

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

Seat of the Confraternity: Melbourne, Vict. Australia.

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Confraternity News

Issue 134 – December, 2023

In nomine Patris et Filii et Spiritus Sancti, Amen
Building a Confraternity of priests



Grand Master's Christmas Message

Christmas is a special time of the year, a time that brings Christians together to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

For many, Christmas is for family get-together, parties and time for a holiday.

But what is the true meaning of Christmas?

Christmas should be a time of giving and caring for others, especially the poor, the sick and the lonely.

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. Jesus is often considered by Christians to be a gift from God to the world.

The birth of Jesus brings joy to the world, and we should share that joy with others by giving something to those who are less fortunate than us, and by attending Mass on Christmas day.

On behalf of Dame Mary and I, I wish you all a very Blessed and Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year 2024 with peace to all men kind.

God Bless.

Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli



The Supreme Council of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul



A Christmas Message from Archbishop Peter A Comensoli



PEACE

Dear friends, we hear these words from the ancient prophet Isaiah (52:7):

*“How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation...”*

These are beautiful words—old words, first spoken in old days, yet so sorely needed in our day!

Amid this time of conflict, suffering and exile, Isaiah speaks to us words of peace and the good news about the Prince of Peace.

Our hearts ache for reconciliation of peoples; respect for our shared humanity; care for our crying planet. Our world and its people seem to be groaning and railing against pathways to true peace.

Yet, we experience the hope of God through simple words of joy, mercy and peace.

The shepherds experienced this. So did the Magi. Mary and Joseph knew it intimately.

God knew we needed his Son to come amongst us, to show us the way ahead.

As we come to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord this year, might we be attentive to the broken people across the world who are held captive by the tragedy of war and old hatreds.

Might we also remember those exiled in other ways—bereft of knowing God; lost and searching for identity and purpose.

We too can be the messengers whose footfalls bring light into the world, announcing mercy, bringing joy, offering Good News.

God has come among us, simply, humbly and hopefully in a little child, his Son, our Brother.

May the peace that comes through this child, the Prince of Peace, be with you this Christmas.

And with every footstep, may you take His message, and life, out into the world.

Happy Christmas to you all!

Greetings from the Grand Chapter of Melbourne

Chevalier Deputy Grand Master Mario and Dame Domenica Sabatini



Dame Domenica and I we would like to wish our knights and dames in the Confraternity a very Happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year 2024.

Enjoy the Christmas festivities.

God Bless.

Dame Angela Greto



Archgrand Prior

Merry Christmas to our family the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul and Happy New Year 2024.

May next year will be another good one for the Confraternity.

Chevalier Alexander McPherson

Secretary



Venerable Chevaliers and Honoured Dames of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul, I extend to each member of the Confraternity and all our family and friends a heartfelt Christmas greeting as we approach this blessed season. In the spirit of simplicity and devotion, let the celebration of the Nativity fill your hearts with the sublime joy of Christ's coming. As members of this esteemed Confraternity, you are entrusted with the noble mission of upholding the principles of our Catholic faith. Let the Christmas story, unfolding in Bethlehem's humble manger, inspire within you a fervent commitment to charity. Embrace the spirit of benevolence, following the example of the Holy Family, whose love and humility exemplify the essence of Christian virtue. Charity, a cardinal virtue that unites heaven and earth, is the hallmark of our faith. As chevaliers and dames of St. Peter & St. Paul, may your endeavours be adorned with the selfless love that characterized the life of our Lord and Saviour. In service to others, embody the true spirit of chivalry, reflecting the virtues of our heavenly patrons. In this sacred season, may the Eucharistic banquet sustain you, fortifying your resolve to bring Christ's love into the world. As you gather in prayer and fellowship, may the grace of the Christ Child inspire acts of kindness, generosity, and compassion, echoing the eternal message of the Gospel. With affection and a fervent wish for a Merry Christmas, may the joy of Christ's birth illuminate your hearts, guiding you in the noble pursuits of the Confraternity.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Alexander McPherson Secretary

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Frank Buhagiar

Chaplain



Dear Grand Master Chevalier Peter Paul and Members and your Families of the Confraternity of St Peter and Paul.

I wish you all BLESSED CHRISTMAS 23. AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR 2024 filled with GOD'S JOY FILLED PEACE AND BLESSINGS AND THE GIFT OF WELLNESS .

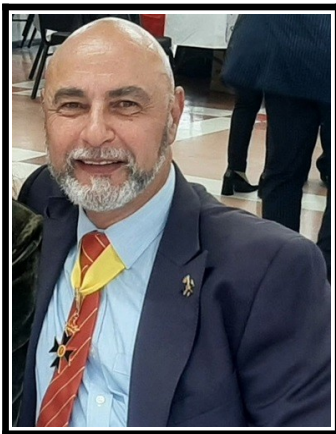
Kind regards from Rev. Fr. Frank Buhagiar.



Chevalier Joseph Coleiro

Grand Chancellor

Secretary to the Grand Master



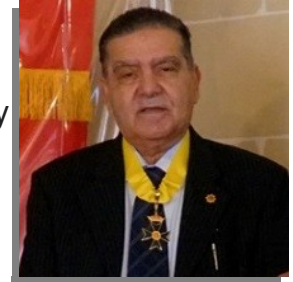
Dear confreres and friends of the Confraternity, I wish you all a safe and happy time this Christmas season. I encourage you all to focus on its true meaning, and not be caught up in the enticing trappings of commercialism that have nothing at all to do with our faith, and the Lord Jesus. May the season for you be one marked by quality time with your family and friends, and a time of rest and renewal as we approach the close of 2023.

Greetings from the Grand Chapter of Malta

Chevalier Joseph Louis Meilak

Grand Prior

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas! As we celebrate the birth of Christ, may His message of peace and love resonate within us. Let's reflect on His teachings and extend our prayers to all those yearning for peace worldwide. May this season fills your heart with joy. Love and the warmth of peace.



Chevalier Carmel Saliba - Secretary/PRO.

On 14th December 2023 the Grand Chapter of Malta of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St Paul organized a Christmas Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in Nadur.

The Mass was celebrated by Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Cauchi. A nice number of knights and dames attended the Mass. Afterwards, the members enjoyed a Christmas Dinner at the Fat Rabbit Restaurant. Apart of this Christmas Mass and dinner this year we organised the colletion of several food articles to be distributed as hampers to the needy.

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

The Grand Chapter of Malta wishes a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year 2024. See photos below.



Chevalier Dr. Ray Bondin



I am glad to join this Confraternity, which looks at the great Apostles St Paul and St Peter. I wish all our members in Malta and around the world a very Merry Christmas.

If only we all learn to live in peace and enjoy what God has given us.

Chevalier Joe M Attard



I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry and Holy Christmas full of heavenly joy that will live in your hearts all year long. The child of Betlehem was born for everyone and came to redeem everyone. May he give us a year free from wars and trouble and bring forth between us unity and peace that the world does not give. Peace and Health.

Greetings from the Chapter of Malawi

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese

Prior



Dear Your Excellency, the Grandmaster, Chevalier Peter Portelli, all members and friends of the Confraternity of the Knights of St Peter and St Paul!

On behalf of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul, Malawi chapter, and on my behalf, I would like to take a moment to wish you a very Merry Christmas.

At Christmas we celebrate "Immanuel" (God with us). Without Christ's presence among us, we would be lost. Through Christ's presence working within us, we are being healed, transformed, reconciled, and made whole. May we bring Christ's presence into our communities by bringing love to the unloved, hope to the hopeless, and joy to the sorrowful. May the Baby Jesus be the source of success for our confraternity in the new year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Chevalier Fr. Joseph Sikwese

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Mkinga



I would like to wish our Grand Master His Excellency Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli and Dame Mary Portelli and all members of the Confraternity a very Merry Christmas. I wish you good health and peace.

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja



Christmas greetings to all members of the Confraternity, in a special way to the members in Malta and in Melbourne for their support to make our trip possible to enjoy the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul in Nadur, Gozo.

Grand Chapter of Canada

Chevalier Silvio Da Silva Grand Prior

Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ may the Celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ bring you and your loved ones endless blessings this Christmas season.

As we celebrate the birth of the Savior, may His love shine bright in our hearts and guide us through the coming year. This season we will pray for peace on earth, comfort for those who are suffering, and for love to fill the hearts of humanity.



On behalf of the Chapter of Canada I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Chapter of Argentina

Chevalier Deacon Ricardo Dib Prior



Grateful for your always kind greetings, just arrived on the day when new national authority have assumed in Argentina, we return to you for your intentions and Good wishes for this great nation, which needs to be and again what it was.

A very Merry Christmas and a Prodigal New Year 2024.
The Blessing of the Lord.

Chapter of South Australia

Chevalier Frank L Scicluna

Prior



I would like to extend my best wishes for a happy, peaceful and blessed Christmas to our beloved Grandmaster, Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli and to all the Knights and Dames of the Confraternity of Saint Peter and St. Paul. May the message of Christmas fill your heart with eternal hope and love, as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ and may the peace and joy of Christmas remain with you throughout the coming year 2024. Chev. Frank L. Scicluna
OAM MQR Prior – South Australia



Chapter of Portugal

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Antonio Manuel Martins

Chaplain of the Confraternity

Paróquia de Paranhos, Porto, Portugal



Dear knights and dames of the Confraternity, I wish you a very Merry Christmas.
Feliz Natal



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Feliz Natal



VAMOS COM ALEGRIA.
 VAMOS TODOS A BELÉM.

ANJOS NO CÉU

Num mundo de escuridão
 Eis que a Estrela brilhou
 Em Belém, Casa do Pão
 O Deus, Menino encarnou.
 Nasceu da Virgem Maria,
 Na pobreza e na humildade
 Fonte de grande alegria
 Para toda a humanidade.

ANJOS NO CÉU A CANTAR
 ANUNCIAM PAZ E AMOR
 ABRAMOS DE PAR EM PAR
 AS PORTAS AO SALVADOR.
 EM ALEGRE SINFONIA
 VAMOS TODOS A BELÉM
 VAMOS COM GRANDE ALEGRIA.
 VER JESUS E SUA MÃE.

Por entre escombros de morte
 Há razões para sorrir
 Sempre um colo que conforte
 Um jardim que vai florir.
 No olhar de uma criança
 Há espanto e elogio
 "Sede alegres na esperança"
 É o lema e o desafio.

A Igreja nos convida
 A viver da Eucaristia,
 Receber o Pão da Vida
 Força da nossa alegria.
 O mundo será melhor
 Se todos dermos as mãos
 Se amarmos com suor
 A cada um dos irmãos.



Vamos com alegria.
 Vamos todos a Belém.

Grand Chapter of Germany

Chevalier Peter Michael Neuen

Grand Prior

Deputy Grand Master in Europe

Your Excellency,

Dear Conseurs and Confreres,



The year 2023 was a very tough year for us in Germany, the high inflation rate, the ever-increasing energy costs and the dissatisfaction with the current federal government are causing an ever-growing uncertainty and dissatisfaction.

We hope that the new year can only get better!

The members of the Priory of Germany wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and all the best, happiness and health for the New Year

2024.

May our gracious God always be with you and hold His hand over you protectively!

With best regards

Peter Michael Neuen

**Chevalier Michael Toku-Shin Drebs and Dame Angela Rister
Berlin, Germany**



Dear knights and dames worldwide.

The year 2023 is coming to an end. Wars, environmental disasters and destruction follow one another. But once again this year, we supported the poorest of the poor and our elderly every week. We tell them stories, sing songs together and go for walks. This will put a little smile on your faces.

A small step for us, to help the elderly. God willing, for next year 2024 we have decided to provide more help, and we would like to thank our fellow campaigners in Berlin.

Please stay or get well, and thank God profusely for his help. Peace to the world on the birth of our Lord Jesus.

Dame Angela Rister and Chevalier Michael Toku-Shin Drebs

God bless you.



Chevalier Michael and Dame Angela Rister helps the " Berliner Engel" campaign.



Dame Angela Rister and Chevalier Michael Drebs visits the elderly people's home in Berlin-Friedrichshagen.

By Chevalier Ange Kenos Melbourne

Dear all as we approach 25 December it does bother me to see so many homes beautifully adorned BUT lacking HE whose birthday we should be celebrating.

Have your decorations etc but include Our Lord and his nativity scene.

But while I wish for peace and harmony as would you, there are those who do not. I have Russian and Ukrainian friends. I have Islamic and Jewish friends. Sadly, I doubt if they will see much in the way of peace although we all pray that they do. Jesus was born to bring us closer to God, to the word of God, to life styles according to His word. I wish one and all, without exception, peace and harmony, happiness and joy.



Recent events

Grand Chapter of Malta

Nadur, Gozo.

The Grand Chapter of Malta organized a Christmas Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in Nadur.

This was the first function of the Confraternity at the Sacred Heart Church.

The Mass was celebrated by Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Cauchi. A nice number of knights and dames attended the Mass. Afterwards, the members enjoyed a Christmas Dinner at the Fat Rabbit Restaurant.

Congratulations on such a nice celebration, especially for the festive season of Christmas. The Grand Chapter is also giving away Christmas hampers to the needy.



Photo Carmel Saliba 14.12.23.



Knights and dames of the Confraternity attended a Christmas Mass at the church of the Sacred Heart in Nadur, Gozo. Malta.



Hampers for the needy

Presentation of the history of the Confraternity

Grand Chapter of Malta

8 December 2023.

By Chevalier Joseph Louis Meilak / Grand Prior

Today I had the opportunity to meet the President of the European Parliament, Dr. Roberta Metsola. I presented her with a copy of the history of the Confraternity Volume II. I also presented a copy to the Minister for Gozo the Hon. Client Camilleri MP.



Photo: Chevalier Joseph Louis Meilak presents the history of the Confraternity to Dr. Roberta Metsola President of the European Parliament

Presentation of the history of the Confraternity to the University of Malta

Nadur, Gozo.

Monday 11 December, 2023.

The Grand Prior of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul in Nadur, Gozo, Chevalier Joseph Louis Meilak presented the history of the Confraternity Vol. I and II to Ms. Rachel Debattista of the University of Malta.

These publications will be made available in the Junior College Library collection. During the year, copies of the history were presented to the President of Malta, H.E. Dr. George Vella, the Archbishop of Malta H.E. The Most Rev. Charles Scicluna and the Bishop of Gozo, H.E. The Most Rev. Anton Teuma.



Grand Chapter of Melbourne

From the family of the Confraternity

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2024

Feliz Natal	(Portuguese)
Il Milied it-Tajjeb	(Maltese)
Buon Natale	(Italian)

Frohe Weihnachten (German)
Sretan Božić (Croatian)
Feliz Navidad (Spanish)



Members and volunteers of the Confraternity in Melbourne.

With every good wish.



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