



THE ORDER

The Military & Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem



Newly Invested: Hear
our new members
reflect on The Order

In Memoriam:
Prayers for the re-
pose of Col. Tempone

The Official Newsletter of the Grand Priory of America



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The Official Newsletter and Periodic Publication of the Grand Priory of America & the American Association of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem is produced by the authority of the Grand Prior.

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For more information and in-depth coverage of activities throughout the year, you can visit The Grand Priory of America on the internet.

www.st-lazarus.us

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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A High Calling at Midyear

Dear Friends,
 As we enter the halfway mark of 2024, we can take comfort in the fact that we have funded all our AASL board-approved charitable programs since 2023, and these programs are actively helping those in need. While we could have done more if we had more resources, every bit helps those with little to nothing. Thank you all for your support of the Pentecostal Appeal, and please remember that without this support, our Order can't carry out its charity mission.

Several of our GPA members traveled to Malta in February for an international gathering of jurisdictional heads coupled with a Pauline Pilgrimage, and we were able to meet and discuss our charitable goals with members from over 20 other countries in the Order. This group included myself and my wife Anna, our Grand Prior Emeritus Ken Moritsugu, our Grand Chancellor Marny Gilluly, and member David Rease, who presented one of the academic papers at the meeting. At this meeting, the Grand Master announced that Chevalier Ted White was retiring as the Grand Commander and that he had appointed our own Chevalier Ken Moritsugu as the new Grand Commander of the Order! Congratulations, Ken, and you continue to be a failure in your retirement!

In April, we saw a record number of our leadership members attend our mid-year leadership meeting in Dallas, and I think it was one of our most productive meetings to date. We will launch new branding and marketing initiatives for the GPA and have identified several potential leaders for this initiative. If any of our members, new or "veterans," have a marketing and/or public relations background and would like to help us develop and build our brand and marketing, please let me or our Chancellor, Chevalier Pent Penton, know.

Speaking of new members stepping up, I thank Danielle Moni Zoobo, OIJ, for accepting the role as our project manager for the St. Lazarus United Methodist Hospital in Mwanza, Tanzania. Newly invested in 2023 at our Tampa GPC, Danielle first heard about the Order of St. Lazarus at our Washington GPC meeting in 2022, where she worked at the Grand Hyatt Hotel. She followed up with our Atlantic Commandery members and embraced our mission and vision of helping those less fortunate; Danielle joined us less than one year later!

With a business and project management background, Danielle was an ideal person to take on this very important role, and in a very short period has transformed this project into a model of accountability and efficiency that will enable this much-needed hospital to open its doors to the local community. This is a great example of a new member taking on a very important role in the GPA, utilizing her talent, and contributing her time from Day 1 of joining us! Kudos to Danielle and to all of our newer members; if you see something in the GPA and the Order that interests you or would like to learn more about possibly getting involved, please let us know! There is no such thing as "not being in the Order long enough" to help us in our quest to help others!

At our Tampa GPC last October, we announced that starting with funds collected in 2024 from the Pentecostal Appeal, each sub-jurisdiction would be able to retain 50% of their members' donations for their local charitable programs. This will expand our footprint in our local communities and support our recruitment and retention efforts, but it depends on each of us meeting our goals of at least contributing double our dues each year. These funds will be available in 2025, but halfway into this year, we are far from our goal of 100%. Our Almoner and Hospitaller will be discussing this elsewhere in this newsletter.

Each year, we pay dues based on our rank, with a certain amount paid to the International Order for operational costs, one-third retained by the GPA for our operational costs, and one-third returned to your local sub-jurisdiction, again for local charitable projects. These dues are due by March 31st of each year, and any dues paid after that date incur a late fee by the International Order. Additionally, the one-third local share cannot be returned to your sub-jurisdiction for charitable projects after March 31st. This year, we only had about a 65% paid dues rate by March 31st, which means every local sub-jurisdiction but one lost potential funds for their local charities. When you couple this with a decrease in our Pentecostal Appeal, it can add up to a lot of money that could have been utilized in our own backyards! Please ensure that each of us as members follows our vow of "I shall serve." The initial way



H.E. The Chevalier John F. Byrnes,
GCLJ, GMLJ, GCMLJ

Grand Prior,
Grand Priory of America

we do this is by honoring our financial commitment to paying dues on time and making our recommended Pentecostal Appeal contribution. Can you imagine, just for a moment, if we could achieve 100% for each of these requirements, what could we do for all those in need each year?

The Commandery of the West has put together an outstanding Grand Prioral Council meeting for us this October, so make plans to be in Newport Beach, California, from October 24-27, 2024. This is where you will hear about our charitable programs, participate in committee and business meetings, and spend time with each other in a relaxing environment. Our Vesper Service for postulants is historic and memorable, and we will recognize many of you with awards and promotions at our Investiture ceremony. The registration link has been sent out and is available on our website. See you at the beach!

Anna and I wish all of you and your families a happy and relaxing summer. We look forward to seeing you in Newport Beach this October! ✨

Our Members at Prayer & Work



H.E. The Rev. MG Razz Waff,
USA (Ret), DSM, BCC, GCLJ, OMLJ,
DMin

Chaplain General,
Grand Priory of America

As this copy of The Order is focused on “New Members at Work” there are two who immediately come to mind, both dynamos of energy and support for the Order. Since I am a chaplain I’ll start with Fr. Kevin Fausz, CM, AChLJ. Fr. Kevin was inducted in 2022 and has answered every request to be plugged in as much as his parish duties will allow. When he read our monthly Chaplains’ Notes that chaplains were welcome to attend the Mid Year Meeting in Dallas in April 2024, he contacted me and asked he could attend. As the Commandery Chaplain of the Southwest was not able to attend, nor were any other Southwest chaplains, my only question was “When can you arrive?” He was one of the first arrive, and as wonderful as it was that we were able to have lunch as chaplains, he immediately immersed himself in the discussions of the topics and provided timely and germane insights to the topics being discussed. By the time we wrapped up it was clear to GPA leadership that he arrived ready to roll up his sleeves, pitch in and make a difference. I can clearly say that he probably will end up becoming a victim of his own competence, but in a way that he would probably admit he will enjoy. The secular member of the Order who immediately comes to mind was inducted in 2023, Danielle Zoobo, OLJ, MIBA, of the Atlantic Commandery. Interestingly, rather than find us in an online search or being referred for membership, Danielle joined us- and this is something to ponder for a few minutes (or longer)- due to our conduct and deportment at the Washington, DC Grand Hyatt Hotel where she was working as a staff member in 2022! Danielle was impressed by the story of who we are as an Order, and by the way we answered her questions and asked about her. When she started asking more questions, those members present gave her real-time answers, and because of that she decided that she wanted to join our team! She has been leaning forward ever since, and when members in the metro DC area were asked if there were any volunteers to join the delegation to present His Eminence Wilton Gregory, the Cardinal Archbishop of Washington, DC, his long overdue Chaplain’s Mozetta and Grand Cross insignia, she jumped at the chance to join the delegation. She arrived with great questions and a remarkable curiosity about what was happening, and at the Atlantic Commandery luncheon later, joined in the conversation about upcoming events and with her remarkable background in finance,

provided some excellent insights around costs and options on topics being discussed.

So there we are with two current new members, Fr. Kevin and Danielle, who have rolled up their sleeves and jumped into things on their own initiative, and their two commanderies- and GPA- are all the richer for their presence in our midst.

And lest I miss the chance to take advantage of our rich liturgical calendars, as the “Publish Date” of this quarters The Order is June 21st, the next day after- the 22nd- is the Feast of St. Alban, who certainly stood up to be counted as a newly baptized Christian. Alban is recognized as the first Christian in Britain known by name, and the first Christian martyr, having been killed ca. 304 AD. He was a soldier in the British army stationed about 20 miles northeast of London, now known by his name, St. Alban’s. Alban’s path to Christianity began when he sheltered a priest who was fleeing from prosecution, and in doing so, was converted by the priest. When officers arrived at Alban’s quarters he dressed himself in the priest’s garments and gave himself up, allowing the priest to live. Alban was then tortured and martyred in place of the priest on the hilltop where by oral tradition, St. Alban’s Cathedral now stands. Alban was the newest of Christians- having just been baptized by the priest for whom he provided shelter- and truly gave his all as a new Christian. As is so often the case when faced with death- whether Alban at the hands of a Roman judge or Dietrich Bonhoeffer at the hands of the Nazis in April 1945, weeks before WWII in Europe ended- we may very well ask ourselves what would we have done in their place?

LET US PRAY: Almighty God, by whose grace and power your holy martyr Alban triumphed over suffering and was faithful even unto death: Grant us, who now remember him in thanksgiving, to be so faithful in our witness to you in this world that we may receive with him the crown of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen

Amen. ✱

Pentecostal Appeal Strategy Supports Local, National & Global Efforts

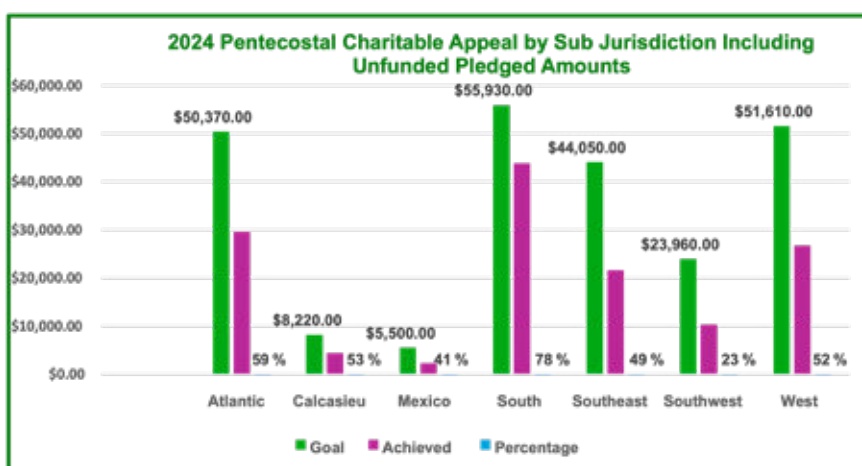
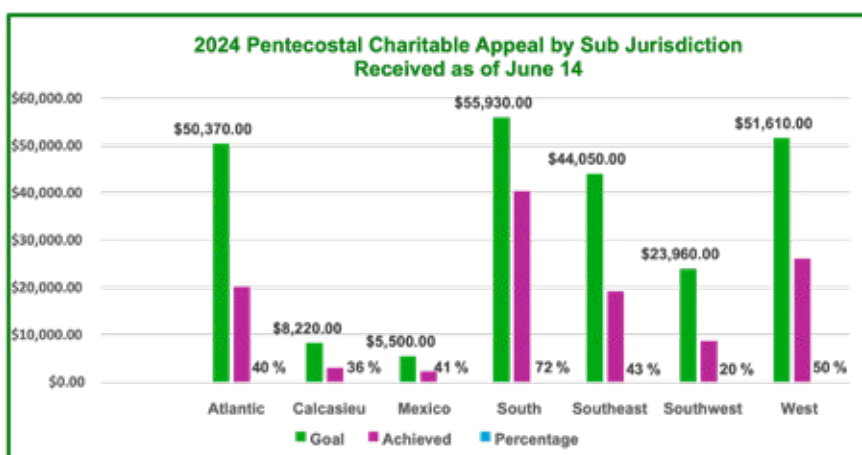


H.E. Dame Mary Ann Straub,
GCLJ, DMLJ, SCrLJ, DC2ndLJ, MEd

Grand Prioral Almoner,
Grand Priory of America

*Charity is the essence
of our chivalric order,
and each of us is
obliged to provide our
support to the best of
our ability.*

June marks the sixth month of our 2024 Pentecostal Charitable Appeal. A huge thank you to 41% of our members who have donated a total of \$119,583.83, which does not include an additional \$18,687.00 pledged. With the newly established hospitaller process in place, one half of each sub jurisdiction's contributions will revert to the sub jurisdiction in early 2025 to support local charitable ministries. The other half will support our important national and international ministries. The charts below show how close each sub jurisdiction is to achieving its monetary goal in green.



If you have not yet made your donation, login at www.st-lazarus.us and go to Online Payments → Annual Pentecostal Appeal Donation → Donate or [CLICK HERE](#). For those who wish to donate by check, please mail your contribution to The American Association of the Order of Saint Lazarus (AASL), c/o Dame Jennifer St. Victor-dePinho, DLJ, 38 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877. ✨

In Memoriam

John Tempone

Colonel, US Marine Corps (Retired), DSSM, KCLJ, MMLJ, SMLJ, DCr3rdLJ



In the sure and certain hope of the Resurrection it is with great sadness and heavy hearts that we have been informed of the death of Colonel John Tempone, US Marine Corps (Retired), DSSM, KCLJ, MMLJ, SMLJ, DCr3rdLJ, this evening, Wednesday, 19 June, at 8:20 pm EDT with his wife Charla at his side.

John was serving as the Commander of the Southeast, and having leveraged Zoom calls to keep the Southeast Commandery members connected during the pandemic, continued to use it on a regular basis as members throughout the GPA would fence off the evenings when John had a Zoom presentation. John was known well beyond this commandery due to his engaging personality and desire that all he met would be a friend, both in the Order and beyond.

Let us pray:

O God, whose mercies cannot be numbered: Accept the prayers on behalf of your servant John, and grant him an entrance into the land of light and joy where there will be no sorrow, no weeping nor pain, and enter into the fullness of peace and joy with your Son and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Father of all, we pray to you for John, and for all those whom we see no longer. Grant to John eternal rest, and let light perpetual shine upon him. May his soul and the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.

Most merciful God, whose wisdom is beyond our understanding: Deal graciously with Charla, their children, and John's extended family in their grief. Surround them with your love so that they might not be overwhelmed by their loss but have confidence in your goodness and strength to meet the days to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Almighty God, who chose your elect out of every nation and shows forth your glory in their lives, grant we pray to you that following the example of your servant Lazarus, we may be fruitful in good works to the praise of your Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. ✠

Watch a story that featured John and his connection with his service dog, recorded just a few weeks ago by [clicking here](#).



ARTICLE SUMMARY

Giving Life: How Living Organ Transplants Work for Service Members, Vets and Their Donors

by Katie Lange, DOD News

Overview

Katie Lange's article, "Giving Life: How Living Organ Transplants Work for Service Members, Vets, and Their Donors," delves into the significant impact and intricate organ donation processes, particularly focusing on living donors within the military community. It highlights the critical need for organ donations, the benefits of living donations, and the exceptional services Walter Reed National Military Medical Center provides.

The Need for Donations

Organ donation is crucial, with over 46,000 transplants performed in the U.S. in 2023, but the demand still far exceeds supply, with nearly 104,000 people on the waiting list. Kidneys are the most sought-after organs. Walter Reed National Military Medical Center plays a pivotal role, especially for service members and their families, by offering comprehensive transplant services, primarily focusing on kidney transplants.

Walter Reed's Transplant Services

Walter Reed is the only certified transplant center in the Military Health System, renowned for its expertise and success. In 2023, the center performed 55 kidney transplants. While it handles kidney transplants in-house, it also facilitates transplants for other organs through a network of affiliated centers.

Living Donations

Living donations are emphasized for their efficiency and longevity. Contrary to misconceptions, kidneys from living donors can last an average of 18 years, with some lasting over 30 years. Walter Reed

strives to get 30% of its transplants from living donors. Dr. Jamie Diaz Robinson, the chief of organ transplant services, underscores the importance of living donations and encourages service members to consider this option, highlighting that donors can maintain a healthy life post-donation.

The Donation Process

The organ donation process is complex and thorough, involving extensive evaluations and testing. Walter Reed collaborates with the DOD's Histocompatibility and Immunology Laboratory to ensure compatibility and the best outcomes for transplants. The center boasts a 100% one-year survival rate for living-donor kidney transplants, one of the highest in the nation.

Support for Donors and Recipients

Anyone can donate to a military beneficiary, and donors incur no costs as the recipient's insurance covers the process. Walter Reed provides additional support, including transportation, accommodation, and post-operative care for donors. A donation's emotional and life-changing impact is profound, with many donors and recipients forming deep connections post-transplant.

Call to Action

Dr. Robinson urges healthy adults to consider becoming kidney donors to address the national healthcare crisis. She emphasizes the availability of funding and resources to support donors through the process. Potential donors can contact Walter Reed or register through state registries or the DMV.

Lange's article underscores the life-saving potential of organ donations, especially from living donors, and the exemplary care Walter Reed National Military Medical Center provided, encouraging more people to contribute to this noble cause.

Citations:

- Lange, Katie. "Giving Life: How Living Organ Transplants Work for Service Members, Vets and Their Donors." Defense.gov, April 20, 2024.

Read the Complete Article:

<https://www.defense.gov/News/Feature-Stories/Story/Article/3747697/giving-life-how-living-organ-transplants-work-for-service-members-vets-and-thei/>

Photo Caption: Former Marine Dave Ford, left, and Marine Sgt. Bryan Weber, right, prepare for a kidney transplant from Weber to Ford on Feb. 6, 2018 at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Fla. Weber, out of a desire to help a fellow Marine, donated his kidney to Ford, who was on dialysis for more than three years while waiting for a possible donor match.

*Photo By: Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Jeremy Winkfield
VIRIN: 180222-M-WE418-003A*

Promotions & Awards

Members are promoted based upon the testimony of their commander. They may also receive awards for meritorious service to The Order.

In accordance with the Constitution of the Order, and after consultation with the Advisory Council, the Grand Prior is pleased to approve the following **promotions**:

For their service and contribution to the **Grand Commandery of the South**:

The Reverend Emile George Noel III, AChLJ – to the rank of **Chaplain (ChLJ)**
Edwin Norquist Beckman, CLJ, MD – to the rank of **Knight of Grace (KLJ)**
Lawrence Benjamin Lewis, CLJ, PhD – to the rank of **Knight of Grace (KLJ)**
Barbara Stuckey Beckman, CLJ, PhD – to the rank of **Dame of Grace (DLJ)**
Julie F. Breitmeyer, CLJ, CMLJ – to the rank of **Dame of Grace (DLJ)**
Inez Adele Hinckley, CLJ, MMLJ – to the rank of **Dame of Grace (DLJ)**
Lucille Ann Whitley, CLJ – to the rank of **Dame of Grace (DLJ)**
Anne-Michelle Sabathier Daniel, OLJ – to the rank of **Commander (CLJ)**

For their service and contribution to the **Commandery of the Southwest**:

Fernando Blanco y Dopazo, OLJ – to the rank of Commander (CLJ)

In accordance with the Constitution of the Order, and after consultation with the Advisory Council, the Grand Prior is pleased to approve the following **awards**:

For their service and contribution to the **Grand Commandery of the South**:

Dame Louise Marie Jacobbi, DLJ, DMLJ – the Silver Medal of Merit (SMLJ)
Anna ‘Amy’ Lanfer Prejean, OLJ – the Bronze Medal of Merit (BMLJ)

For their service and contributions to the **Commandery of the West**:

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, OSF, ChLJ, MMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Commander (CMLJ)
Dame Anamaria Lourdes Alcocer, DLJ, OMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Commander (CMLJ)

For their service and contribution to the **Delegation of México**:

Pedro Casillas Capetillo, CLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member (MMLJ)

For their service and contribution to the **Commandery of the Southwest**:

Phyllis Renfrow – the Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member (MMLJ)
SPC Christian Sutton – the Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member (MMLJ)
Cheryl Witty – the Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member (MMLJ)
Ross Witty – the Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member (MMLJ)

For their contributions to the American Association of the Order of St. Lazarus:

Karen Louise Aitchison, MMLJ – the Donat Cross 3rd Class (DC3rdLJ)
Chevalier Christopher Andrew St. Victor-de Pinho, LTC, NYNG, KLJ – the Donat Cross 3rd Class (DC3rdLJ)
Dame Jennifer Sinclair St. Victor-de Pinho, DLJ – the Donat Cross 3rd Class (DC3rdLJ)



GRAND PRIORAL COUNCIL 2024 · NEWPORT BEACH, CA



The Very Reverend Marcos J. Gonzalez, ECLJ, CMLJ, SMLJ, MDiv, MS

Commander,
Commandery of The West

THE MILITARY & HOSPITALER ORDER OF ST. LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM

SIEMPRE ADELANTE! ALWAYS FORWARD!

Dear Confreres and Consoeurs,
On behalf of the Commandery of the West, I am delighted to invite you to our 2024 Grand Prioral Council in Newport Beach, California, October 24 to 27, 2024. Our GPC 2024 Planning Committee has been hard at work to ensure that we have a most enjoyable and spiritually fruitful annual meeting. Since we will be in California amidst the great Missions which brought the gospel to this part of the country, our theme will be "Siempre Adelante! – Always Forward!" This was the motto of the great apostle of California, Saint Junipero Serra. It is also a fitting motto for us as the Order of Saint Lazarus as we continue our almost thousand year tradition of chivalry and outreach to the sick and needy of our world.

The site of our meeting in 2024 will be the fabulous [VEA Newport Beach](#), A Marriott Resort & Spa. This is a newly renovated resort property overlooking the Pacific ocean in a magnificent setting. I think you will be very pleased with the beautiful rooms, amenities and facilities of the resort. We were able to negotiate a very competitive rate of \$299 per room in a hotel in which the same class of rooms regularly sells for over \$600 per night. This is an incredible discount to our members who take advantage of early booking, which I strongly recommend.

The Newport Beach location offers many advantages to our members:

- Very close to John Wayne Airport (SNA)
- Also accessible to Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
- Disneyland is nearby!
- Spa, beach, hiking trails, golf, harbor cruises and so much more!

By registering as soon as possible you can take advantage of this greatly reduced rate. There is a limited block of rooms so I encourage you to take advantage of it.

For our Friday evening Vigil, we will be using [Queen of Angels Catholic Church](#) and for the Saturday Investiture, we will use [Christ Church by the Sea United Methodist Church](#). Both of these are near our hotel. At the Vigil, we will be treated to the singing of the Norbertine Fathers of [Saint Michael's Abbey](#) and will have the privilege of having the relics of Saint Damien de Veuster and Saint Marianne Cope (brought from Hawai'i for the occasion) present during our prayer service.

Right across the street from our hotel is the huge Fashion Island which includes many exclusive shops as well as excellent restaurants for our Commandery dinners on Thursday evening. Our Friday evening dinner will be in a beautiful outdoor setting overlooking the Pacific and bluffs and cooled by ocean breezes. Our Hawai'i Cadre will be arranging a Hawai'ian/Polynesian evening of delicious dishes and beautiful entertainment. Our formal Saturday evening gala dinner will be in a resplendent ballroom with a magnificent band for dancing the night away.

Our official Thursday morning excursion (optional) will be to the very interesting [Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum](#). Other tours can also be arranged to the [San Juan Capistrano Mission](#) or [St. Michael's Abbey](#). Both are well worth visiting.!

Our 2024 Grand Prioral Council promises to be a wonderful occasion to renew our bonds of friendship, chivalry and Christian service and have a fabulous time doing it! I hope to see you all there! ✨



HOTEL REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
Scan the QR Code or [click here](#).

I SHALL SERVE

A Warm Welcome
to our New Postulants



Craig Arlington Robbins

Presbyterian
Business Consulting, Business Coaching & Author
La Canada Flintridge, CA
West



Mary Ann Robbins

Presbyterian
Retired Elementary School Teacher
La Canada Flintridge, CA
West



Anthony Rosario Vultaggio

Catholic
Philanthropy Officer
Garden Grove, CA
West



Michael Charles Burzell

Catholic
Business Manager
Rockford, IL
Atlantic



Milton Muller

Catholic
Teacher - Army JROTC
Miami, FL
Southeast



Mark McGuiness

Catholic
Accountant
Cuauhtemoc, Ciudad de Mexico
Mexico



The Reverend David Andrew Olivo

Episcopal
Priest
Ridgewood, NJ
Atlantic



SPC John Cintron, OLJ

THE ORDER: What is one of the challenges that you find as a member of The Order?

JOHN CINTRON: One of the most significant challenges that has greatly affected me as a member of the Order is finding quality time amidst my busy schedule to incorporate genuine contemplative prayer and spiritual reverence for my own personal development. One of the biggest reasons I was initially interested in becoming invested was to develop an avenue to synthesize my faith with acts of kindness and good works, and I often find myself so caught up in the day to day of life's complexities that I sometimes have difficulty allowing myself the time for authentic spiritual reflection and meditation on the works of the order and my personal faith journey. My spirituality has taken on a greater personal meaning of fulfillment since becoming a member of the Order, and carving out the time to reflect and pray for the wellbeing of the Order, its workings, and my spiritual place within the grander scheme of worldwide ecumenism, is something I would like to work on going forward.

TO: How important is prayer/faith life in your work in The Order?

JC: As I alluded to in my previous answer, prayer and faith life in my work in the Order is a cornerstone piece of the grander spiritual temple that is the Hospitallers.

I believe that equal time spent between material endeavors and spiritual workings is imperative in the life of someone who has undertaken the vow to service, and it certainly has impacted my life's paradigm in

I believe that equal time spent between material endeavors and spiritual workings is imperative in the life of someone who has undertaken the vow to service..."

a wholeheartedly more meaningful manner. I cannot envision a separation between the necessity of prayer and faith with the material works undertaken.

TO: Has a particular project or area of focus interested you since joining The Order?

JC: One area in particular that I have taken a keen interest in since becoming a member of the Order is their focus and

contributions to humanitarian endeavors in Ukraine. Having myself served as a volunteer in Ukraine for seven months following the initial Russian invasion, the charitable activity of the Order to support the Ukrainian people has taken a special place in my heart. As of this writing I have been in communication with the American Pories counterparts in Canada and Germany to Organize an upcoming trip to Ukraine later this year where we will be delivering hundreds of individual first aid kits to Ukrainian first responders amidst the ongoing geopolitical tension.

TO: What are your hopes for the future of The Order?

JC: My hope for the future of the Order is that more opportunities may become available for individuals seeking more of an immersive experience on the ground level directly supporting the Order's humanitarian based initiatives worldwide. I am definitely the type of person that likes to get my hands dirty and seek out avenues that allow me to directly engage with projects internationally. I would love nothing more than to volunteer my time working at one of the Orders many charitable activities worldwide, and I hope that a more streamline process might be developed for other like minded individuals seeking this kind of experience. ✱

Alexander Reverón-Casanova, OLJ

THE ORDER: What is one of the challenges that you find as a member of The Order?

ALEXANDER REVERÓN-CASSANOVA: My biggest challenge since my investiture is a lack of knowledge of the Order. Although we live with information at our fingertips, we do not investigate enough to know. I encourage you not to showcase our good works only during the Grand Prioral Council but to make known the works we carry out with the same noteworthiness as we proclaim the name of Jesus Christ. That's how we ignite someone's curiosity.

TO: How important is prayer/faith life in your work in The Order?

AR: Faith is the basis of our life as a Christian. We believe in the triune God that we have not yet seen but hope to see at some point. Prayer is key in my life; it is how I can achieve an intimate relationship with my God. Jesus left us a guide (Matthew 6:5-15). We must

remember that God is our father and that a son who does not talk to his father is a lost son. The goal should be to become more like Him, and through the gospels, we can see how often the Master prayed.

TO: Has a particular project or area of focus interested you since joining The Order?

AR: I attended the Hospitaller-Almoner meeting at the GPC last October. It seemed a task of great value and importance. This particular group allocates funds to the causes we support.

TO: What are your hopes for the future of The Order?

AR: I envision a future where the Order's noble cause reaches more people. It's not about showing off, but about extending our helping hand to the sick, the orphan, and the widowed.

I encourage you not to showcase our good works only during the Grand Prioral Council but to make known the works we carry out with the same noteworthiness as we proclaim the name of Jesus Christ."





Organ Donation: Bringing Communities Together

The Commander and members of the Grand Commandery of The South presented a seminar on March 12, 2024 in Baton Rouge to the Louisiana Interchurch Conference. Logistical issues prevented a November Vigil to celebrate those who have benefited from organ donation. But this did not dampen the spirit of intrepid members of The Order. After some discussion, it was suggested to reach out to the clergy leadership in Louisiana. According to their official website, [The Louisiana Interchurch Conference](https://www.louisianainterchurchconference.org/) is a statewide ecumenical organization formed in 1970 to further the aims of Christian unity, service, and witness to faith and social justice in

Louisiana and the region. The LIC includes 15 member denominations and 26 affiliate Judicatory leaders, representing almost 2 million individual congregants statewide.

The members of The Order of St. Lazarus, as an organization oriented towards many medical projects, thought it might be worthwhile to seek help and foster communication between the religious communities in the state and various healthcare institutions and initiatives. They included a special focus on organ transplantation as well as organ and tissue donation.

The seminar included a robust outline of topics. Beginning with a history of transplantation and organ donation in light of religion. Next, donors and recipients spoke of how openness to organ donation

has positively impacted their lives. Those who have received organs reported a better quality of life and the miracles brought about by a donor saying "yes" to life.

A wife donated a kidney to to the father of a family extending his life a further sixteen years. One donor offered a kidney to an acquaintance who is now a dear friend. A son expressed his gratitude to a donor family for offering the heart of their loved one to his father.

Extending the love of Christ in a way that involves a very literal sharing of one's life with another, members were able to express that working together brings about a closeness that goes even deeper than saving a life. Part of shared life involves increasing and improving messaging within communities about the reality of organ and tissue donation. Many of the various denominations and healthcare outlets attached to them have commonalities that still need to be explored so that resources can be shared.

Within three days, those who attended the seminar contacted members of the Grand Commandery of The South to receive promotional materials and asked them to provide the St. Lazarus calendar of events. They also recommended projects to promote organ donation in April and November.

The seminar was chaired by Louise M. Jacobbi, and assisted by committee members including The Reverend Emile "Buddy" Noel, Amy Prejean Landry, Nicole Labadot (Legacy Donor Foundation, Director). ✱



1901 Mirabeau Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70122
888-737-5577
info@joinbastion.org

June 14, 2024

Order of St. Lazarus
c/o Michie Bissell
200 West Weber Circle
Lake Charles, LA 70611-5231

Dear Ms. Bissell,

I am deeply moved by your grant donation of \$3,000 to Bastion Community of Resilience for Virtual Reality headsets for disabled veterans. This generous donation and our mutual resolve to provide care and support for warriors with traumatic brain injuries affirms the enduring capacity of New Orleans and its most cherished citizens.

This donation allows our veterans and their families access to our wellness programs at Bastion. Those activities consist of occupational therapy, art and music therapy, health coaching, access to our community food bank, counseling services, and more. 99% of our residents report positive growth since moving into Bastion, and 100% of our warriors with severe traumatic brain injuries have increased their Independence Index Score, a key measurement of recovery among this population. By leveraging the full support of a community that is intentionally designed to address our veterans' unique needs, Bastion is achieving outcomes that significantly exceed conventional expectations for brain injured and otherwise-disabled veterans.

It is my sincerest honor to join with you in this important mission. As a Bastion donor, I welcome you to the cutting edge of innovation in a community that is already transforming lives, and is poised to bring healing and wellness to hundreds more. On behalf of our warriors and families, thank you so much!

In service,

Jackson Smith
Executive Director

Bastion is a non-profit veteran service organization that is exempt from federal income taxation as described in Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Donors to Bastion are permitted to deduct such contributions as provided in Section 170 of the IRS Code. No goods or services were received in return for this gift. EIN Tax Number is 27-4383654.

Update: A Letter from Bastion Community of Resilience



Members in México: Trust and fraternity lead to action.

Currently, there are 20 members of the Delegation of Mexico. In my judgment, besides our two clergy members, thirteen of them take their Catholic religion seriously, and the main reason they entered the Order is to practice Christian charity in an organized manner and because several of them know about our Chaplain Father José and trust him completely. Of those thirteen, five may be considered new members since they entered the Order over the last four years. One of those five (our current Delegate, Pedro Casillas) is not only an exemplary Catholic parishioner but is also an expert on heraldry and the history of chivalric orders, is most sociable and likes to make friends, so he has many reasons to be enthusiastic about all things related to our Order.

Of the other five active members, three of whom entered the Order over the last four years that have lapsed since we held the GPC in Cabo, it is my impression

that they decided to enter the Order mainly because they have close friends in it and were convinced by those friends to make the yearly payments to the GPA, pay regularly for the upkeep of our two clinics, and attend most of our local events. Naturally, the officers of the Delegation are also most grateful to them.

If one were to ask what the main complaint of most of our members is, it would be that they have not been to each of our two clinics to see the work being done up close. However, since both Irapuato and Morelia are at a distance, requiring four or more hours to arrive from Mexico City, where almost all of our members live, it has proven difficult to arrange a group trip to visit one or both clinics, preferably on weekdays which is when the activities are undertaken. In any case, I regularly invite the members attending our social events to accompany Pedro and me to our relatively frequent visits to each clinic. We hope at least some of them can join us sometime this year. ✱



H.E. The Chev. Guillermo D. Salas Vargas,
KCLJ, CMLJ, MBA

**Almoner & Hospitaller
Delegation of México**





EVENTS WITH THE NEW YORK CADRÉ



Strengthening Ties Between The Order & St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

On April 19, 2024, representatives of the Atlantic Commandery and the New York Cadre, led by Commander Garrett R. Bowden, KLJ, together with Hospitaller Michelle B. Kwong, DLJ, and Secretary Greg Mesniaeff, KLJ met with representatives of the St. Patrick's Cathedral at the cathedral's rectory in midtown Manhattan and presented Rev. Andrew King with a check from the Commandery and the

AASL to help fund the cathedral's humanitarian outreach efforts. St. Patrick's Cathedral and the Atlantic Commandery have a history of friendship and cooperation stretching back for many decades: Early members of the Commandery included Patrick Cardinal Hayes, Archbishop of New York from 1919 to 1938, and Francis Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York from 1939 to 1967. ✱



THE ORDER



MEDALS: PRECEDENCE, POSITIONING, AND MOUNTING

We have identified a supplier that can professionally mount the medals, both miniature and large, efficiently and to a military standard. I have personally used them in the past for my uniformed service decorations and they are excellent. The fees will be \$6.39-8.39 per miniature medal and \$7.39-9.39 per large ones.

The point of contact is:

Chris Arnold

Military Awards Specialist

carnold@usmedals.com

Prior to shipping the medals, please email Mr. Arnold a photo of the medals. He will review and be able to give you a firm price.

Then, send your medals to the address below and be sure to include a phone number & email.

MEDALS OF AMERICA

Attn: Chris Arnold

114 SOUTHCHASE BLVD

FOUNTAIN INN, SC 29644

1-864-862-6425

It is important to inform them of the proper order of precedence, which I will list below and will have a link to this on our website's page.

GENERAL PRECEDENCE OF MEDALS

- National Orders, decorations, and medals of the member's home country.
- National Orders, decorations, and medals awarded by other sovereign states, including the Vatican and the Sovereign Military Order of Malta.
- The decorations and medals of the Military and Hospitaller Order of

Saint Lazarus.

- The Orders, decorations, and medals of the Dynastic Orders of recognized Royal and Princely Houses, as recognized by the Grand Justiciar of the Grand Officer of Arms.
- Awards of Honor and Merit awarded by the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus.

ORDER OF PRECEDENCE OF THE MEDALS OF THE ORDER OF SAINT LAZARUS

- GCMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Knight Grand Cross
- Gold Cross of Merit
- Gold Medal of Merit
- Twenty-year Meritorious Service Decoration
- KMLJ/DMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Knight or Dame
- Silver Cross of Merit
- Silver Medal of Merit
- CMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Commander
- Bronze Cross of Merit
- Bronze Medal of Merit
- OMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Officer
- MMLJ – Companionate of Merit in the rank of Member
- Donat Cross First Class
- Donat Cross Second Class
- Donat Cross Third Class
- Crusader's Medal

Please also note:

- Commemorative medals produced by Saint Lazarus should not be worn except at the specific event it commemorates.
- Commemorative pilgrimage medals

are work only during the pilgrimage it commemorates.

- When looking at a set of mounted medals, the highest in the order of precedence goes to the extreme right, towards the center of the chest. The rest are mounted in descending order of precedence from right to left.

I am always available to answer any questions you may have.

Atavis et Armis,

Donald L. Ross, D.M.D., KLJ

CAPT, USPHS

Custodian of the Insignia, Grand Priory of America

Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem

custos@st-lazarus.us

EXCLUSIVE PRINTS STILL AVAILABLE

There are still some Limited Edition 3-piece print sets remaining from the Grand Priory of America's Inaugural 2023 Collection of The Lazarian Legacy: "Portraits for Peace" recently displayed at the GPC in Tampa, Florida. This limited series of 30 sets will never be reproduced as a complete set again. Each set of prints within this series contains all three Giclee quality works accompanied in matte frames signed by the artist, dated and inscribed with the number of the edition series. Furthermore, a wax seal of The Order of St Lazarus will be centered and applied on each of the frames. A Certificate of Authenticity accompanies your limited edition set which documents its exclusivity and scarcity. We value the artistic integrity and individuality of each set piece, along with our commitment to preserve the rarity of these limited print works. Therefore, once this set series of 30 is sold out, no additional reproductions of the inaugural 2023 collection will ever be made available again. Each Limited Edition 3-piece set is \$500 USD each, and unsigned individual prints are available for purchase for \$100 USD each. Please contact michael.graciano.art@gmail.com via email with your interest and for payment instructions. Remember that 100% of the proceeds go the GPA's Ukraine Relief Support Fund to help wounded amputees - soldiers, women and children - in Ukraine.



H.E. The Chevalier Michael R. Milner,
USPHS (Ret), DHSc, PA-C, KCLJ, OMLJ,
SMLJ

**Grand Prioral Hospitaller,
Grand Priory of America**

Project Funding Continues in a Challenging Time

Hello, Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
If you read my report in the last newsletter, you will recall that we had a substantial shortfall in the Pentecostal Appeal funding for 2023, and due to this shortfall, the AASL Board of Trustees accepted the Hospitaller/Almoner workgroup recommendations for the different Tier funding plan last October in Tampa. It was agreed then that the Board would review the final donation amount after the new year and make a final recommendation about which programs we should fund this year. Unfortunately, we didn't get the "Miracle" we prayed for in Tampa, and the PA donation shortfall was nearly 39%. The boards' final decision will be shared in this article.

Here are the grants we funded for this year:

1. Infant Welfare Center in the Holy Land for program support related to children- \$60,000
2. Mexican Leprosy Clinics for clinical care services- \$55,000
3. Matching grant programs for local jurisdictions- \$18,000
4. UMC/OSL Clinic in Tanzania for continued medical supply support- \$26,000
5. Grand Prior's Discretionary Emergency Fund- \$10,000
6. St. Louis Hospital in the Holy Land for humanitarian supplies- \$5,000
7. Rising Star Outreach for leprosy clinical treatment services in India-\$20,000
8. Georgia Transplant Foundation for rural organ donation/transplant educational services (second year of planned funding)-\$5,000
9. Texas Children Transplant Center for help with low-income family clinical needs-\$2,500
10. Amy's House Children's Transplant Center for help with low-income family clinical needs-\$2,500
11. Loyola Rayburn Prison Educational program support to reduce recidivism (matched by local donor)-\$5,000

Total 2024 AASL funding: \$209,000

As we proceed, please remember my last newsletter article, which described the "new paradigm" endorsed and approved by the AASL board last October. In the future, each jurisdiction can apply one-half of their local jurisdiction's Pentecostal Appeal donations to local projects to generate enhanced local interest in the Order and raise visibility for the Order in your local areas. You will see in our Grand Prioral Almoner's report in this newsletter the goals established for each jurisdiction. Each member will have ample opportunities to recommend new programs to help us achieve your local Christian Acts of Mercy goals. I encourage everyone to look for these projects to get behind. Our past GPA-focused signature programs supporting Leprosy and Organ Donation will still be our view. However, we hope this 'new paradigm' will give us more opportunities to make a difference where we live, work, and play.

I remain open to conversations from any member with ideas or suggestions for increasing our impact in the United States and Internationally. Please reach to me via email at: hospitaller@st-lazarus.us or via cell phone at: 646-812-1139.

Patty and I hope that you have a wonderful Spring and Summer. God Bless you and your families, and thank you for what you do for our Order! ✨



Ross Witty of Children's Transplant Initiative receives a donation for the continued work of their outreach.



H.E. The Chevalier, Francis DeSales
McWilliams III, CPT, USA (Ret),
KCLJ, KMLJ, GMLJ, DC1stLJ

**Commander,
Commandery of the Southwest**

As we look forward to summer and beyond our Commandery has begun its focus on the Grand Prioral Council for 2025 which we will be hosting. Our committee, chaired by Virginia Mampre has chosen San Antonio for our meeting site which will be in October. We have not settled on a hotel or the exact date as yet but will let all know once they are fixed. Our charitable focus for the past several years has been to support organizations that help to provide low-cost temporary housing for families going through transplants. For us, this started many years ago with Nora's Home, but more recently we have focused on newer organizations including the Children's Transplant Initiative in Houston and Amy's House in Temple Texas. CTI founded by Ross and Cheryl Witty spoke to our Commandery earlier this year and their organization maintains several apartments near Texas Children's

Hospital, Houston which performs the most children's transplants in the nation. CTI has recently expanded to Austin opening 2 apartments at the request of the Dell Children's Medical Center. Our Inquisitor, Charles Bearden is keeping in touch with Amy's House as he lives in Temple and presented our donation to them.

In conjunction with our focus on organ transplants, our Hospitaller, Col. Daniel Beauchamp, has identified a member of the military, Spc Christian Sutton who has led a team that have recruited more than 6,000 troops as potential bone marrow donors. Daniel will be presenting Spc Sutton our Companionate of Merit award for his service in promoting organ donation. We're hoping that this may lead more in the active military to look closely at St. Lazarus.

Don Ross and his wife Marta will be hosting our next meeting in late July where we will be furthering our plans for GPC 2025 and identifying opportunities for our members to help

make it another great event.

For the last quarter of the year, we are looking forward to seeing all of our friends in Newport Beach in October and learning about the good deeds being done by our Order both in the US and around the world. We also will be anticipating another meaningful service and dinner meeting for our St. Lazarus day celebration in December. ✨



Join David Juliano and the Order of St. Lazarus

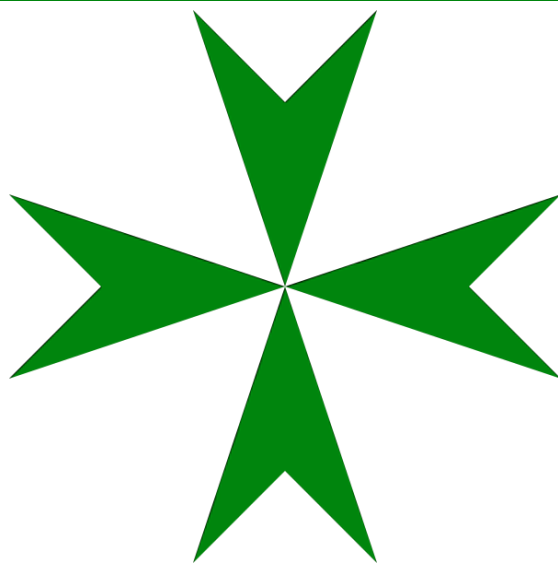
Paris 2025

June 10 - 16, 2025



Host:

David Juliano



Itinerary



June 10 – Depart on your overnight flight from the USA to Paris.



June 11 – Arrive in Paris, where your guide will escort you to your bus for a panoramic tour of the city, including seeing the Seine, the Champs Elysees, Arc de Triomphe, with a view of the Eiffel Tower. Then, enjoy a relaxing, hour-long Seine river cruise and see Paris the way it was meant to be seen! Spend the rest of your first evening on your own in the city, and watch the Paris sunset from your hotel after a relaxing dinner. (D)



June 12 – This morning, enjoy a tour of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Denis. Considered the first Gothic Church (built in 1144), it is the burial place of French royalty from the 10th through 18th centuries. Then, make your way to the Ecole Militaire Royal, a complex of buildings that house various military training facilities. It was founded in 1750 by King Louis XV and is currently an active military academy. It was classified as a national monument in 1990. Then, visit the Cloître des Billettes, the only remaining medieval cloister in Paris. It takes its name from the former convent there, which housed the brothers of the Charite de Notre Dame called Billettes and later given the name Carmes (Carmelites). As you return to the city for a relaxing evening, catch a glimpse of the Gare Saint-Lazare train station. Enjoy dinner and overnight at your hotel. (B, D)

June 13 – This morning, enjoy a day trip to the famed Versailles. When the château was built there, Versailles was a country village; today, it is a suburb of Paris, some 20 kilometers southwest of the French capital. The Court of Versailles was the center of political power in France from 1682, when Louis XIV moved from Paris, until the royal family was forced to return to the capital in October 1789 after the beginning of the French Revolution. Versailles is, therefore, famous not only as a building but as a symbol of the system of absolute monarchy of the Ancient Régime. Enjoy a tour of the palace, including the Trianon Palace (set over a single story flanked by a courtyard on one side and gardens on the other), and a visit to Marie Antoinette's estate. Afterward, return to your hotel for an evening on your own, including dinner and your overnight stay. (B, D)

June 14 – Embark on a day trip to Boigny this morning. Following the expulsion of the Christian forces from the Holy Land, it's here that the Order of Saint Lazarus stationed its headquarters near Orléans in France. By the 15th century, the general management of the Order gravitated towards three centers: the main center at Boigny, with subservient houses extending through France, Central Europe, and Hungary; a southern Italian center at Capua assuming independent

responsibility for the holdings in the Kingdom of Sicily; and an English center at Burton Lazars assuming independent responsibility for holdings in England. King Henry VIII eventually abolished the English branch of the Order in 1544, though not with papal consent. The second half of the 16th century was to see the remaining two factions of the Order follow different courses in their subsequent history. Enjoy a short service together at the Chateau De La Commanderie, followed by a lunch at the event center in Boigny. Return to your hotel for dinner and your overnight stay. (B, L, D)

June 15 – This morning, enjoy a service at the American Church In Paris. Then, take a trip to the famous catacombs, (built in the 14th century to store the exhumed bones from the overflowing Paris cemetery). Afterward, return to the city and enjoy an afternoon on your own in Paris, or enjoy an optional excursion to tour the Eiffel Tower! Relax into your final dinner and overnight at your hotel. (B, D)

June 16 – Depart on your return flight to the USA with memories to last a lifetime!

STARTING AT
\$4,596*
FROM TAMPA, FL

YOUR ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE INCLUDES:

Basic Tour & Guided Sightseeing

Round-trip International Airfare

Additional baggage & optional fees may apply; see fine print for details

Fuel Surcharges and Government Taxes

Subject to change

Admin. Fees, Entrance Fees, Hotel Gratuities

Program Fees, Meals as listed in the itinerary

Deluxe Motorcoaches, First-Class Hotels & much more!

*A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.



PROGRAM CONDITIONS

INCLUDED IN PRICE:

• Round-trip international airfare • Deluxe motorcoaches • 1st class hotels • Guided sightseeing • Entrance fees to sites visited (as listed in itinerary) • Meals as listed in the itinerary • Hotel gratuities • Program fees • Administrative Fee • Fuel surcharges \$600 • Government Taxes \$98 (Increases in government tax and fees are subject to change)

NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE:

• Optional Travel Protection Program (see premium schedule) • Extensions and optional sightseeing as listed in the brochure • Miscellaneous fees such as individual transfers; passports, laundry, lunches, beverages at meals & baggage fees • Voluntary "Love Offering" for guide and driver • \$100 Document fee for Non-US/Canadian residents • Visa for non-US citizens • Required Vaccinations • Required medical testing before, during, and/or after travel

ACCOMMODATIONS:

Price is per person based on double occupancy. When available, single rooms are often smaller than doubles. While EOT will try to match roommates, EOT cannot guarantee a roommate will be available. Roommates may be assigned as late as 30 days prior to departure and, if one is not available or you request a single room, the following charges apply: \$998 during the basic tour.

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE:

Payment	Amount	Due Date
Initial Deposit	\$300	Upon registration
Second Deposit	\$1,500	02/15/25
Full Deposit	\$1,800	Payment received between 02/16/25 - 03/26/25 must pay the full deposit amount and may be subject to late registration fees.
Final Payment	03/27/25. If paid after the due date, a late payment fee of \$100 will be assessed.	
Travel Protection Amount	The Travel Protection Plan premium will be due no later than 02/15/25 to departure to be in full effect. Travel protection premiums must be paid in addition to our deposits and in advance of the final payment for coverage to be in effect.	

REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED after February 15, 2025:

We welcome registrations after 02/15/25. Registrations received between 02/16/25 - 03/12/25 will incur a fee starting at \$100 per person. Registrations received between 03/13/25 - 03/27/25 will incur a fee starting at \$200 per person. Registrations received between 03/28/25 - 04/11/25 will incur a fee starting at \$400 per person. Registrations received on 04/12/25 or later will incur an additional fee based on air availability. Additional fees will be advised upon registration.

CANCELLATION FEES:

100% of Cancellation Fees are covered by the optional Travel Protection Program provided premium has been paid and reason for cancellation is coverable. Those who do not take travel protection should be aware of the following per-person cancellation penalties: From day of registration to 105 days prior to departure, you will be charged the \$100 non-refundable cancellation fee plus any airline fees. Additionally, thereafter, you will be charged any airline penalties and a single room supplement if your cancellation forces your roommate into a single plus the following per-person charges: 104-60 days = \$400; 59-45 days = \$600; 44-31 days = 40% of total cost; 30 days to day of departure = 100% of total cost. Submit cancellation in writing. On or after day of departure, there will be no refund for any services not used.

STATEMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

EOT does not accept responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air schedules, hotel overbookings, other hotel related problems or causes, and/or travel supplier cancellations or postponements. Travel suppliers include all tour operators, cruise lines, airlines, hotels, bus companies, entertainment venues, and any other travel supplier used to operate the tour. All such losses or expenses will be the responsibility of the passenger. EOT reserves the right to make adjustments to the itinerary as deemed desirable by EOT, and EOT reserves the right to cancel any tour prior to departure. If a tour is canceled beyond the control of EOT, EOT will provide a refund or a future travel credit to be used two years from the date of issuance for the value of all funds paid by the passenger less nonrefundable travel supplier prepaid deposits, travel supplier change fees, nonrefundable travel protection premiums, and a \$150 administration fee.

FIT TO TRAVEL STATEMENT:

Passengers registering for the tour accept the responsibility for being in good health and able to walk and travel on the tour. Because many of the sites are not accessible to the physically challenged and space limitations on tour buses, wheelchairs and scooters cannot be accommodated. Those needing oxygen or other ambulatory assistance will find the tour extremely limiting in their experiences. Persons using C-pap machines requiring distilled water will need to inform us ahead of time, so we can work with local operators to prepare as it is not always available. EOT reserves the right to refuse or revoke travel to anyone who is, in the sole judgment of EOT, incapable of group travel without causing undue demands upon the staff or other tour participants. Accessible rooms/cabins are limited and subject to confirmation after receiving the passenger's written request. If you have questions, please see eo.travel/fit-to-travel-statement or contact Educational Opportunities Tours Inc. for more details.

PASSPORT INFORMATION:

Passport information must be submitted to our office no later than 02/15/25. Failure to provide your passport information to our office by this date may result in change fees or denial of travel. Discrepancies in information may result in change fees, delays in receiving travel documents for your trip, or denial of travel. Any fees incurred due to discrepancies are the responsibility of the passenger.

Travel Protection Plan - Premium Rates - For a full description of the plan, go to: www.tripmate.com/wpF427E

Trip Cost	Plan Cost	Trip Cost	Plan Cost	Trip Cost	Plan Cost
\$0 - \$1000	\$99	\$3501-\$4000	\$399	\$6501-\$7000	\$699
\$1001-\$1500	\$149	\$4001-\$4500	\$449	\$7001-\$8000	\$799
\$1501-\$2000	\$199	\$4501-\$5000	\$499	\$8001-\$9000	\$899
\$2001-\$2500	\$249	\$5001-\$5500	\$549	\$9001-\$10000	\$999
\$2501-\$3000	\$299	\$5501-\$6000	\$599		
\$3001-\$3500	\$349	\$6001-\$6500	\$649		

Schedule of Coverages

Part A *	Maximum Benefit
Trip Cancellation	Trip Cost

Part B

Trip Interruption.	Trip Cost
Missed Connection	\$500
Travel Delay (Up to 10 days & up to \$150 Per Day)	\$1,500

Medical Expense / Emergency Evacuation

Accident and Sickness Medical Expense	\$25,000
Emergency Evacuation and Repatriation	\$50,000

Accidental Death & Dismemberment.	\$25,000
Baggage and Personal Effects	\$1,000
Baggage Delay	\$200

PRICE INCREASES:

All prices quoted in this brochure are subject to change prior to payment in full due to currency fluctuations, fuel surcharge increases, government taxes and fees increases or unforeseen circumstances. In addition, you may be subject to a price increase after payment in full has been received due to potential government imposed taxes and fees.

AIRLINE ROUTES AND TICKETS:

In order to keep prices low, EOT does not guarantee the most direct routing to your final destination. Once issued, airline tickets cannot be changed or refunded thereafter. Air transportation to/from your destination will be economy class on IATA and ARC carriers utilizing APEX or SUPER APEX non-refundable, non-amendable tickets for groups of 10 or more flying together on entire itinerary. If you choose to depart from a different city than your group or traveling companion, or deviate your flight and/or trip plans, and/or you are taking a pre or post tour, you may fly on a different scheduled flight(s) than the rest of your group. If you make your own air arrangements, you are responsible for booking all needed flights for your travel unless specified otherwise. Contact guest services for further details.

FLIGHT TIMES AND SEATING:

All flights are subject to change by the airlines without advance notice. EOT is not responsible for such changes or delays and does not reimburse expenses resulting from such delays. If you are making your own flight arrangements to the departure city, we recommend you purchase a ticket that can be exchanged without large penalties. There is no advance seat selection for groups on most airlines. Early check-in is necessary to secure seats with travel companions and those with special needs. Due to security measures taken at airports, it is advisable to arrive at the airport three hours prior to departure time. Seating is solely under the control of the airlines.

ADDITIONAL AIRLINE FEES:

You will likely incur additional airline checked baggage fees that are not included in the price of the tour. These fees vary by airline and are at the airline's discretion on each segment of the flight itinerary. Additionally, you may incur optional fees (food, excess baggage, overweight baggage, items of personal nature, etc.) as well. For more information, visit eo.travel/travel-info/airline-fees.

ON OWN DEVIATIONS:

On Own Deviations from the standard tour program must be submitted in writing and are subject to additional airline fees, if applicable. Transfers for passengers who deviate are not included.

ITINERARY CHANGES:

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this brochure. While EOT will make every effort to ensure you will see all sites listed in this brochure, the availability of sites, order of sites and/or days and number of days may be altered to accommodate changes in airline, hotel schedules, and local conditions. No changes to the itinerary are effective unless approved in writing and signed by an authorized officer of the tour operator. Except as stated herein, no other person is authorized to cancel, modify or vary the tour arrangements or to make any representation of warranty concerning the tour.

Due to airline schedules, some participants may receive one or two extra leisure days at a nominal per day charge and some extensions may not be available on all departure dates. If itinerary changes necessitate extra overnights, you will be charged \$125 per night; single rooms \$175 per night. Meals for extra nights are not included.

VALIDITY DATE:

This brochure is valid until 07/15/24. If validity date has passed, current brochures may be found at www.eo.travel. Registrations will still be accepted after the validity date.

RELEASE INFORMATION:

Payment of deposit indicates permission for EOT or its agents to record the registrant's participation and appearance on video tape, audio tape, film, photograph, or any other medium and to use the registrant's name, likeness, voice, comments, submitted documentation, written papers, and/or biographical material without restrictions or limitation for any advertising, marketing, publicity, educational or promotional purpose which EOT or its agents deem appropriate, unless the registrant or guardian otherwise notifies EOT in writing prior to departure.

Enrollment in, payment of deposit and/or acceptance of final documents, vouchers, or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the Passenger Agreement and Program Conditions of the brochure. Prices are based on tariffs in effect as of January 1 of the previous year and are subject to adjustment without notice in the event of any change or currency fluctuation.

Except where otherwise stated, EOT acts only as agent for the relevant supplier in securing hotels, transportation and other travel services and in no event shall EOT be liable for failure by any such supplier to render any transportation, lodging or other travel service to be provided on the tour. **The passenger agrees that EOT assumes no liability for injury, death, damage, loss, theft, accident, delay, any lost or damaged luggage, or irregularity which may occur by reason of any negligent or wilful act or omission of any suppliers of service.**

EOT does not own or operate any of the suppliers of services to your tour. Similarly without limiting the foregoing, passenger agrees to hold EOT harmless for any defect in any vehicle, plane, boat, bus, car, van or other vehicle, act of war or insurrection, terrorist activity, revolt or other civil uprising, military action, strikes or labor unrest or any Act of God or for any other act of any third party. Florida law will be applicable to any dispute which arises out of or concerns this brochure or your tour. Any and all litigation must be brought only in and for courts in Polk County, Florida to the exclusion of litigation anywhere else in the world. Educational Opportunities Tours is the tour operator and is solely responsible for the travel program. Educational Opportunities Tours is registered with the State of Florida as a Seller of Travel. Registration No. ST24130. CST2027682-40.

Additional Cancellation Protection

When You purchase this Travel Protection Plan at or before the final payment due date for Your Trip, you also receive the Educational Opportunities Tours Pre-Departure Cancellation Waiver Benefit that allows you to cancel your Educational Opportunities Tours travel arrangements up to the day of departure for any reason (excludes no shows and those not permitted boarding). With this Educational Opportunities Tours Cancellation Waiver, your non-refundable land cancellation penalties will be refunded in Educational Opportunities Tours travel certificates. Certain travel programs are not eligible for this benefit, such as cruise and land programs listed and detailed on the Educational Opportunities website (www.eo.travel). **Premiums must be paid in addition to initial or second deposit prior to the final payment for coverage to be in effect. Part A** -Travel Arrangement Benefits are provided by Educational Opportunities Tours. **Part B** - Travel Protection Benefits are provided by United States Fire Insurance Co. *For New York Residents Only: Part A Benefits are travel arrangement benefits underwritten by United States Insurance Company.

Conditions and Limitations

This is a brief description of the plan available for all Travel Protection sales for Trips departing January 1, 2013 and after. Certain exclusions and limitations apply and are detailed in the Certificate of Coverage. For example, coverage does not apply to: any Sickness or condition of you, a Traveling Companion or a Family Member traveling with you that existed during the 60 days prior to the effective date of the coverages (The Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion is waived if payment for this plan is received by Educational Opportunities Tours, Inc. at or before the final payment due date for Your Trip or 105 days before departure date, whichever occurs first.), suicide, normal pregnancy, war or any act of war. Other Covered Reasons, as defined, includes the following events or their consequences: Cancellation or Interruption of your Trip due to: Inclement Weather, unannounced Strike, mechanical breakdown that causes complete cessation of services of Your Common Carrier for at least 12 consecutive hours; a documented traffic accident while en route to departure; being hijacked or quarantined; jury duty; destruction of your home or destination by fire, flood, burglary or natural disaster; being called to the emergency service of government to provide aid or relief in the event of a natural disaster; a documented theft of passports or visas; a transfer of employment of 250 miles or more; or Revocation of military leave. For further information ask for the Certificate of Coverage which fully details the coverages, provisions, limitations and exclusions of the plan offered and is available to you, upon request, at any time prior to your purchase of the plan. The Travel Protection Plan is only available for citizens or residents of the United States of America. **This plan is underwritten by:** United States Fire Insurance Company, Eatontown, NJ. Benefits are administered by: Trip Mate, Inc., 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO, 64114, 1-800-888-7292 (*in CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency).

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