of an officer of arms include, amongst others, the maintenance of heraldic records on behalf of a sovereign or state. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richmond_Herald, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/College_of_Arms, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Officer_of_arms)
- 5 Brooke-Little, *Boutell's Heraldry*, 2.
 - 6 Brooke-Little, *Boutell's Heraldry*, 51. Italics original. While the use of *between* may seem confusing, it only changes the point of reference rhetorically, for whether the large cross contains or comprehends the small crosses (by its bars especially) or the small crosses surround the large cross (bars notwithstanding), it produces the same result. Cf. Cardinal Filoni's description above, "enhanced by the addition of four minor crosses inserted in the four corners."
 - 7 While most of this initial description is already experientially familiar and visually deducible, a consideration of the parts will shortly more meaningfully conduce the deeper semiotic value.
 - 8 This, of course, again, neither elides nor ignores the more important theological meanings of (the figure of) the cross; it is instead employed merely descriptively.
 - 9 Brooke-Little, *Boutell's Heraldry*, 49.
 - 10 Although the term *bar* does have a precise heraldic meaning, its application here throughout to the description of the Jerusalem Cross nonetheless admits of a certain degree of the ordinary understanding of the word, if only to facilitate the explanation of the rarer term *potent*.
 - 11 Brooke-Little, *Boutell's Heraldry*, 28. Italics added in the first place but original in the second with punctuation modified for style. The object *crutch* is understood in a simpler, historical form, not those used in modern medicine.
 - 12 Both the history of this complex design exterior or anterior to its use in the Order and the process whereby it came to be associated with the Order are indeed discussed further elsewhere in some scholarly investigations but, alas, exceed the scope of this article; excepting these brief, hypothetical remarks, therefore, suffice it here to consider somewhat retrospectively the Jerusalem Cross in its complete form as we know it in use in the Order today and without diachronic specificity through broader mediaeval culture.
 - 13 https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/potent#Middle_English. The period of Late Middle English is generally the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_English#Late_Middle_English)
 - 14 <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/potence#English>. The period of Middle French is the mid-fourteenth through the early seventeenth centuries. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middle_French)
 - 15 <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/potentia#Latin>. Simpson, *Cassell's Latin Dictionary*, 460. The latter source, covering classical Latin, however, does not include the meaning 'crutch', which sense developed in the Middle Ages, as inferred from the former source.
 - 16 Beyond this objective, etymological sense, however, one should be cautious in ascribing additional, contemporary connotations or associations to this form of heraldic cross, for while indeed they be poetically or devotionally inspirational (and therefore nonetheless not completely incongruous within the limits of private meditation), they may not be historically accurate or magisterially supported and therefore not fully apt for public explanations of the meaning of the Cross of the Order.
 - 17 There is also an earlier heraldic form of the Jerusalem Cross in gold (or, known otherwise, yellow) set on a silver (or, known otherwise, white) background, which though likewise treated academically for both its design and its history also exceeds the scope of this article.
 - 18 Pastoureau, *Red*, 74.
 - 19 This is the mediaeval French and heraldic name for the colour red: although debated amongst scholars, its simplest proposed etymology is that "it [is] a simple allusion to the *gueule* or throat of an animal". (Pastoureau, *Red*, 76.) This has no effect upon the sacred application in the Jerusalem Cross.
 - 20 Pastoureau, *Red*, 78. In a tentative synthesis, incidentally, the range of dates of such treatises does coincide with the presence of the terms (in their respective languages) just mentioned so as potentially to explain their usage in appellation of the type of heraldic cross in question. Nevertheless, there would be of course many other treatises of different times and places, and the use of heraldry is certainly not unique or restricted to the origin of these particular, mentioned treatises; rather, this is merely an observed connection between two sources used in this article.
 - 21 Pastoureau, *Red*, 61. Again, with reference to the title of this article, the Latin *charitas/caritas* exists in different orthographic traditions. Regarding the implicit scriptural allusion of the quotation, we need only remember Our Lord's commandment on Maundy (Holy) Thursday: *Mandatum novum do vobis: ut diligatis invicem: sicut dilexi vos, ut et vos diligatis invicem*. "A new commandment I give unto you: That you love one another, as I have loved you, that you also love one another." (Vulgate and Douay-Rheims respectively, Jn 13:34.) The name of this day of Holy Week comes from the Middle English and Old French *mandé*, which in turn derives from the beginning word of the quoted verse. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maundy_Thursday) Old French was spoken from the late eighth through the mid-fourteenth centuries. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_French).
 - 22 *Catechism*, §1766, which here cites St Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica* I-II, 26, 4, who in turn quotes Aristotle (called in the Middle Ages "the Philosopher"), *Rhetorica* ii, 4. Both of these latter were mediaeval authorities and are still so today within their respective academic disciplines. On the virtue of charity, cf. *Catechism*, §2196 and many more instructions, exhortations, and explications everywhere, from the most basic and catechetical to the most complex and speculative: charity is the ineluctable goal.
 - 23 Visconti di Modrone, "The Fabrizio del Dongo Syndrome." 23. Emphasis added.
 - 24 Brooke-Little, *Boutell's Heraldry*, 2, as above.
 - 25 Cardinal Filoni. *The House was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume*, 43-44. Emphasis added in the second place. The text in brackets is original.
 - 26 Vayne, "An Interview with Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa," 19. Emphasis added.
 - 27 There are, of course, historical reasons for this that, again, exceed the scope of this article.
 - 28 Cardinal Filoni. *The House was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume*, 30.
 - 29 *Catechism*, §638.
 - 30 Cardinal Filoni. *The House was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume*, 30, note 39.

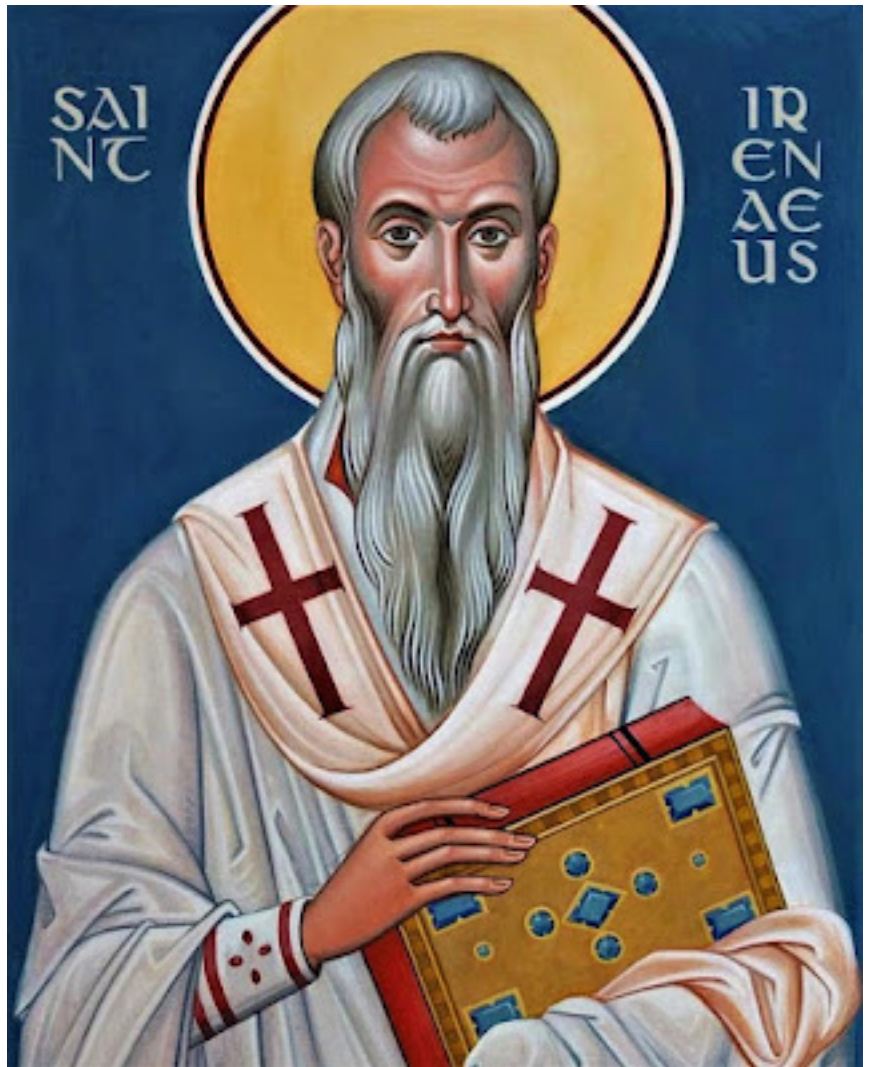
THE GENIUS OF by Sir Clay Hoffman, KC*HS

SAINT IRENAEUS

A Patristic Father of the Church, Saint Irenaeus was born in the early 2nd century, A.D., at the Roman city of Smyrna, in Asia Minor, which is present-day Izmir, Turkey. Raised in a Christian family, he was a priest of the Church of Lugdunum (now Lyon, France) during a local persecution of Christians under the rule of Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius. At the time, many of the clergy suffered imprisonment or death for their faith.

In 177 A.D., Saint Irenaeus was sent to Rome, and when he returned, he became the second Bishop of Lyon. During the religious peace that followed the Lyon persecution, he fulfilled the duties of a pastor as well as a missionary. The majority of his writings dealt with the threat of Gnosticism, with his most notable book being *Against Heresies*.

The influence of Saint Irenaeus on the Church, historically and today, is immeasurable, as he played a decisive role in fixing the canon of the New Testament. Previously, there was little agreement on what constituted scripture. As dissensions and heresies arose, references to scripture were the obvious way to determine what the truth really was. But without an agreed canon of scripture, it was easy to attack an opponent's beliefs as being unscriptural or corrupt. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, Saint Irenaeus established a canon which



is almost identical to our present one, and provided persuasive arguments for each inclusion and exclusion. He is the earliest surviving witness to consider all four of the now-canonical gospels as essential.

In addition to *Against Heresies*, Saint Irenaeus authored other books, among them, *The Demonstration of the Apostolic Preaching*. He wrote, "Christ came not only for those who believed from the time of Tiberius Caesar (B.C.

Continued on page 41
St. Irenaeus

TOUCHING THE LIVING STONES

to Embracing the Loving Stones

by Dame Betty Boyd, DHS

Relationships are the building blocks of the Equestrian Order that we have with the people of the Holy Land. People make all the difference in how we relate to others. One couple, Connie and Joe Micatrotto, are unique for their involvement from the beginning of their journey in the Equestrian Order, engaging with the people of the Holy Land.

In the 2013/2014 time frame, Connie and Joe were invested in the EOHSJ. Then, in 2014/2015, they were asked to serve as Las Vegas Councilors, even though they were only in their third year. While on another pilgrimage, Connie and Joe got a call from Lieutenant Michael Feeley asking if they could take one morning to visit a "new" place that had asked for the Western Lieutenancy's support. It was Hogar Niños Dios, run by the Incarnate Order of Nuns and Priests. Instead of spending one hour, they stayed three hours, and immediately, Hogar became a new ministry of the Order.

Over time, Connie and Joe would lead other Pilgrimages as Group Coordinators. The conception of Casa Fiat began to develop in 2022, with the idea advancing with the help of key individuals, including Vincenzo Bellomo, Fr. Marcelo, Deacon Rick, Mother Roncevalles, SSVM, and Cardinal Pizzaballa of the Latin Patriarchate.

So, in 2023, the idea was going forward, but on October 7, 2023, the war happened; however, this didn't deter the project from going forward. The next step was to find a location to

base the program that would be most helpful. Casa Fiat would be built right next door to the Hogart building and Chapel, which already existed and need repairs, a Volunteer Home, and a serenity park for respite from daily duties.

There was an advantage due to the war; a Christian property owner was found, and the land was sold to the Latin Patriarchate. The land is 100% paid for through donations, and all the legal requirements have been approved. The building project will cost 1.2 million dollars to build.



Fr. Jiries, Joe Micatrotto, Sr., Connie Micatrotto, and Fr. Will. Both priests were in the Adopt a Seminarian Program! Photo courtesy from Sir Joe Micatrotto, Sr.

Casa Fiat will consist of a three-story building with 14 studio apartments, each with its own bathroom. The building will include a full kitchen, dining room, and laundry. There will also be an office with a private studio apartment, and the person overseeing Casa Fiat will live there. There are safeguards around the property, including a wall, similar to those at Hogar.

The architectural plans were drawn by a Christian architect, Jawad Sleibi, and these have been approved by the city of Bethlehem, the Israeli government, and Cardinal Pizzaballa. The construction will take approximately 18 to 24 months, with an estimated completion in 2027. There will be 80 local Christian workers, and local products will be used to build Casa Fiat.

Living Stones Continued on page 42

MEETING of the North by H.E. Margaret Romano, DGCHS American Lieutenants

The Lieutenants of North America gathered in Green Bay Wisconsin to hear updates, and discuss programs with exchange of ideas. Hosted by the outgoing Lieutenant of the North Central Lieutenancy, H.E. Tom Olejniczak, KGCHS and his wife Dame Dawn, DGCHS, we were treated to wonderful Mid-Western hospitality! We were blessed to have beautiful Liturgies with a special excursion to the Shrine of Our Lady of Champion. On the final night, recognition was given to retiring Lieutenants and welcoming the new. We recognized and thanked the Vice Governor General of North America H.E. Sir Tom Pogge, KGCHS for his time serving. Sir Tom's term is finished September 23, 2026 and H.E. Shawn Cleary, KGCHS will take the reins.

Our Governor General, H.E. Leonardo di Modrone, came from Rome to discuss the status of the Order in the Holy Land. He gave greetings from our Cardinal Grand Master Fernando Cardinal Filoni, who recently celebrated his 80th birthday. He also noted that we are celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Order in the United States! The Western Lieutenancy is one of the new Lieutenancies, with the oldest being the Eastern Lieutenancy. In the United States, there are 14,000 members with 42% Knights, 42% Dames, and 16% Clergy. The Governor spoke of the expansion of the Order throughout the world with focus on South America.

There was a discussion on the role of Clergy in the Order, with the recognition that we need our Clergy for our spiritual growth and support. He asked that we reach out to clergy for recommendations for new members, organize retreats and attend First Monday Rosary.

Also of focus was the new program "Friends of the Order". While not eligible for membership, there are people who embrace our Order and want to support us in our mission. These are people from

all walks of life who are not eligible to be invested as a Knight or Dame. The Western Lieutenancy has and will continue to welcome those who desire to help us serve the Living Stones of the Holy Land.

The Governor expressed the need for Annual Contribution to be given in a timely manner with a reminder that the GM has a commitment to send \$951,000 a month to the LPJ. He gave his thanks to the North American Lieutenants for the great support they have given through Annual Contribution and Special Projects.

A very special guest and Friend of the Western Lieutenancy joined us for our time in Green Bay. Fr. Bernard Poggi, Rector of the Seminary made



the trek from Beit Jala. Representing the LPJ, Abouna gave his report on the difficulties facing the Christians. Violence against the Christians is severe. Little if no protection occurs.

The Seminary has been serving the LPJ for 175 years! Abouna stated that over 300 priests have been ordained since its inception.

He expressed his thanks to the Western Lieutenancy for our support with the water project but also reported that the buildings are very old and in need of repair. The generator is 100 years old and in need of replacement.

The situation in Gaza remains the same with very little help coming. The Rosary School in Gaza at one time had 2,000 students. It was the 1st site to be bombed. Today in Gaza there are 400 Christians left.

We discussed ways to bring attention to the

Meeting of the Northern American Lieutenants
Continued on page 42

EOHHSJ Annual Report

What we do matters

In 2025, thanks to your generosity, the Western Lieutenancy raised almost 2 million! With total membership of 1293, including exempt members, this is truly amazing!

Thank you for your commitment to the Holy Land. It brings hope to our brothers and sisters who strive to live in a community of peace and love.

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Antonian Charitable Society	\$ 16,050
Bethlehem University Scholarship Program	\$ 20,000
Bethlehem University - General Support	\$ 10,000
Caritas Jerusalem	\$ 17,735
Carmel of Bethlehem	\$ 10,000
Creche - Holy Family Children's Home	\$ 33,632
Hogar Niño Dios Bethlehem	\$ 30,600
Holy Child Program	\$ 20,000
House of the Three Kings	\$ 15,000
Adopt a Seminarian	\$
LPJ Seminary Support	\$ 275,800
St. Vincent	\$ 12,000
St. Yves Society	\$ 22,465
Zarqa Schools - North	
Zarqa Schools - South	
TOTAL	\$ 483,282

CONTRIBUTION HIGHLIGHTS

Annual Contributions	\$ 784,081
Honoraria	\$ 117,500
AC4L Contributions	\$ 151,000
Special Projects	\$ 258,856
Humanitarian Aid	\$ 470,358
Mass Card Stipends	\$ 6,730
Legacy Bequests	\$ 73,333
Investment Income	\$ 58,675

Total Contribution **\$ 1,920,533**

Note: The Special Projects total for each column differs due to the time of distribution to the Holy Land.

to support the Holy Land

WELCOME BISHOP

James A. Misko Diocese of Tucson

by Sir Bill Purciello, KCHS

We welcome Bishop James A. Misko to the Western Lieutenancy. He was named the eighth Bishop of Tucson on December 22, 2025. Bishop-Elect James A. Misko was born in California and raised in Austin, TX, where he has lived most of his life. He attended St. Louis King of France Catholic School in Austin, a parish at which he would one day become the pastor, and St. Edward's University in Austin, receiving a B.A. in Communications. Upon graduation, Bishop-Elect Misko worked in the restaurant industry for several years as General Manager and eventually Managing Partner. He entered seminary at the age of 30 and, after earning a Master of Arts in Theological Studies, a Master of Divinity, and a Bachelor of Sacred Theology at the University of St. Thomas and St. Mary's Seminary in Houston, he was ordained a priest by Archbishop Gregory Aymond on June 9, 2007. He was appointed parochial vicar of St. Elizabeth in Pflugerville, and thereafter served as pastor of Christ the King in Belton and St. Louis King of France in Austin.

Archbishop Joe S. Vásquez appointed Bishop Misko as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia of the Diocese of Austin on January 21, 2019. He is a member of the College of Consultors, Presbyteral Council, Diocese of Austin Finance Council, Austin Pension Plan and Trust Committee, Diocese of Austin School Advisory Board, Priestly Life and Formation Committee, Priest Personnel Board, and the Diocesan Building Commission. He is a member of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, and a fourth degree Knight of Columbus. He served for several years as the Legatus chaplain for the Diocese of Austin. Upon the installation of Archbishop Vásquez to the

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston on March 25, 2025, Bishop Misko was elected Diocesan Administrator by the College of Consultors, a group of priests appointed by the diocesan bishop to advise and assist him in governing the diocese, particularly when the See is vacant.

Upon the installation of Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia as the sixth bishop of Austin, Bishop Misko was reappointed as Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia. Pope Leo XIV appointed him the eighth bishop of the Diocese of Tucson on December 22, 2025.

The Bishop's ordination and installation took place at St. Augustine Cathedral in Tucson on February 20, 2026. Forty-four Knights and Dames from the Tucson Region participated in this momentous occasion. Over 1,400 faithful parishioners and visitors from the greater Tucson area attended the ceremony. A host of heavenly angels, under the tutelage and leadership of Carlos Zapién, St. Augustine Director of Music, led the congregation in uplifting song.

Bishop Misko's mother Gerri (father, Tom, deceased), sister Mary Kay Martinez and husband Jesus Toro Martinez live in San Antonio, and his brother John lives in California. Bishop Misko is an avid golfer and enjoys cycling, traveling, gardening, cooking, and visiting local restaurants and coffee houses.



ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF A CATHOLIC BISHOP

A Unified Rite with Two Movements: Consecration and Mission

What "Ordination of a Bishop" Means

The ordination is the sacramental act that makes a man a bishop. It is one of the most ancient rites in Christianity, rooted in the laying on of hands described in the Acts of the Apostles.

KEY ELEMENTS

- Presentation of the Bishop-elect. The apostolic mandate from the Pope is read aloud, showing that episcopal authority is never self-claimed but received from the Church.
- Examination. The bishop publicly promises to guard the faith, teach with integrity, care for the poor, and maintain communion with the Church.



Bishop Misko at his Ordination. Photos on page 39 and 40 are courtesy from Bishop Misko.

- Litany of the Saints. The candidate lies prostrate while the Church invokes the saints, an act of humility and continuity with the whole communion.
 - Laying on of Hands. The essential moment. The principal consecrator and at least two co-consecrating bishops impose hands in silence, signifying apostolic succession.
 - Prayer of Ordination. A solemn prayer asking the Holy Spirit to pour out the gifts needed for episcopal ministry: governance, wisdom, pastoral charity.
- Anointing with Sacred Chrism. The bishop's head is anointed, echoing the anointing of priests, prophets, and kings in Scripture.
 - Handing on the Symbols of Office
 - Book of the Gospels – teaching authority
 - Ring – fidelity to the Church
 - Miter – holiness and authority
 - Crozier – shepherding the People of God. This entire sequence is sacramental: it changes the man, configuring him to Christ the Shepherd.

What “Installation” Means

Installation is not sacramental; it is juridical and pastoral. It is the moment the newly ordained (or already-ordained) bishop takes canonical possession of his diocese.

KEY ELEMENTS

- Seating in the Cathedra. The bishop is led to the cathedra, the bishop's chair. This is the heart of the installation rite. The cathedra symbolizes:
 - teaching authority
 - unity of the local Church
 - continuity with the apostles
- Greeting of the Clergy and Faithful. Representatives of priests, deacons, religious, civic leaders, and laity welcome him. This expresses the bishop's role as a bridge-builder in both Church and society.
- Mass of Installation. The bishop presides from his cathedra for the first time, exercising his pastoral office publicly. Installation is the moment the bishop becomes the spiritual father of a particular people.

How the Two Rites Relate

- If the bishop is not yet a bishop, ordination and installation usually occur in the same liturgy.
- If he is already a bishop (transferred from another diocese), only the installation takes place. The unity of the rites expresses a profound truth: A bishop is consecrated for the universal Church but installed for a particular Church.

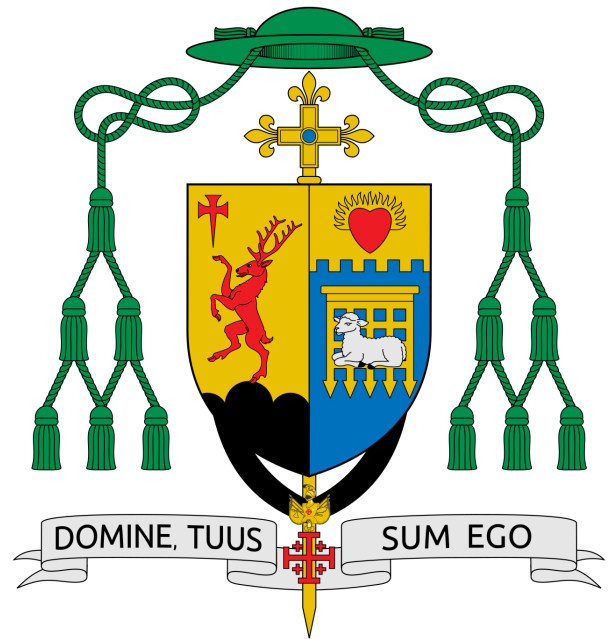


Why This Matters Spiritually and Civically

Given the interest in the intersection of liturgy and public life:

- The bishop becomes a public moral voice for the region.
- The installation often includes civic leaders, signaling collaboration for the common good.
- The rite emphasizes service, not power—a countercultural witness in public leadership.
- The cathedra becomes a symbol of teaching with integrity, something society deeply needs.

BISHOP MISKO'S COAT OF ARMS Lord, I Am Yours



In early February, Bishop James A. Misko celebrated his farewell Mass in the Diocese of Austin where he served for more than 18 years. Among the items shared with the laity were his Coat of Arms and Episcopal Motto. His motto *Domine, Tuus Sum Ego* translates to "Lord, I am Yours."

Tradition holds that a motto expresses a bishop's theme, interpreting how he will lead, teach, and serve. Misko said he arrived at his motto while reflecting on the Psalms. At his farewell Mass at the St. Louis King of France Church, in Austin, he told the congregation, "Humility is recognizing the presence of God. And recognizing that God is God and I am not God. And finding a way to arrange my life in every moment of every day in that relationship, that I only exist because of God."

The coat of arms reflects his diocese, personal devotions, and spirituality. In his homily Misko said, "Spirituality is the awareness of God in and through all these things."

For Bishop Misko, the coat of arms embodies his deep theological and personal devotion to the Holy Land, emphasizing its historical, mystical, and salvific significance. The design features the ancient walls of Jerusalem and the Sheep (Lion's) Gate, symbolizing Christ as the Lamb of God and the gateway to salvation. Marian devotion is reflected through the blue field, evoking Mary's role as the living gate through whom Christ, the Savior, entered the world. The use of gold and silver emphasizes divine attributes and follows Catholic heraldic tradition, which permits metal upon metal for theological symbolism. The upper field displays the flaming heart of St. Augustine, representing a restless passion for God and reflecting Bishop Misko's devotion to the saint, patron of the Diocese and Cathedral of Tucson, as well as a personal devotion to his roots in Austin. The external elements follow ecclesial norms for bishops, including the green galero, episcopal cross inspired by St. Louis King of France, and his chosen motto, *Domine tuus sum ego* ("Lord, I am Yours"), expressing total dependence on God. The coat of arms further incorporates insignia of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, honoring Bishop Misko's knight-hood and lifelong connection to the Holy Land.

St. Irenaeus

Continued from page 34

42 to A.D. 37), nor did the Father provide only for those who are now, but for absolutely all men from the beginning, who, according to their ability, feared and loved God and lived justly ... and desired to see Christ and to hear His voice."

Little is known of the date of Saint Irenaeus' death, but it likely occurred at the end of the second or the beginning of the third century. Recognized as a martyr by the Catholic Church, he was buried beneath the Church of Saint John in Lyon, which was later renamed Saint Irenaeus. The church was destroyed by the Huguenots in 1562, but some of his relics are now held in churches in Lyon.

Saint Irenaeus is honored today by the Eastern Orthodox Church, the Lutheran Church, as well as the Church of England and the Episcopal Church. On January 21, 2022, Pope Francis declared him to be the 37th Doctor of the Church, and also conferred upon him the supplementary title of Doctor of Unity. His feast day is June 28.

SOURCES - The Jerusalem Cross (*cont'd from page 33*)

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In memory of the Rev. John Monastero, KHS, whose lectures to the Order on mediaeval history inspired these writings and many more.

Bishop's Corner

Continued from page 4

Church depends on to be a visible sign of Christ's love for the land of His birth. In several places in the Bible, Saint Paul encourages collections for the poor members of the Church in Jerusalem (1 Cor. 16:11-4; 2 Cor. 8:1-5; Rom 15:26), and Saint James reminds us that faith and works complement each other (Jas 2:14-17). Jesus Himself commends that even the smallest donation given out of love has great value when He commends the poor widow for her gift (Lk 21:1-4). Aren't we, as Knights and Dames, called to do the same as we are *called to serve, sent to love*? Such loving support by both prayer and generosity has been the source of support and encouragement of men and women throughout the centuries who answered the call of the Holy Spirit to bring the message of God's love to the world.

As the Bishop of San Diego I am proud to follow in the footsteps of Saint Junipero Serra, and I pray that I will be faithful to his legacy in this part of the world, and to be an effective witness to Christ's love. I also pray with all of my fellow Knights and Dames of the Western Lieutenancy of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre that what we say and do to bring justice and peace to the Holy Land will bear fruit, and to let the Christian Community there know that they are remembered, supported, and loved. "Siempre Adelante!" Always go forward, *called to serve and sent to love*. May this grow in our hearts and guide our actions for the Holy Land.

Meeting of the North American Lieutenants

Continued from page 36

plight of our fellow Christians. What are the best ways to get the attention of government officials? As a result, letters and petitions are being developed for members to sign along with a campaign to go out to our parishes asking the help of our fellow

Catholics.

While talking of the challenges being faced, one thing was very clear. We are blessed to have tremendous leadership guiding and supporting our Order. Cardinal Filoni brings leadership giving us a focus on our personal growth and spirituality. Our Governor General leads through example of giving selflessly traveling throughout the world encouraging members to help and support. Cardinal Pizzaballa has shown his leadership in his words and example of faith. We have seen leadership from Sami El Yousef, CEO of the LPJ who has worked tirelessly to bring economic programs and aid. We see Abouna teaching the young men who desire to love and serve. They join with many other men and women of God who live to help the poor bringing hope to our Brothers and Sisters. They live our Mission and encourage us, giving the desire to join in their example. This meeting is always a special time together and brings to the forefront that we have an amazing organization, thanks to the selfless giving of so many!

Living Stones

Continued from Pg. 35

The purpose of Casa Fiat is to have volunteers help the Nuns and Priests who run Hogar. The Nuns and Priests are very dedicated to helping the children, but there are very few available to do this most valuable work. Casa Fiat is an opportunity to develop relationships with the Nuns and Priests, as well as with the local community.

The Incarnate Order of Nuns and Priests will run Casa Fiat, and Hogar Niños Dios. What is really special about Casa Fiat is that it is a two- or three-minute walk to the Holy Sites, including the Church of the Nativity, Manger Square, and a short drive to Shepherd's Field.

Casa Fiat will be a place where we are "Called to Serve and Sent to Love," the Living Stones of the Holy Land.

THE WESTERN LIEUTENANCY

THANKS TO OUR 2025 LEGACY MEMBERS!

Sir Deacon Ryan Adams, KCHS	Dame Susan Herbst, DGCHS	Dame Kathleen Nedder, DGCHS
Dame Wynsdey Adams, DC*HS	Sir Paul Hitzelberger KGCHS	Dame Barbara Nelson, DGCHS
Rev. Msgr. Gregory Adolf, KCHS	Dame Jane Hitzelberger, DGCHS	Dame Mary O'Neil, DCHS
Rev. Lane Akiona ss.cc., KCHS	Sir Norman Ho, KHS	Rev. Msgr. Theodore Olson, KCHS
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Dame Elizabeth Barry, DGCHS	Dame Maryann Hockstad, DC*HS	H.E. Patrick Powers, Knight of the Collar
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Sir Richard Herbst, KGCHS	Sir Ernest Nedder, KGCHS	

2026 - 2027 PILGRIMAGES



A Pilgrimage to Greece

October 11-24, 2026

Spiritual Direction of
Bishop Alberto Rojas, KC*HS
Contact: Dame Densy Chandra, DGCHS
gdfpa@yahoo.com
(909) 556-1180



A Pilgrimage to Prague & Austria

October 14-28, 2026

Spiritual Direction of Bishop Marc Trudeau
and Fr. Mark Stader, KCHS
Contact: Sir Viktor, KC*HS
& Dame Mary Beth Rzetelski, DC*HS
silvia@206tours.com



Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus

October 26 - November 5, 2026

Spiritual Direction of
Fr. Mike Bucciarelli, KCHS and
Fr. Patrick Crino, KCHS
Contact: www.Bibletrektours.com



A Twelve Day Pilgrimage of Faith

November 3-14, 2026

Spiritual Direction of
Rev: Msgr. Gregory P. Adolf, KCHS
Contact: Dame Ann Dickson, DGCHS
annickson@theriver.com



Embrace the Holy Land

November 30-December 11, 2026

Spiritual Direction of
Fr. Daniel Rolland, O.P., KCHS
and Deacon Rick Minch, KHS
Contact: Sir Joe and Dame Connie Micatrotto
joemicatrottosr@icloud.com
(702) 325-6764



An Easter Season Return to the Holy Land

May 3-15, 2027

Spiritual Direction of Fr. Ignatius Mazanowski
Deacon Ryan, KC*HS & Wynsdey, DC*HS Adams
Contact: Deacon Ryan Adams
deaconryanadams@gmail.com
(818) 613-6082



A Special Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

May 4-17, 2027

Spiritual Direction of TBA
Contact: Sir Joe and Dame Connie Micatrotto
email: joemicatrottosr@icloud.com
(702)-325-6764



Celtic Spirituality of Ireland

July 6-19, 2027

Spiritual Direction of Fr. Felix Just, SJ, KCHS
Contact: Dame Gail Gresser, DHS
email: ggresser@me.com
(310) 850-4033



A Pilgrimage to Greece

October 11-24, 2026

Bishop Alberto Rojas, KC*HS
Contact: Dame Densy Chandra
gdfpa@yahoo.com
(909) 556-1180



A Christmastime Pilgrimage of Peace

December 26, 2027 - January 9, 2028

Spiritual Direction of TBA
Contact: Dame Gail Gresser, DHS
email: ggresser@me.com
(310) 850-4033



Paul's Final Journey: A Pilgrimage to Malta, Sicily and Rome

April 4-16, 2027

Spiritual Direction of Fr. Felix Just, SJ, KCHS
Contact: Dame Gail Gresser, DHS
email: ggresser@me.com
(310) 850-4033



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the Order's projects, please use
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at www.eohsjwesternusa.org

ANNUAL MEETINGS



Annual Meeting 2026

October 1-5

Diocese of
San Diego

Hilton La Jolla Torrey Pines
10950 N Torrey Pines Rd.
La Jolla, CA 92037



Annual Meeting 2027

September 23-27

Diocese of
Tucson

JW Marriott Tucson
Starr Pass Resort & Spa
3800 W Starr Pass Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85745



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*Jesus at the well with the Samaritan woman,
speaking compassionately. The watercolor
uses soft blues and earthly tones, highlighting
the moment of revelation and divine grace.*

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