

Confraternitas

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



Seat of the Confraternity: Melbourne, Vic. Australia
Website: <http://www.knightsstpeterandstpaul.com/>
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Confraternity News

Issue 157

November 2025

In nomine Patris, et Filii, et Spiritus Sancti, Amen

Grand Master's Message – November

Dear Knights and Dames,

In the month of November, we paused to remember with deep respect and affection our knights and dames who have passed away. Their dedication to the Confraternity, their service to the Church, and their example of faith continue to live on in our hearts. May they rest in eternal peace, and may their legacy inspire us to carry forward the noble mission entrusted to us.

I also extend my sincere thanks to all those who responded to my recent official letter regarding your continued interest in remaining active within the Confraternity. Your response is greatly appreciated and helps us maintain accurate records while strengthening the unity and purpose of our organisation.

For those who have not yet replied, I kindly encourage you to do so when possible. Your participation and communication ensure that the Confraternity remains vibrant, engaged, and faithful to its mission.

As we conclude this month of remembrance, let us renew our commitment to serve with the same dedication, humility, and charity shown by those who have gone before us.

May God bless you and your families.

Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli

Grand Master

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



Reflection for the month of November

By Chevalier Fr. Frank Buhagiar PE
Chaplain of the Confraternity in Melbourne



Dear Members of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul and our Friends:
Saints of November 2025.

“Let it be known to you, that this salvation from God has been sent to all people (Acts:28:28)

Pope Leo XIV Apostolic Journey to Turkey and Lebanon was organised as a BRIDGE for Interfaith Communities and all Peoples of Good Will in these countries and the International Communities.

Peace, Fraternity, Encounter, Reconciliation and, above all, unity (Ut Unum Sint) (That they may be one) (Encyclical of St Pope John Paul 11: 1995) and the promise of Our Saviour and Redeemer:” Love one another as I have loved You”

1st. November: All Saints' Day: The Saints Rejoice: “The members of the Church, God’s new people, will rejoice in their King, who is Christ (Hesychius). The Catholic Church Universal, invites us to venerate with great devotion the Saints in heaven, as we pray with HOPE for the unity and peace of your holy people on earth.

2nd. November: We remember All the Faithful Departed: “Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace Amen. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen”.

27th November: Start of the Holy Father Pope Leo XIV Apostolic Journey:” Mother Church Universal send us as caring, attentive shepherds - shepherds who know how to walk with their people, to share in their questions, anxieties and hopes; shepherds who long to be guide to their Brothers and Sisters in the faith. (Pope Leo XIV to all bishops, priests and deacons).

Turkey : Pope Leo XIV recently spoke to leaders of Christianity’s divided Churches and communities in an interfaith meeting at (Nicaea) he shared with them “ We must strongly reject the use of religion for justifying war, violence or any form of fundamentalism or fanaticism.” Pope Leo XIV and His Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew 1, as Archbishop of Constantinople, prayed, at the old site of the Church of Nicaea the ” Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed” The same creed we pray at our Sundays Eucharist.

Beirut Lebanon: Pastors, religious leaders, faith communities plus the youth; hoped that

Pope Leo XIV, visit to their motherland would give a boost to the national and regional peace process, and that his presence would help guarantee in the area their civil rights.
Lebanon welcomed Pope Leo XIV with open arms.

30th November: St. Andrew's took his brother Peter to meet with Jesus "We have found the Lord"

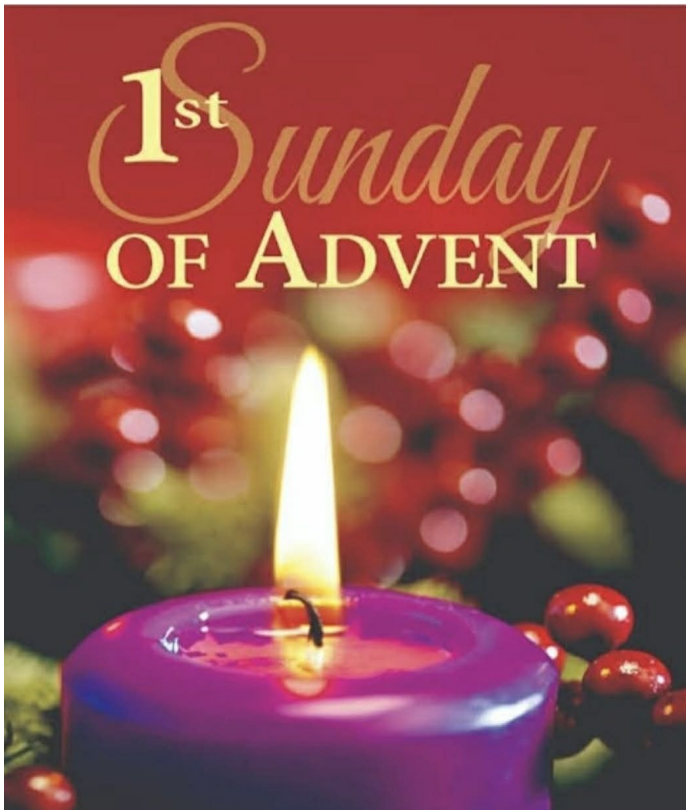
St. Andrew is a great model for all of us: Take others to meet up with Our Saviour and Redeemer by our personal witness.

Dear friends Celebrate with Joy and Devotion The Seasons of Advent-Christmas 2025 and the New Year of The Lord 2026.

Fraternally Yours in Christ.

Fr Frank Buhagiar PE

Maribyrnong 3032



Reflections on My Visit to Malta and My Fellowship with the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul

By Chevalier Rev. Fr. Joseph Moloka Sikwese, Prior of Malawi

National Pastoral Coordinator | Episcopal Conference of Malawi | Catholic Secretariat



The ten days I spent in Malta, from 10th to 20th October this year, were a deeply enriching spiritual and fraternal experience—one that strengthened my commitment as Prior for Malawi and deepened my appreciation of the universal mission of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul. In this brief article, I wish to share reflections on my visit to Malta, especially my encounters with the knights and dames of the Confraternity of Knights of St. Peter and St. Paul, whose fellowship left a lasting impact on me.

Malta remains a land profoundly shaped by Christianity, particularly through the legacy of St. Paul. This sacred heritage made my interactions with the Confraternity even more meaningful. Co-celebrating the Holy Mass at St. Peter and St. Paul's Basilica in Nadur, Gozo, and at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Gwardamanga, as well as walking through historic churches and other holy sites, reminded me of the enduring power of the Gospel and how deeply faith can transform and inspire communities across generations.

My interactions with the Confraternity members—both in Nadur, Gozo and in Gwardamanga—were uplifting. It was a true joy to share in their fellowship and witness their profound spirit of faith, humility, and charity. Their discipline and devotion to Saints Peter and Paul reflect an authentic apostolic spirit, one that every member of our Confraternity should strive to embody. The warm welcome and remarkable generosity extended to me by the knights and dames beautifully demonstrated what it means for our fraternity to be one family: united in purpose, rooted in faith, and committed to service under the patronage of Saints Peter and Paul. Such solidarity is a true expression of Christian charity and global fraternity.

I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency Chevalier Peter Portelli, Grand Master, for coordinating my visit to Malta; Chevalier Carmel Saliba, Grand Prior of Malta, for organising my programme and meeting in Gozo; Chevalier Vincenzo Marxall for coordinating my engagement at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Gwardamanga; and to all the members of the Confraternity for their openness, brotherly collaboration, prayers, and generosity. Your example has inspired me to renew my commitment to the mission and values of our Confraternity with deeper zeal.

As we continue walking together—across nations and cultures—for the advancement of the Gospel and the service of humanity, may Saints Peter and Paul guide our steps and intercede for the growth, unity, and mission of our Confraternity

Grand Chapter of Melbourne

Thursday 20 November 2025.

The Grand Chapter of Melbourne made a generous donation to the Ozanam House for the homeless people of North Melbourne.

Photo from left: Chevalier Mario Sabatini / Deputy Grand Master, Louise from Ozanam House, Dame Mimma Sabatini / Treasurer, and Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli / Grand Master.



Official Notice from the Office of the Grand Master Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul

Dear Knights and Dames,

In my recent communication, I requested that all members kindly make contact with the Office of the Grand Master to confirm your continued interest in, and participation in, the life and mission of our Confraternity. This verification is essential for maintaining accurate membership records, promoting unity, and ensuring that no Knight or Dame is ever overlooked or forgotten.

To date, only a small number of members have responded.

I must underscore the importance of this request. The strength of our Confraternity relies on the active commitment and engagement of its members. Without clear communication or visible participation from a chapter, it becomes increasingly difficult to justify its continued existence. Should there be no indication of interest from particular chapters, I will be obliged to consider their closure.

I therefore urge all Knights and Dames who have not yet responded to contact the Office of the Grand Master without delay. Your cooperation is vital to the future mission, structure, and dignity of our Confraternity.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

With sincere appreciation and blessings,



H.E. Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli

Grand Master

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

Chapter of Portugal

Paróquia de Paranhos

Porto. Portugal.

Chevalier Padre Antonio Manuel Martins PP

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



Merry Christmas to all of you.

[Watch video here: https://youtu.be/ETroNnqVMiE](https://youtu.be/ETroNnqVMiE)

Christmas Carol 2025

Lyrics and music: Fr. Manuel Martins, CM

Christmas Lights (with subtitles)

DEDICATED MEMBERS OF THE CONFRATERNITY

Chapter of Malawi

Chevalier Fr. Peter Gift Ntayamanja



Dear Grand Master,

Thank you for your email.

I write to confirm my membership and my commitment in the confraternity of St Peter and Paul.

Through this confraternity, not only me but also the people I have interacted with have received a lot of spiritual, moral and social support. I therefore cannot afford to lose my membership in the confraternity.
I remain committed,

Chapter of Canada

Chevalier Keith Clarke



Grand Master Portelli,

It is my intent and desire to remain as a member of the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul, continuing in servitude with benevolent and charitable work to support those in need.

I do appreciate receiving the communications you send out that helps to keep me informed of the confraternity's good work around the world and close the physical distance that separates us.

Chapter of Argentina

Chevalier Deacon Ricardo Dib Diocese

Prior

Dear Brothers and Sisters:



I congratulate you and share in the great work you do as a united fraternity under the patronage of Saints Peter and Paul. It is a blessing from the Lord to see you so united and enthusiastic.

From Argentina, I join you spiritually, praying for each and every one of you, for your families, projects, and development.

Fraternally, Deacon Ricardo Dib Diocese of Zárate Campana in Argentina and of the Eparchy of Saint Charbel in Buenos Aires of the Maronites in Argentina.

Chapter of Nigeria

Chevalier Emeka Polycarp Nwonyi
Prior.



Dear Your Excellency, The Grand Master,

Greetings!!! I hope this message finds you in good health and high spirits. I write to express my continued interest in and commitment to the Confraternity of the Knights of St. Peter & St. Paul.

As the head of the Priory of Nigeria, I am acutely aware of the challenges facing our community, and my nation Nigeria in general, including economic meltdown, the ongoing persecution of Christians and attacks on churches by terrorist groups etc. This situation underscores the vital role our Confraternity plays in providing support and solidarity to those in need, and I remain dedicated to furthering our mission in these trying times and ever.

Furthermore, I would like to request reliable points of contact for the mantle and other accouterments necessary for our members. This will help ensure that we maintain our commitment to the dignity and presence of our order.

Please extend my greetings and gratitude to all members of the Confraternity. I look forward to our collective efforts towards global growth, unity, and the flourishing of our values.

Thank you for your leadership and attention to these important matters.

With sincere appreciation and blessings,

[AIG NWONYI POLYCARP EMEKA Lib, PhD Psc+KSPSP]

[CHEVALIER]

Priory of Nigeria

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

Thank you to those who responded to my letter.

Messages received from:

Melbourne:

Malta:

Canada: Chevalier Keith Clarke

Malawi: Chevalier Rev. Fr. Peter Ntayamanja

Portugal: Chevalier Rev. Padre Antonio Manuel Martins PP

Kentucky, USA: Chevalier Matthew Whisman

Florida, USA: Dame Frances Behren
Berlin, Germany: Chevalier Michael Drebs - Prior
Deidesheim, Germany: Chevalier Peter Michael Neuen – Grand Prior / Deputy Grand Master
New Zealand: Chevalier Nick Pacey
Nigeria: Chevalier Emeka Polycarp Nwonyi
Argentina: Chevalier Ricardo Dib - Prior
Spain: Chevalier Andres Salvador Soto Martinez
Cyprus: Chevalier Francis Huggerty
Armenian: Chevalier Antanesyan Sahak
France: Chevalier François Maurice
Kenya: Chevalier Peter Nyambeki

Grand Chapter of Malta

By Chevalier Carmel Saliba
 Grand Prior.

REQUIEM MASS FOR THE SOULS OF THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CONFRATERNITY

Grand Chapter of Malta
 Nadur, Gozo.



On 20th November 2025, at 6.00 pm a requiem mass was held at the Franciscan Sisters Convent Chapel, in Madre Gemma Camilleri Street in Nadur.

This solemn occasion was dedicated to the souls of Chev. Peter Paul Camilleri, Chev. Guzi Zerafa, Dame Marlene Muscat and other members who served the Confraternity from around the world.

Chev. Monsignor Joseph Cauchi celebrated the Mass. After the Mass, two hampers were presented to the sisters.



Chev. Jose Ferreira Coelho Deputy G M Portugal Chev. Pedro Laranjeira Portugal Dame Marlene Muscat Nadur Gozo Chev. Joseph Zerafa Nadur Gozo Chev. Dominic Vogl Melbourne

May they rest in peace. We remember them.



Chev. Alexander McPherson Melbourne Dame Maria Colombo Melbourne Chev. Peter Paul Camilleri Nadur Gozo Chev. Sam Ignaccolo Melbourne Dame Suzy Fanjek Melbourne



1.25.

Photo: Chevalier Monsignor Rev. Joseph Cauchi celebrated the Mass for the dearly departed members of the Confraternity.



Photo Carmel Saliba 20.11.25.



Christmas Hampers for the needy

The Grand Chapter of Malta have 16 Christmas Hampers to give to the needy. Thank you to the members, the companies and the people who donated food to be distributed to the needy.

2 Hampers have already been given to the Franciscan Sisters in Nadur. More hampers need to be sorted out.

Well done to the Committee and Members of the Grand Chapter in Malta.

God bless you in St. Peter and St. Paul for the wonderful work you are doing.



CONFRATERNITY OF
THE KNIGHTS OF ST PETER & ST PAUL
GRAND CHAPTER OF MALTA

Christmas

& NEW YEAR 2026



MENU

Soup or Hors D' Ouvre

Lasagne or Ravioli or Penne Salmone

Cerna or Bragioli (no cheese, no breadcrumbs) or Stuffed Chicken

Desert

1 Drink



13 | SATURDAY
DECEMBER | AT 7.45 PM

ADULTS: €28
CHILDREN (5 - 12 YRS)*: €14

Lantern Restaurant Marsalforn

RSVP:

Chevalier Carmel Saliba

Grand Prior

Tel: 7905 1610

*Children who prefer chicken nuggets and a drink
should ask Lantern Restaurant.



Nadur Local Council Offices

North Street,
Nadur, Gozo, Malta.



Photo: Certificate of the Confraternity in the Office of the Mayor in Nadur, Gozo. Malta,

Well done and thank you to Cr. Dr. Edward Said, Mayor of Nadur.

Cr. Dr. Edward Said, Mayor pictured on the left, with Councillor Kevin Curmi

The Richness of the Catholic Faith: One Church, Many Traditions

By Chevalier Josef Camilleri



Many people believe that the Catholic Church is simply the Church of Rome, centered only on the Latin Rite and the familiar Roman Mass. However, the truth goes far deeper and broader.

The Catholic Church is not confined to one culture, language, or liturgical style. It is a worldwide communion of Churches, ancient and living, East and West, united by one faith, one baptism, and one shepherd, the Bishop of Rome, the Pope. In fact, the word “Catholic” comes from the Greek adjective καθολικός (*katholikós*), which means “universal,” “according to the whole,” or “complete.” Within this unity exists a stunning diversity of rites, spiritualities, and traditions, each expressing the same Gospel through its own sacred beauty.

One Church with Twenty-Four Traditions

The Catholic Church is a family made up of **24 self-governing Churches** (*sui iuris* - “of its own right”), all in full communion with the Pope.

The Word **apostolic** comes from the Greek ἀπόστολος (*apostolos*), meaning “one who is sent.” It refers to the **Apostles**, the twelve men whom Jesus personally chose, taught, and sent out to preach the Gospel and build the Church. It means that these churches trace **their origin directly to the Apostles** and **preserve the same faith and mission** that the Apostles received from Christ. The Greek Orthodox Churches, although not in communion with Rome, are also considered as apostolic as they were founded by the apostles directly, unlike the Protestant branches.



Each Church keeps the apostolic faith but lives it through its own liturgy, language, and heritage.

The Major Families of Rites

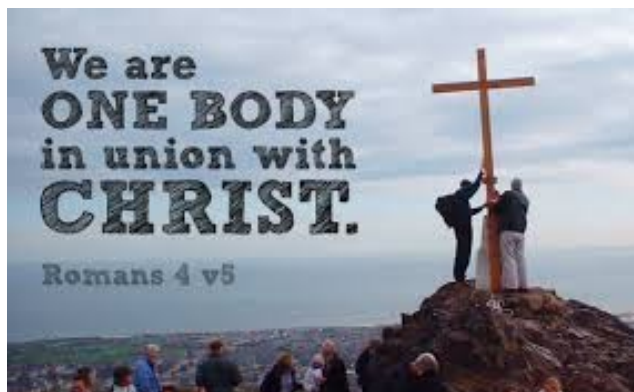
1. **Latin (Roman) Rite**
2. The most significant and widespread include the Roman Mass and ancient Western forms such as the Ambrosian and Mozarabic rites.
3. **Byzantine Rite**

4. Shared by 14 Eastern Catholic Churches, such as the **Ukrainian, Melkite, Italo-Albanian, Greek Catholic**, and others. Known for the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, rich chant, and vivid iconography.
5. **Alexandrian Rite**
6. Flourishing mainly in Africa, used by the **Coptic Catholic, Ethiopian, and Eritrean Catholic Churches**.
7. **Antiochene (West Syrian) Rite**
8. Rooted in ancient Syria, followed by the **Maronite, Syriac Catholic, and Syro-Malankara Catholic Churches**.
9. **Chaldean (East Syrian) Rite**
10. Descended from the early Mesopotamian Church, used by the **Chaldean Catholic and Syro-Malabar Catholic Churches**.
11. **Armenian Rite**
12. Preserved by the **Armenian Catholic Church**, reflecting the deep Christian heritage of Armenia, the first nation to embrace Christianity.

Unity in Diversity

Though these Churches may differ in vestments, music, and languages, they are united in what truly matters:

- The same Creed,
- The same seven sacraments,
- The same successor of Peter as their visible head.
-



Each Church has its own bishops, traditions, and local governance, yet all form one universal Catholic communion. This diversity mirrors the early Christian world, where the Gospel took root in many cultures; Jerusalem, Antioch, Alexandria, Rome, and Constantinople, all proclaiming the same Christ in their own tongue.

A Symphony of Worship

The Eastern Catholic liturgies are treasures of beauty and theology. Their **chant, incense, and icons** draw the worshipper into mystery and awe, proclaiming the same Gospel through sight, sound, and symbol.

The **Latin Church**, by contrast, expresses the same faith with its own noble simplicity and universality.

Together, they form a **symphony of worship** — different instruments, one melody of praise.

Breathing with Both Lungs

Pope St. John Paul II once said that the Church must “**breathe with her two lungs — East and West.**”



The Western Church emphasises clarity, order, and mission; the Eastern Churches emphasise contemplation, beauty, and mystery. Together they reveal the full heartbeat of Catholic life, reason and mysticism, Word and icon, doctrine and wonder.

One Faith, Many Expressions

The Catholic Church is like a great cathedral with many chapels: each decorated differently, yet all built around the same altar — **Christ Himself**.

Whether one prays the Rosary or the Jesus Prayer, attends the Roman Mass or the Divine Liturgy, all belong to the same household of faith, nourished by the same Eucharist, and guided by the same Holy Spirit.

This is the true richness of Catholicism: a unity that cherishes diversity, a Church that is universal yet personal, ancient yet ever new.



“In essentials, unity; in non-essentials, diversity; in all things, charity.” — *St. Augustine*

This is all I have for you this month.

I hope that you find the November newsletter interesting.

God bless you in St. Peter and St. Paul.

Have a blessed Advent,

With every good wish.



Chevalier Peter Paul Portelli
Grand Master
CKSPP
Melbourne, Australia.