



THE ORDER

The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem





The Order

January 2023



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About the Cover

Adoration of the Kings

Gerard Davis, Antwerp, Circa 1515

National Gallery, London

"All from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the Lord" (Isaiah 60:6)

Epiphany Prayer

Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13

Oh God, with your judgment, endow the king,
and with your justice, the king's son.
He shall govern your people with justice
and you're afflicted with judgment.
Justice shall flower in his days,
and profound peace, until the moon is no more.
May he rule from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

The kings of Tarshish and in the Isle shall offer gifts.
the kings of Arabia and Sheba shall bring tribute.
All kings shall pay him homage, all nations shall serve him.
For he shall rescue the poor when he cries out
and the afflicted when he has no one to help him.
He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor.
The lives of the poor he shall save.



Spiritual Message



Pray for Ukraine

Fr. William D. Razz Waff, DMin, BCC, GCLJ, OMLJ

Major General, US Army (Retired)

Chaplain General, GPA

As I keystroke this article, it is the 3rd Sunday of Advent- also known in Latin as Gaudete Sunday (Latin Gaudete = Rejoice) and also "Rose Sunday" for the occasional use of rose-colored vestments, and in the Episcopal Church, with tongue in cheek, as "Giddy Up Sunday" for the opening of today's Collect, "Stir up your power, O Lord...." Regardless of its name- or nickname- it advances the sense of expectation of the coming of Christ. The expectation theme is significant in the Episcopal Church, and more often than not, someone attending an Episcopal mass will see blue vestments used, which comes from the usage of the Diocese of Salisbury (Sarum in Latin), in which blue is used. Some have thought that with the birth of Christ immanent, Mary was a crucial figure in this sense of expectancy, and the traditional color associated with Mary is blue. There we have this unique Episcopal/Anglican tradition. Thus we wait in anticipation and expectation.

And then the birth, and humanity receives the Christ Child. We celebrate this- spoiler alert- at Christmas and throughout the Christmas season. And yes, Christmas is a season, not just a day. And how long is the liturgical season of Christmas? Hint: The last verse of a popular carol lists each day of Christmas, so go thru the verses to the previous day mentioned. Hint #2: It is under a "Baker's Dozen." So far, a season of expectation and a season of Receiving.

That leads us to the season of Revealing- Epiphany- when Christ's presence in the world is made public, first, according to tradition, to the Wise Men, also known as the Magi, also known in one hymn as the Three Kings from the Orient, or We Three Kings from Orient (the East) Are." And this season- in the Episcopal tradition- takes us to Lent.

These are three remarkable seasons – each with specific meaning- in which we anticipate, welcome, and celebrate Christ's presence in the world. For us, this liturgical year begins with Advent and lasts until Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. That's a beautiful time to celebrate this remarkable gift to humanity. With that being the case, while the Christmas tree will come down and decorations put away, it is clear liturgically that Christmas does not end on December 25th- it is, in fact, just beginning. That being the case, rejoice and be glad!

Let us pray:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because our sins sorely hinder us, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.



From the Grand Prior



The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem

Grand Priory of America

Dear Confreres and Consoeurs,

As 2022 draws to a close, it gives cause to reflect on the past 12 months and the many things that have happened within the Grand Priory of America and the world at large.

Twelve months ago at our GPC in New Orleans, I had the distinct honor and privilege to be installed as your new Grand Prior, succeeding my very good friend and now Grand Prior Emeritus, Ken Moritsugu. About four months ago, we celebrated a very successful GPC in Washington, D.C., the culmination of an event trapped within the cancellations of the pandemic two years before.

In February of this year, the Russians invaded Ukraine and the Grand Priory of America, in concert with the entire free world, rose to help and support the people of Ukraine. You opened your wallets and your hearts, and the GPA sent more than \$40,000 to our St. Lazarus colleagues in Germany and the Czech Republic to directly provide humanitarian and medical supplies to the people in Ukraine and to Ukrainian refugees struggling to leave their country. We continue to support programs that provide direct relief to those suffering in Ukraine and will continue to do so until this crisis is resolved. My wife Anna and I thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you have done to help the people of Ukraine, who want freedom, just like we all do.

This year, the GPA and the Order of St. Lazarus members continued to do what we do best – help those less fortunate and those in need, both here in the U.S. and worldwide. Our members rose up, and with your time, treasure and talent, we donated a record \$325,000 to our charitable programs around the world, and this was in addition to our Ukraine Relief Support Fund! While this generous amount is not our new benchmark but could undoubtedly be a future goal, financial circumstances for the GPA this past year allowed us to increase what we could usually contribute. We all take a vow of "We Shall Serve" when we enter the Order, and if we all continue to honor our obligations for the Pentecostal Appeal fully, this kind of support can become more of the norm rather than the exception.

This year, the GPA also began to engage in conversation with other like-minded chivalric organizations, as the goal of all of us is to help those less fortunate and those in need, and perhaps with "strength in numbers," we can do even more together than we can by ourselves.

The holiday of Christmas celebrates the birth of Christ and a new beginning. As we enjoy this Christmas season and share time with our families and friends, let's embrace this new beginning as we enter 2023. Let's continue to put our hearts and minds into what we do best, helping those in need, and let's continue to enjoy each other's company as we honor our commitment to service.

From Anna and myself to all of you - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

John F. Byrnes, GCLJ, KMLJ
Grand Prior



The Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem Grand Priory of America

Rear Admiral, the Chevalier, Mike Milner, DHSc, PA-C, KCLJ, SMLJ

Grand Prioral Hospitaller

As we near the end of our calendar year, we reflect on the great works of mercy that our Order has performed and supported through our “hands-on” efforts and our donations; 2022 has been an incredibly productive year, and we have made great strides forward in meeting our Order’s missions and visions. These forward movements would not have been possible without the great efforts of our Grand Priory leadership team and our leaders at the local Commandery, Delegation, and Cadre levels. Thanks to all of you who rolled up your sleeves and did your best to fulfill our commitment to God and each other through our oath “TO SERVE.”

I need to share special thanks to the Grand Prioral Hospitaller leadership team members for all they did to move us forward and set the stage for another productive year in 2023. Our Deputy GP Hospitallers, the late Diane Weissmuller, Chad Johnson, CLJ, Dame Carlotta Rotman, Reverend Jean Meade, and Chevalier Hung Nyguen helped to improve our Grant application process this year. We were aided in updating our grants process by Dame Mary Ettari and Dame Mary Ann Straub, who brought their “Almoner” instincts to our process. Our team worked to meet some of our Strategic Goals of succession planning, improving communications up and down our organization, ensuring that our efforts were consistent with IRS rules, working to build new linkages & partnerships across likeminded Christian groups, and enhancing the impact of our grants so that more people can be helped. We also worked to ensure that all our efforts are promoted widely within the groups we help so that our Order can be more broadly recognized by other organizations and groups looking to serve others as we do. Exposing our work in this way may help us touch someone’s heart and inspire them to join our ranks! I commend our national Hospitaller leaders and those at the Commandery level for your efforts to bring many new organizations with unmet needs to our attention. Without you, our efforts would not succeed and multiply.

Two others who really stepped forward this year to help us improve our grants process were Jen and Chris St. Victor de Pinho. They are our Vice Chancellors for Finance at the AASL leadership level and made getting checks and wire transfers to our approved grantees a smooth process. They helped our Commanderies get local matching grants out efficiently, and as the end of this year approached, they worked with me and several other Commanders to “redeploy” approved matching grant funds that could not be used. This cooperation and last-minute support from Chris and Jen allow us to maximize our grant distribution to help more people. Thank you, Chris and Jen!

This year brought us new challenges and opportunities, some of which were outside our control. The illegal Russian invasion of Ukraine presented new opportunities to link arms with our International Order of St. Lazarus Bailiwicks in Europe to send needed funds and medical and humanitarian supplies to help those affected. It allowed us to work more closely with other Christian Chivalric Orders to get those needed supplies deployed efficiently. Partnering with multiple groups and leveraging our nonprofit status allowed us to utilize a US/DOD military aircraft shipping program to get supplies from the US into Europe. Of course, our thoughts, prayers, and well wishes will continue to go out to all the families in Ukraine and around the world negatively impacted by this inhumane invasion. Thank you to all our members who graciously gave this year to a special “Ukraine Relief” appeal. We have deployed over \$40,000 to medical facilities and other European nonprofits helping refugees and injured Ukrainians. More will be needed in the future, and we continue to expand our partnerships with these other like-minded groups to seek new ways to partner and cooperate. Our Grand Prior, HE Chevalier John Byrnes, deserves great credit for all these new connections; he stepped into his new



shoes as our national leader and immediately “connected many dots.” Many of us have made new friends and linkages through his outreach. Thank you, Grand Prior, for your continued BOLD leadership.

It is essential to share a summary of the new grants approved by our Hospitaller/Almoner Working group and the AASL Board at our GPC in Washington in early September. The international Covid-19 pandemic created significantly more needs worldwide and in our country. We received more grant requests from 15 groups this year than in years past. The number of requests for funding from programs that help the homeless in our country was amplified. Also, due to inflation increasing the costs to help others, the overall dollar amount of the requested funds hit an all-time high of nearly \$800,000.

As you all know, our member’s generosity supports our annual grants through the Pentecostal Appeal, and clearly, our members felt the impact of inflation. Our PA donations for 2022 decreased somewhat from past year averages, but we could support all the groups who requested funds, albeit at lower levels than requested. That’s a victory for us as we did what we could for “the least among us” and did it for “HIM.” We have been supporting groups for the past few years in the \$250,000 range, but this year, we were able to support the grant projects at \$325,000. The needs were high, and the contributions were lower than in the past, but our Order’s leadership stepped up to amplify our PA donations to help reduce the suffering of those in need. This amplified grant funding will not be something we can do each year, but the needs were clearly very significant this year. Thank you to our AASL Board of Trustees for your leadership in making our grants for 2023 more enriched than in past years. Hopefully, as our national and world economy turns around, we will see increased donations to our future Pentecostal Appeal to keep paying things forward.

To recap our 2023 grants, here is a summary of the grant programs and amounts approved during our meetings in Washington, DC, over Labor Day weekend. Thanks to all who participated.

\$60,000 for the Infant Welfare Center in Jerusalem; This is our only directly supported program in the Holy Land; The IWC provides services for hundreds of families thru childcare services, early childhood disease detection and prevention programs, and services for at-risk youth, working mothers, and their children.

\$30,000 for the Rising Star Outreach ministries that provide direct clinical care services to hundreds of patients and families in India suffering the effects of leprosy and the complications of this horrible disease.

\$55,000 to support the clinical care services to leprosy patients at our Order of St Lazarus clinics in Morelia and Irapuato, Mexico.

\$30,000 to Love, Hope in Action Homeless program in Florida; this grant will help build a shower and laundry facility for homeless individuals in SE Florida.

\$18,000 to continue to fund our Grand Priory of America Matching Grants program; this program provides up to \$3000 for Commanderies and \$1500 for Delegations to match their locally disbursed funds to other local charitable programs that our members support both financially and with “rolled up sleeves.”

\$25,000 to provide direct medical supplies to a new Order of St. Lazarus Clinic in Tanzania, Africa. This clinic has been built and furnished with the help of the United Methodist Church. Members of our SE Commandery and these funds will provide critical medical supplies needed to open their doors in the coming months.

\$5,000 to the homeless ministry at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in New York City; this program provides meals, shelter, clothing, and connections to clinical services for the homeless and disadvantaged in NYC.



\$10,000 to the Georgia Transplant Initiative project, which will extend the reach of Organ Donation and Transplant education to marginalized folks in rural Georgia. With high rates of chronic disease that lead to end-stage renal disease and other medical maladies, this targeted outreach will go more deeply into places with low transplant services rates.

\$10,000 for the Texas Children's Transplant Initiative in Spring, Texas. Our Grand Priory has supported this program to help build rooms at a facility that helps pediatric transplant patients and their families while awaiting a transplant and in the immediate postoperative period. These specific funds will target very low-income patients who have difficulty affording the costs associated with this critically important time before and after transplant surgery.

\$25,000 for Amy's House, another pediatric transplant housing facility in Temple, Texas, with large numbers of very low-income patients who need help during the pre and post-op transplant period. We have previously supported Amy's House by sponsoring patient room furniture.

\$20,000 for the Legacy Donor Foundation in Louisiana to support their targeted outreach efforts promoting the value and importance of becoming an organ donor to young members of our society.

\$9,000 to the New Orleans, Louisiana, homeless water station project; this project will fund two water stations where homeless folks can get clean drinking water and connections to additional needed services.

\$20,000 to the Ascensia Homeless project in Los Angeles, California. These funds will help fund a new van with our Order's Logo so that homeless workers can reach more folks with nutrition, water, clinical care services, and linkage to other community programs.

\$15,000 to support our Grand Priory's Emergency Ukrainian relief efforts; support for medical supplies and other humanitarian relief needs using the leverage of our International Grand Priory's in Europe.

\$10,000 to fully fund our Grand Prior's Discretionary / Emergency Relief fund. Providing our Grand Prior with funds to support emergent and urgent needs between our national grant funding cycles.

Please tell from this list of approved grant programs that our Order and the Grand Priory of America will impact thousands of lives in the coming year. These works of mercy will have a lasting impact on the lives of those we touch. Without your donations to the Pentecostal Appeal and the effective stewardship of our Grand Priory's endowment funds, we would never be able to make such a sizable contribution to help those suffering. Thank you all for doing your part and helping us finish the 2022 Pentecostal Appeal year with a strong finish. If you have not made your donations yet, please do so now either by check made payable to the AASL and mailed c/o Jennifer St. Victor-de Pinho, CLJ, Treasurer, 38 Peaceable St, Ridgefield, CT 06877 or via our website online donation portal at [Grand Priory of America: Giving](#). Donations can be spread over the entire year to lessen any impact on you and your family. If you have already donated and discern that you have a little bit more that you can spare, please send it in now or use the online portal.

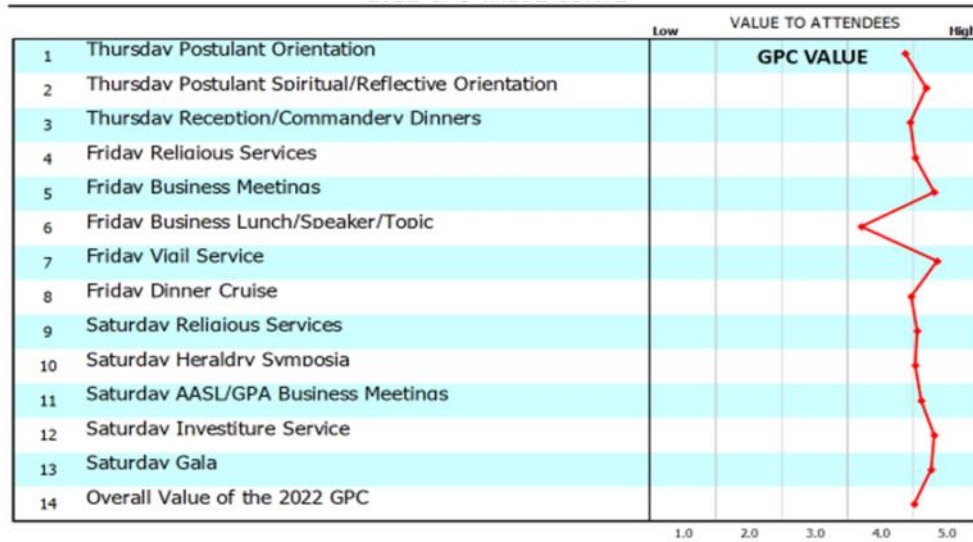
As we kick off 2023, I'd like to thank all of you for your ongoing support, ideas, critique, suggestions, and LOVE. It is a labor of LOVE to serve in this role as your Grand Prioral Hospitaller. Working with passionate and dedicated individuals like our Grand Prioral Leadership team and those who work with me through the Hospitaller/Almoner Work Group is an honor and privilege. And to all of you, I also add my sincere thanks to my wife, Patty, who helps me stay strong, grounded, and mission-focused.

Patty and I wish all of you a wonderful and Joyous Holiday Season with your family and friends. We look forward to seeing many of you in March at the Mid-Year Senior Leaders meeting in Dallas, Texas, and next October in Tampa at the GPC.



WASHINGTON DC GRAND PRIORAL COUNCIL

2022 GPC VALUE CURVE



By all accounts, the 2022 Washington DC Grand Prioral Council (GPC) was a great success and well worth the time and effort to attend. As with GPCs since 2017, a survey was sent to the members attending requesting their assessment of their value for attending the GPC and the value of the various events at the GPC. Survey response choices ranged from “Very Valuable” (given a numerical value of 5); “Valuable (numerical value of 4); “Neutral Value” (numerical value of 3); “Poor Value” (numerical value of 2) to “Very Poor Value” (numerical value of 1). Based on the 114 members attending the GPC (total attendance including spouses, family members, and guests was 141), the response rate to the survey was 43%. The overall value for attending the GPC was 4.5, indicating that attending the GPC was “Valuable” to “Very Valuable” for the attendees. As in previous surveys, the event that scored the highest was the Vigil Service on Friday afternoon, with an average value score of 4.8. The event with the lowest average score was the Friday luncheon. Based on the survey comments for this event, the average score of 3.7 was related to the luncheon speaker and presentation.

The Atlantic Commandery did an outstanding job hosting this GPC. All those attending were treated to an extraordinary event, highlighted by Wilton Cardinal Gregory presiding at the Vigil Service on Friday and the members agreeing at the AASL business meeting to donate \$342,000 to GPA charities in 2023. For the Gala dinner on Saturday evening, we were entertained by the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums band and danced to the music provided by Misspent Youth.

The value of attending a GPC by those responding to the survey can be seen in response to the last question, “How likely are you to attend the 2023 GPC in Tampa, FL?” 90% of the respondents checked Likely or Very Likely to be in Tampa next year.

H.R (Pent) Penton, GCLJ, KMLJ, SCrLJ, DC3rdLJ, PhD
 Chancellor
 Grand Priory of America



The Role of Chancellor



The title “Chancellor” derives from the *cancellarii* of ancient Roman Courts of Justice - ushers who sat at the *cancelli* or lattice work screens of a basilica or law court, which separated the judge and counsel from the audience. Ushers? Doesn’t sound too exalted. The title evolved, though, and in the Crusader States of the Levant, at the time of the late 11th/early 12th century when the Order of St. Lazarus made its debut, the Chancellor was the administrative head of government of Christian areas outside of Jerusalem. Pretty impressive, and today the title is given to the heads of state of the governments of Germany, Austria, and the Swiss Federation. Looking better, but maybe now, a bit too lofty for the Grand Priory of America.

So, what is the role of the Chancellor in the Grand Priory of America? Coming out of the corporate world, I look at the organizational structure of the Grand Priory much like many companies, with a Chairman of the Board (this is where the buck stops, the highest level in a corporate structure), in our case the Grand Prior, a Chief Executive Officer, in our case, the Bailiff, and the Chief Operations Officer, the Chancellor. The Chancellor has day-to-day responsibility to ensure that the “operations” of the Grand Priory of America, in this case, the Commanderies and Delegations, the Chancery Office and the functions reporting to the Chancery Office, the Planning and Evaluation Office, and the Legal aspects of the Grand Prior of America are all running as smoothly and effectively as possible. To this end, my management style is not to direct how these functions operate, for we are very fortunate in the Grand Priory of America to have competent individuals in leadership roles in these positions. My role is to act more as a resource for these competent officers and only step in when any ask for assistance or support.

One area where the office of the Chancellor will be getting more involved will be supporting the Commanderies and Delegations in planning our Grand Prioral Councils (GPC). Being a Commander that hosted a GPC, I know the challenges a Commandery or Delegation faces in organizing and pulling off a successful GPC. Beginning with the 2023 GPC, hosted by the Commandery of the Southeast, the Office of the Chancellor will provide more hands-on support for the Commanderies/Delegations to ensure both a successful GPC in terms of activities and functions of value to our members as well as the event being financially whole for the hosting Commandery and Delegation.

Finally, it is an honor to serve as your Chancellor in the Grand Priory of America. And, I am receptive to any thoughts you, our members, have to make our Order more valuable in its mission to help the sick, the poor the downtrodden in our local communities, the nations, and the world and to make you’re being members more meaningful and valuable to you.

H.R. (Pent) Penton, GCLJ, KMLJ, PhD
Chancellor, Grand Priory of America



Russia's War of Aggression against Ukraine



Address to the Order of St. Lazarus

September 2, 2022

John Lenczowski

Your Excellencies, the Grand Master and the Grand Prior, Knights and Dames, and honored guests: good afternoon. I am honored to have been invited to address you today. You in the Order of St. Lazarus are immersed in the noblest mission of caring for the poor, the sick, and the dying and promoting Christian unity.

Your concentration on the principles of Christian chivalry constitutes an essential pillar of the defense of Western civilization, which is under attack from so many quarters. Your assistance to the people of Ukraine is a great blessing and a salvo in a war against true malevolence. So, thank you for this!

We are witnessing the biggest war in Europe since World War II. It has already cost tens of thousands of casualties and the destruction of billions of dollars of property. The Russian invasion can be considered a war crime under international law. And the direct attacks on civilians – on people, residences, and economic infrastructure – constitute a massive collection of war crimes. From what is reported about the treatment of prisoners taken by Russia, there may be even more war crimes of a different order.

Several significant questions arise:

How could this have come about?

What could have been done to prevent it?

What must be done under the current circumstances?

It is useful to begin by observing a couple of essential maxims in foreign policy – maxims for achieving and maintaining peace and security that we teach at The Institute of World Politics (IWP).

The first is the necessity of seeing the world realistically. This would seem to be an obvious principle, but the record of U.S. foreign policy and the views of several prominent foreign policy schools reveal that it could be more obvious.

There are many impediments to seeing foreign realities correctly:

- Mirror-imaging is where we look at others abroad as if they are just like us when they are not.
- Foreign propaganda and deception. A part of this is historical revisionism, which we see in full bloom today. This is aggravated by ignorance of history, the study of which has suffered a precipitous decline in our educational institutions.



- Ideological bias and utopianism: there are many foreign policy approaches, each of which has valuable insights. But when an individual approach is treated as an ideological template, it can become utopian and distort an accurate perception of reality.
- Corruption: too many of our elites, including former senior officials, are often bought off directly or indirectly by foreign powers.
- Groupthink, which crowds out dissident views.
- Finally, there is what I consider to be a moral failure: the great Russian author Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn called it “the desire not to know.” George Orwell called it “the will to disbelieve the horrible.” This is wishful thinking and willful blindness.

A key element in several of these impediments is the failure to recognize the existence of evil and a concomitant failure to understand the strategic intentions of many of the world’s bad actors.

Plagued by these conceptual and moral hindrances, our foreign policy leaders often suffer from illusions about the possibilities of conflict resolution.

The more significant issue here involves a derivative principle of foreign policy: the need for moral-strategic clarity. One cannot prevent war or achieve peace if one is confused about the tyrannical aggressors of this world – or about the worthiness of our own country. So, what we have seen in recent years is acute moral-strategic confusion in both categories:

- the denigration of America, which is a phenomenon generated by domestic opponents of our Constitutional order and stimulated by our adversaries such as Russia and Communist China; and
- false impressions of our adversaries.

In the case at hand, as Volodymyr Zelensky recently explained, Russia’s policy toward Ukraine goes back decades and even centuries. It is a policy that denies Ukraine’s existence as a separate nation with a distinct identity and culture. Putin has promoted the continuation of this policy through his historical revisionism.

In his famous last year essay, Putin voiced his conviction that Russians and Ukrainians are “one people.” He stressed that tensions between the two were due entirely to anti-Russian conspiracies perpetrated by foreigners. He argued that Ukraine occupies historic Russian lands and its current borders are illegitimate. He even went so far as to say that Ukraine’s existence as an independent state depends on Russia’s consent. As he put it, “I am confident that true sovereignty of Ukraine is possible only in partnership with Russia.”

He ignores that Ukraine has an authentic history growing out of Kievan Rus and that Russia was much more an outgrowth of Muscovy, having drawn its power from serving as the Mongol Khan’s agents in this part of the world. It was that experience from which the Muscovite princes learned the lessons of oriental despotism.



Putin also ignored that large parts of Ukraine were long part of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania and then, for several hundred years, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. This history gave Ukraine longstanding cultural ties to Europe that Russia did not share.

So, in 2008, in Bucharest, Putin told President George W. Bush that Ukraine was not a real country. (By the way, he said the same thing about Kazakhstan.) And in a speech earlier this year, Putin reiterated that Ukraine had never had “real statehood,” and it was an integral part of Russia’s “own history, culture, spiritual space.”

The last of these dimensions is particularly interesting given the voluntary separation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church from the Patriarchate of Moscow – something that the latter’s Patriarch has vehemently opposed. He has been all the more exercised about this split, given the assent to it by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople.

So now, not only is Putin making such declarations, but Russian occupation authorities in Ukraine have introduced a curriculum in the schools that asserts that Ukraine is part of Russia and that the Ukrainian national identity was an invention of the Soviet period.

All of Putin’s false history has a purpose: to justify his imperialist ambitions. He has been motivated from the beginning of his rule by a seething resentment over the loss of superpower status due to the defeat of Soviet communism in the Cold War. Indeed, he called the collapse of the USSR the most significant political catastrophe of the 20th century.

Restoring the former Soviet political space is his ambition. It is an imperialist policy, explaining Moscow’s interference in the internal affairs of all the former union republics of the USSR.

Ukraine is the most important to the imperial agenda of all those republics. Recovering it to Russian rule is essential to the dream of restoring Russia’s great power status. Under the circumstances, the idea of an independent Ukraine is a mortal threat to Russian imperialism. Because that imperialism constitutes such a decisive element of Russia’s very national identity, the threat of Ukrainian independence is seen by key Russian leaders as an almost existential threat to Russia itself.

So, Putin wants to be the arbiter in determining Ukraine’s history, culture, language, and identity. Alongside the new fronts in armed conflict, these are the decisive fronts in Russia’s war against Ukraine.

As Putin’s article last year made clear, the ongoing “frozen conflict” in eastern Ukraine and even control over Crimea were not the real issue. The real war is over the entirety of Ukraine, which Putin insists must stay in Moscow’s sphere of influence.

As Volodymyr Zelensky has recently pointed out, Russia has encroached on Ukraine since the collapse of the USSR. Their methods have included:

- Supplying Russian passports to Ukrainians.
- Buying up Ukrainian industries.
- Bribing members of the Ukrainian parliament. And
- Financing political parties to such an extent that a pro-Russian party became one of the largest



Zelensky primarily focused on media influence: especially the influence of Russian television.

Washington's attention to this has been sporadic and characterized by wishful thinking and sending signals of weakness to all concerned. Successive Administrations have ignored key indicators of Moscow's intentions for decades.

Russia indicated its intentions for reconstituting the former Soviet space in 1992 with the promulgation of the first draft of Russia's national security doctrine – to protect “Russian-speaking peoples” from being denied their human rights in neighboring countries. No one paid attention to this.

Then, we encouraged the nuclear disarmament of Ukraine in the Budapest Memorandum of 1994.

That same year, Ukraine started publicly complaining about Russian “active measures” targeted toward it. Active measures is a KGB term of art referring to disinformation, forgeries, provocations, covert influence operations, and the “propaganda of the deed.” These activities constitute the subversion and the attempted softening up of Ukraine to reabsorb it preferably without war. Nobody in our government paid attention to these complaints. We at IWP did. These have been incredibly neglected non-military instruments of aggression that are subjects that we have taught for the last 30 years.

In 2007, Putin's speech at the Munich security conference issued a propaganda salvo that has been repeated by many in the West: that NATO expansion is an aggressive threat to Russia.

This is an illusory argument. NATO expansion was one of the best investments that the U.S. and its allies have made for peace and prosperity in Europe.

The nationals of so many of the former Warsaw Pact states of Central and Eastern Europe live in neighboring countries. There are:

- Hungarians living in Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine, and Croatia.
- Poles living in Ukraine, Belarus, and Lithuania.
- Romanians living in Ukraine, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, and especially in Moldova.
- Slovaks living in Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, and Ukraine.

Many of these countries have had irredentist ambitions – the desire to reclaim lands they once ruled before each of the world wars and the re-drawing of borders. These ambitions could very well have contained the seeds of future conflicts.

But NATO expansion gave these countries a deal they couldn't refuse: Join the West's prosperous economic community and gain the best security you have had in ages. But in return, be a good neighbor and forget about your old territories.

The results speak for themselves. There has been extraordinary peace and prosperity in this part of the world. The only area where this failed to take place was in the breakup of the former Yugoslav federation, where several wars broke out – some for related reasons – before some of its constituent parts were invited to join NATO.



The irony is that NATO gave Russia a possible pathway to membership. It was called the “Partnership for Peace.” But Putin, in his resentment over the Soviet defeat in the Cold War, could not stomach what he considered would be an abject humiliation.

Then there is the charge that the U.S. uniquely interfered in Ukrainian internal affairs to undermine the pro-Russian government. It is as if Russia must enjoy the sole privilege of interfering in Ukraine – as it did for years, and that pro-Western and pro-independence forces in Ukraine should have to compete with no external assistance.

In 2007, the very year of Putin’s de facto declaration of a cold war against the West, Russia conducted a massive cyber invasion of Estonia. It was an indicator of Moscow’s hostility to a pro-Western country that had finally freed itself of Moscow’s yoke.

The problem was that the U.S. and NATO looked upon that invasion with a yawn.

In 2008, Russia invaded Georgia. It had long prepared the battlefield by conducting its traditional divide-and-rule and divide-and-conquer tactics to promote the separatism of two Georgian provinces, Abkhazia and South Ossetia.

The U.S. and the West greeted that invasion not only with a wrist slap but with a significant initiative in 2009 by Secretary of State Clinton to “push the re-set button” to restore harmonious relations between Russia and the U.S.

This was followed by President Obama’s attempt to appease Moscow by withdrawing ballistic missile defenses from Poland and the Czech Republic without consulting those countries and initiating new arms control arrangements with Moscow, even though Russia was a serial violator of previous arms control agreements.

The U.S. government sent the message that aggression could be conducted with no consequence. One can scarcely imagine a more powerful set of signals of weakness.

Meanwhile, Moscow had conducted two wars of suppression against one of its colonies – Chechnya – which didn’t want to be ruled by its colonizers.

Then in 2014, we witnessed the Russian invasion of Crimea, Donetsk, and Luhansk, which cost over 14,000 lives.

Again, a wrist slap from the U.S. and the West.

Other signals of weakness have accompanied all these reactions:

- President Biden has limited our energy production, preventing us from replenishing energy supplies that Moscow is restricting from Europe.
- He has even become a supplicant to OPEC (the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries), asking it to increase oil and gas production. (This is in the context of the mismanagement of our relations with Saudi Arabia, which would not return the President’s phone call.)



- Administration policy waffled on Russian energy supplies to Europe via the Nord Stream II pipeline. Germany foolishly put itself in a position of dependence on Russian energy and now will pay the price this winter.
- We failed to expose Russia's funding of the German environmental movement so that it would oppose an indigenous German energy extraction capability. All this has been designed to make Germany and much of Europe dependent on Russian oil and gas and, therefore, vulnerable to Moscow's long-established practice of energy blackmail.
- Amazingly, while Russia has been conducting its aggression, we have simultaneously been relying on its good offices to help us reach the revival of the nuclear deal with Iran.
- All this has been topped by continuous disinvestment in defense.

Russia has been able to read these tea leaves very clearly.

All the while, Putin was building an ever-greater tyranny at home. It started with the assassination of bankers, journalists, political opponents, and even defectors who were poisoned on foreign soil.

The highest priority task of our national leaders is to maintain peace and security. These are the prerequisites of every essential function of society.

But what is peace? There are many theories about this. At IWP, we teach what I consider my favorite theory: the ancient Christian concept of earthly peace articulated by St. Augustine.

Tranquillitas ordinis. The tranquility of order. This is not precisely the "peace of Christ" -- the beatific vision. It is earthly peace, the creation of political order -- the building of human community.

Tranquillitas ordinis requires taking into account an accurate assessment of human nature. On the one hand, it recognizes man's fallen nature and our capacity to commit evil. So, domestically, it is necessary to have laws and law enforcement. And internationally, we need international law, but since there is no supranational law enforcement authority, we need armies.

But building a human community cannot be done solely with laws, the police, and armies. We must consider the best side of human nature: man's capacity for truth, justice, and that love of neighbor that transcends the requirements of justice. And that means mercy and forgiveness.

So how does one apply this recipe to the war in Ukraine? Manifestly, we are dealing with criminal aggression that depends on lies. And this perforce must be prevented and, failing that, fought with the tools that apply to both. So, first, society, and in this case, Ukraine, must be protected against criminal aggression and the falsehoods that enable it.

First, aggression must be prevented through deterrence. That has long been the task of the U.S. and NATO. Deterrence works. But it has both material and moral components.

Here, Russia had to perceive that its aggression would have inevitable serious consequences. It had to perceive that the West had material resources and strength of will. Those are the signals of strength considered when Russia measures what it calls the "correlation of forces" -- its adversaries' relative strengths and weaknesses as against its own.



During the previous Administration, deterrence succeeded. During this one, deterrence has manifestly failed. The threat of economic sanctions was clearly no deterrent. And efforts to prepare Ukraine to resist aggression were too little too late.

Indeed, our current military aid – however salutary – has sent other signals of weakness both to Russia and China: it has been sent hesitantly, it has drawn down our defenses, and there is no serious effort to replenish them urgently.

This only gives Putin the incentive to persist. It also gives China an ever-greater temptation to go to war over Taiwan sooner rather than later.

In addition to the signals of weakness, our failure to combat Putin’s historical and political narrative has been a significant enabler of his aggression. This constitutes one of the vital non-military theaters of conflict – areas that the U.S. government and the larger foreign policy establishment have neglected.

Remember, Zelensky stressed Moscow’s use of television to promote its narrative, particularly in eastern Ukraine. But let us note that with his destruction of independent media in Russia, Putin has enjoyed a virtual monopoly of information that has enabled him to propagandize the Russian people into believing his lies.

In addition to the false history, Putin has been alleging Russia is fighting Nazis in Ukraine. Amazingly, large swaths of the Russian population have been successfully propagandized into believing this. Indeed, Ukrainians with relatives in Russia tell them about the war crimes they have personally witnessed, and their Russian relatives don’t believe them!

But we have yet to do anything effective to counter the propaganda that has made this possible. We inadvertently assisted Putin in achieving his monopoly of information.

During the Cold War, we successfully challenged Moscow’s information monopoly. We smuggled in literature, including subversive novels and books containing alternative ideas. We helped dissidents publish newsletters by sending printing, copying, and fax machines and paper.

But most effective were our shortwave radio broadcasts of the Voice of America (VOA), Radio Free Europe, and Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) to millions in Eastern Europe and the USSR.

But in 2008, we dismantled those broadcasts, depriving millions of direct and indirect listeners of one of the only sources of unfiltered information.

Pavel Filatyev, a soldier who fought for Russia in Ukraine, recently released a chilling 140-page memoir of his experiences fighting in Ukraine. He declared that Russia had no moral right to wage this war. His larger purpose was, to tell the truth to his fellow Russians in the face of the regime’s lies. He, like Zelensky, asserted that “the main enemy of all Russians and Ukrainians is propaganda, which further fuels hatred in people.”

Filatyev’s manifest demoralization gives us a clue as to how to help Ukraine: to employ, as the great Russian dissident from Cold War days, Yuri Yarim-Agaev, explained, a psychological strategy against the Russian army.



Indeed, many Russian soldiers are intensely demoralized, having been ordered to commit aggression and war crimes under pretenses. Even without a severe psychological strategy targeting them, some are deserting and even shooting themselves in the leg to abandon the fight and collect war injury money.

In addition to all the material things the U.S. can do to help the Ukrainians resist Putin's aggression, we must concentrate anew on restoring a capability in the non-military arts of statecraft that affect the moral dimension of conflict.

These include information policy, counterpropaganda, political warfare, psychological strategy, and public diplomacy in general. Each instrument exploits the most potent weapon at our disposal – the truth.

These are subjects neglected by the U.S. government and in the professional schools of international affairs. We at IWP have made it a point to teach these subjects since it is better to use non-violent means if the conflict is unavoidable than to start killing people to defend our vital interests.

I mention this fact about our school because our nation's foreign policy culture needs a sea change from its materialistic outlook to one that minimizes the necessity of using force while maintaining a robust military posture. If you know of any potential students, be they recent college grads or even mid-career professionals who could use such education, please refer them to us. (Our website is: www.iwp.edu).

Your motto, "*Atavis et Armis*," conveys a chivalric tradition that has succeeded in defense of our civilization in past centuries. It must be kept alive in both the private and official efforts we make in that defense.

Your moral witness, your charity, and your strength of conviction amount to a massive signal of strength that can only inspire courage among those fighting on the battlefields and their families who must sustain them morally. Please keep it up. Our civilization is at stake.

God bless you all, and God bless the Order of St. Lazarus.

So, thanks so much for listening!

John Lenczowski, PhD, is the Founder, President Emeritus, and Chancellor of The Institute of World Politics. As part of his earlier government service, he served as President Reagan's chief White House Advisor on Soviet Affairs.



“What a Trip: Words Just Can’t Describe It!” Reflections on our recent Catholic Pilgrimage



By
Mike and Patty Milner

This past summer, by “mere coincidence,” Patty and I were able to hop aboard a “Catholic Pilgrimage Express” to Europe. Let us tell you how this happened and why it was so wonderful!

Back in March 2022, as part of the senior leadership team of the Grand Priory of America, I attended the mid-year leadership meeting in Memphis, Tennessee, hosted by the GPA. During the dinner following our first afternoon’s meetings, I had the honor to sit next to Father Marcos Gonzales, Commander of the West. We chatted about the events that occurred that day in our meeting, and later, I asked Fr. Marcos if he planned to spend some extra time in Washington DC following our Grand Prioral Council meeting over Labor Day Weekend. He responded briskly that, unfortunately, due to another trip he had scheduled, he would be leaving the GPC right after the gala dinner to return to Pasadena, California, repack and get to Vienna, Austria! I asked him where he was going in Vienna, and he began a detailed review of the two-week European pilgrimage that he was leading along with Bishop Tim Freyer of our Order. I suspect my jaw was wide open as he laid out the plans for this trip to significant historical sites in Austria and Germany with plans to attend the *“Passion Play”* in Oberammergau, Germany. I had heard of this play before but honestly didn’t know all the details. He said that the Diocese of Orange County, California, was hosting the trip and that he and Bishop Freyer would be having Catholic Mass every day at a different historical Basilica. Some of you know that I am a recent convert to Catholicism and have been studying and learning more and more every day about Jesus and his journey. Patty and I were part of the Order of St. Lazarus pilgrimage to the Holy Land in May 2019 and are already signed up to go back again this coming April 2023. Armed with what I have learned in the past three-plus years, I expect our next Holy Land trip will be better than the first, but I digress.

While I was listening to Fr. Marcos, he sent me a text message with the information about the trip that I immediately sent to Patty. Before we were done with dinner, Patty replied with a note, “WE ARE GOING.” I called Patty that night from Memphis, and we discussed with excitement how this trip would be extraordinary and fit perfectly into our late summer plans.... we had nothing on our calendar that would interfere with this trip! We are both “Retired, Retired”!!

We signed up within a week and locked down our flights and additional nights before and after the dates of the group portion of the trip. We wanted to get into Vienna a couple of days ahead of the group for “recon” and to allow the “jet lag” to wear off. We stayed a couple of extra days at the end of the trip to chill and relax since we knew we would have our “sneakers” on for the two weeks of the group part of the trip. I must hand it to my wife Patty, she did all the planning, flight



arrangements, car shuttle set up, and cancellation insurance investigations (as we were still dealing with some Covid concerns in March 2022 as she planned this), and she managed all the interactions with the travel agency in Orange County, California. Bravo to Patty for setting up and executing one of the best trips of our time together.

At the GPC in Washington, DC, we chatted at length with Bishop Freyer and Fr. Marcos about all that we had in store. We learned they had traveled together many times and that they had put a tremendous effort into the details of this trip. Working with members of their parishes in Orange County, they dove deeply into the minutia so that every part of the trip would be more than memorable. Kudos go out to them both and the team that was working with them, as they did not disappoint any of us. Patty and I missed a morning mass on the last official day of the GPC, Sunday, September 4th, and knew they were on the first planes leaving DC that morning. We prayed for their safe travels home and that their “suitcase repacking mission” went perfectly. As we learned on our trip with them in the coming weeks, priests have an easy job of packing! Dark shirts, dark pants, dark shoes and socks, their bibles, rosary, cell phone & charger, dark jacket, and oh yes, the collar for their dark shirt and a couple of “civilian shirts”! Our packing mission was more complicated!!

We were the only “east coasters” of the group. All our newfound friends were from the Orange County, CA area, and there were 20 of them, including Bishop Freyer and Fr. Marcos. We fit right in as Catholics but had a slight edge.... Patty and I have known the priests for many years in their roles as Clergy for our Grand Priory, and it was wonderful to have this strong prior relationship and friendship with them both. Our first night meeting the group at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Vienna was filled with anticipation and excitement, and when Bishop Freyer introduced us to the group for the first time, it was clear that our friendship was very special through our work together in the Order of St. Lazarus. All our new friends started asking about “the Order.” They could tell that the two priests held a special place for us in their hearts.

We spent the next two weeks together, visiting some of the oldest Basilicas in Austria and Germany. We learned the great history of the Catholic Church in Europe and visited places that were built in the 11th century onwards with such incredible splendor, imagery, and spirituality. Parish churches where former Popes had visited, where they shared the Eucharist with the parishioners and blessed the congregations and their local communities. We learned about some of the greatest musical scholars of the world, like Mozart, Beethoven, Strauss, and Chopin. We toured and then went backstage at the Vienna Boys Choir school and witnessed one of their rehearsals and chatted with the young men. Never in my life did I ever think I would meet such brilliant and talented young men and listen to them in such an intimate setting. It was extraordinary and unforgettable. We got really lost in Salzburg, by the way; our group had gone on ahead of us, and I can’t recall why; it was probably that Patty was running late or something! All my Boy Scout field training, years of military compass “azimuth shooting training,” and general knowledge of North, South,



East, and West were out the window. Trying to follow a map from the hotel and use my phone, Map programs were useless. We were hopelessly lost and after nearly an hour of Patty telling me we should “stop for directions” or to “give her the map,” I finally caved in. I asked a guy waiting at a light who was riding a bicycle for help. **“Do you speak English, I said,”** to which he replied, **“of course!”** **“I’m lost,”** I said....to which he replied, **“I can tell”!** He said we were literally “off the map” that the hotel had given us.... but gave us a course correction, wished us **“good luck”** finding our rendezvous point, and sent us on our way. We finally met up with our group, and, I should have listened to Patty sooner and turned the map around the other way!

The Austrian / German Alps were spectacular and visiting places from the “Sound of Music” movie brought back such great childhood memories. During one of our longer bus rides between planned stops, we had a chance to watch that iconic movie again and to visit the Basilica of St Michael church where the Von Trapps were married. The hills there were alive with the sound of music, and one morning, they were alive with a fresh early September snowfall upon our awakening! Picturesque, incredibly beautiful, and a bit romantic all at the same time!

The **“Passion Play”** in Oberammergau, Germany, has been performed by the townspeople since 1634. Nearly 400 years of history where a town prayed to be saved from the bubonic plague in 1633 and where no one died the following year of the disease. Knowing that their prayers were answered by the Almighty, they promised to reproduce the story of the Passion of Christ every year. They did it every year until 1674 when they started doing the play every ten years. That commitment has persisted for nearly 400 years. This year, 2022, they performed the play as the pandemic of 2020 kept them from doing so. Everyone in the small German town of Oberammergau can play a part in the play should they want to start their acting career. And everyone in the town has a role to play in putting on the production, estimated to draw 5 million people this year. From May to early October, they perform the play most days of the week and perform to over 5000 people in the amphitheater in the town. If they are not performing in the play as cast members, they are ushers, work in the restaurants, direct traffic, drive local shuttle buses, work in the local hotels, or manage security operations on the theater site. And just like a precise German timepiece, the show went off without a hitch. They started at 1:30 pm and ended the first part of the play at 4:30 pm; Intermission allowed us a bus ride to a wonderful German dinner location and we were back in our seats for the second half from 7 to 9 pm. I must admit that listening to the play spoken in German was made easier by the “English translation” booklets that Bishop Freyer and Fr Marcos provided to each group member! My high school and college German language was quite rusty, but I got some words here and there which aided in following along the spoken words of the performers and the English translation guide. Seeing the stellar performance of the cast reenact the Crucifixion of Christ story was very powerful and emotional. There were no dry eyes that night. He died for us on Calvary so that we can have eternal life in heaven.



Our last four days were spent in Munich, and as we mentioned, because of Bishop Freyer and Fr Marcos's exquisite planning, we just happened to be parked at the 4 Seasons Hotel in downtown Munich for the first day of Oktoberfest! How did that happen? The incredible parade went right in front of our hotel with the bands, horse-drawn bier carts, and other Lederhosen-clad performers. It just doesn't get better than that!

Well, maybe the only better thing was the special "reserved tables" at the Oktoberfest Park Bier Garden that happened to be just after the parade marched by! We had two reserved tables, and each group member was given 75 Euros to spend. We had much more than enough for bier, food, and souvenirs at our disposal. The first round of 1-liter bier steins came by, and then the second. The "um-pa-pa band" was playing on one end of the building, and it sounded better and better with each tune they played! I noticed our two friends, the priests, discretely slide out after the first round of bier. They seemed to have a unique sense of departure timing because as soon as they departed, the singing, dancing, standing on the chairs and tables, and overall general rowdiness seemed to increase. We have pictures and video evidence! Fr. Marcos told me the next day that they "just know" when the party is getting started, and that's their queue to say "goodnight."

We could see and do so many incredible things during this trip, but for me, the highlight was going to mass every day. Each day our mass was held in a different and more spectacular church. The readings and the homilies grew more instructive, and the feeling of being with the Holy Spirit grew stronger and more vital for us. We participated in and witnessed some incredible things during our pilgrimage and came back home more on fire to spread God's word. The last time we felt the presence of God this much was during our May 2019 Holy Land pilgrimage, and we cannot wait to be in Jerusalem again this spring as part of our Order of St. Lazarus-sponsored pilgrimage.

Thank you, Bishop Freyer and Father Marcos, for leading us on such an incredible journey of faith!! We hope and pray we can travel again with you both sometime in the future. We will always remember this trip.

Mike and Patty Milner



The Lord Mayor of London's Luncheon



Lucille C. Whitley, CLJ

On September 30th 2022, I was honored and privileged to attend the Lord Mayor of London's Luncheon, the only representative from the United States, as reported to me by Dame Val Hiscock of the Grand Priory of England and Wales, the Registrar for the event.

Since I am a member of the English-Speaking Union and the Churchill Society, the call to attend was irresistible. And most importantly, I was on my way to visit my son and family in Germany.

In the following comments, I would like to offer a verbal snapshot of my experience.

First, not widely known, there are two mayors of London, one elected by the general populace and the other, a ceremonial mayor, whose office is held for one year. Mr. Vincent Keavney, a long-standing and distinguished Member of the Order of St. Lazarus, occupies this office.

This office dates to 1189 when Richard the Lionhearted chose the first Lord Mayor from amongst a group of leading citizens. In modern times, the Lord Mayor hosts diverse events for visiting heads of state, officials of government, representing, promoting, and supporting businesses and, most importantly, the financial sector services of the City of London.

As an aside, and very timely, while in Europe, I came across an article in the Financial Times, about the Lord Mayor, Mr. Keavney, and his upcoming negotiations with India on easing India's tight restrictions for foreign financial services firms.

Meanwhile, the Mansion House, where the luncheon was held, was built in the 1740s and designed by the architect George Dance in the Palladian style. The event began promptly at noon after a cocktail reception where I was served an elderberry cocktail which I immensely enjoyed, considering its antioxidant properties. Then, we were ushered into a spectacular hall, interestingly called the Egyptian Hall. Corinthian columns and Roman statuary graced it. Being a trained journalist, shouldn't this be called the Roman Hall? Later, after the luncheon and further research, I found that the Egyptian Hall was designed by the Roman architect Vitruvius who created buildings in Egypt during the Roman reign with grand columns. Hence the name, The Egyptian Hall. Oh! I remarked to myself, that's London- layer upon layer of fascination.

Then, the Lord Mayor, the 693rd Lord Mayor, gave a lovely welcoming speech, followed by the Grandmaster Don Francisco de Borbon Graf von Hardenberg, who enthusiastically spoke of the many charitable Saint Lazarus projects. In addition, other projects include emergency relief for Samburu, Kenya, and continuing shipments of aid to the Ukraine of such items as first aid kits,



My guest, Felicity Strachan, a fellow New Orleanian, and myself were seated at the same table as the rising politician Mr. Micheal Kurn. It was a wonderful experience to trade Churchillian stories with Micheal. Other guests included Mr. Keith Johnson, Mr. Charles Aspinall, Commander of "Rose D'or," and his lovely wife, Pamela.

Following the luncheon, we were graciously introduced by Mr. Kurn to the Grand Master. As my fellow Lazarite, Mr. Philip Hutchins, observed, " It was a historic event in a year of historic events. " It is unlikely that a member of the Order of Saint Lazarus will serve as the Lord Mayor again.

Dame Val Hiscock asked me to relay her warmest best wishes to all her friends in the United States.



Charles Holloway, (Baliff of the order in UK) Lynne Holloway, Grand Master, Pamela Aspinal, Michael Kurt, Charles Aspinal (Commander of Rose D'Or).



Egyptian Hall ,
Mansion House



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THE ORDER

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Prayer of The Order

Almighty God, who dost chose Thine elect out of every nation, and dost show forth Thy glory in their lives, grant we pray Thee, that following the example of Thy servant Saint Lazarus, we may be fruitful in good works to the praise of Thy Holy Name, through Jesus Christ, Our Lord.

Lord, You Who are the Friend of all mankind, were an intimate friend of Lazarus and his sisters. His death brought tears to Your eyes and power to Your voice so that you called him forth in life from the bonds of death. Lord, may You who are our life, now renew us in the power of Your Spirit to be concerned with the lives and needs of others so that one day we may all share eternal life with You in Your Heavenly Kingdom.