

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

Seat of the Confraternity: Melbourne, Vict. Australia.

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Confraternity News

Issue 133 – November, 2023

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

Grand Master's Message

Fraternal greetings one and all.

I trust you are all well.

As times goes by the Confraternity keeps growing in numbers, in popularity and this carries with it more work.

The month of November was a busy time with celebrations, events and meetings.

The Confraternity in Melbourne was invited to take part in the 60th Anniversary of the Parish of St. Martin De Porres and the feast of St. Gregory the Great.

Between these events, the Executive of the Supreme Council has a lot of work to do, filling out tax forms, hall hire forms, application forms and booking music for 2024.

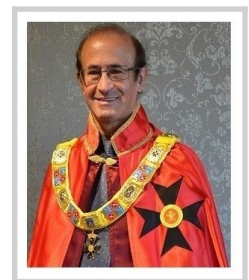
Thanks to our Executive members for the wonderful job they are doing.

This year was a very successful one because these members are very dedicated to their role as members of the Executive.

There is other people associated with the Confraternity that work behind the scenes, especially when it comes to artwork. Thank you to Ross Sabatini for his assistance when we need artwork. Ross Sabatini the son of Deputy Grand Master Chevalier Mario Sabatini and Dame Domenica Sabatini is always there to help. His latest work was the design of the ties of the Confraternity.

I also would like to thank all the volunteers that, time after time, helped to set up the hall and clean afterwards.

Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli – Grand Master



Happy Anniversary to Chevalier Rev. Fr. Frank Buhagiar

Chaplain of the Confraternity



The Confraternity wishes Fr. Frank Buhagiar a happy 52nd anniversary of his Priesthood.

Fr. Frank is celebrating his anniversary in Vietnam.

Thank you for all you do for the Confraternity.

Ad Multos Annos.

Grand Chapter of Melbourne

20 November, 2023

Annual General Meeting

The Grand Chapter of Melbourne had its Annual General Meeting to present the finance report to the members.

The finance report was presented by the Treasurer, Dame Domenica Sabatini, and it was approved by the members.

In his speech, the Grand Master said that this year was a very good year for the Confraternity. In Melbourne we had 6 successful events, and we appointed 2 priests to the Confraternity. Thank you to those who put a lot of effort into setting up the hall for the events and for cleaning afterwards.

Thank you to those who attend our events to help us raise money for the needy.

The Grand Chapter of Malta based in Nadur, Gozo is doing an excellent job in organising very important events.

This year in Malta, we had a very successful celebration of the feast of St. Peter and Paul.

We had 2 priest knights of the Confraternity visiting from Malawi in Central Africa, 2 members from Perth in Western Australia and a member from Napoli in Italy.

Thank you to the Rev. Monsignor Jimmy Xerri, Archpriest of the Basilica for his support.

While in Malta we had successful meetings with His Eminence Cardinal Mario Grech, the Archbishop of Malta, His Excellency The Most Rev. Charles Scicluna and the Bishop of Gozo His Excellency Anton Teuma. We also met with the President of the Republic, His Excellency Dr. George Vella during his visit to Melbourne.

THE CONFRATERNITY IN AFRICA

The Grand Master said that our Chapter of Malawi in Central Africa could be the base, the centre for the Confraternity in that continent.

We already have 4 priests in Malawi to build a solid foundation of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul in Africa.

The meeting concluded with the Supreme Council thanking everyone who is supporting the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul in any way and we look forward to continuing our work in 2024.



Photo: The members having a drink and a chat after the meeting.

60th Anniversary of St. Martin De Porres Parish

Grand Chapter of Melbourne

The parish of St. Martin De Porres in Avondale Heights, celebrated the 60th year of its foundation. This is the parish where the Grand Chapter of Melbourne celebrates the feast of St. Peter and St. Paul.

The Confraternity was invited to take part in the celebration. The Archbishop of Melbourne, The Most Rev. Peter A Comensoli presided over the celebration.

It was a lovely celebration with special guests: the Deputy Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Ben Carroll MP and the Mayor of Moonee Valley City Council Cr. Pierce Tyson.

The Vietnamese Choir was excellent.

Thank you, Fr Nhan Le Parish Priest for the invitation.



Photo: The Most Rev. Archbishop Peter Comensoli of Melbourne presided on the celebration.



*The Deputy Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Ben Carroll MP with Members of the Confraternity.
Photo credit to Cav. Frank Di Blasi*



Group photo with Fr. Nhan Le Parish Priest of St. Martin De Porres. Photo credit to Cav. Frank Di Blasi

Feast of St. Gregory the Great

The Confraternity was invited once again for the feast of St. Gregory the Great, celebrated by the Vizzini community of Melbourne.

Chevalier Fr. Frank Buhagiar Chaplain of the Confraternity celebrated the Mass.





Photo with Chevalier Fr. Frank Buhagiar after the Mass. Photo credit to Cav. Frank Di Blasi

Night of the Witnesses

By Chevalier Alexander McPherson

On Wednesday 22 November 2023 members of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul attended the 2nd Night of the Witnesses held in Australia at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne organised by the pontifical foundation Aid to the Church in Need – Australian & New Land.

The night was presided over by The Most Reverend Peter Comensoli, Archbishop of Melbourne. There were three international speakers Mr Xavier Stephen Bisits (ACN Head of Projects, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt), Sr Majella Dogonyaro OP (Dominican Sister, Northern Nigeria) and The Most Reverend George Bacouni, SMSP Archeparch of the Melkite Greek Catholic Archeparchy of Beirut and Byblos.

The prayerful night was divided into four sections, the first 3 ended with a speech from each of the guests. The entire confraternity was moved the all the speeches especially Sr Majella account of the situation in Nigeria and the martyrdom of Michael Nnadi. Archeparch George Bacouni spoke of the situation in Israel and a message from His Beatitude, Patriarch Joseph

Absi of the Melkite Greek Catholic Church - Patriarch of Antioch, Alexandria, Jerusalem, and all the East who was unable to attend due to the ongoing war. The fourth part of the night was adoration and benediction lead by Archbishop Peter Comensoli.

The prayerful moment gave us all a time to reflect with the Lord about profound sadness and death in the world.



Photo from left: Chev. Saverio Greto, Dame Angela Greto, Chev. Alexander McPherson, Dame Domenica Sabatini and Chev. Mario Sabatini / Deputy Grand Master.

Photos credit to Chev. Alexander McPherson

Chapter of Malawi

By Prior Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese

GOD HAS BEEN GRACIOUS



God has been gracious to our Chapter. Please join us in thanking the Lord for the gift of a new member in the Chapter of Malawi, Chevalier Rev. Fr. Gift Joseph Chikwapa. He has been accepted in the Confraternity with the title of Knight Commander of Justice. He took the vow of the Knight of the Confraternity of St Peter & St Paul on the Feast of St Andrew the Apostle, 30th November.

The investiture was presided over by Chevalier Rev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja. This means that we now have four members Chapter of Malawi. Since all the current members of our chapter are priests, we are working hard to recruit lay members. Some laity have shown interest. The good news is that the Confraternity in Malawi has the blessings of two bishops: Bishop Martin Anwel Mtumbuka of the Diocese of Karonga and Bishop Peter Msikuwa of the Diocese of Chikwawa. We would like to build the Chapter of Malawi to be the base of the Confraternity in the African Continent.

St Peter and St Paul pray for us!

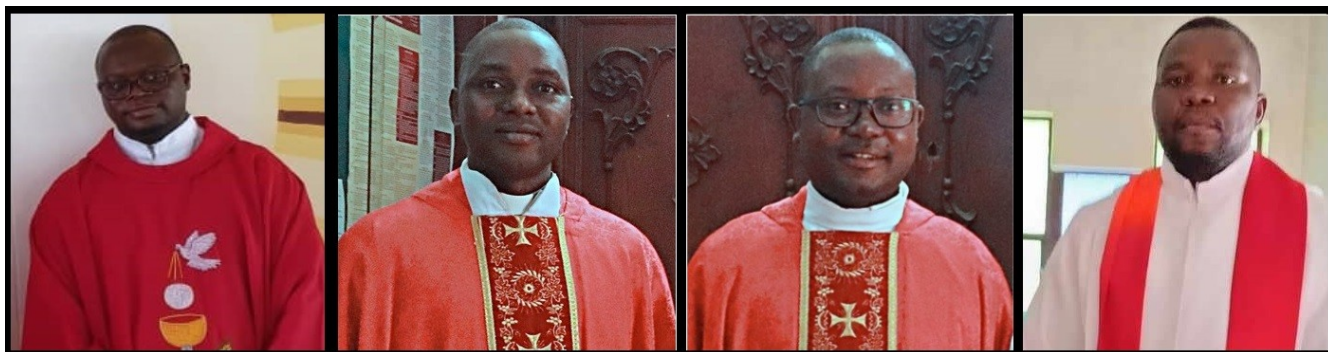


Photo from left: Chev. Rev. Fr. Joseph Sikwese/Prior, Chev. Rev. Fr. Joseph Mkinga, Chev. Rev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja and Chev. Rev. Fr. Gift Joseph Chikwapa



Chevalier Rev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja presents the certificate to the newly appointed Chevalier Rev. Fr. Gift Joseph Chikwapa.

CONFRATERNITY OF THE KNIGHTS OF ST. PETER & ST. PAUL

Grand Chapter of Malta

By Chevalier Carmel Saliba Secretary/ PR.



The Grand Chapter of Malta based in Nadur, Gozo, donated three books about the history of the Confraternity of the Knights of St Peter and St Paul Vol. 2 covering from 2017 to 2022, they were presented to Ms Elizabeth Ebejer, Director of Gozo Libraries, by the Grand Prior Joseph Meilak.

The presentation took place at the National Library in Victoria Gozo.



Those present were, from left to right, Chev. Carmel Saliba Secretary, Mr George Cassar Senior Assistant Librarian, Ms Elizabeth Ebejer, Chev. Joseph Louis Meilak Grand Prior, Chev. Michael Camilleri Cauchi Prior and Chev. Jonathan Vella Chancellor.

On 22nd November, the Confraternity in Malta organised a Mass for the late Chevalier Peter Paul Camilleri and Professor Jose Ferreira Coelho – Deputy Grand Master, along with Chevalier Guzi Zerafa and Dame Marlene Muscat and all the faithfully departed members of the Confraternity.

Mons Fr Joseph Attard assisted by Chev. Mons Joseph Cauchi celebrated the Mass at the Nadur Parish Church.

About 100 parishioners, members of the Confraternity and familiars of the lost ones, attended the Mass.



Photo from left: Chevalier Monsignor Joseph Cauchi and Monsignor Joseph Attard.



Members of the Confraternity attended the Mass for the faithfully departed members.

On 14th December, the Confraternity is organising a Christmas Mass at the Sacred Heart Church in Nadur. The Mass starts at 6.30 pm.

Afterwards, we will attend a dinner to celebrate the festive Christmas Season and the coming New Year 2024.

During December, several hampers will be distributed to the poor around Gozo and this year we will give a donation to the Life Network Foundation in Malta.

The Grand Chapter of Malta wish all the members around the World a Happy Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2024.

Ephesus Turkey

By Dr. Chevalier Michael Drebs and Dame Angie Rister

When Paul came to this cosmopolitan city around the year 53, it was already home to a small Christian community.

St. John established the first Christian community in Ephesus. He took Mary with him and it is said that John himself built the House of Mary that can be seen near Ephesus today. In 64 AD St Paul was decapitated outside the city wall of Rome. John once again took it upon himself to be the leader of the Ephesians church community. St John went around Asia Minor with St Peter to spread Christianity.



Photo: Dr. Chevalier Michael Drebs and Dame Angie Rister

The city is a missionary city of Apostle Paul.

The Council of Ephesus (also Council of Ephesus) was the third general council of the church (Third Ecumenical Council). It took place from June 22nd to July 31st 431 in the city of Ephesus in Asia Minor in the St. Mary's Church there. It was convened by the Eastern Roman Emperor Theodosius II. Around 250 clergy were present.

Documents

- Letters from Cyril (including anathematisms) and Nestorius
- Decrees confirming the Nicene Creed
- Condemnation of Nestorianism and Pelagianism
- Declaration of the Theotokos

The Council of Ephesus in 431 confirmed the use of the term Theotokos.

Theotokos, (Greek: “**God-Bearer**”), in Eastern Orthodoxy, the designation of the Virgin Mary as mother of God.



Ruins of the former St. John's Basilica in Ephesus. Photos credit to Chevalier Michael Drebs.

That is all I have for you this month.

The December issue will be a Special Christmas edition with messages for the festive season.

God bless you in St. Peter and Paul.

With every good wish.



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