

Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul

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Confraternity News

Issue 121 – December, 2022

In Nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti, Amen.

Grand Master's Message

Dear Confrères and Friends of the Confraternity,

Fraternal greetings one and all.



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023



His Excellency Grand Master Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli and Dame Mary Portelli

Christmas is a time of giving and sharing.

One of the main reasons why Christmas is a time for giving is to remind us of the Christmas story. Of course, it was Jesus who received the gifts of Frankincense, Gold, and Myrrh. Each of these gifts also has its own meaning and then there is the main gift 'himself'.

Giving to friends and family at Christmas may give us a taste of how it feels to do something nice for someone else. In some cases, people may consciously recognise this positive feeling and decide to give more widely, including a charity donation. It is also possible to be swayed by the learning that giving feels good without explicitly recognising it. Making a decision on whether or not to donate is likely to involve lots of factors we are not completely aware of, including our experiences of previous generosity.

At Christmas, we need to celebrate the meaning of giving and sharing. Giving a present to a stranger, food to the needy at this time of the year will make us complete in our obligation.

Perhaps a donation to a Catholic mission, this is part of our aim, to follow the footsteps of St. Peter and Paul the first missionaries of Christ. We can be missionaries in our modern times by showing that we care for those less fortunate than us. God bless and have a Safe and Holy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Message by The Most Rev Peter A Comensoli

Archbishop of Melbourne.

Honorary Member of the Confraternity

Dear Friends,



In this beautiful Season of Advent, and as the year comes to a close, I want to express my deep gratitude for the commitment and witness that you bring to our faith here in Melbourne and beyond. May the birth of the Christ child bring renewed joy and peace to you and your families. Please be assured of my prayers as we look forward to 2023.

Fr. Francis Xavier Buhagiar Pastor Emeritus

Chaplain of the Confraternity of St. Peter and St Paul

Grand Chapter of Melbourne

Dear Members and Friends of the Confraternity of St Peter and St. Paul, this is an Advent-Christmas Reflection. Fr. Frank Buhagiar PE /Chaplain Confraternity of St. Peter & St. Paul Melbourne Chapter,

“ in the secular images of the Christmas Season “ Jesus “is left out. The question is: What is the significance of “ the Child Jesus “? What did he come for? In Advent we try to understand “ Jesus “ through the lens of the Gospel accounts of St. John the Baptist. His relationship with Jesus slowly helps us clarify who this Messiah Jesus is. The Nativity-Stories take us to the heart of the Gospels: He came for the salvation of all.



The best image that I can offer you , to understand the relationship between Jesus and John the Baptist is: Christ-Jesus is the Rising Sun and John the Baptist is the Moon.

John declared “ He must increase and I must decrease . The symbol of the Moon is Humility. When we observe very closely the main characters of the Nativity -Stories: John the Baptist, (Last of the old Testament Prophets) Mary (the Mother of the Lord) Joseph (the Protector of The Holy Family) the Shepherds , Three Magi ,all help us to understand that their relationship with Lord Jesus was based on” Humility”.

How you and I practice this virtue of humility in relationships with others ? Are we happy to be the “ Moon “ so that others can come to know the Child-Jesus better?

Wish you all a very Blessed Christmas Season 2022 and a Happy New Year 2023.

HE Chevalier Mario Sabatini

Deputy Grand Master and Dame Mimma Sabatini Grand Cross

Season Greetings.

Dear fellows members & friends of the Confraternity,
The true joy of Christmas is in the everlasting love of Christ. Wishing you a joyous Christmas and blessings in the coming New Year.



Greetings from Germany

HE Chevalier Peter M Neuen

Grand Prior / Deputy Grandmaster in Europe and Dame Chancellor
Gabriele Neuen

Your Excellency,

Dear members of the Supreme Council.

Dear Conseurs and Confreres,

One week before Christmas when I can slow down a little bit from business life,

I let the year pass me by again.

After the corona-shaped years 2020 and 2021 with all its health and economic catastrophes, this year was marked by human and economic disasters, especially for the people in Ukraine due to the war that has been going on for the last 9 months.

For the New Year I pray for peace, a little more humanity and understanding in daily life and a firmer faith.

I wish all Confreres and Conseurs of our Confraternity a contemplative and peaceful Christmas and all the best, love and health for the "New Year 2023"!



And may our Lord always protect you and your families in all your ways!

Best wishes

Chapter of Austria

Chevalier Professor Heinz-Peter Platzer

Grand Prior

Dear Excellencies Grand Master Peter Paul Portelli and Members of the Supreme Council! “It is my pleasure and honour serving the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul“ as Prior in Austria since this year.

I would like to once again express my grateful feelings being part of your Confraternity and therefore I’m wishing also in my capacity as Chancellor of Ferdinandus Order 1561 all my honourable sisters and brothers in the Confraternity a peaceful Christmas to you and your families and for 2023 prerogative in all your activities!“ Sincere regards, in respect.



Chevalier Vincent Galtieri – Deputy Grand Master



I would like to wish our Members a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023.

May next year be a better one for us all.

Chevalier Joseph Coleiro

Grand Chancellor

Secretary to the Grand Master



Greetings Confreres

Another year has passed; may God bless all your work and that of the Confraternity, and keep you safe and well, ready for another year ahead. It has been an honour to serve you as the Grand Chancellor, and to serve and assist the Grand Master in the endeavors of 2022.

Christmas is a time to again remember the one we follow and his example of love to all, selflessness, free from the desires of worldly matters. Let us not forget the example that Jesus gave us in the life he lived; we profess to follow his example, let’s reflect on 2022 and learn for 2023.

Enjoy of the privilege of being alive as a human on this Planet, every day - as scripture says “This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad” - yes, according to our faith we are here because

it is not yet God's call to return to Him so, yes again, let's be glad, let's rejoice. Let's use our time wisely to learn from all the trials we faced - how we use our time, energy and wealth are tests for all of us. I encourage us all to strengthen our efforts of giving support to others in the coming year. Have a happy and safe Christmas, reflecting on its true meaning, and avoiding being caught up in its commercialization.

Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year

Dame Angela Greto

Archgrand Prior /and Hospitaller and Chevalier Saverio Greto.

We wish our big family, the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2023. May next year we can get together to raise money for the needy. God bless.



Dame Gail Vas

Secretary – Grand Councillor
Supreme Council of the Confraternity



Wishing each and everyone reading this newsletter a Merry Christmas and joyous New Year.

May your travels be safe, your journey enlightening and memorable and the year ahead better than the last. God bless for a healthy happy 2023.

Regards

Greetings from Melbourne

Chevalier Claudio and Dame Connie Domma



We would like to wish all our Confraternity Members and their families Peace, Joy, lots of laughter and above all good health. May we work together in 2023 to bring a smile to those who are down. Christmas can be a little stressful for some, not knowing what to buy for family and friends, but what should be remembered is what Christmas is all about, the birth of Jesus, and one way to honour him is to be generous to people in need. God bless.

Message from the Grand Chapter of Malta

Chevalier Carmel Saliba

Secretary/PRO



On 9th December the Grand Chapter of Malta of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul had its Charity Christmas dinner at St Anthony's Centre in Ghajnsielem Gozo. This year friends and family members were invited.

Fr. Mario Cassar from Nadur who is a missionary priest in Kenya also honoured us with his presence.

A large hamper and other vouchers were among the presents won in the lottery.

Apart from this Charity Christmas dinner this year we organised the collection of several food articles to be distributed as hampers to the poor in

different villages.

In the name of the Confraternity I thank all those who donated the articles that we already began distributing.

Next June our Chapter will welcome members of the Confraternity of St Peter and St Paul from around the globe in Malta.

The Chapter of Malta wishes everyone a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2023.



Goods collected at the Basilica of St. Peter and St. Paul and the Town Hall of Nadur:



Charity Christmas Dinner

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Dame Franca Pellone

May you and your family and the Confraternity have a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

With God's help we will see each other in the New Year.

Regards

Chevalier Ange Kenos

Christmas is a special time in our faith.

It heralds the birth of a man whose love for human kind had no limits, whose concern for children, the elderly, the weak and the poor was as strong as it was for any and all in any need.

It marks that time of the year when we remember His birth, and yet sadly reminds us that we should do our utmost to honour him NOT on December 25 but between January 1 and December 31.



Chapter of New Zealand

Chevalier Nick Pacey



Greetings from New Zealand to all Knights and Dames. This season is a season of joy, sharing and family. From a spiritual aspect I like to think of Christmas as a foretaste of heaven. Imagine the celebration and praise when we are united in heaven with the Holy Trinity. In times of reflection it might be good to contemplate this mystery of faith. Best wishes to you all.

Grand Chapter of the Philippines

Chevalier Rommel F. Lopez

Grand Prior



To my brother Knights and Dames of the Confraternity,

Christmas provides the opportunity for Christians to reflect upon the ineffable love of God to mankind. It is at this season where we deepen our reflection on God's love to us, becoming one like us, except sin.

While Easter is the greatest of all Christian feasts, Christmas has been celebrated with more fanfare even by non Christians. Here in the Philippines, the first Christmas carol can be heard being played on the radio or in the public address systems of malls as early as September! Pope emeritus Benedict XVI said that while Easter focuses "our attention on the power of God who triumphs over death, inaugurates new life and teaches us to hope in the world to come, St Francis with his crib highlighted the defenceless love of

God, his humanity and his kindness; God manifested himself to humanity in the Incarnation of the Word to teach people a new way of living and loving."

This is the true gift of Christmas to all of us — God teaches us how to live and love. Life and Love, the greatest gift we received from God who is Love. It is that same gift that we share to the people we come into contact with as Knights and Dames of the Confraternity.

On behalf of the Filipino Knights of the Confraternity, I pray that we deepen our love for our God, Jesus Christ, who came to us in order to offer his life as love incarnate, love in service and love persisting in our altars around the world. May our works of love in the confraternity make us closer to God and our fellowmen.

Maligayang Pasko sa inyong lahat!

Merry Christmas to all of you!

Greetings from SMOM Gozo Malta

Chevalier Chris Galea MA KM
Knight of Magistral Grace in Obedience
Sovereign Military Order of Malta



Good morning Sir,

I wish you all a Holy Christmas full of Blessings from Our Lord and a Peaceful New Year 2023.

Yours confraternally

Chevalier Chris Galea MA KM
Director
Order of Malta Volunteers in Gozo
(Maltese Association)

Chapter of Argentina

Chevalier Deacon Ricardo Dib



I wish the same for all the confreres and sisters with the blessings of the Lord.
A VERY MERRY AND HEALTHY CHRISTMAS AND A NEW YEAR IN
WHICH THE WORLD RECOVERS PEACE AND JUSTICE.

Diocese of Zárate-Campana and the
Eparchy of San Charbel in Buenos Aires of the Maronites in Argentina

Chapter of Albania

Chevalier Zef Bushati

Prior



Chapter of Malawi

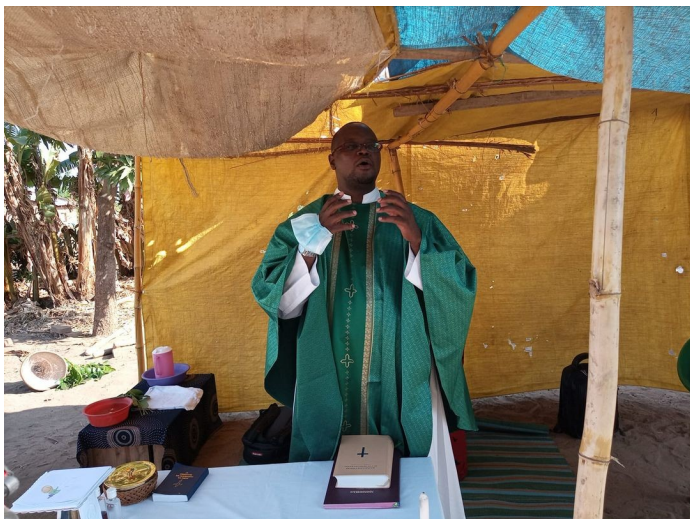
Chevalier Prior Rev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese

Dear Your Excellency Chevalier Peter Portelli,

Here is our Christmas Message from Malawi Chapter:

On behalf of the Confraternity of the Knights of St Peter and Paul, Malawi Chapter, and my own behalf, it is my singular honour to express my warmest wishes and thoughts on Christmas for our Grand Master, Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli and all Members and Friends of the Confraternity. Christmas is the epitome of hope, joy, peace, and good cheer. God became man because of his merciful love for humanity. Let us continue to be the source of hope to those who are hopeless, joy to those who are sorrowful, the voice of the voiceless, the seed of peace where there are conflicts, and feed those who have no food. May the Baby Jesus be the source of the success of the Confraternity of St Peter & St Paul in the year 2023.! Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Chevalier Fr. Joseph Moloka Sikwese





I always feel happy to serve the underprivileged... This weekend I went to , the remotest substation of St Mary's Parish. I spent two days there... It was very hard to reach the place even on a motorcycle, but I was happy to be there to offer the Holy Eucharist with the people. Rev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese

No palace No throne for Bishop Giovanni Cefai



No palace, No throne for this humble bishop in Huancane Peru.

The Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul supports the mission of Bishop Giovanni Cefai through the Grand Master Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli and Dame Mary Portelli.

Maltese Bishop Giovanni Cefai with an Aymara Native at his Prelature in the upper mountain of Huancane Peru.



I conclude this Christmas Special Newsletter by thanking the Supreme Council and the Members of the Grand Chapter in Melbourne for their support through the year.

I like to thank The Most Rev. Archbishop Peter A Comensoli for his support and the staff of the Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Thank you to Fr. Nhan Le Parish Priest of St. Martin De Porres and the staff of the parish for their support.

Thank you to all our knights and dames around the world for their support and contribution to our Confraternity.

I wish you all a very Merry and Holy Christmas and Happy New Year 2023.

May the feast of Christmas bring joy, contentment and blessings in your homes.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus the Lord.

Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli
Grand Master
CKSPP
Seat in Melbourne. Victoria. Australia.