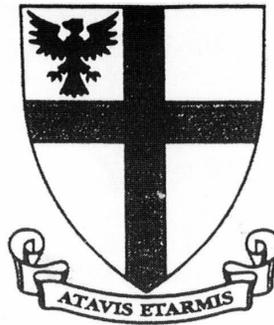


**THE MILITARY AND
HOSPITALER ORDER
OF SAINT LAZARUS
OF JERUSALEM**

GRAND PRIORY OF AMERICA



NEWSLETTER

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This issue's cover depicts an ancient woodcut concerning the Order of Saint Lazarus which dates from the Middle Ages when the Order was widespread in Western Europe.

SPIRITUAL MESSAGE

Preliminary Ideas on Basil's Notion of Human Nature

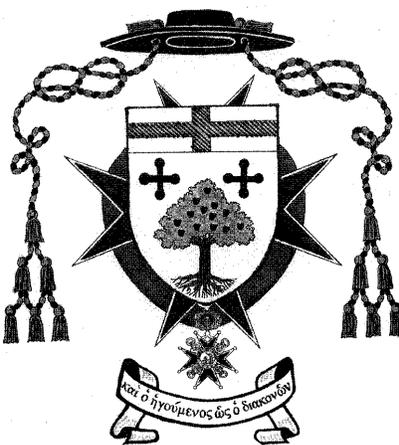
by

Monsignor George Appleyard, SchLJ, OMLJ, BD

If we are going to glean the wisdom from the various rules and guidelines Basil laid down for those zealous for a full Christian life, then we must first understand how Basil saw the human being, with its body, mind and soul.

After his "great awakening," Basil settled down in the spring of the year 358 to a hermit's life in a place across the river from his family's estate at Annesi. While he wanted solitude and tranquility, he did not want to be alone because he believed that kind of life was too prone to selfishness and even self-delusion. He convinced Gregory Nazianzus to join him; but Gregory, his old college chum, did not find the place to his liking and left. It was in this period of intense contemplation that Basil began to develop his view of the ascetical life: the life of and active Christian. Basil, at first, did not seek to divide the community of Christian believers into two groups (the zealous and the mediocre), but when he realized that not every baptized Christian was equally fervent, he began to concentrate on the more zealous believers who could then, in turn, be an inspiration and a model for the others.

While engaging in deep prayer at this time, Basil still formulated a very definite psychology based on his understanding of the human person and not on some mystical intuition. His point of departure was the description of the creation of human kind in the Bible's Book of Genesis. Because of the divine breath in the human person, Basil said that each individual has the "power of understanding and recognizing their own creator." The purpose of human life for Basil is the ultimate possession of the blessedness to come, but this blessedness arises from a sense of proper pride-of-honor-that one has become like God. But he maintained that the human personality, the human soul, is malleable and pliable. He quips in the fifth homily in his work *On the Six Days of Creation* (hereafter *Hexaameron*). "Let no one living in vice despair over himself, knowing that-as agriculture changes the properties of plants-so the diligence of the soul in the pursuit of virtue can triumph over all sorts of infirmities." Thus Basil teaches that the human person is dynamic and open to influences. His idea is perhaps more clearly stated in his homily on psalm 44 where he says, "we change in our body, as has been shown, and in our soul and in the inner person, always shifting our thoughts with the circumstances." Yet there is a permanent element under the individual's dynamic personality upon which human nature is founded: the "image of God." With this in



Appleyard Arms

On December 10th, 2005, The Very Reverend Monsignor George Appleyard was granted armorial bearings by Fergus Gillespie, Chief Herald of Ireland. They are recorded in Volume Z, folio 64, in the County of Dublin. A rendering of this armorial achievement with the added insignia of a Senior Chaplain of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem is depicted here.

Congratulations to Monsignor Appleyard on this honour.

Respectfully submitted by:
Ernest E. Aitchison
Knight of Justice and
Herald of Arms

mind, Basil (in his book *On the Holy Spirit*) says we must first tear down any false self that might have been erected on this foundation (the image of God) and rebuilt properly. "Only after a person is purified from the shame whose stain he took on through wickedness and has come back to his natural beauty-and, as it were, cleansing the royal image and restoring its ancient form-only then is it possible for that person to draw near to the Paraclete" (i.e., the Holy Spirit as consoler and comforter).

God, as though giving human kind some sort of manual for the care and keeping of this divine image, inspires the Bible. It is this Holy Writ that is Basil's basic rule for Christian living. In his sixth homily on the *Hexaameron* he writes, "None of the divinely inspired words, even as much as a syllable, is an idle word." By and large Basil avoided a symbolic or allegorical interpretation of Sacred Scripture, but insisted that the Bible be read and interpreted according to its spiritual intent. That spiritual intent enjoins both parties: God revealing himself in the pages of Sacred Scripture, and the individual who takes up those pages and reads them. In the first *Hexaameron* homily he says that an individual must prepare-and be prepared-to hear of God's

might deeds. He goes on to enumerate the process of getting ready to read the Bible: to quell the unruly appetites and compulsions of the body (i.e., the passions), to foster a certain detachment from the worries of daily life, to cultivate a devotion to work, and possess and intellectual curiosity to seek and explore, along with a certain vigilance which drives the individual to look in all directions for a "worthy concept of God."

Basil clearly taught that by contemplation the mind can arrive at some understanding of what existed even before the world was created, but he also lamented that these things go unplumbed by those who do not develop their understanding. This idea is rooted in Basil's holistic approach to nature. He says in *Hexaameron*, "you will find that the world was not devised at random or to no purpose, but to contribute to some useful end and to the great advantage of all beings, if it is truly a training ground for rational souls and a school for attaining the knowledge of God. Through visible and perceptible objects it provides guidance to the mind for the contemplation of the invisible."

Basil was a staunch believer that the environment influenced the individual. He returns repeatedly to this point. Just one example of many can be found in the fourth *Hexaameron* homily where he points out that steady listening to dissolute music engenders great impurity in the soul.

Basil also believed that the human mind is formed in a process over a period of time. Near the end of the second *Hexaameron* homily, as he is about to bring his discourse to an end, he stops for the day, saying, "so as to afford time to our industrious listeners to review what they have heard. Thus, if there is anything useful in it, they may keep it in their memory and-by their diligent review, as if by some sort of ripening-they may expect to gain for themselves its benefits." He concludes the homily with a lovely benediction which presents this whole process of learning and contemplation in miniature: "May God-who created such mighty things and ordained that these petty words be spoken-grant to you an understanding of his truth in its entirety, in order that from visible objects you may comprehend the invisible Being, and from the greatness and beauty of creatures you may conceive the proper idea concerning our Creator."



The Grand Prior's Report



Dear Confreres and Consoeurs,

Our Grand Prior very graciously offered me this space so that I can report to you on the meetings of our Governing Council and Chapter General held on April 16 – 30, 2006, in Baden, Austria. I welcome this opportunity, as the actions taken at the meeting were particularly important, pointing the course of our Order for the near term, and hopefully for years to come.

For those of you who may not be entirely familiar with the governmental structure of our Obedience, the Governing Council is comprised of the Heads of each national jurisdiction and is the highest functioning body of the Order, meeting at least biannually. In contrast, the Chapter General, which is the supreme governing body and consists of all Knights and Dames of the Order, meets only on the call of the Grand Master or Governing Council, and requires 180 days prior notice. However, when called into session, the Chapter General's decisions take precedence over all others.

In Baden, the Governing Council met first. Then first item of business was a recommendation by the joint Reunification Commission that the constitution for the reunited Order, as previously approved by the Governing Council, should be amended to include certain changes proposed earlier by the Duke of Brissac, but not included in the document as first adopted. With little discussion, the amendments recommended were adopted by unanimous vote. I'm pleased to report that those amendments have also been adopted by the Malta Obedience. As a result, the foundation of the reunited Order, its constitution, is ready to be put in place upon reunification.

It was noted that the two year term of the Duke of Brissac as Acting Grand Master had expired, as had the similar term of the Duke of Seville as Grand Master Elect. The Chairman suggested that in view of the Duke of Brissac's long and distinguished service to the Order, the Council should consider offering him the honorary title of Grand Master Emeritus, providing him with ceremonial precedence second only to the Grand Master. A motion to that effect carried by unanimous vote, and the Duke of Brissac indicated that he would be pleased to accept the title.

In perhaps the most significant development of the meeting a resolution was then presented which stated, in brief, that the Paris Obedience and the Malta Obedience "shall unite and merge together, forming one body," that "the officers of the Paris Obedience are...authorized and directed to take any all such actions as may be necessary, advisable or desirable to implement this resolution and to consummate the reunification and merger herein contemplated..." and that the reunification and merger herein contemplated shall be consummated as soon as practicable, but no later than 1 November 2006, unless otherwise agreed." The resolution continued on to provide that the reunification and merger are to be conditioned upon certain basic requirements, all of which our counterparts in the Malta Obedience have since accepted.

After a full discussion, the resolution was adopted by a vote of ten to two. I understand that the complete text of the resolution, as well as that of the amended constitution will be published soon on our web site, and I recommend that you read both.

Finally, since the Paris Obedience presently has no Grand Master, the Governing Council voted unanimously to delegate the responsibility and authority of that office to the Paris Obedience component of the Joint Reunification Commission (Lady Primrose Potter, H.E. Chev. Robert Vandewater, and the undersigned) during the interim period until reunification. This is not a significant change, as that responsibility and authority was in large part delegated more than a year ago. Practically speaking, the only change is that responsibility for promotions to Knight or Dame Grand Cross has been added.

The Chapter General convened the following morning. After a thoughtful opening statement by the Duke of Brissac in which he expressed some of his concerns and suggestions for the future, he announced that he would accept the title of Grand Master Emeritus, signifying his retirement. He received a long and well-deserved standing ovation.

Next, reports were received from the representatives of the various national jurisdictions, to be followed later by reports from the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, all reflecting that the Paris Obedience has recovered from the trauma of the meeting in Toronto some two years ago, and that it is once again functioning well and active in fulfilling its historic mission. I anticipate that the substance of those reports will be made available in other forums in due course.

The Governing Council then reported its approval of amendments to the constitution for the reunited Order, and its adoption of the resolution authorizing and directing reunification by no later than November 1, 2006, as described above.

Copies of latter were distributed to those in attendance, and a lengthy and thorough discussion of its provisions ensued. At its conclusion, a resolution was moved and seconded stating that the Chapter General endorses and supports the action of the Governing Council in adopting the resolution authorizing and directing reunification. The motion was approved by an overwhelming majority, with only one dissenting vote expressed.

At one point, a question was raised about how receptive our Obedience is to reconciliation with dissidents. In response, it was pointed out that we have made it clear from the first that we would welcome any who wish to rejoin the our Obedience, whether individuals or national jurisdictions, with the exception to the handful of individuals who were expelled from the Order. In fact, there have been encouraging contacts and dialogues, but, as explained to the meeting, at present it is in the best interests of the parties concerned for such matters to be handled with discretion and confidentiality. However, there is a general understanding that the place will quicken after reunification is consummated.

As I look back on Baden, the thing that impresses me most about our meetings was that while the discussions were open, forthright and vigorous, in the end the actions taken were, without exception, approved by unanimous or near unanimous votes, indicating a very broad and deep consensus favoring the path our Obedience is now charged to follow. I should add as a footnote that despite continuing efforts, the Duke of Seville has not yet received the annulment he seeks. We continue to be optimistic, but at this point the only thing that can be said with any certainty is that whatever the situation, it will be addressed by a reunified Order.

I'm delighted to add that our Commandery of the Southwest has accepted an invitation from the Joint Reunification Commission to host a formal ceremony of reunification at our Grand Prioral Council in Houston. It will be a historic occasion, and I hope that many of you will be present to mark it.

Lastly, let me express my sincere gratitude and enthusiastic commendation to our members in the European Commander in Austria, as well as to our friends in the Malta Obedience who contributed their time and effort to assure that Baden was an outstanding success.

Confraternally yours,
Bruce M. Harrington, GCLJ, KMLJ, MD
Chancellor

The Eyes of Texas are Upon You

Dear Confreeres and Consoeurs:

On behalf of the Commandery of the Southwest, it is my great pleasure to welcome you to the City of Houston and to the 2006 Grand Prioral Council! This will be a memorable meeting with the formal reunification of the Order, the installation of a new Grand Prior, and the honoring Hans von Leden for his years of service.

Some of you may be surprised to learn that Houston is verdant with gorgeous homes, golf courses, museums and performing arts venues. As a matter of fact, Houston is second only to New York City in the number

of performing arts seats, all within The Wortham Center, Jones Hall, the Alley Theater and The Hobby Center.

NASA (the manned spaceflight center) is 50 miles to the south of town. The Texas Medical Center is the largest medical center in the world, and is also one of the foremost leading centers in medicine and research. The Texas Medical Center occupies 740 acres and has over 60,000 employees and welcomes more than 100,000 patients and visitors every day!

We have one of the most extensive Museum Districts in the U.S. We are also proud of James A.

Baker III Institute for Public Policy within Rice University and our many institutions of higher learning.

We sincerely want to welcome you to our city and we know that you will have a memorable experience. Members of the commandery stand ready to assist you in any way possible.

In the service of St. Lazarus,
I am.

Confraternally yours,
C. Richard Stasney,
KCLJ, OMLJ, MD,
Commander
of The Southwest

<i>The 2006 Grand Prioral Council</i> Houston, Texas, October 11-15, 2006	
<p>Wednesday, October 11, 2006</p> <p>9:00am - 11:00am Registration & Information Desk Open 10:00am - 3:00pm Tour of NASA - (will require a minimum of 10 participants) 4:00pm - 6:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open 6:00pm - 8:00pm Welcoming Reception @ St. Regis - (coat & tie) 8:00pm Dinner on your own</p>	<p>Friday, October 13, 2006</p> <p>8:00am Mass - Ambassador Room 8:00am - 9:30am Breakfast 9:00am - 4:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open 9:00am - 12:00pm Grand Prioral Meeting - (coat & tie) 12:30pm - 2:00pm Official Lunch @ St. Regis 2:30pm - 4:00pm Meeting of the American Assoc. - (coat & tie) 5:30pm Postulants Bus leaves for Vigil 6:00pm Buses depart for Vigil @ St. Anne's Catholic Church - (dark suit / cocktail dress, cape)</p> <p>6:30pm Vigil Service - (req'd for postulants) End of Vigil Buses depart for River Oaks Country Club, Reception & Dinner 10:15pm Buses depart for Hotel</p>
<p>Thursday, October 12, 2006</p> <p>8:00am Mass - Ambassador Room 8:00am - 9:30am Breakfast 8:00am - 5:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open 8:30am - 12:30pm Tours - (casual dress) 11:00am - 12:00pm Meeting of the Commanders - (coat & tie) 11:00am - 12:00pm Meeting of the Hospitallers & Almoners - (coat & tie) 11:00am - 12:00pm Meeting of the Chaplains 12:30pm - 2:00pm Lunch @ St Regis 12:30pm - 5:00pm Meeting of the Marshalls (includes lunch) - (coat & tie) 2:30pm - 5:00pm Meeting of the Board of Directors of American Association - (coat & tie) 2:30pm - 5:00pm Internet Commission Meeting 6:00pm Buses Depart for Houston Country Club - (coat & tie/cocktail dress) 6:30pm - 9:00pm Formal Reunification Ceremony of the Order 6:30pm - 9:00pm Buffet Dinner @ HCC 9:00pm Buses leave for St. Regis</p>	<p>Saturday, October 14, 2006</p> <p>8:00am Mass - Ambassador Room 8:00am - 9:30am Breakfast 8:00am - 9:30am Postulants Breakfast - (req'd for postulants, casual dress) 9:00am - 12:00pm Registration & Information Desk Open 9:30am - 11:30pm Rehearsal - (req'd for postulants, promotions & award recipients, casual dress) 3:00pm Marshalls depart for Church 4:15pm Buses depart for Investiture @ The Church of St. John the Divine - (white tie or dress uniform/ dark formal gown/evening formal dress, decorations & cape) 5:00pm Investiture End of Investiture Buses depart to the Junior League 8:00pm - Midnight Reception & Gala Ball</p>
	<p>Sunday, October 15, 2006</p> <p>10:00am Religious Service - (coat & tie, with cape) 12:00pm - 2:00pm Farewell Brunch @ St. Regis</p>

REGISTER NOW!

Grand Magistral Council - Malta Obedience



Dignitaries at the Grand Magistral Council of the Malta Obedience

I was fortunate to have been appointed by our Grand Prior, Dr. von Leden, to represent the Grand Priory of America at the Grand Magistral Council Meeting of the Malta Obedience in Seville, Spain. It was a delightful meeting; perfect weather, blooms abundant and easy access to all the historic sites I what is considered to be Spain's most beautiful city. That being said, the most notable effect on all the attendees was the opportunity to witness the collective force of our unified Order in response to the recent tsunami disaster in Southeast Asia.

The chosen venue for the meeting was the centrally located hotel Melia-Lebreros which permitted frequent visits to the old walled city, the exquisite cathedral, Maria Luisa Park, Plaza de Espana and the Rio Grande River. Meetings were conducted in an informal open-forum style and were presided over by our Grand Master, the Duke of Seville. The Malta Obedience has recently adopted the Commission style of administration similar to that of our Canadian counterparts. By their creation of Hospitaller, Spiritual and Legal Commissions the Obedience

felt the needs of the membership and the humanitarian aid recipients would be more effectively served. The most rewarding of the various reports was that of Lady Primrose Potter, Humanitarian Aid Chair of the Order, as she described the Order's rapid response and the major relief program, ongoing still, for the victims of the tsunami disaster. The program is being managed by the Lazarus Hilfswerk. You will find it more fully descry bed in the May-June issue of the Grand Priory Newsletter.

The Investiture Ceremony and Vigil Service were conducted in Seville's ancient cathedral. The Duke of Seville and the Duke of Brissac were joint presiders. Following the ceremonies we were entertained at a gala reception and dinner held in the historic Casa de Pilatos a 15th century replica of Pontius Pilate's residence in Jerusalem.

Eleven members, their wives and guest of the Commandery of Malt USA, led by Chev. Thomas Westgaard, participated in the Investiture as the newly admitted Confrere, Captain Donald Ross, USPHS, was invested by the Grand Master.

Attending the Grand Magistral from the Paris Obedience was: their Excellencies the Duke and Duchess of Brissac; Chev. Bruno Boutry, Grand Priory of France; Lady Primrose Potter, Grand Prioress of Australia; Chev. Robert Vandewater, Grand Prior of Canada; Viscount Shane Gough, Grand Prior of Scotland; Chev. Bruce Harrington, Chancellor, Grand Priory of America; and Chev. David and Dame Juliette Aprato, Commandery of West, Grand Priory of America.

During the course of the meeting the Grand Master presented Chev. Bruce Harrington with the Grand Collar of the Order in recognition of his service as chair of the Joint Reconciliation Commission which submitted the approved final version of the proposed new constitution of the Order. This version will now be submitted to both Obediences for review and concurrence.

Respectfully submitted,
John E. Goggin, GCLT, GCMLT
Bailiff

— *The Hospital and Shrine of St. Lazarus in Cuba* —

An integral component in the history of the Military and Hospitaler Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem is its ancient connection with the health institutions of leprosy patients. Our Order was founded, after all, as care-takers for those Knights who contracted leprosy during the Crusades to the Holy Land.

As a child growing up in Cuba I recall vividly visiting the Shrine of St. Lazarus in the small town of Rincon outside of Havana. With these memories in mind, during the first return visit to Cuba in 2001, I visited once again this venerable church. Once there I also learned of its connection with the Hospital of St. Lazarus right next door where patients with Hansen's Disease are cared for.

In 2005 I was able to raise donations totaling \$10,000 to assist in the charitable and health activities of the Shrine and Hospital of St. Lazarus. This donation was sent by our Order to the Papal Nuncio to the United States and forwarded, via diplomatic pouch, to Havana for the benefit of the patients and pilgrims. This past January I had the pleasure of returning to the Shrine and Hospital of St. Lazarus to personally visit and gather information regarding how this donation is being utilized.

The first discovery I made upon my visit to the Hospital is that fact that leprosy is, in fact, still a disease that afflicts mankind. While it is no longer the scourge it once was in the ancient world with its adjoining stigma, it still accounts for tremendous suffering although it can be treated and managed fairly well.

The Shrine and Hospital of St. Lazarus in Havana has its origin in the colonial period. Slavery in Cuba was introduced in the 16th century and by the middle of the 17th century, due in great part to the abominable conditions of the slave shops and lack of sanitation provided for slaves, leprosy first erupted in the island. The first discovery of leprosy in Cuba dates from January of 1613. By 1629 efforts were being made to isolate those afflicted with what was called 'the illness of St. Lazarus' into separate 'hospital' (really nothing more than simply huts) in order to protect the wider population from contagion. The first few of these 'leper homes' were pitiful places where the patients were left to fend for themselves as best they could, isolated from their families and the rest of society.

Finally in 1680 in thanks to a wealthy landowner whose son became afflicted with leprosy, the first medical institution to care for lepers was founded which eventually became today's Hospital of St. Lazarus. This first institution was primitive and lacking in the basic necessities for proper medical care. However, although it was variously destroyed and rebuilt (once even occupying the present site of the famous Hotel Nacional in Havana) until eventually finding its current location, it was the beginning of the formal endeavor to more humanly care for leprosy patients.

Following various episodes of building and destruction, the present institution and its buildings date from 1917 when the Catholic Church first assigned the Daughters of Charity to care for the patients. The Sisters have been present ever since, even after the Communist Revolution, caring for those that society was afraid of and wanted to forget about.

During my visit, I was able to meet with Superior of the community, Sister Martha Calvo, DC, who gave me a tour and provided a great deal of information. Among the most interesting facts is that since the Sister arrived, they have always personally cared for the patients without any type of protective gear and yet have never contracted leprosy themselves. Many of the patients call the Sisters 'Mothers' since they have been under their care since childhood. In 1998, His Holiness Pope John Paul II visited the Shrine and Hospital during his visit to Cuba and was greatly moved by the sight of the men, women and children still afflicted by this ancient illness and the dedicated Sisters who care for them.

Today the hospital cares not only for leprosy patients but also for others afflicted with a variety of skin diseases. The general compound includes a surgical hospital, rehabilitation center, outpatient center and physical therapy department. The hospital has approximately 300 beds to accommodate inpatients. In addition to the acute care area of the compound there are 'casitas' which are small houses where permanent residents live. Unlike days of old, the majority of patients of patients now live at home with their families rather than in the St. Lazarus compound itself. Nevertheless, many long-term residents still call it home. They have their own local governance, social activities including a choir, recreation

and field trips, library and even a shoe-shop where specially designed shoes are made to accommodate physical disabilities.

Next door to the hospital is located the church of the Sanctuary of St. Lazarus. It is to this Shrine that many thousands of pilgrims come each year. Above the high altar is the image of St. Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary, dressed as a Bishop. This is the Lazarus whom Our Lord Jesus Christ raised from the dead and it is whose feast is celebrated each December 17th when pilgrims from all over Cuba converge on the Shrine to pray for his intercession. His biography states that after he came back to life, he eventually became a bishop in the early Church.

Interestingly, however, in the popular religiosity of the people is another image of Lazarus: the poor beggar whom Christ described in His parable of "The Rich Man and Lazarus" in the gospel of St. Luke (Lk 16:19-31). Although it is not mentioned explicitly in the gospel, it has always been assumed that this Lazarus was afflicted with leprosy since the "dogs came and licked his wounds." The image of this St. Lazarus is that of an old man with crutches and sores surrounded by dogs at his feet. Christ's description of this fictional character is so vivid that has caught the imagination of many people through the ages. While this image is not found in the Shrine itself, since it is a fictional character, it is the image that many Cubans, and others, have of St. Lazarus and is long associated with the Hospital and the disease of leprosy.

The Shrine itself has been beautifully restored and is taken care of by the pastor of the local parish who says Mass each day and hears Confessions regularly. During the days of the saint's feast in mid-December, he is assisted by many other priests, deacons and seminarians who come to help minister to the enormous multitudes of pilgrims. A portion of the donation given through the Order of St. Lazarus is destined for the Hospital and another portion for the Shrine itself.

It was a great privilege for me to be able to represent our ancient and venerable Order during my visit to this Hospital and Shrine dedicated to our holy Patron and to renew our ties to the ancient origins of our Order,

-Father Marcos J. Gonzalez, AChLJ.

Treats For Troops

At the Grand Prioral meeting in Los Angeles the Grand Priory allocated \$10,000 to an organization called "Treat for Troops," which sends packages to U.S. Troops in Iraq.

The first packages arrived in time for Easter, and following are examples of the responses received from men and women who are manning the ramparts in harm's way:

"Thank you so much for all the goodies you sent me, especially the phone card and the Bert's bees products: absolutely awesome. Of course, we already ate all the goodies. Very tasty I want to say.

"I want to thank you for the time you take out of your schedule to send me a package. It really means a lot to me (us) that the American people are behind us and that they actually do care.

Being out here there's only three things we look forward to: sleep, chow and mail. So you definitely made my day! But tell me a little about yourself in your next letter. I have to go for now, but I hope to hear from you soon. -Liz."

"Thank you so much for the Easter candy!!! This is my third Easter I will be away from home, but this is the first time in three years I go something like this. THANK YOU!!!!"

"Thank you so much for your support and generosity. I can't tell you what you're doing to brighten up our day! Your thoughtfulness means the world to us. Thank you very much and God Bless!"

Thank you for sending the package. I was very happy to receive it. It made me feel real good inside, knowing someone was kind enough to take a moment of their time to send us a care package. Once again, THANK YOU. - Cpl Orn S."

Down Under

UK Receives Decorations

Eight Crusader's Medal have been presented to members of the Order since the last issue of the Newsletter - but none to members of the Grand Priory of America, according to Dame Lee. Stanley, DLJ, the administrator of the decoration.

Four Laymen and two clergymen from the United Kingdom and one each from Australia and New Zealand have been honored.

From the United Kingdom the following have been decorated: Douglas C. Newton, KCSG; Evelyn C. Newton, DLJ; Damian Riddle, CLJ; and Trevor Paddon-Hsall, MLJ.

Two clergymen, the Rev. Dom Thomas Regan, OSB, AChLJ and the Rev. Michael O'Malley, AChLJ, escorted pilgrimages in earlier years and have now donated the necessary funds to receive the decorations.

Two members from the Antipodes have received the medal: Judge Brian Donovan, KLJ, of Haymarket, Australia; and the Rev. Gavin Yates, ChLJ, Christ church, New Zealand.

Dame Stanley has reported that there will soon be available an embroidered shell which can be sewn on the Order's church capes to show the medal has been received.

The Grand Priory of America has undertaken the cost of producing and distributing the medals free of charge. There is a \$300 honorarium to the medal and all funds received support the Saint Lazarus Health Center and the Infant Welfare Center, both in the Holy Land.

Those members of the Order who visit the Holy Land on pilgrimage and visit designated religious shrines under religious auspices may apply for the medal.

MAIL CALL

(Editor's Note: The Grand Prioral Council appropriated \$1,000.00 as a contribution to OneLegacy, a donor transplant network.

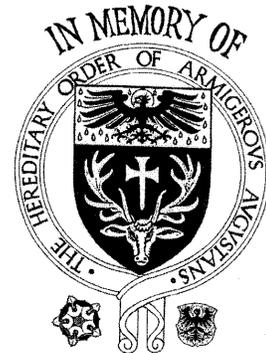
Following is a note of thanks from the Network's Chief Executive officer, addressed to the Grand Prior.)

Hans,

Thank you very much for the donation of \$1,000.00 from the American Association of the Order of St. Lazarus, Inc. This gift will be directed to the community education projects which are the common mission of OneLegacy and Saint Lazarus.

Thank you for helping people to DONATE LIFE!

Sincerely,
Thom Mone,
CEO.



Sir Rodney Harwell

Sir Rodney Harwell, KtB (Y), CSts III, PS, KCR, OAE, FSO, passed away in January after a lengthy bout with cancer.

He was the founder, executive director and most faithful supporter of the Augustan Society. He died at the Villa Augustii, the society's headquarters in Daggett, Calif. He is survived by a daughter, H. E. Dame Jessica Harwell, DCR, and a nephew, Sir John Caffey, KtB, KCR.

Sir Rodney was the driving force behind the organization of the Augustan Society in 1957 as a non-profit tax-exempt public benefit educational corporation.

The mission of the society is to conduct historical research in the areas of European history, heraldry and genealogy.

Earlier in his career Sir Rodney was an active member of the Grand Priory of American and attained the rank of Knight and Grand Officer in the Companiate of Merit.

Sir Rodney was globally known as one of the most learned and respected researchers in the fields of Chivalry, Heraldry and their associated areas.

A number of members of the Grand Priory of America are also member of the Augustan Society.

Rev. Wayne Carr Olmstead, SchLJ

Father Olmstead, long-time pastor of St. Edmund Episcopal Church in Elm Grove, Wisc., died on March 13 after a long illness.

He is fondly remembered by the Order of St. Lazarus as the gracious host of the annual St. Lazarus Day Gala sponsored by the Commandery of Malta these last 10 years.

He generously opened the dorrns of St. Edmund to the Order, and was also responsible for the banquet fare for some years.

A Requiem Echarist was celebrated by the Bishop of Milwaukee, Rev. Steven A. Miller on March 18.

Chev Bob Rice represented the Order at the funeral rites at the request of H. E. Chev. Thomas Westgaard.

Members of the Order feel that Father Olmstead's enthusiasm and hospitality - in the true spirit of Saint Lazarus - will linger here on earth.

KNOW YOUR OFFICERS

Custos-Custodian of the Insignia

Lieutenant Colonel Albert Phillip James, United States Army (Retired), KLJ, OMLJ, MbMLJ, was appointed as Custos in November of 2004. He took the place of Chevalier Craig G. Kirkpatrick, KCLJ, who served as Custodian for many years. The duties of Custos include maintaining the inventory of all medals of rank, as well as those for meritorious and charitable recognition. He is responsible for ordering new medals and ribbon, when necessary, to ensure that sufficient quantities are on hand for presentation at the annual investitures. He prepares the various medals to be awarded by attaching them to the proper type and style of ribbon and boxing them for the presentation.

Lt. Col. James was born in Culver City, California, and was raised in Woodstock, Illinois. He attended The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina, in Charleston. He was on the Dean's List for five semesters and graduated in 1963 with Departmental Honors. His major was Modern Languages. Upon graduation, he was commissioned in the U.S. Army as a Second Lieutenant in Military Intelligence. He attended the U.S. Army Intelligence School for training, followed by nine months at the Defense Language Institute studying the German language. He was assigned to duty in West Germany with the 66th Military Intelligence Group. He then served in the Republic of Vietnam and fought with the 9th Infantry Division. Upon his return to the United States, he again attended the U.S. Army Intelligence School for additional training, and was assigned to the Headquarters, U.S. Army Intelligence School for additional training, and was assigned to Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and graduated on the Commandant's List. He left active duty in 1973 and joined the U.S. Army Reserve. He served with the First Battalion, 12th Special Forces Group. He was the Battalion Intelligence Officer, Executive Officer, and ultimately Commander. He subsequently had various assignments in Special Operations in Panama and Hawaii. While assigned to the United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, DESERT STORM. Thus, he is a veteran of the Cold War, the Vietnam War, and the First Gulf War. He retired from his military service in 1991.

Lt. Col. James is Special Forces

qualified and is a Master Parachutist. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and Reserve Components Achievement Medal, as well as the various campaign and service medals.

Lt. Col. James second career was with Federal Civil Service. He was initially employed by the Federal Energy Administration, which became the Department of Energy, and the Department of Agriculture. With the Department of Energy, he worked as an Auditor/Investigator in the enforcement of mandatory pricing regulations. While employed with the Department of Energy, he returned to college and obtained a second baccalaureate degree in accounting, graduating from Park College, Parkville, Missouri, in 1983. With the Department of Agriculture, he worked in the Office of the Inspector General, and with the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in claims and collections. In 1986, he won the Administrator's Award for Service to Agriculture. He retired from the Civil Service in 1995.

Lt. Col. James joined the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem in 1993. He was responsible for the preparation and submission of the application for the Order of St. Lazarus to become registered with the U.S. Department of State, Agency for International Development, as a Non-Government Agency and Cooperating Partner. In 1994, he volunteered to travel to Cologne, Germany, to assist Klaus-Peter Pokolm and the Lazarus Hilfswerk in the transportation and distribution of a convoy of refugee aid material to Croatia. In 1997, he volunteered again to return to the former Yugoslavia, this time to Bosnia, to present a computer to a



Chev. Albert James, KLJ, OMLJ, BrMLJ

school in Sarajevo, which was donated by the Order of St. Lazarus. For the past several years, he has served as the Vice Commander of the Commandery of the Midwest.

Lt. Col. James is the President of the Frontier Army Living History Association, which supports the Frontier Army Museum at Fort Leavenworth. He donates a good deal of his time working with the museum staff to improve the quality of the museum.

Lt. Col. James is married to Sonja Pamela James, a native of Detroit, Michigan, who is an Affiliate Member of the Order of St. Lazarus and has been awarded the MMLJ for her assistance in the preparation of medals for presentations, and for her invaluable help working at the Vendue table. Mrs. James also accompanied her husband on the abovementioned trip to Sarajevo. They reside in Lenexa, Kansas, which is a suburb of Kansas City, Missouri. They are proud parents of two children, Pamela and Phillip, and grandparents of young Ian Cooper James.