

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

Seat of the Confraternity: 49 Botanic Drive, Hillside 3037. Melbourne. Vic. Australia.

Mobile: 0431473893 Website: <http://www.knightsofstpeterandstpaul.com/>

Email: [grandmaster.knightsspeterpaul@gmail.com](mailto:grandmaster.knightsspeterpaul@gmail.com)



## Confraternity News

Issue 124 – March, 2023

**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.

I trust that you are all well.

In our prayers, we remember our members who need our prayers.

In our prayers we remember our Members who recently had or are waiting for a medical intervention.

The Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul is now growing with the number of priests joining our respected institution.

Our aim is to have our Confraternity approved by dioceses and parishes around the world.

The Confraternity is already approved by the Archdiocese of Melbourne, the Dioceses of Karonga and Chikwawa in Malawi in Africa, the Diocese of Gozo Malta, the Orthodox Diocese in Union with Rome in Puerto Rico, the Parish of St. Peter and Paul in Nadur, Gozo, the Paróquia de Paranhos of Porto in Portugal and the Parish of St. Martin De Porres in Avondale Heights, Melbourne and the Parish of St. Nikola Tavelic in Clifton Hill, Melbourne.

It is important for our Confraternity to be known and accepted by your parish and diocese of your chapter.

This week is the most Solemn week of the year, the time to reflect the suffering, the death and the resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As true believers and knights of Christ we make sure to attend the church services on Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

Have a blessed Easter.



## Remembering the crucifixion, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus



### Resurrection Sunday

*Statue of the Resurrection of our Lord venerated in the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul in Nadur, Gozo work by our own artists Chevalier Michael Camilleri Cauchi, Chevalier Adonai Camilleri Cauchi and Dame Veronica Camilleri Cauchi.*

CKSPP

# FEAST OF ST. PETER AND ST. PAUL

## Grand Chapter of Melbourne

This year the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul in Melbourne will be celebrated on the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of June before the Grand Master Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli travels to Malta to join in the celebrations there.

The Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June, at the Parish Church of St. Martin De Porres, 158 Military Road in Avondale Heights, starting at 2.00pm.

Chevalier Rev. Fr. Frank Buhagiar PE Chaplain of the Confraternity will celebrate the Mass accompanied by Monsignor Bosiljko Rajic and Fr. Velimir Maglica.

After the Holy Communion both Monsignor Bosiljko Rajic and Fr. Velimir Maglica will be invested as knights in the Confraternity.



Chev. Fr. Frank Buhagiar PE  
Chaplain of the Confraternity  
Maribyrnong



Monsignor Bosiljko Rajic  
Croatian Catholic Church  
Clifton Hill



Fr. Velimir Maglica  
Croatian Catholic Church  
Clifton Hill

## LUNCHEON OF THE FEAST

The Luncheon of the feast will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June at the Nancye Kirchner Neighbourhood Centre, 2 Doyle St, Avondale Heights VIC. 3034.

More details at a later date.






# Charity Fundraising Luncheon

Grand Chapter of Melbourne

Book now.



**Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul**  
Charity Fundraising Luncheon  
Sunday 30 April, 2023  
At Nancye Kirchner Neighbourhood Centre  
2 Doyle St, Avondale Heights VIC 3034  
Time: 12-30 pm.  
Music provided by J & C DUO  
3 course meal, wine, soft drink and coffee  
Tickets:\$35 Adults. Children 4-12 yrs:\$25  
For more details and to book call:  
Angela Greto: 0412447321  
Mimma Sabatini: 0403528325  
Peter Paul Portelli: 0431473893

## The Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul is approved by:

The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Australia

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Gozo, Malta

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Karonga, Malawi

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Chikwawa, Malawi

The Orthodox Diocese in Union with Rome, Puerto Rico

The Parish of St. Peter and Paul in Nadur, Gozo, the Paróquia de Paranhos of Porto in Portugal, the Parish of St. Martin De Porres in Avondale Heights, Melbourne and the Croatian Parish of St. Nikola Tavelic in Clifton Hill, Melbourne.



*The Grand Chapter of Melbourne made a donation towards the restoration of benches in the Croatian Parish of St. Nikola Tavelic in Clifton Hill, Melbourne.*

## Letter of approval by the Diocese of Chikwawa

# Diocese of Chikwawa

P.O. Box 135,  
Chikwawa,  
MALAWI - AFRICA.

Tel.: Offices (265) 01 420 268  
Bishop's (Private) (265) 01 420 229  
Fax: (265) 01 420 229  
E-mail: [REDACTED]@malawi.net

20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023

Grand Master,  
Confraternity of the Knights of Sts. Peter and Paul,

Dear Grand Master,

**RE: GRANTING PERMISSION TO REV. FATHER PETER NTAYAMANJA TO PARTICIPATE IN THE KNIGHTS CONVENTION IN MALTA**

I greet you in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am pleased to inform you that I have granted permission to Rev. Father Peter Ntayanja, a priest of the Diocese of Chikwawa to be a member of the Confraternity of the Knights of Sts. Peter and Paul and to participate in the Knights' Convention scheduled to take place in Malta on 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2023.

Wishing you and all members of Confraternity of the Knights of Sts. Peter and Paul a very fruitful convention.

Yours servant in Christ,



Rt. Rev. Peter Musikuwa  
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CHIKWAWA

**DIOCESE OF CHIKWAWA**  
P.O. BOX 135  
CHIKWAWA, MALAWI.  
C. AFRICA

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

**International Convention**

**25<sup>th</sup> June – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

**Nadur – Gozo – Malta**

In Collaboration with



Nadur Local Council

# CONFRATERNITY MEETING IN MALTA 2023

## PROPOSED PROGRAM

**Sunday 25 June: 12.00pm** Formal Lunch of the Confraternity.

An opportunity to meet and mingle with the Members and friends of the Confraternity.

**Menu:** Maltese traditional Rabbit stew with spaghetti.

**Dress:** Formal with the medal and tie.

6.30pm. We will visit the parish of St. John the Baptist in the town of Xewkija for their feast.

**Monday 26 June: 9.00am** We visit historical places in Malta.

We will visit the Cathedral of St. John built by the knights of Malta in Valletta, the old city of Mdina and other places of interest.

**7.00pm.** We will attend a Solemn Con celebration Mass at the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul.

9.30pm. March by the Mnarja Philharmonic Band with the artistic statue of the Giving of the Mission to Saint Peter and Saint Paul.

12.00am. The statue is placed on an artistic pedestal in December 13 Street. **Opposite our Office.**  
Fireworks display.

**Tuesday 27 June: 9.00am** Mass for the Confraternity in the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul.

7.00pm We will attend a Solemn Con celebration Mass at the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul.

9.00pm Marches in the main streets with the statue of St. Peter and Paul afterwards the statue is placed on the pedestal in the main square.

Fireworks display.

**Wednesday 28 June: 3.00pm** Meeting of the Confraternity

**Venue:** Dar l-Imnarja" December 13 Street, Nadur, Gozo.

Investiture of the new members will take place.

Afterwards the Confraternity takes part in a procession with the Bishop and the Clergy from the church of the Sacred Heart to the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul and afterwards we attend to the vespers.

9.00pm Fireworks display from the Council Garden and band marches in the main streets. 12.00am  
Fireworks display in the town square.

**Thursday 29 June: 9.00am** Solemnity of St. Peter and Paul. Pontifical Mass in the Basilica.

**We attend the Pontifical Mass at the Basilica of St. Peter and St. Paul. ( No reserved seats )**

11.00am till 2.30pm Band marches in the main streets.

7.00pm. We will meet in the main square. ( wear the medal and tie )

8.00pm Procession with the statue of St. Peter and Paul.

11.00pm End of the celebrations.

If you are planning the trip to Malta, we'll look forward to hearing from you.

To book your accommodation, contact Chevalier Peter Said: [prsaid@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:prsaid@hotmail.co.uk);

## Chapter of Malawi

The Chapter of Malawi is approved by the dioceses of Karonga and Chikwawa.

The Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul is most grateful to H.E. The Right Rev. Bishop Martin Anwel Mtumbuka of Karonga and H.E. The Right Rev. Bishop Peter Musikuwa for approving their priests to join our Confraternity.

The reverend priests [knights] will join our meeting in Malta in June for the celebrations of the feast of St. Peter & St. Paul in the Basilica of Nadur in Gozo.

Our gratitude to the excellencies bishops for their approval and support.



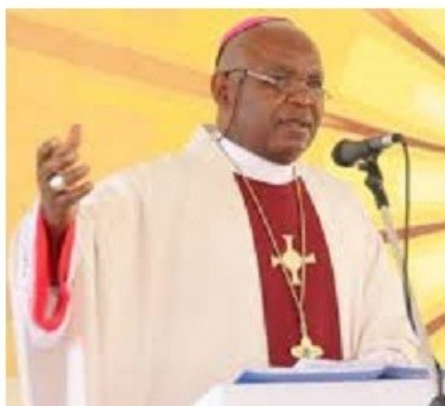
Chev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese  
Prior  
Diocese of Karonga



Chev. Fr. Joseph Mkinga  
Diocese of Karonga



Chev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja  
Diocese of Chikwawa



H.E. The Rt. Rev. Bishop Martin Anwel Mtumbuka  
Diocese of Karonga



H.E. The Rt. rev. Bishop Peter Musikuwa  
Diocese of Chikwawa



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

## Knights Convention in Malta

The Grand Chapter of Malta is organizing a Mass on the last day of the Triduum of the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Mass will be taking place on Tuesday 27 June at 9.00 am in the Basilica of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Reverend Monsignor Jimmy Xerri Parish Priest of the Basilica is the prime celebrant with the assistance of Chevalier Monsignor Salv Pace, Chev. Canon Karm Portelli also will be assisting in the Mass, Chev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese, Chev. Fr. Joseph Mkinga and Chev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja from the Chapter of Malawi in Africa.



## New Knights and a Dame

22 March, 2023

At the meeting of the Supreme Council of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul, these new members were approved to join our respected charitable organization.

More priests are joining the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul which now have the approval of 6 dioceses around the world.

Congratulations to all.

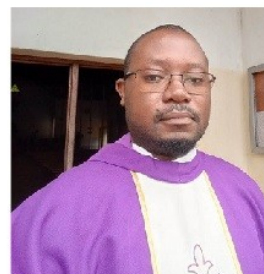
### NEW MEMBERS IN THE CONFRATERNITY OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL



Chev. Monsignor Bosiljko Rajic  
Grand Chapter of Melbourne



Chev. Fr. Velimir Maglica  
Grand Chapter of Melbourne



Chev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja  
Chapter of Malawi



Dame Antonia Portelli  
Grand Chapter of Malta



## Fr. Steffen Kolb

Murg, Germany



O Lord, grant us holy priests, holy clergymen and holy families who seek only Your will, faithfully serve Your Church and truly glorify Your name.

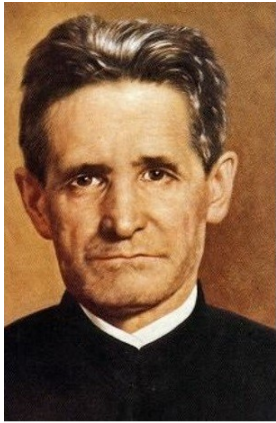
Exalted Mother of the Savior, come and help your people struggling to rise from their trap.

Kind, St Joseph, patron saint of the holy church of God, please pray for us.

## Blessed Rupert Mayer, Priest, SJ

The Apostle of Munich

Grand Master Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli visited the burial site of Blessed Rupert Mayer in 2017.



Rupert Mayer was born on 23 January, 1876 in Stuttgart, Germany. On completing his secondary education he told his father he wanted to be a Jesuit. His father suggested he get ordained first and enter the Jesuits later, if that was still his wish. Rupert took this advice and studied philosophy at Fribourg in Switzerland and Munich. He then studied theology at Tübingen for three years before completing his final year at the seminary in Rottenburg. He was ordained priest on 2 May, 1899 and celebrated his first Mass two days later.

He served for a year as a curate in Spaichingen before entering the Jesuit novitiate at Feldkirch in Austria on 1 Oct, 1900. Following his novitiate, he went to the Netherlands for further studies between 1906 and 1911. He then travelled through Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands, preaching missions in many parishes.

Rupert's real apostolate began when he was transferred to Munich in 1912. There he devoted the rest of his 31 years to migrants who came to the city from farms and small towns looking for a job and a place to stay. He was totally committed to their needs – collecting food and clothing, looking for jobs and places for them to live. He also helped them preserve their Christian faith in a city which was rapidly becoming secular.

With the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, Rupert at first offered his services to a camp hospital. But later he was made Field Captain and travelled together with his men to France, Poland and Romania which brought him to the front line of battle. His courage and solidarity with his men became legendary. He was with them in the trenches and stayed with the dying to the very end. His courage was infectious and gave hope to his men in appalling conditions. In December 1915, he was awarded the Iron Cross for bravery, a rare honour for a chaplain. His army career ended abruptly in 1916 when a badly broken leg had to be amputated.

By the time he had fully recovered, the war was over (1918) and Rupert returned to Munich and did all he could to help people get back to a normal life. In November 1921, he became director of a Marian Congregation (Sodality of Our Lady) for men, and within nine years, its membership had grown to 7,000 men coming from 53 different parishes. This meant that Rupert had to give up to 70 talks a

month to reach all of them. In 1925, for the convenience of travellers, he introduced Sunday Masses at the main railway station. He himself would celebrate the earliest Masses, beginning at 3:10 AM. In time, it would be said that the whole city of Munich had become his parish.

With huge social problems developing in Germany after World War I, Munich saw the rise of Communist and other social movements. Rupert took a close interest in these. He attended their meetings and even addressed them. His aim was to highlight Christian principles, and to point out the fallacies in other speakers' ideas which could mislead people. He was one of the first to recognise the dangers of Adolf Hitler and Nazism, and again challenged Nazi policy with Christian principles. It was inevitable that he would come in conflict with the Nazi movement.

When Hitler became chancellor of the Reich in 1933, he began to shut down church-affiliated schools and began a campaign to discredit the religious orders. Preaching in St Michael's Church in downtown Munich, Rupert denounced these moves. As a very influential voice in the city, the Nazis could not allow him to continue his attacks on them. On 16 May, 1937, the Gestapo ordered Fr Mayer to stop speaking in public places. This he did but continued to preach in church. Two weeks later he was arrested and put in prison for six weeks. At his trial he was found guilty, but given a suspended sentence. He then obeyed his superiors' orders to remain silent but the Nazis took advantage of this to defame him in public. His superiors then allowed him to preach again in order to defend himself against the Nazis' slanderous attacks. He was arrested six months later and served his formerly suspended sentence in Landsberg prison for five months. Then a general amnesty made it possible for him to return to Munich and work quietly in small discussion groups.

However, he was still seen as a threat and so was arrested again in November, 1940 on the pretext that he had cooperated in a royalist movement. Now 63 years old, Rupert was sent to the notorious Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen concentration camp near Berlin. After a few months, his health had deteriorated so badly that it was feared he might die in the camp and be seen as a martyr. So he was sent to stay in the Benedictine abbey in Ettal, in the Bavarian Alps. Fr Mayer spent his time there in prayer, leaving his future in the Lord's hands. He remained in the abbey for almost six years until freed by American forces in May, 1945.

A United States officer returned him to Munich, where he resumed his duties at St. Michael's Church where he received a hero's welcome, and took up again his pastoral work at St Michael's. However, the years in prison and the camp had undermined his health. On 1 Nov, 1945, Rupert was celebrant at the 8 a.m. Mass on the feast of All Saints in St Michael's. He had just read the Gospel and began preaching on the Christian's duty to imitate the saints, when he had a stroke and collapsed. Facing the congregation, "The Lord... the Lord... the Lord..." were his last words. He died shortly afterwards. He was 69 years old. While he was first buried in the Jesuit cemetery at the Jesuit house of studies in Pullach, outside Munich, his remains were later brought back to the city and interred in the crypt of the Burgersaal, the church next to St Michael's, where the men's Sodality regularly met.



Burial site of blessed Fr. Rupert Mayer, SJ

In 1956, Pope Pius XII, who had personally known Rupert Mayer during his time as papal nuncio in Munich, awarded him the title Servant of God. Under Pope John XXIII, the beatification process was initiated, the results of which were formally accepted by Pope Paul VI in 1971. Under Pope John Paul II, the degree of heroic virtue was issued in 1983. Rupert Mayer was beatified by Pope John Paul II on 3 May 1987 in Munich.

Father Mayer's grave was visited by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI, whose parents had venerated him.

He is remembered for his staunch opposition to Nazi inhumanity and for his selfless dedication in helping the poor.

Rupert Mayer's favourite prayer:

*Lord, let happen whatever you will;  
and as you will, so will I walk;  
help me only to know your will!  
Lord, whenever you will, then is the time;  
today and always.  
Lord, whatever you will, I wish to accept,  
and whatever you will for me is gain;  
enough that I belong to you.  
Lord, because you will it, it is right;  
and because you will it, I have courage.  
My heart rests safely in your hands!*

This is all I have for you this month.  
I hope that you enjoy reading the newsletter.

I wish you all a very blessed and holy Easter.



H.E. Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli  
Grand Master  
CKSPP