



FOR THE FAITH AND
IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY



Eyes on the Future

THE ORDER OF ST JOHN

PRIORY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRIOR

In April, I spoke at a meeting of Bermuda's St John Association at Government House, the official residence of Bermuda's Governor. The invitation to attend arose from a meeting in Miami for St John or-



Prior Hamilton, with Governor George Fergusson.

ganizations in the Western Hemisphere. This was one of several regional meetings worldwide that London encourages to promote fellowship within St John International. We were asked to host the one for the Western Hemisphere, and did so.

As most Members know, our St John family consists of 11 Priories and many Associations. Over time, the Associations can become Priories, the most recent being Kenya and Hong Kong. In this hemisphere, there are two Priories, Canada and the US, and a number of St John Associations in the Caribbean and in Bermuda. The Associations provide services such as ambulances, CPR training, first responder work, and hospice care.

Justin Williams, Chairman of St John Bermuda, was among the meeting's participants. (The Queen's Governor is the President of St John Bermuda, and the Vice Chairman is what we in the US call the Prior.) Justin is a distinguished Bermudian lawyer and judge; his father

was a Rhodes Scholar and renowned Olympian. I got the distinct impression Justin knows, and is a favorite of, virtually every resident of Bermuda.

Justin invited Executive Director Brian Sayers and me to attend the St John Bermuda's Government House reception, and an informal dinner the following night at his house for the active Members of St John Bermuda. Both events were quite memorable. At the reception, we had a delightful visit with Governor George Fergusson. Attendees also included the Premier of the Bermudian Government, and the Church of England's Bishop of Bermuda.

On Sunday, I attended services at the Cathedral. Before the service, the Bishop walked up to me and began speaking. Somehow he knew my full name, including my middle name, Clarkson. Via the Clarksons, I am descended from the Tuckers of Bermuda, who were among the earliest investors in the Somers Isles Company, which founded Bermuda in 1615. Daniel Tucker was the first Governor appointed by the Company. I am very glad I attended the services; the sermon

was excellent, and the deep spirit of the congregation was immediately evident.

I think it is very important for us to be aware that we are part of One St John, and not an isolated organization. In the Caribbean, we have volunteers making life better for those who are dying, and we have first responders and ambulances saving lives. At the same time, we have the Mother and Child Africa Program that is reducing the dreadfully high mortality rates there. In fact, worldwide, we have hundreds of thousands of volunteers, all serving humanity.

St John Bermuda has invited our Palm Beach Region to spend a weekend in Bermuda, thus extending the hand of fellowship to us. As these plans develop (and it is still early on), there may be limited space available for Members from other regions to attend. Whatever is planned by Justin and his team, I can attest to the fact that those going will be deeply impressed and thoroughly enjoy themselves. It is a wonderful opportunity to get to know more of our St John family. ✨

Palmer C. Hamilton, KStJ

BERMUDA ALERT!

Plans for a Bermuda Weekend are in the works! Justin Williams is organizing a package of events sure to be attractive to Confrères and their families.

Diversions might include tours of the National Museum, Castle Harbour, Dockyard, Frick's Point (the site of the oldest fort in Bermuda), the Nonsuch Island Nature Reserve, the Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute and some private beaches. Other possibilities are a cocktail cruise to historic St George's (Bermuda's first town), a fishing expedition, a reception at Government House with the Queen's representative, and a masked ball in the gunpowder crypts of a private island.

Of course, becoming more familiar with St John in Bermuda would also be *de rigueur*. A function at St John Headquarters with the Brigade in uniform would bring out a showing of ambulances, emergency response vehicles and motorcycles.

Participation will be available to Confrères on a first-come, first-served basis. As an added bonus, they will be able to take advantage of heavily discounted rates at the Rosewood Tucker's Point Resort.

INVESTITURE WEEKEND 2016: OCTOBER 21 - 23

During the 1970s, I had a summer job working for my grandfather's insurance brokerage at 170 Broadway, in the heart of New York's Financial District. It struck me as very odd that, although people poured into the area by the tens of thousands in the morning, they poured out by 5 pm. Evenings and weekends, everything shut down. You could literally bowl down Broadway, something the Dutch ancestors often did at the old Bowling Green at the southern tip of the island.

Finding a taxi was impossible and subways after 6 pm were dicey. The elevated portion of West Side Highway was in decay and the Hudson River piers infected by drug transactions. Yet during the 1990s, real estate development was on the move in lower Manhattan. Battery Park City, built with park-like waterfronts, was an oasis in an otherwise gritty neighborhood. People started to take interest in the area. People started to move in.

Just as the neighborhood began to evolve, 9/11 hit and hit hard. In droves, people fled the Financial District, fearing the area would revert to the past, or worse still, succumb to yet another terrorist attack. But, nonetheless, the neighborhood survived.

Now it is dramatically different. The population has more than doubled since 9/11. Buildings east of Broadway are converting from offices into residential apartments. My wife (Dana Cole, MStJ) and I live downtown and can vouch for the fact that you



Peter Goltra, KStJ, and his niece, Chapter member Carolyn Goltra, OStJ, recently planted an olive tree at the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital in memory of his late wife, Gail Goltra, DStJ. He also funded a surgical microscope in Gail's memory. In other news, St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group was awarded the Sol Innovation Award for 2016 at the annual meeting of the World Association of Eye Hospitals in Rotterdam.

have to negotiate waves of residents with baby carriages and dogs, and columns of tourists walking the canyons that were once a tiny settlement purchased in 1625 for 60 Dutch guilders.

The site of the 2016 Investiture ceremony, historic Trinity Church, relatively recently harbored only a nominal congregation. Now, it is spiritual home to over 1,500 parishioners and 300 church school attendees. The Rt. Rev'd Andrew M.L. Dietsche, MStJ, 16th Bishop of New York, recently baptized, confirmed and received 35 new members. It is ironic that by the 1840s, lower Manhattan had ceased to be a residential community, but now has come full circle.

Come for the Investiture and stay for a while! Marvel at lower Manhattan's transfiguration. But reserve soon. Luxury rooms are available at the Conrad New York, on the Hudson River, directly adjacent to the luxurious Brookfield Mall. Sightseeing opportunities abound -- the Observation Deck of One World Trade Center, the 9/11 Museum, the Statue of Liberty, and Ellis Island. Come to New York for what may be the largest-ever Investiture, and step not into the past, but the future! ❄️

The Rev'd Deacon Robert J.A. Zito, CStJ, Regional Chair

Dear Friends in the US Priory,

I am so grateful to all our kind friends who have written such lovely messages to me after Tony's sudden death in January. It was a great shock after 42 years of being married to such a remarkable man. Fortunately, I have a wonderful brother and sisters and very generous friends who have kept me going. St John was so kind in helping me with Tony's memorial service. I was honoured that the Grand Prior and Her Royal Highness the Duchess attended, and he read one of the lessons.

I have such good memories of our time together in Dallas at the November Investiture. When a lovely Christmas cake covered in pecan nuts arrived from Dallas, Tony and I both enjoyed this kind and delicious present!

With all my love and affection,
Elizabeth Mellows

WE MOURN CONFRÈRES RECENTLY DECEASED

- John Charles Baldwin, MD, PhD, MStJ
- Barry Dalby, MStJ
- Ardon Berkeley Judd Jr., OStJ
- John Reilly Lewis, DMA, OStJ
- Forrest Edward Mars Jr., OStJ

Families and friends are encouraged to pass along news of Confrère deaths to the office to enable an announcement.

THE HON. SANFORD BISHOP JR., MSTJ: A MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

When Congressman Sanford Bishop Jr. met the late Tony Mellows and his wife Elizabeth at the 2015 Investiture, he was moved by their commitment to the values of friendship and selfless service to the “least of these.” Tony’s breakfast talk for new Members, always an Investiture highlight, particularly resonated with Bishop, who says, “Tony demonstrated the kind of contribution to bettering the lives of others that I have always tried to emulate.”

This tribute to Tony could also describe Congressman Bishop’s own life and career. Born in Mobile, Alabama, he grew up an African-American in a racially segregated city, state and region and confronted limited opportunities, resources and self-esteem on a daily basis. Yet because of what he calls “a village of nurture, protection, inspiration, motivation and discipline with strong moral values,” Bishop learned with the aid of family, neighbors, teachers and the Baptist church to overcome these obstacles through faith and hard work.

The village was centered at home. His mother, Minnie, was a librarian and his father, Dr. Sanford Dixon Bishop Sr., the first President of Bishop State Community College, formerly the Mobile Branch of Alabama State College in Montgomery. The elder Bishop’s career largely informed his own. He says, “My father held me to the highest standards of performance and conduct, and forced me to be a positive example and not a contradiction of what he tried to instill in his students.”

The other great influence ultimately shaping the Congressman’s life was Scouting. He joined the Cub Scouts at the age of eight, the Boy Scouts at 11, and eventually became a Distinguished Eagle Scout, an honor the Bishop of today terms his proudest personal accomplishment. Scouting, he says, “was exciting, confidence-building, a source of information and learning across a myriad of subject areas that broadened my horizons and exposure as a child and adolescent.”

The Scouts’ emphasis on physical fitness, brotherhood, leadership, survival and character building served him well. While a student at Morehouse College, he met and was greatly impressed by The Rev’d Martin Luther King Jr. and (as a member of Morehouse Glee Club) sang at King’s funeral. After his graduation, Bishop’s dilemma was whether to follow Dr. King’s example and enter the ministry, or study law as preparation for a life in public service and the civil rights movement. Ultimately, he opted for the law, attending Emory University School of Law while serving in the ROTC. Over the years, his choice was validated. He has come to regard his subsequent career path as “a ministry of public service.”

Congressman Bishop’s professional life began when he started a private practice in Columbus, Georgia. In 1976, he was elected to the Georgia House and served until he entered the Georgia Senate 15 years later. Elected as a Democrat in 1992 to the US House of Representatives, he continues to represent the 2nd

District of Georgia, a predominantly white district. “I have always done my best”, he says, “to look beyond the things that divide us as humans and focus on our common denominators — our common hopes, goals and aspirations.” While bitter partisanship disappoints him, he forges ahead.

Currently the ranking member on the Subcommittee on Military Construction/Veterans Affairs of the House Appropriations Committee, Bishop also serves on the Subcommittees for Agriculture and for Financial Services. Although proud to rank 35th in seniority in the House, Bishop has remarked that his low number — in practical terms — serves only to grant him priority in choosing his seat for ceremonial events!

Dividing his time between his Southwest Georgia District and Washington, DC, Bishop is married to Vivian Creighton Bishop, the former Assistant Comptroller at a state prison and for the last 24 years the elected Clerk of the Muscogee County Municipal Court. They have a daughter, Aayesha Reese, a middle school teacher, and a granddaughter, Londyn Reese. Bishop balances his hectic life by enjoying music, golf and reading, continuing to be an active Baptist, Shriner and Mason. “All three,” he says, “are based on the principles of selfless service to human kind.”

Bishop added to these a fourth when he became a Confrère. A friend of Prior Palmer Hamilton, who shares his Mobile provenance, Sanford Bishop grasped the essence of the Order as an extension of his personal commitment of service to humanity. He fully subscribes to the Order’s vision of “supporting health, peace, and hope to struggling men, women and children across the world.”

If a man is known by what he considers his proudest professional achievement, know that Sanford Bishop considers his to be successfully prosecuting a class action lawsuit on behalf of almost 10,000 black and white inmates to relieve cruel, inhumane, unconstitutional conditions at the Georgia State Prison and in the Corrections system. In a grown-up, weary world, he still applies the principles of the Order of the Arrow, a Boy Scout honor society, in pursuing his mission to better lives: “I found public service and the political process to be an effective way of perfecting social change. The influences of Scouting to help others at all times, its brotherhood of cheerful service, and my Christian faith all combined to push me in that direction.” The direction is upwards. ❄️

Karen Miller Lamb, CStJ



The Grand Prior invests Congressman Bishop as a Member of the Order.

The Order's Sovereign Head

“Let us Pray God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, that He would bless and preserve our most Gracious Lady Queen Elizabeth, The Sovereign Head of our Order, that under Her the Order may be godly and quietly governed.”

— Prayer from the Investiture Service

In the Summer 2016 issue of *Vanity Fair* magazine, William Shawcross writes of Queen Elizabeth II: “Her values are quite different – she sees herself not as a star but as a humble servant, first of God and then of her people.” These words embody perfectly the Order’s motto: *Pro Fide* (For the Faith), *Pro Utilitate Hominum* (In the Service of Humanity). With great fanfare, The Queen has just celebrated her 90th Birthday. The Priory congratulates her, and celebrates the role that she, and indeed The Royal Family, has played over the years in the long and successful life of the Order of St John.

To begin with, in 1540, King Henry VIII made a decisive break with the Hospitallers when he dissolved the Order in England and conferred its estates on the Crown. According to Jonathan



Her Majesty Queen Victoria wearing the badge of the Order in an 1898 portrait by Dudley Heath.

Riley-Smith in “Hospitallers: The History of the Order of St John,” the King “toyed with the idea of converting the English Priory into a royal institution not unlike the Spanish military orders and of using it to defend Calais.” The Order resisted this and paid the consequences. According to Riley-Smith, “The last resident grand prior, William Weston, died on 7 May 1540, the day the act of dissolution came into force.”

Fast forward to 1876, when the Order continued to exist, but quietly and unofficially. That year, Alexandra, the Princess of Wales, became a Lady of Justice in the Order. Her husband, later King Edward VII, was already a Bailiff Grand Cross in the Knights of Malta, and in 1888 he petitioned his mother, Queen Victoria, for a royal charter of incorporation for the Order of St John. The request was granted, and the Order of St John became a chivalric order of the British crown with the Queen as its Sovereign Head and the Prince of Wales as Grand Prior.



Edward VII (by Harold Speed, 1911)



Queen Mary visiting the St John Ambulance Brigade field hospital in Étaples in 1917.

Since the Order’s incorporation, The Royal Family has taken its involvement very seriously. While the monarch remains the Order’s Sovereign Head, he or she appoints a member of The Royal Family as Grand Prior. The monarch’s extensive commitments as Head of State mean that the Grand Prior plays a more active role in the Order. Since 1888, the Grand Priors have been Prince Albert Edward, Prince of Wales (1888–1901); Prince George, Prince of Wales (1901–1910); Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Strathearn (1910–1939); Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester (1939–1974), and the current one, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, KG, GCVO (1975–present), who is much loved by the Priory in the USA for his involvement and participation.

From the beginning of the 20th century through WWI and



The Duchess of York, later the Queen Mother, at a 1931 Order of St John service in Westminster Abbey. She became a Dame Grand Cross in 1926.



The Queen, with Countess Mountbatten, GCStJ, and St John officials, in Hyde Park during the 1950s.

Reaches a Milestone Birthday

WWII, royalty actively supported the activities of the Order of St John, visiting field hospitals and participating in the Order's ceremonial occasions.

In 1947, Princess Elizabeth became a Dame Grand Cross of the Order, presumably due to her status in line for the throne. After her 1953 Coronation, The Queen travelled extensively both



HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, greeting a patient on a visit organized by King Hussein of Jordan, a great supporter of the Hospital. His widow, Queen Noor, is today a GCStJ, and actively supports the Order.

in the UK and abroad, visiting many Commonwealth countries where the Order had, and still has, an important presence as did her husband, Prince Phillip, who visited the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital in 1967.

Up to the present day, other members of The Royal Family have participated actively in

the Order, including HRH, The Princess Royal, GCStJ and Commandant-in-Chief of Youth; HRH, The Countess of Wessex, GCVO, DStJ and Grand President for St John Ambulance in England and the Islands; HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, GCVO, DStJ and Commandant-in-Chief for St John in Wales, and HRH Prince Michael of Kent, KStJ.



The Princess Royal with St John Members at the international Clapham Horse Show in 1984.

As we celebrate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth

II as *she* celebrates a life of service, one of her great accomplishments has been to pass along to her own family and to her St John family, her dedication to the poor and the sick. Under her watch, the Order has truly been "godly and quietly governed." ❄️



The Queen visits St John's Gate.

Karen Miller Lamb, CStJ



The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visiting the Hospital in 2007.

Many of these photos come from the archives of the Museum of the Order of St John, housed in the Tudor Gatehouse of the former Priory in Clerkenwell, headquarters of the Order in England. These buildings have their own unique history, having been seized during the Dissolution of the Monasteries. They were subsequently home to the Office of the Master of the Revels, and 30 of Shakespeare's plays were licensed here. William Hogarth's father, Richard, established a coffee house within the Gate, and in 1731 Edward Cave made it the publishing house for *The Gentleman's Magazine*, for which Dr. Samuel Johnson worked. In the late 18th century, the Gate became a public house, the Old Jerusalem Tavern, where in the 19th century, Dickens came to drink.

With more than 60,000 objects, the Museum's collections are diverse, embracing both the Order's early story and its modern role. Beginning with the Crusades, and continuing through revolts and revolutions, war and peace, the story crosses the centuries, and shows how, from its origins in founding a hospital to care for sick pilgrims, St John has maintained its caring, humanitarian role to the present day throughout the world. The Museum also houses a library that includes manuscripts and printed books dating from the 15th century, and an archive covering more recent events such as the involvement of St John in WWI and WWII.

Please see the website for details of hours and guided tours: www.museumstjohn.org.uk

Tom Foakes, Head of Heritage,
Museum of the Order of St John

HONORING A FRIEND – AND AN INVESTITURE PROMISE: THE FERD C. AND CAROLE W. MEYER ST JOHN ENDOWMENT

When Ferdinand C. Meyer Jr., CStJ, and his wife Carole, OSTJ, met Charles R. (Charlie) Hickox, KStJ, in the early 90's it was the beginning of a beautiful friendship — and a gift that will last beyond a lifetime. All three are members of the Church of the Incarnation, in Dallas, Texas. Through Charlie, the congregation came to know about the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group. The Meyers not only became Charlie's friends but also Members of the Order.

To Dallas Confrères, Charlie Hickox is a legend. Charlie worked tirelessly for many years to build the Order's membership in Dallas. He was also instrumental in the founding of the exchange program between the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group and the UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas. Over the years, Charlie solicited the funds to make the rotation of UT ophthalmologists to the Hospital in Jerusalem a reality. Ferd Meyer says, "His devotion to the Order and the Hospital has remained true and constant for over 20 years."

It was only fitting, then, that the Meyers would look for a way to honor their friend Charlie, while benefiting two organizations he holds dear — the SJEHG and UT Southwestern's Department of Ophthalmology. Ferd, a former attorney and corporate executive, and Carole, a community volunteer, explored many options, working closely with the Department Chair, James M. McCulley, MD, KStJ. The three of them devised a way to honor Charlie, in the words of Ferd Meyer, "for his service to mankind through his support and commitment to the Order." It was important to craft a gift that not only would help Charlie's beloved rotations program, in place for many years, but also allow Dr. McCulley to meet other situations that might arise at the SJEHG.

So it was that the Meyers created the Ferd C. and Carole W. Meyer Endowment honoring Charles R. Hickox, KStJ. They set up a foundation, designating it as the beneficiary of a \$500,000 life insurance policy. Upon Mr. Meyer's death, the income from the Foundation will be used exclusively to support an

international ophthalmology program between UT Southwestern's Department of Ophthalmology and the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group (SJEHG).

The Meyers took care to specify that income from the endowment would never be subject to appropriation by the state or the University of Texas.



Charles R. Hickox, KStJ; Mrs. Evelyn Halpin; Carole Meyer, OSTJ, and Ferdinand C. Meyer, CStJ.

Money generated by the Endowment will be used for the rotations program, which has seen many successful visits to the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, including one in 2015 by Drs. James Lehmann (OSTJ), Yu-Guang He and David Kennedy. At the same time, the Endowment will allow Dr. McCulley to designate funds for other uses to help the SJEHG, such as sending a visiting surgeon to teach, or to assist in clinical care. The money generated broadens the range of possibilities for UT Southwestern to assist SJEHG while accomplishing the purpose of the gift — to honor Charlie Hickox and the Hospital that has made such a difference to so many lives.

The Meyers, who now spend their time in Dallas and Montana, can rest assured that their creation of an Endowment is, in Ferd Meyer's words, "a great way to assure that the work of the Hospital goes on in perpetuity." There could be no more fitting tribute to Charlie Hickox, and their friendship. ✨

Karen Miller Lamb, CStJ

ESTABLISH YOUR OWN ENDOWMENT

Establishing an Endowment allows you to pass on a legacy of commitment to the Order of St John. The process is simple, and you can design the Endowment to meet your personal goals and interests and to benefit the Order. It can be funded during your lifetime, or can be a testamentary gift to be funded at the time of your death (or the death of you and your spouse).

The Priory will work with you to draft a mission statement reflecting your aspirations for the Endowment. To help make sure your wishes are followed, you can name friends or family members to serve as an advisory board, thus helping direct management and distributions for the Order's benefit.

Your gift to fund this Endowment, the income of which will be tax-exempt, will be fully deductible for income and estate tax purposes at the time of your gift, and your Endowment will be protected in perpetuity. Please contact me at dmunford@smithlaw.com or **919-821-6689** for more information.

R. Donovan Munford Jr., OSTJ, Chair of Muristan Society

PUTTING THE “SAINT” BACK INTO ST JOHN: THE *PRO FIDE* COMMITTEE

The “official” roots of the modern Order of St John go back to the Christian monk Gerard, whose ministry of healing inspired crusading knights after the capture of Jerusalem in 1099. Yet our origins are better traced to Jesus, who invited Gerard and countless others to find the Kingdom of God by healing the sick, clothing the naked, feeding the hungry and visiting the prisoners. Discipleship to Jesus and his vision inspired the sacrifice, generosity and service of our forebearers in caring for the poor and the sick.

Today, our global Order’s modern mission is unchanged. At the heart of this mission and its fulfillment are the Christian faith and the spiritual care of clients, staff and volunteers alike. Yet often the very real demands of serving “our lords the poor and the sick” through specialized emergency and medical services obscure our Order’s Christian nature, as do the secular, multicultural and non-Christian environments in which we operate. Yet our mission remains.

Drawing its purpose from the strength of that same vision and discipleship, the *Pro Fide* Committee was formed in 2013 to put the “Saint” back into St John. Our Latin name means “For [the] Faith.” Members come from Priors in England, New Zealand and the US, and include the Order’s new Prelate. My own ministry with Jews, Christians and Muslims

Nicholas and Dorothy Porter. Her father, Samuel Williams Meek Jr., KStJ, and stepmother Marjorie Meacham Meek, DStJ, reside in Palm Beach.

led then-Prior A. Marshall Acuff Jr., GCStJ, to invite me to represent our Priory on the Committee.

Pro Fide’s focus on chaplaincy, interdependency, and sensitivity

honors the God-given human craving to find spiritual meaning and purpose in service, even as we provide the finest modern medical care to the poor and sick. We do this that the Order’s soul may remain strong. In line with this mission, we formulated an international College of Deans, which will begin meeting in April 2017. It will coordinate spiritual care, share best practices for effective *chaplaincy* and create *interdependency* between the Prelate and the various Sub-Prelates.

Closely connected to this are the effective, trained chaplaincy programs that *Pro Fide* promotes to support the spiritual and emotional needs of the Order’s staff, volunteers and clients. Pilgrimages, regional meetings, St John’s Day services and new Member formation programs can all rightly be seen as expressions of *chaplaincy*.

Finally, *Pro Fide* examines how Christianity equips the Order with the *sensitivity* to care best for the poor and sick in diverse religious, political and cultural settings. We do this by analyzing case studies from the Middle East, Africa, and Asia and making careful recommendations. My recent visit to the Order’s hospitals and clinics in the West Bank only underscored how invaluable this sensitivity is to earning the trust and loyalty of Palestinian Muslims.

Ultimately, our work is an invitation to every Member of the Order to be true to one’s self. The Christian character and ethos of serving the poor and the sick are the Order’s *raison d’etre*. *Pro Fide* believes that by honoring and advancing this heritage, others find needed healing, and we ourselves will be healed by God. ✨

The Rev’d Canon Nicholas T. Porter, KStJ

The Rev’d Canon Nicholas Porter is the founder of Jerusalem Peacebuilders (www.jerusalempeacebuilders.org), a non-profit organization with the mission of creating a better future for humanity across religions, cultures, and nationalities through work with youth. Canon Porter, his wife Dorothy, and their three daughters live in Brattleboro, Vermont.

CONFRÈRE RECOGNITION

Joseph M. Dealey Jr., CStJ, was recently named 2016 Volunteer of the Year by the Dallas VA Medical Center. This was part of the annual volunteer recognition program of the Department of Veterans Affairs North Texas Health Care System’s annual volunteer recognition program, held during National Volunteer Week, April 10-16. Since the June 2013 launch of the St John Volunteer Corps, Confrère Dealey has recorded more than 700 hours of voluntary service at the Dallas VA Medical Center. In addition to chairing the 2015 Investiture, Joe serves as a Priory Chapter Member, Southwest Region Chairman, and is a member of the St John Volunteer Corps Working Group.

ABOUT THE ORDER OF ST JOHN The most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St John of Jerusalem is a serving Order of Chivalry under the British Crown. The honor of membership is bestowed by warrant of its sovereign head, HM Queen Elizabeth II. The Grand Prior of the Order is HRH The Duke of Gloucester, KG, GCVO. The Priory in the USA, constituted in 1996 by authority of Her Majesty, is one of the Order’s 11 international Priors. Its primary mission is to support St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group which, for over 130 years, has provided first-quality ophthalmic care to hundreds of thousands of people in the Holy Land, without regard to gender, race, creed, or ability to pay. The US Priory has raised millions of dollars to support the Group’s work.

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Karen Miller Lamb, CStJ

A GOOD AND FEARLESS WOMAN: LOUISA BOYLE

Louisa Boyle, the Priory's new Events and Membership Communications Director, credits three incredibly strong, intelligent, graceful and inspirational women – her mother and two grandmothers – with forming her character and ideals and who taught her to be, in her own words, “a good and fearless woman.”

Louisa grew up in a loving family with two sisters and two brothers in Glasgow, Scotland, set amid beautiful lochs, forests, parks, and the sea. Before receiving a BA with Honors in Mass Media and Communications from Glasgow Caledonian University, she studied at The Hague University in the Netherlands, thus beginning a lifelong passion for travel that would take her (among other countries) to Kenya, Uganda, Vietnam, Israel and Palestine.

After working as a journalist and public relations professional, Louisa set up her own charity initiative to raise awareness and funds for disadvantaged children in Africa and cancer research. She lived and worked in Nairobi for a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) that focused on disadvantaged children and women. Louisa returned to the UK to work as the Head of Fundraising and Communications for the Order of St John Secretariat in London. She helped rebrand the service part of the Order as St John International, and launch the Mother and Child Africa Program.

Louisa worked in Manhattan for the past two years as the Development Director and NGO Representative to the UN for an NGO that provides obstetric fistula care and maternal healthcare via operating hospitals and medical facilities across Africa. She came to love the US, she says, “because I find it to be one of the most fascinating, inspiring countries, with so much diversity, opportunity and wonderful people.”

Louisa brings to her work for the Priory

first-hand international development experience and knowledge of the Order of St John, which she has found to be “a fascinating, inspiring and humbling organization.” She is delighted to be returning to the organization because “the vast depth of history, combined with its mission and the humanitarian work done by St John around the world, appeals to me greatly.”

Lest one think Louisa is all work and no play, she has several intriguing interests. True to her upbringing in beautiful Scotland, as an adult she has continued to relish the great outdoors, enjoying tennis, walking, climbing and running. Not only has she climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, but has completed a half marathon and aims to run a full one in 2016 (in addition to climbing another mountain)! She is a semi-professional singer and songwriter, with two singles released in recent years, and plays piano. “Music,” she says, “is a huge passion – especially jazz, blues and soul.” In her “spare” time, Louisa is halfway through a Masters program in Global Diplomacy from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London.

Asked her best attributes professionally and personally, Louisa answers “open-mindedness and diligence,” qualities that will serve her well in working with Priory Members. She sees her most important role as builcscription of a “winsome Scottish lass” to a tee, adds this invitation: “I love meeting new people and am always available to meet up for a coffee or a drink when any Members are in DC. Please feel free to reach out and say hello.” Truly, a good and fearless woman!

Karen Miller Lamb, CStJ



Louisa Boyle speaking at a Rotary Conference.

NEW PRIORY WEBSITE LAUNCHED

The Priory office is delighted to announce that our new website has been launched, and is live and ready for use by Members and the public alike. The website has been redesigned to showcase the life-changing humanitarian healthcare work the Priory supports in the Holy Land. It also offers helpful information about the Order's history and healthcare work around the world. The streamlined

website will facilitate a user-friendly experience that will not only inform non-Members but also allow Members to access timely information, register and pay for things quickly, and easily connect with other Members or the office. Visit www.saintjohn.org to have a look. We hope you enjoy the new website and look forward to hearing your feedback!

Louisa Boyle