

# Report from Annual General Meeting

via ZOOM

6 October 2020

Sir Will Sweet, KCHS, Chancellor of the Lieutenancy welcomed Archbishop Brian Dunn, KGOHS, our new Grand Prior, who opened the AGM with a prayer. Dame Joline Belliveau, DHS, was welcomed to her new position as Treasurer who accepted this upon the relocation of Sir Dan Daley, KHS. The service of both Sir Dan and Dame Kerry were noted with thanks for their significant contributions in the role of treasurer.

H E Trudy Comeau, DC\*HS, noted that the Annual Report had been circulated with the highlights of 2019. She reported her attendance at the Installation of Bishop Kirkpatrick for the Diocese of Antigonish in February, 2020 and noted that plans were made for several activities when the arrival of the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled all events for the next few months. Since gatherings were not able to happen, the use of technology has become the key to communication. Throughout the month of May, members were invited to pray the Rosary with Dame Trudy and Sir Michel weekly via Zoom and regular communications have been sent by email. A very successful Covid -19 Appeal took place, initiated from the Grand Magisterium when it was learned how dire the impact the pandemic was having for many of the Christians living in the Holy Land. Our Lieutenancy raised \$4450.00 in this Special Appeal which was an excellent show of support.

Dame Trudy expressed thanks to H.E. Stewart LeForte, KGCHS for his years as the webmaster for the our website and also thanked Sir Dan Pittman, KHS for taking on this role. Sir Dan has upgraded the Website to be more consistent with the other sites of the lieutenancies of North America. She thanked all who attended the Installation mass on October 3, 2020 both in person and via the Live Stream.

**Report from the Grand Magisterium:** H.E. Tom Pogge, KGCHS, Vice-Governor General for North America was able to join us from Omaha, Nebraska and gave an overview of Order. There are over 30,000 members worldwide in 65 Lieutenancies, approximately 16,000 members are in North America. Right now, the situation is very difficult for the Christians because there are no pilgrimages and many Christians rely on the tourism industry for their livelihood. This trickles down to the schools and hospitals that are supported by the Order, particularly in Jordan and Palestine where there is no political safety net as in Israel. H.E. Tom noted that the Covid-19 Appeal brought in \$3.5 m of which \$800,000 USD came from North America. Thanks was expressed to all the members of the Order.

On May 11, 2020, the new Constitution was signed and a separate document with the Regulations of the Order will be forthcoming.

Archbishop Pizzaballa, Apostolic Administrator for the Latin Patriarchate will complete the end of his mandate on October 21, 2020. His successor will be appointed by Pope Francis who will have Mass for Our Lady of Palestine on Oct 21. This will be carried Live on EWTN and Salt & Light TV.

H.E. Tom spoke about the North America Lieutenancies' website which has been developed in the last few months and encouraged everyone to visit it frequently to stay updated. There is a Communications

Plan being developed to find ways to stay connected, for example, having a Day of Reflection open to all members in North America. He invited members to share any ideas for spiritual development with Dame Trudy and he expressed his thanks for being able to join us.