

The Pilgrim's Voice



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*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem
Lieutenancy of Canada - Vancouver*

Christmas Season 2006

The Christmas Season is now almost upon us, and Sir Giovanni and Lady Carla Zen hosted a wonderful party in their home on the 16th December. When one arrived at their home, it was not at all evident that a lot of work was put into running such a sumptuous and smooth party. The weather leading up to the 16th was terrible, with massive storms and power outages all over the lower mainland. The caterers cancelled on the Friday because of a lack of power, but Giovanni and Giancarla embraced the challenge and within less than 24 hours managed to pull it all together. Congratulations to both of them.

Forty members were treated to wonderful wine, food, company and music, and our Grand Prior, Archbishop Raymond Roussin was in attendance, much to everybody's delight.



**Archbishop Roussin with Lady
Theresa Choi Lee**

**Our Host, Sir Giovanni Zen and
Lieutenant Dr. Declan Lawlor
eating Lady Lollie's trifle.**



Sir Joseph Tan made an announcement about the upcoming Pilgrimage to The Holy Land. Sir Joseph, who just three days ago began organizing this pilgrimage, has 19 people already signed up. The Pilgrimage is to take place on the 6th to the 16th June 2007.

Once again, Thank You Giovanni and Giancarla for an unforgettable evening.



Lady Giancarla chose a beautiful brooch as her Kris Kringle gift.

“The caterers cancelled on the Friday because of lack of power, but Giovanni and Giancarla embraced the challenge and within less than 24 hours managed to pull it all together.”

Retreats

The members on Vancouver Island held their Annual Retreat on the 2nd December, the attendance was lower than hoped, and many were upset that they were unable to be present, as the weather conditions were terrible.

However, all accounts from those who attended were very positive. Bishop Gagnon is to be thanked.

Rev. Sir John Horgan gave the Retreat for the soon to be New Members on the 7th October. Of course this was as usual an excellent Retreat, and Fr. John explained the Insignia of the Order and of the Commitment that each member was making.

Lunch was served and once again, we thank Fr. John.

9th September brought another Spiritual Evening, this was at St. Pius X Church and given by Msgr. Pedro Lopez Gallo. It was held after the evening Mass and we met in the hall. Msgr. Had prepared a history of the events in the Holy Land, and many questions were discussed. Food and beverages were in plenty and we thank Msgr Gallo for a wonderful evening.

North American Lieutenant's Meeting

The North American Lieutenants Meeting was held in Boston from the 12th to the 14th October.

The Meeting was hosted by H.E. Denis Looney and Lady Marie, assisted by the Vice Governor General, H.E. George

Ryan and Lady Mary.

On the evening of arrival dinner was provided at the Harvard Club. The following day, meetings took place and the second evening, dinner was at the Boston Club, where the view was magical.

H.E. Pier Luigi Parola and Msgr Dorrenoro were representatives from Rome, and the major topic was on admissions and promotions. H.E. Parola was in communication with Carlo Cardinal Furno each day. Lieutenant Dr. Declan and Lady Denise were honoured to attend.

Requiescat in Pace



BROWN: Msgr J.E.

On the 17th September, at 9:25am, Monsignor J. Edward Brown died in Richmond Hospital, peacefully. He had been battling a number of complications over the previous weeks, but his death was still a shock to many. Lady Amy Tan was with him, Lady Margaret Wong, who spent all of her

free time with Msgr. Was at the hospital. Lady Lily Chow was also a constant visitor.

Msgr, Brown was a very strong supporter of the Order and was always looking for ways to help and introduce members.

May he rest in peace.

MOREAU, Lady Henriette

Lady Moreau died on January 13th in Victoria. Her husband and family were beside her, having fought a brave battle against cancer for the past seven years.

The Mass of Christian burial will be held on Friday 19th January at 10:00am.

Our prayers go to her husband Gerald, and their children.

May she rest in peace.

St Joseph on his deathbed



Retirement Party

On the 16th September Rev Sir Timothy McCarthy was given a great send off by the parishioners of Christ the Redeemer. Fr. Tim accomplished so much in his 10 years as Parish Priest, he built a new school, new Rectory, new Church and there is no debt owed on any of the buildings. This is quite an accomplishment.

Shortly before this, Rev Sir Nicholas Boomars also retired and he had a party in Holy Name Church, it was a wonderful gathering.

gathering.

Both priests are looking forward to a happy and healthy retirement, and expect that we shall see them at all the events of the Order.

*Please pray for peace
in the Holy Land*

August 2006

August 2006 was not a good month.

We received bad news from Lady Josphine and Sir Mike Mills. Lady Josephine had been diagnosed with leukemia and Sir Mike had to have his heart surgery redone. Lady Josphine lost no time in heading into

treatment and now four months later is at home, resting and getting her strength back. She has been a real crusader and much admiration is due to her strong faith and indomitable spirit. Sir Michael, while looking after Lady Josephine had to attend to his own surgery, this was done

and the results will not be known until January. Your prayers are still very much needed to support the family through this season.

On the 18th August many members attended the funeral of **George Abi Rachad**, who is the father of Sir Rene and Sir Roger. The family was comforted by the presence of friends and the prayers of so many. Do keep the family in your prayers as the first Christmas is always so difficult after a death,

Investees made their Oath to the Order and signed the book individually."

Investiture 2006

The Investiture this year was another great success. It was held on the 27th and 28th November. The Vigil was held in Holy Rosary Cathedral and the main Celebrant was Bishop Luc Bouchard KC*HC. Bishop Bouchard flew in from St. Paul to be with us. We

had the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass celebrated by Bishop Bouchard and many priests co-celebrated.

At the Vigil there were a few changes made this year, under the new guidelines from Rome.

The Investees made their Oath to the Order and signed the book individually before being congratulated by Lieutenant Declan Lawlor.

Miss Dillman was the soloist and Denis Bedard was the organist.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered at Holy Rosary Cathedral.

After the Vigil we returned to the Terminal City Club for cocktails.



Lady Lee, Lady Song and Lady Kim



H.E. Lieutenant Lawlor and H.E. George Ryan, Vice Governor General.

On the 28th the members attended the Holy Rosary Cathedral and robed in the Cathedral Hall. The Knights of Columbus from Abbotsford, White Rock and Vancouver made an honour guard and added much to our procession.

Two representatives of the Knights of Malta were present, Frank and Terry McCullough.

The Vice Governor General H.E. George Ryan was present with his wife Lady Mary.



This year there were 9 new Investees and 5 Promotions.

The new Investees are:

**Bishop Fred Henry
KC*HS**

Rev. Fred Weisbeck KHS

**Sir Louis Lit Sang Kwan
KHS**

**Sir Joseph van der Buhs
KHS**

**Lady Magdalena Chow-Yim
LHS**

Lady Lollie Adam LHS

**Lady Kyung Joo Song
LHS**

Lady Soon Kyu Kim LHS

**Lady Sandra Sawchuk
LHS**

Promotions:

**Sir Werner Hoing
KGCHS**

**Lady Helga Hoing
LGCHS**

Sir Joseph Tan KC*HS

**Rev. Sir Terrance Larkin
KCHS**

**Rev. Sir Ron Thompson
KCHS**



The three Bishops:

Bishop Luc Bouchard KC*HS
 Archbishop Raymond Roussin KC*HS
 Bishop Fred Henry KC*HS

The Investiture Mass was celebrated by the Grand Prior, Archbishop Raymond Roussin, and concelebrated by Bishop Luc Bouchard and Bishop Fred Henry, and nine other priests.

Rev. Sir John Horgan deserves a real round of applause for being an excellent Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies. Thank you Fr. John.



The Annual General Meeting was held at the Terminal City Club, and the work which had been going on behind the scenes for sometime was unveiled. Lieutenant Lawlor launched the new Scholarship programme; The Holy Land Education Fund (HLEF) to support the Christian girls and boys in the schools of the Latin Patriarchate. Much work was put into this over the past years, as it had to be passed by Ottawa, Victoria and Rome. All the preparation has now been done and the Order is on the move to help. There was \$18,000 already in the fund, and then through two other generous donations another \$20,000 was pledged.

\$15,000 of this pledge has come in and this money will be in Rome before Christmas and will be with the Latin Patriarchate before the end of the year. A committee was set up with Dr. Sir Frank Shin, Sir Edward Shawchuk and Sir Joseph van der Buhs with Sir Edward being the Chairman.

Lieutenancy has the highest per capita donations in 2005 in North America.

Lieutenant Lawlor delivered a short, but meaningful speech, telling those present that in North America, our Lieutenancy has the ***highest per capita donations in 2005***. This brought a great applause and must give us courage to dig a little deeper during this repression of the people we have pledged to help.

Photographs of the Investiture can be viewed on the website <http://www.eohsjcanadawest.info> . Copies can be ordered through Sir Georg Adam at georgadam@shaw.ca .

The main speaker of the evening electrified those present. His name is Brother David Carroll, PhD KGCHS and he is the Under Secretary for CNEWA. Brother Dr. David Carroll, KGCHS gave two outstanding talk, a synopsis of both follows:





At the Annual General Meeting, Brother Carroll spoke about the relations between Christians and Islam and the Regensburg Address.

The Holy Father was speaking from a Euro Centric point of view. In North America we may not realize the difficulties, which are being experienced in Europe. In North America we have done a reasonable job in assimilating the Muslims, who have come to live among us as immigrants – they tend to be

professional people. In Europe a very different story is evident – unemployed Muslims 17% in the ghettos of England, France, Germany, Holland and Belgium, distressing stories, burning busses, rioting and unrest.

You should factor in what the Holy Father sees in different parts of the world. **Sudan**, Christians being killed by Arab Muslim militants, **Northern Nigeria**, Christians being martyred, **Pakistan**, an ally of the west – court

trials for people who have tried to convert, with penalty of death. **Turkey Islamabad**, where Bishop Joseph commits suicide on the steps of the Federal Building 4-5 years ago to protest treatment of the Christian population. **Saudi Arabia**- no churches can be built and yet there are 500,000 Roman Catholics from Philippines and India..the Mass is offered in hiding in garages etc. **Indonesia** where recently 3 Catholics were executed for blasphemy, **Afghanistan** where the attempted conversion to Catholicism of one man got him the death penalty.

There is an unevenness of human rights in these places, this is what the Holy Father sees.

In countries like **Egypt**, Christians are not truly persecuted, but are discriminated against. We, as Christians, were the original Copts. You must remember in all this, that Islam came to this part of the world 700 years after Christianity was established there.

“I have some European friends and they say ‘thank God someone had the guts to say something’. The extremist controls what is happening in the Muslim Agenda and the media seek the spectacular” said Brother Carroll.

In Vatican circles some former Nuncio Archbishops say we cannot dialogue in inter-religious areas with the Muslims because they think we are infidels. We are starting on the wrong ground here and that is what the Holy Father said at Regensburg. We must engage in the dialogue of culture with the hope we can move to the dialogue on interreligious faith. It is a very subtle difference. The Holy Father is very competent at dealing with subtle differences.

The Regensburg Speech was Entitled :

“**Faith, Reason, and the University, memoirs and reflections**”.

In paragraph 40, the Holy Father said, “only thus do we become capable of that genuine dialogue of culture and religion so urgently needed today. In the western world, it is widely held that only positivistic reason and forms of philosophy based on it are universally valid. Yet the world’s profoundly religious cultures see this

exclusion of the divine from the universality of reason as an attack on their most profound convictions.

The Holy Father is also attempting to deal with the new constitution of the EU excluding any mention of Christianity as being part of the history and culture of that region of the world.

When the Holy Father read that statement in quoting from the text, the

media leapt on it and there was violence. In Palestine six churches and one school hall were attacked, vandalized and burned etc., four of them were Greek Orthodox, absolutely nothing to do with Pope Benedict XVI, one was Anglican, one was Greek Catholic, the school hall was Roman Catholic. Do you see the problem? They go about and attack all Christians because the Pope who represents Roman Catholicism makes a statement; they make no distinction because we are all infidels.

The Good News is that an agency called the Council for American Islamic relation in Florida donated \$500,000 to help fix the churches.

Tarik Ramadan – an Islamic intellectual wrote on 20th September in the Herlad Tribune “ Muslims must demonstrate in a manner that is both reasonable and free from emotional reactions that they share the core

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Ragensburg Speech continued:

Values upon which Europe and the West are founded". "Muslim intellectuals bear the primary responsibility of not lending credibility to this counter productive game" calling his own people to be reasonable, and not provide evidence that Muslims cannot engage in reasonable debate without "verbal aggression and violence".

On October 28th 2006 38 Muslim personalities sent a letter to the Holy Father, delivered personally to the Vatican Nuncio in Amman by Prince Kazi bin Muhammad Bin Tala, who belongs to the Hashemite family belong to a tribe called the Bano Asheed, Mohammed was a Bano Asheed, the King of Jordan and the King of Morocco are in the blood line succession of the prophet Mohammed. So in the role of diplomacy it is extremely important that this document came through Prince Bin Tala. The authors welcomes and appreciated without reservation, the qualification made by Pope Benedict XVI afer the wave of protests, they said in their letter – "We must state that the murder of an innocent Catholic nun in Somalia and any other similar acts of wanton individual violence in reaction to the lecture at the University of Ragensburg is completely un-Islamic and we totally condemn such acts". They completely appreciate Pope Benedict XVQ desire for dialogue and take it very seriously and believe in his thesis. They applauded the Pope's efforts to oppose the dominance of positivism and materialism in human life.

Dr. David Carroll notes Christians in the world are slightly over 2 billion, Muslims 1.3 billion and the other followers of Abraham, Jews are about 15 million. So a little over 50% of the world's population is of Abrahamic tradition.

"So when you are talking about these two religions going into a dialogue together you are talking about over half the world's population. It's not just a little game going on here. My fellow Knights and Ladies this is a serious business and what Pope Benedict XVI is saying is *Religion and Reason, not Religion and Violence*".



**Brother Dr. David
Carroll and H.E.
Lieutenant Dr. Lawlor**

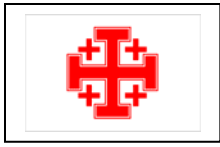
Banquet Speech by Brother Dr. David Carroll KGCHS

TALK ON THE HOLY LAND

Brother David asked that we reflect on the situation that our Christian brothers and sisters endure.

The History of the Holy Land from 3000 BC involved many of the world's conquerors. It's original Canaanite inhabitants confronted in battle the invading Israelites. At various epochs I history, the Assyrian, the Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Crusaders from the West, Egyptians, Mongols..and in our century the Turks, British, Israelis and Palestinians have claimed this land.

Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem and was presented and preached in the temple in Jerusalem. He said the first Mass in the upper room, the Cenacle, traveled across the Kedron Valley to the Garden of Gethsemane was killed and buried in the tomb of the Holy Sepulchre, rose from the dead in Jerusalem, and by his suffering and death redeemed all humanity. **Jerusalem is our home town.** The central focus of the life of **Jesus Christ** is in Jerusalem, born in Bethlehem – present day Palestine.



Abraham, the founder of the monotheistic religion, came from Babylon, present day Iraq. He came to Hebron and to Jerusalem to Mt. Moriah (Temple Mount) to offer up his son Isaac. **Mohammed**, we are told, came from Mecca to Jerusalem in one day on his horse Baric, went up to heaven from the El Asqua mosque on Mt. Moriah and back again to Mecca on his horse Baric. Jerusalem to the Jewish people is the place of the Temple of Solomon & Herod.

There is a problem within the community of inhabitants in the Holy Land. The Christian Population is declining. In the 1940's Jerusalem, there were 45,000 Christians, today only **5,000**.

The population of Israel/Palestine is 10 million. Christians 200,000 or 2%, Jordan 6.2 million, Christians 217,000. The earliest Christian community was centered in Jordan. In Turkey, Christian population was 10% of 70 million, now it is 300,000 total. This is the land of St. Paul, Ephesus, Tarsus and Smernia.

The problem is one of human rights, the Christian cannot survive in the warfare oppression, and instability of the region. The EU and the US boycott the elected representatives of the Palestinian people. Teachers have been on strike for 6 months, as they have not been paid. The Palestinian National Authority needs 150 million per month to survive, there is great chaos. Unemployment is 40-50%. The church helps with providing jobs but this is the job of the government. In Gaza, the 50% of population is under 17 years, with 70-80% unemployment; it is a dangerous situation to have so

many young people unemployed.

Justice is the foundation for peace and the peace must be brokered by somebody. The UN has been unsuccessful for 50 years. The peace must include the two state solution and security and as Pope John Paul II repeatedly advised to build bridges not walls.

Brother Carroll related many stories of Christians with excellent credentials, some with family history in the Holy Land for 900 years, whom he knows personally, and who have left for foreign place to raise their families.

Three millions Palestinians living under martial law for 38 years, 1.2 million Palestinians crowded into the small area of Gaza, which is only 5 miles wide at some points.

The Christians have helped.

The EOHSJ is the main support of the Latin Patriarchate. Ironically, one place where Christianity is growing is in Israel. The soviet Jews intermarried with Christians and as a result asked for a Vicar of Hebrew speaking people, a bishop to minister and say Mass in their 6 parishes.

Bethlehem University, enrollment of 2,500 students and sponsored by the EOHSJ. 65% Muslim students, this is a work of evangelization, 62% of the 65% are women.

If Islam is going to be confronted in any knowledgeable fashion, you will not convert the male, but you might be able to convert the "heart" of the family.

One of the backwardness's of Islam is its lack of understanding of 50% of its population. The Christian offers education and jobs to the women and young girls so that they can make a living for themselves.

Support and reconstruction of the House for the Aged in Abu Dis.

Provide a House of Peace on the Mount of Olives for young girls, run by the Polish Sisters of St. Elizabeth.

Provide for St. Vincent's Home for young boys in Bethany, home of Lazarus, Martha and Mary.

Provide beds in St. Josph's Hospital for poor and indigent people.

Rennick Church and many other churches.

Schools of Patriarchate.

- A) The Latin Patriarchate sponsor **166 schools**, there are 77,000 Catholics in the Holy Land, 65 parishes. Of the 166 schools, 131 belong to the Patriarchate; these are the schools of the genuinely poor. **We make education possible for the very poor.**
- B) Support the **Seminary in Beit Jala**, mostly students from Jordan.
- C) Build playgrounds for the children in Ramallah, Bethlehem and Gaza city.

The playground in Gaza is interesting as:

- a) The Palestinian Authority donated the land
- b) The irrigation (in the desert) is provided

Continued...

by Israel.

- c) The construction is by the Latin Patriarchate.

Support the **Creche** for orphan children in **Bethlehem**; serves also as drop off Centre where 100 children per day are taken care of by the Sisters.

You are involved and you make it happen. The Catholic Church and the EOHSJ are the life support system for the people.

What is the purpose of the EOHSJ? Dr. Carroll is often asked and he explains;

- 1) "To create a deeper awareness of what it means to be Christian and most importantly to then put that awareness into practice. This is the most important task of all because it involves our very salvation. "

We are being condemned by the Moslem world as a crusader of the West. At no time did Jesus Christ leave the Holy Land.

We are an Eastern religion; sure our big HQ is in Rome. We might look western, but our roots; our

hometown is not Rome. *Our hometown is Jerusalem.* And that is where you must try to keep our Christians.

It is noteworthy that Christians were a majority in the Holy Land 670 years before Islam.

- 2) The second purpose is to preserve, protect and foster the spreading of the Faith in Palestine.

The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem is the main support of the Latin Patriarchate.

Brother Dr. David Carroll, KGCHS, exhorts our members to remember that Jerusalem is our hometown.



Pilgrimage to the Holy Land - June 2007

Sir Joseph Tan, with the help of Sir Michael Mills, is looking after the arrangements for the Vancouver pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Plans are being made to leave Vancouver on the 6th June, returning on the 16th. A letter was sent to all members and there is quite a lot of interest, especially as our Grand Prior, Archbishop Roussin is accompanying us. It is not too late to put your name down, so please contact Sir Joseph Tan if you require additional information. One benefit of using your newsletter as a promotional tool is that you can reuse content from other marketing materials, such as press releases, market studies, and reports.

Mass Card Programme

Sir Joseph Tan is doing a wonderful job of looking after the Mass Card offerings. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass can be said for you or your special intentions in the Holy Land. One can send a Mass card for any occasion (birthday, wedding, baptism or deceased). The Mass cards are very attractive and have been exceptionally well received by the recipients. The Mass Stipend goes directly to support the priests of the Latin Patriarchate, who are very grateful for the support.

Please contact Sir Joseph should you need to have a Mass offered or to replenish your supply of cards, it is wise to always have some on hand. Sir Joseph can be contacted by phone 604-828-1001 or by email at josephstan@shaw.ca .

1st Bi-Monthly Spiritual Meeting of 2007

The first meeting of this year will be held at St. Monica's Church, 12100 Woodhead Road, Richmond at 9:30am on the 20th January. **Rev. Sir Anthony Boniface** will celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at 9:30 and will follow with a talk on "The Rosary and Indulgences". Coffee and snacks will be served. An offering of \$25 per person would be appreciated. Please forward your name to Sir Georg Adam if attending, telephone 604-926-1411 or by email georgadam@shaw.ca.

Addendum

The Bi-monthly talks have since taken place, and Fr. Boniface gave an uplifting and informative talk on the subject of Indulgences and the Holy Rosary.

"Christian-Muslim violence mostly one-sided"

"Christian-Muslim violence mostly one-sided" says Archbishop Chaput.

Denver

Christian-Muslim understanding and reconciliation must begin with an honest recognition of history. Archbishop Charles Chaput of Denver said on August 16th. "But respect can't emerge from falsehood". Archbishop Chaput said his comments were sparked by a recent news story he saw in which a Muslim leader was quoted as "suggesting that it was European Christians, never Muslims, who tried to root out those who didn't agree with them". "That's simply not true", the Archbishop said.

"Islam has embraced armed military expansion for religious purposes since it's earliest decades," he wrote. "In

first 300 years. No "theology of Crusade" existed in Western Christian thought until the 11th century. In fact, the Christian Byzantine Empire had already been resisting Muslim expansion in the East for 400 years before Pope Urban II called the First Crusade – as a defensive response to generations of armed jihad.

"In the early years of the 20th century, the Muslim Ottoman Empire murdered more than 1 million Armenian Christians for ethnic, economic, but also religious reasons."

Archbishop Chaput, a member of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, cited Bangladesh, Iran, Sudan, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iraq and Indonesia as areas in the Islamic world today where Christian minorities continue to suffer "harassment and violence".

Changes to Council

Chancellor – **Sir Edward Shawchuk**

Secretary --- **Dr. Sir Frank Shin**

Councilor --- **Lady Kathy Chow**

Please notify the Secretary; Dr. Sir Frank Shin or the Lieutenant if you have a change of address or email.

If you have any items or photos of Order related activities please send them in.

dshin@telus.net

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A special wish to all our members for a very healthy 2007.

Holy Land Education Fund

Children need to be educated to higher standards to be able to qualify for jobs in all areas of today's sophisticated economy. The annual cost of providing an education based on Christian ideals is approximately \$1000. Per child.

Scholarship Programme Objectives:

- 1) To create an endowment fund which out of investment income will fund study by needy but deserving children at the primary and secondary school levels.
- 2) Initially, funds will be sought for current expenditure on the scholarship programme. At the same time an endowment fund will be built up to eventually fund the entire programme out of its investment revenues.
- 3) The number of scholarships to be offered will depend on the level of donations for immediate expenditure and the amount of investment income from the endowment fund.
- 4) In the longer term, it is desired that funding become available for the maintenance and improvement of school facilities and services.

