



The Sovereign Military Order Of The Temple of Jerusalem

THE PRIORY OF SAINT JAMES

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

December 2012

Greetings to all Dames, Knights, Postulants and Friends of our Priory:

We present for your edification and, we hope, entertainment, our December Newsletter.

Sir Stuart William Ross, KTJ

Sir William Larry Upper, KCTJ, MSc



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRIOR RANDAL

Greetings and Salutations, my Dames and Knights. Being my initial correspondence to you, I wish all of you well and good health. Our general Meeting was November 27th at 7:00 pm, location, **The Peach Gallery 722 College Street, 3rd floor, Toronto.** With the Holiday Season fast approaching; this will be our last General Meeting for this year.

The agenda for said meeting was as follows:

- 1) Prior opening remarks
- 2) New communication tool for the Priory
- 3) Roles and Positions – please give some thought as to which committee you like to serve on, please note you may be assigned to a committee
- 4) The Annual Ball
- 5) Report from the Chairman of Treasury
- 6) The floor is open for discussion on any new business
- 7) Closing remarks

Should you be unable to attend a General Meeting, please inform Sir Neven Bozovic nevenbozovic@gmail.com or Sir George Jackowski ebortoluzzi@pivotaltherapeutics.us In closing may I take this opportunity to wish Each and Everyone along with their Families & Friends a Happy Holiday.

Yours very truly,

Your Prior

Randal Cronkite

Important Notice/Information from Our Canadian Grand Master



The Grand Master and the International Grand Commander

ORDO SUPREMUS MILITARIS TEMPLI HIEROSOLYMITANI (OSMTH)
Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem
(Knights Templar International)

YES, dear Grand Priors, Templar Brothers and Sisters and dear Friends:

It is with sadness that we send to you this formal announcement of the death of His Beatitude Patriarch TORKOM MANOOGIAN, Archbishop and Patriarch of the Armenian Orthodox Church of Jerusalem. Patriarch MANOOGIAN was taken by our Lord on Friday, October 12th at 93 years of age, having served on the Throne of St. James as the 96th Patriarch, in an unbroken line of Christian Primates dating back to 638 AD.

The semi-diplomatic Throne of St. James is one of the three Christian Patriarchs in Jerusalem that manage and protect Christian sites in the Holy City, including numerous Cathedrals, Churches, Seminaries and Libraries and the ancient Armenian community of over 2,500 citizens living in the old City, a Christian state within a state, for over 1400 year's.

His Beatitude was a world recognized ecumenical Christian leader as well as a musician, choral conductor, with an excellent voice, a composer, poet and writer. Even in his final illness he was writing a book to add to the collection of 200 books he has published.

To the Knights Templar he was a unique Christian leader. In the year 2002, after 700 years of silence, it was he who reached out to us and invited us to return to the Holy City. Brigadier General Patrick Rea, then Grand Prior of the United States of America, with the approval of the Grand Commander of OSMTH RADM James Carey, contacted Christian, Israeli and Muslim leaders in Jerusalem to determine if a return of our Order to the Holy City was appropriate for that time. His Beatitude responded immediately and said "yes" you must come; you are wanted and needed to show the Christians of Jerusalem they are not alone. At that time extensive military activity was common in most of Israel.

Much happened in the planning and execution of this trip as a small team of Templars prepared to go to the Holy Land for the first time since 1187. Every step of the way His Beatitude was calling, encouraging and finally welcoming us in his Throne Room in the Holy City.

From that time forward His Beatitude and his Patriarchate have been our warm friends, mentors and loving advisors. Many Templar Pilgrimages have been to Jerusalem since that time; the first such Pilgrimage was led by Major General Robert Disney, the co-author of this announcement; and since then Pilgrims from the Grand Priorities of the United States of America, England and Wales, Finland and Canada were, as long as his health permitted, greeted by Patriarch TORKOM. In recent times His Beatitude fondly remembered this relationship with Knights Templar Pilgrims and arranged for His Eminence Archbishop NOURBAN MANOUGIAN, to continue this close relationship. With the help of the Grand Prior of Greece, a good friend of the Archbishop, this relationship has broadened and deepened.

Grand Priory of Canada is to have a Newsletter.

We at St. James Priory are extremely privileged to have as Dames & Knights members of the Canadian Grand Priory. Our past Prior, Dame Nola Crewe, is now the Grand Chancellor while our previous Newsletter editor, Knight Alastair McIntyre, is the first Grand Priory News Editor. The Grand Priory Newsletter is a step in the correct direction for it will afford each Dame & Knight in Canada to know what other Priories are doing and planning. This means of communicating should offer those Dame & Knights an opportunity to attend planned events and open a dialogue with like-minded people. For those individuals who would wish to widen their knowledge of the Order we recommend you look at the following website; <http://www.electricscotland.com> You'll be amazed at what information you will find.



St. James Holds Its Investiture.

Certainly a highlight of every Priory is their annual Investiture. St. James Priory hosted its Investiture on Saturday September 15, 2012. This year's Investiture was special as the newly Knighted Dames & Knights were invested by Read Admiral Hugh Carey RADM, (retired United States Navy). For the very first time our own H.E. Capt. Sir George G. McNeillie, promoted last year assisted in the Knighting along with our outgoing Canadian Grand Prior The Venerable Commander Dr. Ronald Matthewman, LTH., CD., GCTJ. And our Special Guest Grand Master Emeritis , H.E. RADM, Sir James J. Carey, Retired USA Navy.



Although each and every newly Knighted Dame & Knight was very special, this particular Investiture was the final Investiture of a very extraordinary Lady, Rev. Nola Crewe, our Prior for the past three years.



As previously mentioned, Rev. Nola is now our Canadian Grand Chancellor; however, during her term as our Prior, Rev. Nola hosted the Templar International Convention, had her beloved husband pass, along with her right hand at St. James, Chancellor Sir Keith Leonard. Prior Nola was able to overcome these difficulties and move our Priory forward. As Templars we all have a huge debt of gratitude to Rev. Nola and wish her well in her new position.



It is our esteemed pleasure to welcome these new Knights & Dames to the Priory of St. James:

*Sir Anthony Galea
Sir Vince Nigro
Sir George Plastsis
Sir Stuart William Ross.*

*Sir Jerry Jackowski
Sir Carmine Panaro
Sir Eugenio Bortoluzzi*

We would like to report that this year's Investiture had LCol Edward Raymont along with Dame Barbara Boles-Davis promoted to the rank of Grand Officer. Other promotions to the rank of Knight Commandeur were; Sir Remo d'Aloisio, Sir Douglas Alexander Angus Berbyshire Crewe and Sir Nick Migliore. It goes without saying that it was also Sir Randal Cronkite's promotion to our Prior.



Now for our History Lessons

As Knighted individuals we took an Oath. As part of that process you were asked to spend time daily to meditate/reflect on your actions along with the many benefits bestowed upon you and your family. As you will learn over the course of these newsletters our History is filled with countless events, of which some we need to celebrate while others we need to simply understand so as to insure that those actions are never repeated. So sit back in your best chair and reflect upon our history.

**Part I,
In Search of Our Templar History
(the development of our Order)
By
Sir William L. Upper, MSc, KCTJ
Priory of St. James**

It has been said that it takes an endless amount of history to make even a little tradition and, as most reading this article already know, the Knights Templar has a long history which has stimulated many individuals to ponder their life's work/exploits and then offer their interpretation of their ventures of wealth and power. Facts are facts and should never be maneuvered to reinforce a writer's position or perspective. Twisting statistics to reinforce one's position only adds, over time, to confusion and fortifies mysteries developed by creative minds. Wishing it so does not make it so, for all reasonable minded persons by nature desire true knowledge based on facts and not fiction; to that end true mysteries of the world are the visible, not the invisible.

For one hundred and ninety-two years (1120 – 1312), after the First Crusade which captured Jerusalem in 1099, some of the original warrior knights from Western Europe stay in the City.⁽¹⁾ Records reveal that these Knights, who many believe originated the concept of Christian brotherhood or confraternity's military order, began soon after remaining in the captured city, following a religious way of life in the church of the Holy Sepulchre, built on the very site of Jesus Christ's empty tomb. The facts are that these original knights did not invent the concept they are so renowned to have cultivated as religious warriors, but rather appropriated the concept from earlier such organizations such as that of the **Byzantine Greeks** who for centuries had warrior saints the likes of *St George, St Theodore Tiron and the infamous St Mercurius*. It must be noted that these originators of Warrior Knights all used their warrior skills in God's service.

To add to our knowledge, this warrior knight concept did not belong solely to Christianity according to Helen Nicholson, who explains that⁽²⁾ "the Muslim voluntary religious military organization called the **rabat** which flourished at the same period as the Christian military orders began....more extreme were the military monks of Japan in the same period ...who fought in defense of their monasteries." In true definition of Warrior Monks, Helen Nicholson advances the position that⁽³⁾ "*the Templars were not monks, because they did not live in enclosed houses: and they did not fight to promote their own interests, but to protect all people who help the same religious faith as they did*". My curiosity begins as an act of tearing to pieces or analysing the countless myths surrounding the origin of our Templar Knights. So you the reader will recall, in January of 1120 these original warriors traveled to the Church council in Nablus seeking approval of their order. Agreeing to their request, the council and the then king of

Jerusalem, Baldwin 11, provided these Knights his former palace in the former Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount in Jerusalem, better known in modern terms as the **Temple of Solomon** thus providing the source of the name Templars. A few years ago I spent an afternoon visiting the 12th century circular nave of New Templar Church in London. It is a fact that no Knight is buried there; however, the design of their Church is so draughted to replicate the circle of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. As a Knight Templar I was forced to reflect as to why rich individuals such as the Duke of Lower Lorraine, Godfroi de Bouillon (1061 – 1100) sold his castle and all his estates and, along with his brothers, Princes, Bishops, Counts, Barons with much wealth and worldly comfort such as Baron Henri de Saint Clair, son of William Saint Clair, Dukes the likes of the son of William the Conqueror, and as our Templar history shows us Hughes de Payns, departed for the first crusades and later formed the Templars? It is a matter of record that, according to Andrew Sinclair,⁽⁴⁾ the original nine Knights who formed the Templars were all involved with de Bouillon in that first crusade. These Knights, led by Godfroi de Bouillon in capturing Jerusalem, did so by killing over seventy thousand people. These Knights of God sent by the Pope killed Muslims in the al-Aqsa Mosque, burned Jews inside synagogues, destroyed monuments of saints, and levelled the mosque of Umar along with the Tomb of Abraham. Tradition simply means that we need to end what began well and continue what is worth continuing, and this scribe Knight would like to erase this entire chapter of our history. Records confirm that originally the Order was approved to protect the Christian holy places in what was referred to as Outremer. With the single faith in their understanding that this city be safeguarded against all non-Christians and that pilgrims visiting the city and the holy sites be secure in doing so, the Order had its marching orders. One must appreciate that the killing of pilgrims to the Holy City was a business for non-Christians. An example is Sultan Kilij Arslan's killing of thousands of then tourists travelling to Jerusalem in 1101 as they trekked from Lombardy and another fifteen thousand colonists slaughtered again by the same Sultan in Nicea. One may now have a greater appreciation for the Templars easily receiving Clergy's approval to organize, as the need to protect was paramount.

But one needs to forget that originally there were but nine Knights prepared to sacrifice themselves to provide this service. One ideological acceptance as truth for Latin Christians was that to serve in this special Order would wipe out sins and place the serving knight in line straight to Heaven. Adding to this understanding was the incentive that should a knight dying in battling the Muslims was the highest form of martyrdom.



As any soldier will attest, a love for tradition has never weakened a nation or a command in time of war. Indeed it has strengthened not only a nation, a command, but also the resolve of a soldier in the hour of peril. Some joined the order to escape poor conditions at home, much like some soldiers today, some joined for a career, others still joined to be with family and/or friends who were already knights, and then some joined to see the world, adventure and win glory. There were a few ordered to join in lieu of going to prison or doing penance for crimes. One thing is for sure, once accepted, each individual understood they were doing God's work and in any fashion you'd like to select to define their individual roles, they were slaves of the Order. Knights had to promise to 'God and the Virgin Mary, to obey the master, to live without sexual activity and without personal property, to keep the traditions and customs of the Order.' To remind these new members of their pledge, they were given and wore a woollen cord tied around their waist as a symbol of chastity along with a soft cap worn by religious men. To uneducated men who couldn't have understood the complexity of the theological deliberations going on around them, being told that Mohammad, the great Islamic prophet, was The Antichrist and capturing the Holy Land from the Muslims was the singular duty of

Christians. Describing the Templars riding fearlessly into battle and dying for Christ, Jacque de Vitry, bishop of Acre tells this story;

*“You should always be prepared to shed your blood for Christ,
That is to say, to lay down your lives for God with desire and
The sword, following the example of a certain knight of Christ
Who when he saw the great number of Saracens, began to speak
Out of his great faith and the joy of his heart, and to say,
To his horse: ‘oh Blackie, good comrade, I have done many
Good day’s work by mounting and riding on you; but this
Day’s work will surpass all the others, for today you will carry
Me to eternal life.’ After this, he killed many Saracens, and
At last fell himself, crowned in battle with fortunate martyrdom”.*

Ok, now we know that generally these Knights were very focused, cruel, loyal and certainly explorers, business men, entrepreneurs. Let’s think about this a LITTLE further—that what has been written and promoted thus far by historians, script writers, movie makers etc... nine knights are commissioned to protect pilgrims in a bloody highly dangerous bandit-infested desert? As a sociologist I just don’t believe it, for we are talking about hundreds of miles of danger protecting hundreds of pilgrims a year.... Let’s look a little higher to see and understand the landscape—development as it actually evolved. In 1104 Count Hugues de Champagne funded research to the Cistercian monks at Citeaux and Rashi scholars from Troyes to specifically translate ancient Hebrew texts taken from Toledo with the single task of searching for the locations of treasure and artifacts. It is imperative to note that at the Council of Troyes, Count Hugues de Champagne donated land to the Cistercians, and he met with the revered families of Chaumont, Brienne and Joinville, including the Lewige of Andre de Montbard, the future Templar and Tibaud 1 de Payns, Lord Gisors and cousin of Templar Hughes.

Reported in **Holy Blood, Holy Grail**, the author states that Count Hughes de Champagne met in Molesmes with various nobles from the wealthy and influential families of Chaumont which included the future Templar lord of Andre de Montbard, along with cousin to Templar Hugues de Payns. Count de Champagne married Constance de France and shortly thereafter leaves for his first visit to the Temple Mount in Jerusalem. **Must I be the only one to ask why the Count Hughes de Champagne goes on such a journey?** For the year is 1104 and no Knight Templar Priory has yet been established. Has the trip done to with investigational research based on preliminary translation discoveries? The timing is right, as the First Crusade has just taken Acre and destroyed the city and in its normal barbaric manner killed its population. While away to the Temple Mount, Count de Champagne misses the abdication of Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV to his son Henry V in 1105, while King Henry I of England finally defeats his brother Robert and reunites England and the Normandy area of France. With the picture changing back home, Count de Champagne returns from Jerusalem with Hugues de Payns and they meet with the families of Chaumont, Nevers and Joinville at Chateau-sur-Seine. **As one might clearly see, the circle of influence and wealthy families is growing, but for what reason?**

The year is now 1110 and Toledo blossoms as a center for transmission of Islamic culture and science to Europe. That same period of time sees the Crusades destroy Beirut and, as customary, its entire population. **I’d like to point out that the translations were done in Latin and Hebrew and focused on Arabic works on mathematics, science and philosophy.** **Is it possible, if not probable, that these translations under the supervision of Archbishop of Toledo might have included the sacred artifacts and surely the treasure(s) hidden within the Temple Mount in Jerusalem?** For whatever was discovered or not discovered, by 1112 Bernard de Fontaine departed from his home along with thirty of his family members to enter the near-bankrupt Cistercian monastery at Citeaux. Bernard, one will recall, becomes one if not the most significant/persuasive men in the known world and is known today as Saint Bernard and a strong supporter of the Templar movement.

One of Saint Bernard’s actions was to create a special abbey home office in Europe where all the planning, travel arrangements and prospective excavation operations were meticulously executed. On another note of interest, if you visit the official website of Seborga you’ll discover that Saint Bernard established the monastery to ***protect the***

“**great secret**”. Is it just odd coincidence that this very monastery, under the direction of Prince Abbot Edouard, included two monks who eventually themselves became Templars, **Gondemare and Rossal ?**

Referenced in **The Knights Templar**, the Templars installed Hugues de Payns as Grand Master on February 15, 1113 in Champagne. According to what you’ve just read, and citing from the book, **The Templars: Knights of God**, Michael the Syrian, Patriarch of the Syriac Church at Antioch and official chronicler of the Crusades, recorded that Higes de Payns was indeed in Jerusalem for three years before founding of the Knights. We know from records that in November of 1119, Count Higes de Champagne and the original nine knights left for Jerusalem. It was at that time that the **Prieure de Sion** and the **Templars** **decided to have separate Grand Masters**. Why? But upon their arrival in Jerusalem, King Baudouin 11 allocates these Templars the ***Al-Agsa mosque and along with it the area called Solomon’s Stables on the Temple Mount***, which they employed as their headquarters. There have been arguments presented that the Knights did nothing but house their houses within these walls. Others present the case that the Knights’ sole purpose was to uncover treasurers/secrets locked within and beneath these most holy walls. Either way, it is during this time that Count Hugues de Champagne aligns himself with Pope Callistus 11 at the Council of Reims which had but a single purpose, to turn public opinion against the Holy Roman Emperor Henry V. This proved to be an extremely rewarding move, as we all know for these Knights would reap the favor of the Pope not only financially, but in station, for the next three hundred years. But one must not only cogitate that by uniting themselves behind Pope Callistus that these Knights would be rewarded so generously. Was something else also going on? In a turn that again would strengthen the Knights immediately and in the relatively near future, Count Fulk V of Anjou took the oath to join the Templars in 1120. One needs to ask again why would a Count whose mother was first the mistress and later wife of King Philipp become a Knight? Rich and powerful, Count Fulk V, a year after joining the Templars, visited the Templar excavation according to **The Second Messiah**, and upon his return to Europe granted these Templars an extremely large endowment. So what did he see? What may perhaps have been so potentially profitable an investment/grant? As fortunes would prove, in 1127 King of Jerusalem, Baldwin 11, proposed Count Fulk marry his daughter and heiress, Melisende and as a wedding gift would be given the cities of Acre and Tyre. So the Count abdicated Anjou and in 1129 married Melisende. After King Baldwin’s death in 1131 Fulk took control, thus strengthening the already robust and resilient ties between the King and the Templars.

By 1125 Count Hughes de Champagne, leaves his wife and son while handing over his entire homeland estate(s) and wealth, estimated by George Smart in his book, **The Knights Templar Chronology**, at somewhere between four and five times the actual wealth of the then King of France, departs to be with the Templars in Jerusalem. Ok, getting the picture? This is simply out of character even for the Middle Ages Knights/Counts/Kings. These are not very nice/liberal-minded/baby-kissing/steambath friendly men. The honest truth is that to rule at this point in history, one needed to be cruel, heartless and extremely selfish. So just why does the richest man, with power and privilege, commit such an act? As in a play that can only be penned by the likes of William Shakespeare, the following year, 1126, the Count Hughes de Champagne dies, as does King Baudouin 11. But the stage had been set, the fruits of previous meetings, negotiation, promises and influence were about to manifest fruit much like a queen bee lays larva in her hive for the spring dandelions and clover harvest, and what a harvest it was.

All modern day Templars should be celebrating for **886 years ago (1126)** *now think of what a celebration it would be with sponsors from business, banking, governments, and charity agencies if in 2016, the 890 birthday or 2016 the 900 birthday of Templars creating a multitude of businesses. Principal bankers, inventors of checks and branch banking schemes. Leaders in international ambassadors and refined statesmen. What about real estate, for they controlled well in excess of 5,000 properties on the international scene: Scotland, Ireland, Britain, France, Spain, Germany, Hungary, every country in the Mediterranean and the middle east. What about the designing and building professions, for these Templars eventually designed and build 300-plus places of worship including Cathedrals, monasteries, townhouses and castles.*

You’ll recall that when Hughes de Champagne departed for Jerusalem he left all behind. Well he didn’t leave it to his son, but rather his nephew Thibaud de Champagne. The nephew gives the Templars property 55 miles northwest of Troyes. Then he leaves for Jerusalem... upon arriving King Baudouin 11 presents him and his fellow Templars a letter for none other than Bernard of Clairvaux. The letter requests the soon-to-be St. Bernard to

arbitrate with Pope Honorius 11, who by luck was a Cistercian monk under no other than Bernard of Clairvaux, in order to have sanctioned and simultaneously finance the Templars as a full-fledged military order. As directed, these Templars led by Hugues de Payns convey the letter to Bernard de Clairvaux. **This, dear reader, is where it gets extremely interesting**, as it is during this meeting that Bernard de Clairvaux and Prince Abbot Edouard take it upon themselves to **render Hugues de Payns the FIRST TEMPLAR GRAND MASTER**. It is at this precise moment that all present, which also included Friar Gerard de Martigues of the Knights of Malta, **took the vow of silence between themselves and The Great Bishop of the Catharine to FOREVER safeguard "THE GREAT SECRET"**. "OK, what secret?" you ask. Before a theory is advanced, one needs to know that these Knights Templars' travel wasn't finished, as more principal players of the day needed to be visited.

The year is 1128 and it must be the high point for the newly formed Knights. In March, Portuguese Queen Theresa gives them the castle Souce and the entire town of Fonte Arcade. So now Hugues de Payns and Andre de Montbard travel off to Great Britain and King Henry 1 not only welcomes them, but grants them large gifts of property. Still not finished their travels, these two are now off to visit King David 1 of Scotland and make their first visit to **Roslin in Scotland**. You'll recall that the movie and many treasure seekers believe that the **GREAT SECRET** pledged by Bernard de Clairvaux, Prince Abbot Edouard and Hughes de Payns is encrypted in the walls at Roslin Chapel or buried beneath its floor in in the apprentice column on the right side of the holy altar. In any case, Catherine de Saint Clair and her father give the Templars land at Balantrodach specifically for a preceptor. Note that Catherine de Saint Clair is Hugues the Payns wife and they have three sons: Edmund, Thibaud and Thomas de Payns. All in all, 1128 was a very good year and a genuine jump start to so new a Knighthood, which brings me back again to Why? Why did these people receive such gifts, such a warm welcome, and develop such powerful friends? Must be that secret, Now then, what DO YOU THINK IT IS? In any case if 1128 was a good year 1129 only kept that momentum going. On January 31 at the Council of Troyes, Pope Honoris 11's diplomat **Matthew de Albano**, on behalf of the Pope, **GIVES THE TEMPLARS PAPAL BLESSING OF THEIR ORDER**. This is a day which, in my opinion, each Priory across the World should celebrate as it gives legitimacy to the Order then and, to a certain degree, now. With 300 new recruits, Hugues de Payns returns to Jerusalem and with King Baudouin 11 attacks and takes Damascus. Ironically, Damascus is still to this day being fought over and lives are still being lost over religion and power.

In an interesting turn of fait,h Troubaours and female troubadours (trabaritz) back in France pursue two themes both encompassing the divine feminine: it is at this stage that Templars embrace the concept of chivalry...the belief that a true and honest knight is more than a warrior and servant of the crown or Pope but has as a true Knight Templar a higher calling and duty to protect the powerless and those individuals who happen to be less fortunate. It is still the leitmotif of our modern Knight. By 1135 Bernard de Clairvaux had completed his work entitled **LIBER AD MILITES TEMPLI DE LAUDE NOVAE MILITAE**.⁽⁵⁾ **Bernard addressed Hugues de Paynes and praised the new knights who fought to defend Christ and the Church against their enemies. The bad Knights ore militia preyed on their fellow Christians as the new Templar Knights did not, was his bottom line. This treatise provided a theme for later monastic writers, who used Bernard's play on words to contrast the militis and militia. History has shown that the vivendi forma that the Abbet of Citeaux gave the Knights of Calatrava sometime around 1164 reflected this Latinate distinction between good and bad knights, for in it Abbot praised the members of the order who converted from Knights of the World to Knights of God for the purpose of fighting the enemies of the Faith. Still in the same year Pope Innocent 11 at the Council of Pisa extended special favor and additional funding to the Templars. Was this protection money? Was this bribe money? Or was it money to continue their Secret objective? By 1137 the Templars had built their Paris preceptor on land granted to them by none other than King Louis VI.**

IMPORTANT NOTE: At the 2nd Lareran Council in Rome under the stewardship of Pope Innocent 11 and the Holy Roman Emperor Conrad 11, Bernard de Clairbaux preaches against the engagement of lay ministers in church services. **The Council then enacted a stronger celibacy policy for priests, partially to prevent priests' children from inheriting Catholic property. But one must ask why? Was the property in question so priceless? Was it so not the custom? Were the Church and Templars hiding that much of a fortune and secrets? Any way one conjugates this crossing point in church history, it must be noted that right after the 2nd Lareran Council, Pope Innocent 11 grants a charter to the Prieure de Sion—the very Priory that some others said did not exist and was only made up for a movie entitled the Davince Code. After enacting this Prior, Innocent 11 writes the famous OMNE DATUM**

OPTIMUM granting the Knights Templars exemption from the authority of local Bishops, exemption from taxation by any King, and to top it off, release from all obedience except to the Papacy. The way was paved to do little more than increase their power, influence and wealth.

This is only the first part of future similar articles to come. It is my aspiration in research and offering these articles that you also will strive to learn more about our history. If you are like me, and value the pursuit of knowledge, then you'd agree that in so doing we must follow freely wherever that research may lead us. For knowledge and personality make doubt possible, but only knowledge will cure our doubts; and when we get our full and adequate sense of our true personality we are then lifted to a higher level where doubt is almost impossible, for it is then that we as individuals may know our true self and our full potential as Knight Templars in a modern world.

References/Sources:

- (1) Nicholson, Helen, OSPREY Publishing, ISBN 1-84176-670-4
- (2) Ibid
- (3) Ibid
- (4) Sinclair, Andrew, *The Sword and The Grail*.
- (5) Bernard de Clairvaux, *Liber ad Milites Templi De Laude Novae Militae*

SMOTJ Social Network – Coming shortly

The St. James Priory has embarked on a pilot stage of a private social network. The term social network doesn't fully characterize the objectives of the Priory in its intended use but for those who have had experience with social networks such as Facebook, you will quickly find yourself in a familiar environment upon entering the SMOTJ social network.

As a community tool, the network will promote increased knowledge of the history of the Order, the current work of the Order and the diversity of experience, skills and activities of its member Knights and Dames.

Knights and Dames will have an ability to discuss and contribute to the planning and activities of the Order as well as each other.

If used well, social networks do not compete with or replace any of the essential in-person time spent in the work of the Order. It can enhance the frequency of communication and relationships by providing a convenient and organizing context for Knights and Dames to communicate with each other on a more weekly or daily

basis.

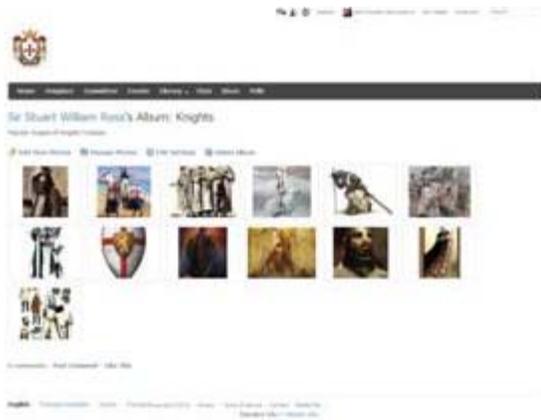
General Features

The general feature and organization of the social network is the individual Knight and Dame profile. If you are familiar with Facebook, you will recognize the communication capabilities in sending and receiving messages to and from other Knights and Dames.

In addition to the communication with each other, Knights and Dames are able to participate in their committees and activities of the Order. Committees can manage their own agendas and activities through the social network.

General communication will be available through the social network,





including schedules and details of the Priory meetings and activities.

The library of the social network will contain an array of documents including the Order's manuals as well as historical references and other artefacts.

Access to the social network will be permission based and each member of the Order will receive an email invitation and password.

The invitations will be issued shortly.

You can direct any questions and feedback to Sir. Stuart W Ross at ross@doradomedia.com.



St. James' Appointed Officers for 2013

What would an organization devoted to serving God, Country, Priory and the under-privileged be without strong/devoted/honorable leadership? The Priory of St. James is extremely fortunate in that it has a wealth of talented individuals to select from. Prior Sir Randy Cronkite has promoted the following Knights & Dames to these vital committees:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <i>Chancellor:</i> | <i>Sir Nick Migliore</i> |
| <i>Executive Secretary:</i> | <i>Sir George Jackowski</i> |
| <i>Committee Members:</i> | <i>Sir Eugenio Bortoluzzi</i> |
| <i>Inspector:</i> | <i>Sir Carmen De Santis</i> |
| <i>Avocet General:</i> | |
| <i>Chair of Treasury:</i> | <i>Sir Remo D'Aloisio</i> |
| <i>Committee Members:</i> | <i>Sir Kenneth R. Yurichuk</i> |
| | <i>Sir Diego Alejo</i> |

***Chairman of Membership
Committee:***

Sir Neven Bozovic

Committee Members:

***Sir Jerry Jackowski
Sir George Plastis
Sir Tom Sottile***

***Chief Editor of Newsletter:
Committee Member:***

***Sir William L. Upper
Sir Stuart William Ross***

***Chairman of Fund Raising:
Committee Members:***

***Sir Vince Nigro
Sir Chris Korwin-Kuczynski***

Chairman of Water Charity:

L.Col. Sir Matthew Gaasenbeek

***Chairperson of The
Holy Land Committee:
Committee Members:***

***H.E. Dame Nola Crewe
Dr. Sir Anthony Galea
Sir Stuart William Ross***

***Chairman of the Homeless
Committee:
Committee Members:***

***Dame Dai Gassenbeek
Dame Barbara Walsh***

Armourer:

Sir Santino Spadafora & Sir Joseph Fotia

***Chairman of the surgeon
Corp:
Committee Members:***

***Dr. Sir Anthony Galea
Sir George Jackowski***

Master of Protocol:

Sir Walter Perchal

Knight Protector:

Sir Jonathan Francis

Sword Bearers:

Sir Jerry Jackowski & Sir Eugenio Bortoluzzi

Officer of the Mantel:

Sir Eduardo Sarasti

Marshal of the Convent:

L. Col. Chev. Edward Rayment

***Chair of the Annul
Templar Ball:***

Chancellor Sir Nick Migliore



Templars Should Read – It's not only to keep informed, but a Way to Share.

*Each newsletter features at least one book review. **YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to read a book and file your observations/insight – Templars need to know*

A Book Of the Future Read To Learn and Understand

Henry Kissinger On China

Book Review

By

Sir William Upper, MSc, KCTJ

*As a Knight duly invested and pledged to help those that need our help, our National and International Pories should be, I would suggest all have a similar objective to help build a better world. Thus it is my perspective that to attain this objective, each Knight should strive to improve himself. By so doing we then have a moral responsibility to all humanity, as our particular duty is to aid those to whom we think we can be most useful. One means to improve ourselves and that is quite available to each of us is books which would offer insight into a greater understanding of the world we live in. That way not only our individual but collective talents may be focused on those individuals which we believe we are able to do the most good. Keeping with that musing, I have just read [Henry Kissinger On China](#) for I craved to widen my understanding of a government which governs over 1.1 trillion people. With the decline of the USSR as a world power along with the economical complications presently facing Europe and our major trading partner the United States of America, it only seems logical that if I'm to stay in touch with a developing world I had better comprehend the next World Power broker. China, as you are aware, has been purchasing and will continue to purchase or attempt to purchase controlling shares in Canadian national resource companies. As such, understanding China's foreign policy is vital to my comprehension so as to enable us to contribute Templar objectives now and in the future. Reading Kissinger on China will provide the reader an understanding of Chinese diplomacy in a modern world and just what China's modern destiny is. Henry Kissinger, you'll recall, served as National Security Advisor and then held the position of Secretary of State under Richard Nixon and then under Gerald Ford. Winner of the 1973 Nobel Prize, The Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Medal of Liberty, Kissinger's writings on China are a must read for a complete comprehension of a changing world. As Canadians we should know we must understand our place in a global power struggle. The future of Asia will be shaped to a momentous degree by how China and the United States of America envision it and to a large degree by which each of these Nations, both of which have a great effect on Canada and our standard of living, are able to achieve some congruence with each other. Reading Kissinger you will have a greater appreciation for America's exceptionalism, in which it has as its core assertion that it must spread its values to every part of the world. China, you will discover, does not proselytize; it does not claim that its contemporary institutions are relevant outside China. Some of you might recall that I'm a retired College Professor, having degrees in Sociology and Political Science, so I'd like to offer this quote "I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn" **Albert Einstein**. It is you as Knights Templars who are required to keep yourself mentally conditioned to assist those whom you've pledged to aid. I am only providing you with one means for, I trust you'd agree, that we individually should learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.*



What's Life like without a smile or two?

A touching Love Story

Submitted by

Sir William

This 80 year old lady was arrested for shoplifting during Black Friday. Arriving before the judge in Toronto he asked her "What did you steal?"

"She replied, "A can of peaches."

The judge then asked her why she had stolen the can of peaches and she replied that she was hungry.

The judge then asked her how many peaches were in the can. She replied, "6."

The judge said, "Then I will give you 6 days in jail."

Before the judge could conclude the trial, the woman's husband spoke up and asked the judge if he could say something.

The judge said, "What is it?"

The husband said "She also stole a can of peas."

MERRY CHRISTMAS

