

the Order of Malta

Federal Association, U.S.A.



2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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President's Message

In the first chapter of John's gospel, we learn of how the first disciples began to follow Christ. John and Andrew came to know Jesus through John the Baptist. Andrew found his brother Simon Peter and led him to Jesus. Andrew then found another man from his town named Philip who found Nathaniel and invited him to come and see the Christ. Jesus invited these men, "Come follow me." Those who met Jesus called others to join them. And this was how the Church grew.

In the same way, we in the Order of Malta have been introduced to a 900-year-old community whose mission is to follow Christ in serving the poor and the sick. And we in turn, through connections in our parishes, our communities and our work places, are called to invite others to pray and serve with us, opening the door to others to consider making a commitment to a life-long vocation with the Order of Malta.

This past year we invited and invested 59 new members into our Order, and our members have sponsored a record number of applicants to enter formation through our Association. Among the applicants are men and women from three new developing regions as we introduce the Order into neighboring dioceses of our territory.

Ordinarily prospective members are first introduced to the local region where they see a loving community that binds service with a deep spiritual life. That first impression may come at a healing mass where our members accompany the sick to be anointed by our chaplains. It may be at a home for single mothers where members provide fellowship and support to those awaiting birth, or at a

clinic as a doctor attends to a homeless man's ailing feet. Or it may occur at regional masses and prayer meetings where they grow spiritually through our members' sharing of their reflections.

As candidates move through formation they are introduced more fully into our Association—formation weekend, retreats, investiture activities, pilgrimages and the many service projects in our regions. This annual report provides a summary of the Association's activities, projects and resources. These would not be possible without the dedicated leadership of all those engaged in the local regions, the excellent work of the committees and the oversight of the Association's board and officers, all supported by a staff that excel professionally and are always welcoming.

This past year has brought some sadness and frustration to us in the Church, but as I traveled to the regions of our Association, accompanied our members on pilgrimage and participated in international meetings in Rome, I have been encouraged by our members who are extraordinarily dedicated—thoroughly involved in serving those in need, and deeply committed to our faith, our Church and the Holy Father.

I am so grateful for the opportunity of serving as your president. These have been a wonderful and joy-filled four years. May God bless you all.

Margaret Melady, GCM
President



Spiritual Life

Vice President's Report on Spirituality

Fra' Tom Mulligan, Vice President

Over the past few years there has been a successful effort to intertwine the spiritual with our hospitaller works. The spiritual aspect of who we are and what we are doing as a religious Order must lay a solid foundation for our response to the needs of others. If not, it would not take long to see that those works, nice and necessary as they are, would be, quoting Grand Master Fra' Andrew Bertie, not much more than “nice people doing nice things for people in need”. There has been a conscious commitment made by our Federal Association Hospitaller along with our Regional Hospitallers to strengthen the spiritual life of our members. This commitment as well as the efforts of the Vice President in his role to oversee all spiritual aspects within the Association has made a noticeable and tangible difference in everything that we do as a community in response to the needs of others.

One of the realities that came to light while leading the International Working Group on Formation this past year is that there are several aspects that influence each individual's faith foundation. Some may have not had any further exposure to the Faith since their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. Others may have had only limited college or postgraduate exposure, or maybe nothing at all to deepen our relationship with God. This creates a vague understanding,

uncomfortable situations and difficulties in living our Catholic Faith beyond attending Mass and keeping the Commandments. This is a reality for many Catholics. What can be done to strengthen our Faith, given this reality and other variables like one's limited time, attention span, as well as personal and professional responsibilities. In what ways can we make the material interesting, thought provoking and an integral part of our lives? This continues to be a work in progress for all of us.

There was a very positive response to our Association Spirituality Committee for its work and publication of the Lourdes companion guides which served to deepen one's pilgrimage experience. Moreover, the preparation of monthly reflections encompassing the entire year in the Called by the Lord initiative has been an effort meant to encourage regional discussions as well as foster an individual effort to give each monthly topic some deeper thought. Such extra thought and reflection effort, if it can be achieved in a large segment of our membership, will be a significant achievement. The initiative has been applauded by our chaplains as a very effective means of making a difference in the life of the regions and individual lives of our members.

The Formation Committee has endeavored to continuously improve our formation process year after year. We now have a weekend retreat environment, which helps everyone to get to know their fellow classmates as well as meet attending Knights and Dames, while providing a better understanding of the life of the Federal Association that they are joining. This approach has served to orient the new candidates better

towards understanding the many aspects of who we are as the Order of Malta and reserving time for praying together.

Our Chaplains are now offered the opportunity and encouraged to attend the Formation Weekend to provide them with a better understanding of our Order and Association as well. Chaplains are also invited to come together in a biennial overnight “chaplains only” retreat that seeks to accomplish similar goals as the Formation Weekend but also provides a setting to advance fellowship among our spiritual guides.

The Defense of the Faith Committee has continued to offer presentations that better prepare us for the nurturing, preserving, teaching, witnessing and defending our Faith both for ourselves and for those we encounter in our everyday lives.

And Retreats and Days of Recollection, which are strongly encouraged in the Order's Constitution and Code, have been made more available by offering a variety of cities and dates across the regions. Everyone is busy, and the thought of getting away for those hours seems impossible until the commitment is made to invest in ourselves, discovering that in the end that no one ever regrets the satisfaction felt for having attended.

All these actions within our Federal Association have collectively worked to reinforce the purpose of the Order, the “promotion of the glory of God through the sanctification of its members, service to the Faith and to the Holy Father and assistance to one's neighbor”.

There is a remarkable quality that marks the members of our Federal Association. In part, it is the result of the efforts

to strengthen, through a continuous formation, the faith foundation in each one of us, as well as our Regions acting in concert as one Association in this worldwide Order of Malta. When we take our formation seriously, realizing that it is an ongoing or continuous process and journey, we better experience that our works are brought to a new, grace-filled level as corporate members of the Church, the Mystical Body of Christ. This understanding helps to build a strong community life and strengthens our commitment to regularly work together in a wide variety of ways to serve the needs of the sick, the poor and the incarcerated. It also provides a better example for those we interact with daily in our family or work environment.

Our response to our vocation is not a lofty one. We are simply to live the mandate we read in the gospel of Luke where the crowds asked John the Baptist “what should we do?” The tax collectors were told to collect only what is due, and the soldier is told not to practice extortion, nor falsely accuse anyone, but be satisfied with his wages. (Luke 3:10-18) In other words, just be the people God wills us to be and we will find holiness in our everyday life. We can find holiness in the way we treat others and the way we treat our God. If we make that effort, which is not as easy as it sounds, we need to try to live our lives in the best way possible by striving to be the person God intends us to be. Living our lives in the framework of a member of this Order of Malta will help us reach that goal if we are willing to make the effort.



2018 Hospitaller Report

Bob Signorelli, KMOB, Association Hospitaller

Over the year 2018 the Federal Association started new projects, increased membership, and expanded spiritual activities. The regional hospitallers gathered twice to discuss these efforts.

At our spring meeting, held during Formation Weekend in Washington, DC, the hospitallers heard presentations from the Columbus, Hartford, and Northern Virginia regions and from Federal Association committees on communications, grants, Lourdes, finance, and prison ministry.

At our fall meeting, held during Investiture Weekend, we heard from the Baltimore and Southern Maryland regions, from committees on auxiliary, spirituality, prison, finance, and Lourdes, and from the Global Fund for Forgotten People, which raises awareness and financial support for works of the Order throughout the world.

We entered 2018 with 29 regions plus three in development. Among local leadership, nine hospitallers commenced their three-year terms at the 2018 Investiture Weekend.

All the regions devote themselves to three priorities: spirituality; membership development, which includes educating current members and recruiting new ones; and works, as expressed in various projects.

Spirituality

All regions are required to gather for monthly Masses as well as Masses for the sanctity of life, the feast of St. John the Baptist, and deceased members.

Regions are further encouraged to have Masses for Christmas, anointing and healing, and the Lourdes Pilgrimage, and to put on Lenten and Advent reflections and monthly Holy Hours, all accompanied by receptions or dinners with members and guests.

Several regions have implemented a Wednesday evening text to pray for members and others close to the Order who are in need. The Divine Office is prayed in regions at different times, depending on the region.

Membership Development

Every member has the obligation to invite persons they believe are qualified to join the Order. We all know Catholics who would be good candidates. All it takes is a simple “yes” from someone to change their lives for the better. This is truly a great road to sanctification. The Federal Association ended 2018 with 1,070 members, of whom 59 were invested in October.

In addition to recruiting, regions are charged with education of members. In many regions, this may take the form of defense of the faith presentations and forums studying the Bible, books related to our faith, and regulations and commentary of the Order.

Works and Projects

Without great projects, particularly projects where members work together, it’s difficult to bring in new members. Regions are encouraged at each hospitallers meeting to evaluate current projects for relevance to the community and our members’ interest. New projects are encouraged, particularly Order-owned and operated projects where we enlist partners and volunteers are highly encouraged. The hospitallers have a template for how to do that.

The chart below shows the 29 regions and their aggregate projects averaging almost four per region. We serve more than 60,000 people in need. More than 60 percent of our members are active in our projects, joined by some 400 auxiliary, family members, friends, volunteers working together.

Projects	# of Regions
Food Kitchens	20
Support of Homeless	16
Nursing Homes & Visitation	14
Prison Ministry	10
Elderly Care	10
Food Distribution	8
Anointing Masses	8
Defense of Faith	7
Home Rebuilding	7
Communion to Hospitals	6
Uninsured Clinics	6
Pregnancy Help	4
Children’s Homes	2
V.A. Participation	2
Mobile Medical Vans	2
Lourdes Items	2
Medical Supplies	2
Radio Programming	1

Our mission is to have all regions work in an entrepreneurial fashion to promote the three goals of our association: spirituality, membership development, and works for those in need. We do this in an environment of a family that does good work together, prays together, socializes together, and someday meets in heaven together.

On a personal note, I am thankful for having the opportunity to serve as your Federal Association hospitaller for the past six years. It has been a wonderful and humbling experience working with the finest, most generous, caring people I know. Thank you for allowing me to serve.



2018 Treasurer's Report

Peter Scudner, KM, Association Treasurer

I am pleased to report that the Federal Association had positive financial results in 2018 as a result of prudent expense management and successful fund raising. This presentation is an excerpt from the Audited Financial Statements. The presentation shows an overview of our financial activities for the year and includes some adjustments to more clearly present the information.*

The Association's staff managed our expenses and the endowment campaign effectively, resulting in net income of over \$1.4 million. This includes \$1.3 million received towards the Lourdes Endowment Campaign. Investment values declined at year-end resulting in a \$281,000 unrealized loss which has subsequently been recovered. One-time fundraising costs contributed to the \$123,000 loss in net income before contributions. The Administrative budget had approximately \$200,000 cash gain, which will be added to reserves. Year-end investment accounts were approximately \$6.2 million, with \$2.9 million in the Blessed Gerard fund and \$3.2 million in the Lourdes Endowment.

The Association had expenses for the year of approximately \$3.5 million. An effort is made to match the sources of revenue to the relevant expense items. For example, we spent approximately \$1.3 million to manage the office and make assessment payments to Rome, which is paid for by dues of approximately \$1.5 million. The other major expense items are the Lourdes Pilgrimage, which costs approximately \$1 million and is paid for by fees and donations, and Grants to regional and international projects, which are funded by the Annual Stewardship Appeal of approximately \$800,000. The balance is spent on Investiture and other spiritual and domestic activities.

Additional details are available in our Audited Financial Statements, which are available on the Federal Association website.



2018 Financial Report—Based on Audited Financial Statements

Federal Association:

Income:		Expenses:	
Dues & Passage Fees, net	\$ 1,582,640	Operations/Administration	\$ 949,457
Committees	114,765	Assessments to SMOM	324,348
Merchandise Sales - Net Cost of Sales	3,242	Committees/Other	431,701
Administrative Sub-Total	<u>\$ 1,700,647</u>	Administrative Sub-Total	<u>\$ 1,705,506</u>
Events/Spiritual Activities	58,866	Events/Spiritual Activities	82,603
Investiture	143,635	Investiture	207,579
Lourdes Pilgrimage *	999,926	Lourdes Pilgrimage	1,031,675
Domestic Programs *	1,000	Domestic Programs	-
Events/Activities Sub-Total	<u>\$ 1,203,427</u>	Events/Activities Sub-Total	<u>\$ 1,321,857</u>
		<i>Subtotal - Net Income Before Contributions, Investment Income, & Grants Committee</i>	<u>\$ (123,289)</u>
Charitable Giving		Grants/Hospitaller Program	
Annual Appeal	780,044	Grants Committee*	542,900
Lourdes Trust	1,342,482		
Split interest agreements & planned giving	290,434		
Charitable Giving Sub-Total	<u>\$ 2,412,960</u>		
Other Non-operating			
Investment Income (loss)	(281,524)	Association Expense	<u>\$ 3,570,263</u>
Association Revenue & Support	<u>\$ 5,035,510</u>	Association Net Income	<u>\$ 1,465,247</u>

Investments— Ass'n & Lourdes Endowment Trust

Operating Account	\$ 10
Malta House (DC) Fund	95,216
Lourdes Fund	3,225,644
Blessed Gerard Fund	2,874,371
Total Investment Accounts	<u>\$ 6,195,241</u>

* A grant of \$150,000 was designated for the Lourdes Pilgrimage and \$25,000 was designated for Prison Ministry from the annual appeal. These internal grants receive different accounting treatment per GAAP than the grants to third parties called External Grants. Differences in timing of the Annual Stewardship Appeal contributions and the grant distributions expense over two calendar years results in variations on the annual income statement that smooth out on a multi-year basis.

New Members Welcomed at Investiture Weekend

Christine A. Kettmer, DM, Investiture Committee Chair



On the third weekend in October of 2018, 59 new members were welcomed into the Federal Association of the Order of Malta. Once again, several of the Investiture activities occurred at the historic Mayflower Hotel and St. Matthew's Cathedral in Washington, DC.

Events commenced Friday with the annual members meeting and luncheon, where János Count Esterházy de Galántha, Order of Malta Official Receiver of the Common Treasure, spoke and conveyed greetings from Grand Master Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto.

New members of the Federal Association board of directors were announced and reports were also presented on the various hospitaller regions. In addition, association President Margaret Melady, DM, shared her report, and was recognized for her accomplishments and contributions during her term in office.

Later that afternoon, the Rev. Robert J. Spitzer, S.J., a renowned author and scholar of faith, science and philosophy, delivered the Defense of the Faith Forum address, which was followed by a delightful cocktail reception.

On Saturday morning, the apostolic nuncio of the United States, Archbishop Christophe Pierre, celebrated the Investiture Mass and Ceremony.

Here, new members promised to faithfully call on the name of God, always bear witness to the Catholic faith, and lead their lives in accordance with the teachings of the Church. They declared themselves ready to care for our lords the sick and poor, and to obey the constitution of the Order of Malta with fidelity and diligence.

The Solemn Liturgy of Investiture was a beautiful and moving event, under the direction of Fra' Thomas Mulligan, Investiture Mass master of ceremonies and Msgr. James D. Watkins, magistral chaplain and ecclesiastical master of ceremonies.

After the Mass, Arina O. Grossu, DM, who was invested in the 2018 ceremony, shared her thoughts: "It is an honor and a privilege to be a part of one of the oldest religious orders in the Catholic Church, whose mission it is to defend the faith entrusted to us by our Lord and to serve our sick, poor and needy brothers and sisters. For me, being a Dame of Malta is a call to greater fidelity to our Lord, and to leadership, courage, generosity, and service to his Church and all the people she serves."

Members and their friends and families regrouped for the luncheon back at the Mayflower Hotel. There, the Cross of Grand Officer pro Merito Melitensi was awarded to Gregory J. Granitto, KM, and the pro Merito Melitensi awarded to William Buttarazzi, Jacquelyn S. Gallagher, DMOB, Charles A. Mifsud, II, KM; Frank E. Schmidt, KM, and John P. Shine, Sr., KM.

President's Awards were given to Margaret P. Sullivan, DM, Barbara Knollmann-Ritschel, DM, Clarion E. Johnson, KM, Daniel V. Young, KM, Cara A. Aghajanian, DM, Andrea Wilkinson, DM, Colleen Akers, DM, and Steven G. Marget, KM, for their contributions and dedication to the Order's mission and programs.

The weekend culminated in the Gala Reception and Annual Dinner Saturday night at the Library of Congress.

During the Annual Dinner, on behalf of the Grand Master Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, János Count Esterházy de Galántha awarded Margaret Melady with the prestigious Grand Cross of Magistral Grace in recognition of her outstanding service to the Federal Association and the Order of Malta.

Throughout the evening, members and their guests recognized the accomplishments of the past year and continued the celebrations to welcome the class of 2018. The Library of Congress proved to be a spectacular venue for this event, with Hugh Dempsey, KMOB, expertly overseeing the dinner committee and details.

Brandon Brown, KM, invested in this year's ceremony, expressed his appreciation of the experience, saying, "Investiture Weekend was an amazing experience. The whole time I felt like I was being welcomed into a new family. Becoming a knight of the Order of Malta has changed my life and has pushed me to be a better person spiritually and physically, and with a giving heart."

The Investiture Committee would like to recognize the collaboration and partnership of so many individuals who helped make this weekend a success.

A tremendous thank you to all of the volunteers, team members and staff; Deacon Michael Stankewicz, for his guidance and insight; and Margaret Melady, for her leadership and support.

Please note: the 2019 Investiture Weekend is scheduled for September 27-28 in Washington, DC.



Lourdes Pilgrimage—2018

Jeff Ludwig, KM, Pilgrimage Hospitaller

The Federal Association completed the largest pilgrimage we've undertaken over the past 40 years. Among the 375 pilgrims making the May 2-9 journey in 2018 were 48 malades and 59 companions from 17 hospitaller regions, 15 auxiliary, 32 physicians, 23 nurses, 20 chaplains, and 37 new members fulfilling their pilgrimage obligations.

The 2018 Lourdes Medical Committee received 120 applications for pilgrimage, a 67 percent increase over previous years. The medical team, consisting of 25 physicians, seven nurses and various administrative members, conducted malade interviews in Houston and Baltimore, screening and selecting 48 malades.

The Lourdes Committee expanded our outreach to the malade applicants we were unable to bring with us to Lourdes. Individual silver Malta Crosses were created for each applicant and blessed at our Mass at the grotto. Malades who were with us in Lourdes were presented with their medals there and those

who could not join us were presented their medals upon our return.

This year we launched a model program for outreach to the poor in Washington, led by Barbara Knollmann-Ritschel, DM. Members worked with pastors from some of the poorest parishes in Washington to identify potential candidates, enabling us to bring two malades and their companions with us on the pilgrimage. The Houston Region will expand on this program for the 2019 pilgrimage.

Our journey in faith this year started well with the assistance of the airport authorities in Baltimore and in Tarbes. Our friends at the Panorama, St. Sauvier, and the Moderne hotels provided warm hospitality. Our team leaders and assistant leaders worked hard with their teams to lovingly care for our malades and their companions. The renovations and restoration work at the grotto, the baths, and the prairie were complete, adding to the beauty and serenity of the Domaine.

Our visit to the countryside, to Cauterets, was the best ever. The town leaders worked with our advance team, and after a wonderful Mass in an ancient church we gathered in a beautiful old hall on the town square where we were welcomed by the mayor and serenaded by a local Pyrenees folk group. We enjoyed a light lunch of local Basque food and drink. The afternoon ended in the great hall south of Lourdes where everyone was able to dine together and enjoy the talent show.

It is always a great joy and blessing to serve our beloved malades. It is uplifting as our malades become comfortable with their teams and to witness a true connection that is established through prayer in community. Our pilgrims continue to observe that in serving our lords the malades for a week we receive great grace that allows us to live our vows in a very real way.



Lourdes Pilgrimage-2018 continued

My Pilgrimage to Lourdes Holy Waters: Healing of Tears

by Jennifer Lieu, 2018 Lourdes Malade



*I am strong, in control, driven- and tears I do not show
But on April 25, 17 that changed and drops began to flow
Don't cry unless your actively bleeding, I drill into my daughter and son
I can't even follow my own rule anymore as I sit there feeling stunned*

*Diagnosis- Breast Cancer! How can it be? I am that one out of eight?
What happens now, what lessons to be learned and what will be my fate?
Friends and family send prayer cards, meals, an outpour of concern
An overwhelming array of emotions follow me as I make each turn*

*A big rush- labs, tests, procedures, treatments, infusions- all must start
Little did I know what would come next or who would touch my heart
At first Chemo, an angel spoke of a sanctuary to be with the Blessed Mother
A pilgrimage to Lourdes, a spiritual journey like there is no other*

*I went for the interview repeating "don't cry" over and over again
A dame took my hand and assured me that my heart would surely mend
She said "Tears are Our Lord's little graces when we can't put our feeling into words"
That "they were tears of love, frailty, hope"- that was the kindest thing I ever heard*

*The most wonderful news came shortly after, I had been selected
Virgin Mary called me to her sacred place so I could be protected?
Time to get centered, spiritually prepared- Novenas I would say
Lourdes Diary, Reflection Guide and Many Ways to Pray*

*On the charter flight, praying the rosary like a vision from a dream
In unison- a community of sick, volunteers, and companions within teams
The voiture- a blue cart- practical, symbolic the malades here are escorted
So ironic, 23 years as the nurse, caregiver, practitioner- not the one to be supported*

*Members of the Order from all over the world gather at International Basilica Mass
Mosaic of faces at different ages, a breathtaking scene, so incredible and vast
Our Lady of Lourdes, St Bernadette, Order of the Malta- please pray for us this week
Help us to receive the physical and spiritual healing that we all desperately seek*

*Next day, I am to approach the Bath with confidence and grace
I close my eyes, say a prayer, and immerse myself into this sacred place
The reason I've come from so far away is now so crystal clear
My spirit refreshed, soul is cleansed, and alleviation from my fear*

*Marian candlelight procession, joyous praise where devotion is surreal
A portal to heaven somehow on earth- excitement you can feel
Stations of the Cross, Anointing of the Sick, Sacrament of Reconciliation
Paradox of pain and suffering in union with Christ is a key to our salvation*

*Days have past, it's time to rest with a talent show and French countryside tour
Juxtaposition to the Cadot were Bernadette lived cramped, hungry, filthy poor
To knights, dames, doctors, nurses, volunteers, especially the Turquoise Team
Thank you is not enough to express my gratitude- my friend, my rock and beam*

*This gift I feel is so intense and addicting like a drug I want each year
Perhaps this journey was given to me so that I can volunteer?
Role reversal, the patient becomes the servant, can that be God's will?
Love more deeply, forgive more quickly, perfect my strengths and skill*

*Malade- "Beloved of Christ and of the Order- this pilgrimage's heart and soul"
A living, breathing charism where each member lives out this goal
The Order's premise is simply beautiful- service and unconditional love
Compassion, Friendship, Mercy - Hands of Christ sent down from up above*

*The Grotto at Massabielle is Holy Ground where my tears have all been restored
To reflect, rest, find Our Lady in my heart and experience our Risen Lord*



Bishop William G. Curlin, Apostle of the Poor and the Sick

Henry Lane Hull, KGDOb

Over the course of the Federal Association's history one of the most beloved members was the late Chaplain, Bishop William Curlin of Charlotte, North Carolina, who died at the age of 90 on December 23, 2017. His work with the Order began in the 1970s, long before he became a member, when he served as the spiritual director for the late Fra' George Lasocki during his period of formation prior to taking his vows as a Knight of Justice in 1982. At the time Bishop Curlin was still a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington, having been ordained by Archbishop, later Cardinal, Patrick A. O'Boyle in 1957. In 1988 St. John Paul II appointed him an Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, and in 1994 he became the Bishop of Charlotte. The following year he was received as a Conventual Chaplain *ad honorem* of the Order.

As a newly ordained priest, Father Curlin's first assignment, from 1957 to 1964, was as a curate at St. Gabriel's Church in Washington, D.C. St. Gabriel's was founded in 1919 by the Rev. John M. McNamara, whom Pope Pius XI appointed as an Auxiliary Bishop of Baltimore in 1927. In building the new church in the English Countryside Gothic style, Bishop McNamara added a niche, which remained vacant, in the exterior wall for the placement of a statue of Mother Elizabeth Seton. He began the cause for her canonization, which he promoted for more than 30 years. He lived to see her be declared venerable in 1959, at which time he installed her statue in the niche.

Bishop McNamara had a profound influence on the young Father Curlin, who often quoted him in his sermons. When the bishop died in 1960, Father Curlin oversaw his funeral arrangements at St. Gabriel's. Initially, the neighborhood around St. Gabriel's had been filled with middle-class residents in the vicinity of Grant Circle in Northwest Washington, but over the years the population changed, and the parish became home to many of the city's poor. Father Curlin was present for much of that period of transition; thereafter, concern and care for the poor became a focus of his priestly ministry, which prepared him well for his future work as a Chaplain of the Order of Malta.

The influence of Bishop McNamara, who ordained more than 2,200 priests in the course of his episcopal ministry, was significant in many respects. One included in that number of ordinands was the late Chaplain of the Federal Association, Msgr. W. Louis Quinn, whom he ordained in 1945. Of all American bishops, only Cardinal James Gibbons ordained more priests than Bishop McNamara.

Until Pope Pius XII established the separate Archdiocese of Washington in 1947, followed by the arrival of Archbishop Patrick A. O'Boyle as its first resident Archbishop the following year, Bishop McNamara was the only resident bishop in the nation's capital. Reputedly, he declined to accept transfers to other dioceses as he did not want to leave the people of St. Gabriel's who were in need of his ministry. His concern for the poor of Washington, whom he always saw in the context of the abundant wealth in other parts of the city, was a great inspiration to Father Curlin.

Later in his own episcopal career, Bishop Curlin became the great friend and supporter of St. Teresa of Calcutta. He was a major proponent of the Missionaries of Charity, opening the Gift of Peace home in Washington for those afflicted by AIDS.

Later as bishop of Charlotte he welcomed St. Teresa for a visit to the city and the founding of a convent for her sisters to do their work there. Upon St. Teresa's death in 1997, he travelled to India to participate in her funeral liturgies. As a Chaplain of the Federal Association, Bishop Curlin participated in many of the pilgrimages to Lourdes, enjoying the company of the malades, remarking that at Lourdes everyone is a malade coming to seek Our Lady's intercession.

Bishop Curlin's life and work can be encapsulated in the often-repeated quotation he heard as a young priest from Bishop McNamara: "What I have given away is mine to keep forever." He was with Bishop McNamara when he died, and reported his last words as, "Come Lord Jesus." That phrase best describes Bishop Curlin's own life and work for the coming of the Lord.

Requiescat in pace!

Grants 2018

Don Patteson, KM, Grants Committee Chair

The letter of James admonishes us: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding ourselves." (Ja 1:22) And: "For just as a body without a spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead." (Ja 2:26) As members of this 900-year-old religious order, we understand these admonitions well, and it is beautiful to see the fruit of our understanding in our actions around the world and especially in our local regional projects. Members of the Federal Association demonstrate their care for our lords the sick and the poor in two important ways—by giving generously of our treasure in response to the Annual Stewardship Appeal and by giving generously of our time and talents in direct service to those in need, both locally and internationally.

Among our grants criteria and policies, perhaps the seminal one is that our grants monies must follow our hands. In other words, we give priority to grant applications from programs and ministries in which our members are deeply involved as volunteers directly serving the sick and the poor. This policy has a two-fold benefit. First, it strongly supports those local organizations that provide us with opportunities to fulfill our charism of serving the sick and the poor. And second, it encourages our members to find ways to be hands-on in ministries they care about so the organization or program may qualify for a significant grant. Other considerations, such as program sustainability, financial need and prior success in serving the needy are also applied in the Grants Committee's rigorous grant application review process.

In 2018, members of the Federal Association submitted grant applications with requests totaling almost \$300,000. Fortunately, with funds available from the Annual Stewardship Appeal, the Grants Committee was able to recommend that the board of directors fund all 12 grant applications that met the criteria. Of these, 11 were made to projects in 10 regions throughout the country and one was a grant to complete funding for the next medical mission to Nicaragua when it becomes safe for our volunteers to return to that country.

Other programs receiving grants this year include support for the medical care provided to the indigent by the Hartford Malta House of Care, equipment for My Sister's Place in Baltimore, badly needed new handicap-equipped beds and scales for the Little Sisters of the Poor, also in Baltimore, and



money to buy a new a vehicle and other needed items for L'Arche in Washington, DC. It is wonderful to see how many of our members, candidates and auxiliary are actively involved in these ministries.

The Kansas City Region uses a grant to fund the roof repair of homes for 100 impoverished elderly, employing ex-offenders re-entering the workforce. And the Catholic Distance University program launched last year continues to grow, providing Edovo tablets for Catholic education programs reaching as many as 33,000 inmates. One of the new exciting projects in the Chicago Region is funding for a large dining/meeting room for a Catholic-sponsored community center in an impoverished neighborhood. Your donations also funded strong, safe bunk beds for a homeless shelter in Lawrence, Kansas, medical equipment for a home for the disabled in Belmont, North Carolina, and additional medical capabilities for a respite care facility in Potomac, Maryland.

It is a blessing to serve on the Grants Committee and see how our members' generosity (both financial and hands-on volunteering) is helping so many in need so profoundly. In addition, our members give untold amounts of direct financial support to the local projects in which they are involved. We on the committee experience the joy of the very real and present witness of our members in service.

More than once in the Gospels, Jesus tells the apostles that he came not to be served but to serve. We in the Federal Association can take great solace in our members' commitment to following the way that Jesus taught and lived.

The Order of Malta Center of Care

Chuck Mifsud, KM

The year 2018 was a great one for the Order of Malta Center of Care, which was started to allow members to carry out our charism of Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum. It is the signature work of the Columbus Region.

Staffed by members of the Order, the clinic operates from the second floor of the parish hall at Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church, above a soup kitchen and food pantry that serves more than 250 meals a day in one of the poorest areas in the state, with high unemployment and one of the highest infant mortality rates. Mainly operating as a free clinic providing health care free of charge to any patient, it is funded totally from donations.

Volunteers at the clinic include members of the Order of Malta, the Catholic Medical Association, other medical professionals, medical students, a dentist, and members of the Columbus Holy Rosary-St. John Church community. Volunteers assist with medical intake forms, obtaining vital signs, vision exams, other tasks as needed by the medical professionals, and being present for people.

Patients come for evaluation and treatment of diabetes, hypertension, asthma, bronchitis, flu shots, primary foot care

and dental care. In addition, many homeless men come not for medical care, but in search of basic supplies. Clinic volunteers have responded by handing out bags and backpacks filled with hygiene supplies, toiletries, socks and gloves. In 2018, there were more than 500 patient visits, and more than 600 homeless people receiving supplies. Also that year, we had 51 volunteers, including 10 members or candidates, who donated more than 1,500 volunteer hours. This total doesn't even include the other members of the Order who have volunteered countless hours on both our board of directors and on our steering committee.

Entering its second year of serving the community, the clinic has major plans to expand. Throughout 2018, doctors have been available at the clinic to treat the sick and the poor on every Thursday of the month. Starting in January of 2019, the clinic will be adding one Saturday a month to its hours. Demolition has finished and construction will soon commence on two additional exam rooms (bringing the total to four exam rooms), as well as an entirely new dental suite with the capacity to perform all routine dental procedures on our patients. Additionally, the Order is planning to start a prenatal care program for expectant mothers and to offer early childhood health care services, all in hopes of lowering the infant mortality rate in the area.

The Order of Malta Center of Care has undertaken other projects that fit our charism of serving the sick and the poor. We continued our sandwich-making project, which uses the meeting space at the clinic to prepare 500 sandwiches each time to be distributed to the homeless by the staff of St. Joseph Cathedral. On Holy Thursday, volunteers washed the feet of clinic patients. And in August, our volunteers once again attended the annual Book Bag Giveaway at Holy Rosary-St. John. Annually, the parish gives out free book bags full of school supplies to needy families with children in the parish. The Order of Malta Center of Care gave away first aid kits to all who attended. On August 24, to mark the one-year anniversary of the clinic, the clinic held an open house that was attended by more than 25 people. Volunteer of the Year Awards were given to three people in recognition for their service to the clinic.

In November, the clinic held its first Hospitaller's Dinner to raise funds to benefit the clinic. Giving the keynote address

was Thomas F. Madden, a professor of history and director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies at St. Louis University. "The Knights of Malta ... are usually studied for their military activities," he said, and went on to draw a parallel between the Order's service today and 500 years ago. "However, their original purpose was to care for the holy poor. ... So the hospital was at the core of their mission from the beginning, and although the times changed, they never lost their original purpose. And this mission of the hospitallers has endured in an unbroken fashion to this day. From their establishment during the Middle Ages to their works in modern times, they have always been committed to the service of the poor themselves." The dinner was a great success in raising both funds and awareness.

To learn more about the Center of Care, visit www.centerofcare.org, or follow the clinic on Facebook. More importantly, please pray for us, so that in 2019, the Order of Malta Center of Care can expand its services and help even more of the sick and poor, the homeless and working-poor families in the area.



Philermos Icon Venerated in Pilgrimage to Croatia

Barbara Patocka, DM

In September, Federal Association President Margaret Melady led a pilgrimage of 22 members of the Order to Croatia, where we were warmly welcomed at a dinner hosted by Croatian Catholics and experienced first-hand how the country has recovered from the 1992-95 war that followed the breakup of Yugoslavia.

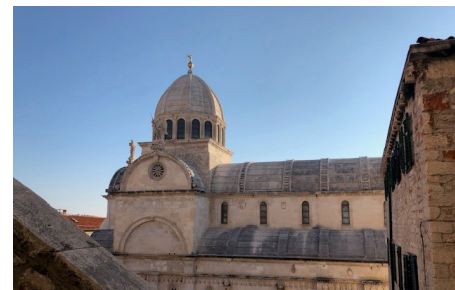
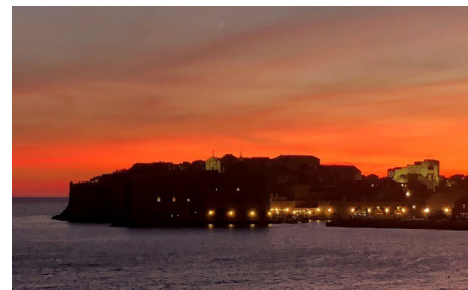
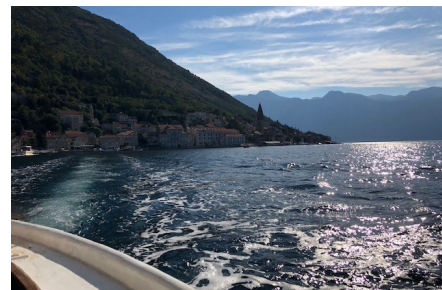
We were blessed to visit several Catholic churches and shrines, including the National Shrine of Our Lady of Bistrice with its Black Madonna, the cathedrals of Zagreb, Zadar, Sibenik, and Split, and the Church of St. Blaise in Dubrovnik. Some days, we joined local Catholics at Mass, and other days worshipped privately, led by our pilgrimage chaplain, the Rev. John Tetlow from the Jacksonville, Florida region. Every day, we enjoyed beautiful scenery and the company of members from all over the Federal Association.

From the UNESCO world heritage city of Dubrovnik, we made a day trip to pray at Medjugorje. A highlight of the pilgrimage was another day trip, this one to Montenegro where we visited the aptly named Our Lady of the Rocks Church

built on a man-made island. We continued to Kotor to one of the two Catholic churches in Montenegro, the Cathedral of St. Tryphon, where the bishop not only welcomed us but also served as an acolyte at our private Mass.

Near the end, we visited the ancient Byzantine icon of Our Lady of Philermos, named for a sanctuary in Rhodes. The Order possessed the icon when the Order was headquartered in Rhodes in the 14th and 15th centuries and later when the knights took the icon to Malta, where it was venerated during and after the great siege of 1565.

Today the icon is reverently housed in a museum in the Montenegrin city of Cetinje. After each of us venerated the icon, we visited the Orthodox Monastery of St. Peter where the monks, knowing that we were members of the Order, generously allowed us to venerate the relics of John the Baptist and a fragment of the Holy Cross, both of which were once owned by the Order. We returned home, after nine glorious days, more deeply aware of how blessed we are to be members of the Order of Malta.



Prison Ministry

Michael McGarry, KMOB & Collins Whitfield, KMOB, Co-chairs of the Prison Ministry Committee

Below is an update and a list of activities of the Prison Ministry Committee for 2018.

- About 150 members of the Federal Association are involved in prison ministry together with a like number of volunteers.
- We are now active in 23 of our regions.
- We are approaching 300 pen pal writers. The program has been essentially a Federal Association program, but the American Association has participated as well. Participation has grown to 40 writers, and as a result, the American Association has created its own pen pal program in close coordination with us.
- The 2018 apostolate meetings were held in Houston and Hartford.
- Our library project took a giant step forward with the creation of boxes containing more than 30 Catholic books for placement in 10 jails and prisons. The placement has already begun.
- The Archdiocese of Milwaukee has contacted us about joining in our pen pal program. The archdiocese is in the process of reaching out to all its parishes seeking pen pal writers. This will be a tremendous boost to our program and can serve as a model for other dioceses.
- Our pen pal program is being supplemented by the book "40 Weeks", a compilation of correspondence between an inmate and the Rev. Bill Watson, SJ. Inmates and outside-the-wall writers each will receive a copy that will serve as a source of spiritual reflection.
- We have embarked on a model re-entry program in Hagerstown, Maryland, working with Gatekeepers, a highly regarded re-entry program. The focus will be on faith-based re-entry education prior to release; and upon release, food and lodging, job training at the local community college, job placement and continuing faith-based re-entry education.
- We are assisting Gatekeepers in becoming a 501(c)3 charitable organization as the first step in the possible creation of the first Malta re-entry program.
- Our petition, to be said at all Malta Masses as part of the prayers of the faithful, is now with the Spirituality Committee that is in the process of revising current petitions. The petition reads: "We pray for victims of crime and their families, for the incarcerated and their families and for correction officers that they all may receive God's outpouring of love, mercy and understanding. Let us pray".
- Our Rosary Petition, a four-page fold-out that encourages inmates to join together at 8 o'clock every night to pray the Rosary and say a daily petition, is now being placed in every Bible that is distributed so as to reach thousands.
- We have met with state officials in Wisconsin in an effort to restart our Restorative Justice Program.
- We have become part of a team to explore permanent housing in Washington DC for ex-offenders.
- We have funded numerous local prison ministry outreaches such as:
 - prayer cards created by eighth-grade students and distributed to inmates;
 - materials and books to support Spanish Catholic prison programs;
 - inmate holiday gifts;
 - items necessary for the celebration of prison Mass;
 - support for several prison retreats; and
 - bus passes for recently released ex-offenders.

Our Lady of Good Help Pilgrimage

August 2–5, 2018 **Kate Signorelli, DMOB**

In October 1859 the Blessed Mother appeared to a young woman, Adele Brise, in the woods of Champion, Wisconsin. She appeared three times, speaking only on the occasion of the last apparition, saying, “I am the Queen of Heaven who prays for the conversion of sinners and I ask you to do the same...Please teach the children of this wild country what they need for salvation. Teach them how to approach the sacraments and the sign of the cross.” When Adele said she would, but was concerned because of her own lack of education, the Blessed Mother responded, “Do not be afraid. I will help you.”

The fifth annual pilgrimage to Our Lady of Good Help, August 2-5, 2018, was attended by 240-plus from all three

USA associations. The pilgrimage has become a time to make lasting friendships among the associations.

In response to Our Lady’s request to teach the children, the children on pilgrimage were invited to attend catechetical instructions with their parents on Thursday afternoon before the opening Mass. The Very Rev. Luke Millette and Rev. Michael Poradek from the Diocese of Green Bay provided basic instructions to those 8 to 18 years old who wished to participate in the liturgies. The young people did a wonderful job serving at all our liturgies.

Bishop David L. Ricken, bishop of the Diocese of Green Bay and a chaplain of the Order, celebrated two Masses and

spoke at our opening dinner. At one of the Masses Bishop Ricken celebrated, the Mass of Our Lady of Cana, married couples on the pilgrimage renewed their vows and consecrated their marriages to the Blessed Mother. This touching ceremony has become an annual event.

Five knights of justice from all three associations attended the pilgrimage, including the Federal Association Vice President Fra’ Tom Mulligan; and Fra’ John Dunlap, a member of the Sovereign Council.

Twenty-four priests from the three associations participated in the liturgies, including Mass, Anointing of the Sick, Rosary procession, and Stations of the Cross under the guidance of the pilgrimage priest coordinator, Father Millette.

The liturgies of the pilgrimage were enhanced by the professional choir under the direction of composer/director Paul French.

The official photographer of the pilgrimage was Peter Scudner, KM, who did a wonderful job of capturing the joy of the pilgrims.

Wayne Ruth, KMOB, handled the petitions for the pilgrimage. So many commented that it was a blessing to be able to send petitions even though they couldn’t attend the pilgrimage.

Organization and management of the pilgrimage was undertaken by a leadership committee consisting of four teams with three members from each association working on each team. Joe Sanders, KM, of the Western Association led the advance team. Rick Klein, KM, of the Federal Association led the hospitality team. Cara Aghajanian, DM, of the Federal Association led the transportation team. Kate Signorelli, DMOB, led the food team.

The pilgrimage was attended by 54 special pilgrims—those in need of healing. Knights and dames, family members, and friends were anointed at the Sacrament of Sick/Holy Hour at the National Shrine of St. Joseph on Friday afternoon. The Shrine of St. Joseph is on the campus of St. Norbert College. There has been a church dedicated to St. Joseph at the site for over 300 years.

The special pilgrims also received the grace of God at a special healing service led by the rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help, the Rev. John Broussard, on Saturday afternoon.



Chaplain Report

Msgr. John J. Enzler

I take the liberty of writing a letter on behalf of all the chaplains of the Order of Malta. All of us have been devastated by the struggles over the past several months. All Catholics have faced a painful reminder of human weakness—yes, even of our priests and bishops. While all of you are magnificent and stalwart members of the Church, I know from personal conversations with a number of you that these revelations have been devastating.

We know that this is a societal problem and that abuse happens most often in families. We hear about it far too often in our schools—both public and private, perpetrated by coaches, teachers, and scout leaders. It seems like anyone who has this problem, gravitates toward young children and uses grooming techniques to attract young people to their criminal and sinful acts. But, this is different! We expect our priests to be the paradigm of virtue. We want them to show us how to live, not to pull young people into a trap that is completely alien to the words of Jesus and the call to love. The Church has been devastated by these actions.

Some of our bishops have been complicit in allowing this behavior to continue by moving priests from parish to parish or even to another diocese. Sometimes they were moved without them having a full understanding of the consequences of their actions and even with the guidance of mental health professionals who believed that the abusers' behaviors could be cured. Some bishops had a misguided belief that they were protecting the Church but in doing so, they left young people in harm's way.

So, we've been hurt beyond words. We priests have suffered the pain of being rejected by many who feel that all priests condone this sinful behavior and protect their brothers. It has been a difficult time for the Church, a sad time for the Order, and a devastating time for all of us wearing a collar. I write, speaking for all of your chaplains, to tell you that we are ashamed—individually and collectively—for all the hurt caused by the failures of the clergy. We also express our sorrow to you for the pain that not only has been caused by the abusive acts but also by the coverup.

The real point of this letter is to thank you for standing by your priests. We are blessed to be chaplains of an Order of men and women who continue to try to live the Gospel completely, and without hesitation. We are inspired by your love for Jesus and your service to the malades. We are supported, every day, by your defense of the faith which we hear in your words, and more importantly, experience through your actions. We have been blessed in a way that many others have not, by your personal support, your kindness, and your commitment to the Order.

Normally, people expect their priests and bishops to lead the way. For the past several months we've looked to you, the members of the Order, for comfort, strength, and encouragement. Thank you for being who you are. We walk this journey together and we are strengthened every single day by the magnificent example you give to us of what it means to follow Jesus faithfully and to reach out to those who are most in need.

God bless you all. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. We are singularly blessed to be chaplains to the Order.



2018 Chaplain Convocation

Msgr. Edward Dillon

At the end of June of 2018, chaplains of the Federal Association met for two days at the Dominican House of Studies, in Washington, DC for the second formal convocation of chaplains. This meeting brought the chaplains together with Margaret Melady, president of the Federal Association, three professed knights, and Joseph Metz, regent of the Subpriory of Our Lady of Lourdes. The discussion centered on the formation of the chaplains themselves, with an additional focus on the selection of chaplains.

In the existing system, chaplains are nominated by the local region, with the consent of the bishop, and appointed by the Federal Association board. Beyond that, there is no formal program of formation or training of those appointed other than having them serve as associate chaplains for three years. The general consensus of the chaplains in the assembly was that some system should be developed so chaplains will be better acquainted with the history and functioning of the Order. This would give them a better base from which to help

members, including candidates for the Promise of Obedience class, in their individual spiritual formation and development. The assembled group presented a number of suggestions to the president, among them a proposal that chaplains should be invited to participate in the annual Day of Formation as part of their introduction to the Order.

During the convocation, the chaplains concelebrated Mass with Cardinal Donald Wuerl, Archbishop of Washington and principal chaplain of the Federal Association. They also heard presentations by Joseph Metz, regent of the Sub-priory of Our Lady of Lourdes, on the requirements for and preparation of candidates for the Promise of Obedience. Thomas Wessels, president of Malteser International Americas, made a presentation on the work of the Order in disaster relief throughout North and South America, and Kate Robinson of the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem Foundation also presented. The gathering included both a panel of chaplain presenters and a general discussion of the individual activities that take place in the regions that comprise the Federal Association. Everyone that attended gave positive feedback on the location and events.



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