



THE ORDER

The Military & Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem

A Hope-Filled Year

Our members help
around the world

Crusader's Chronicle:

A delivery of aid in
México

Back to Newport

Beach: A look at our
Grand Prioral Council

The Official Newsletter of the Grand Priory of America



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THE ORDER

The Official Newsletter and Periodic Publication of the Grand Priory of America & the American Association of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem is produced by the authority of the Grand Prior.

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For more information and in-depth coverage of activities throughout the year, you can visit The Grand Priory of America on the internet.

www.st-lazarus.us

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A Christmas Message



H.E. The Chevalier John F. Byrnes,
GCLJ, GMLJ, GCMLJ

Grand Prior,
Grand Priory of America

Dear Friends,
In a few days we will celebrate Christmas with family and friends and prepare to ring in the New Year of 2025 a few days later! It's always interesting to me that every year at this time we seem to say, "how fast this year went", but during the year we seem to also say how time seems to slow down! I think it's a matter of perspective – when we are doing something we like or are with people we know, there is never enough time for either, and we all know the reverse certainly holds true as well!

This year did in fact go by fast with me, as it has been so enjoyable and rewarding being your Grand Prior and working with so many of you on our many charitable projects around the world. I believe we accomplished our mission and vision as best as we could have in helping those in need through our time, talent and treasure, but there is always so much more left to do as the needs are so great.

We continue to explore ways to expand our available resources through networking with other organizations, both public and private, as this is the key in making a real and sustainable difference in so many areas. We are also working with Tulane University, thanks to Professor Larry Merington, KLJ, of the Commandery of the South, to further refine our marketing and branding strategies as we head into the next decade of the Order. The "right" growth takes time and patience to realize the true benefits, and I firmly believe we are on the right path for growth that will help identify the Order of

St. Lazarus for decades to come and help solidify our role as a beacon of charitable endeavors around the world.

The Grand Priory of America had a record number of postulants join us this year, and this is a testament to what we have been doing as an organization and to our members who work so hard to accomplish our goals. Plus, we all like to have some fun now and then!

And speaking of fun, the Commandery of the West did an outstanding job on the GPC in Newport Beach this past October. Father Marcos, Ryan Burke and their team worked tirelessly on the planning and execution of this meeting, and it showed in a very well attended meeting at a beautiful location. The next GPC will be in San Antonio October 30-November 2, 2025, hosted by the Commandery of the Southwest. It will be in the Riverwalk area of San Antonio, and the Planning Committee started working on this several months ago. Make plans to attend as it will be another great event to showcase what we do for those in need and less fortunate, and of course, to enjoy each other's company!

Anna and I would like to wish each of you and your families and friends a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We pray that the unjustness and wars that are going on around us cease, and allow the countless innocent people affected to enjoy their lives and freedom without the threats of violence and recrimination that unfortunately is so prevalent in today's world. Be safe and well in 2025, and see you "next year"!!

A Trinity of Seasons: Advent, Christmas and Epiphany



**H.E. The Rev. MG Razz Waff,
USA (Ret), DSM, BCC, GCLJ, OMLJ,
DMin**

Chaplain General,
Grand Priory of America

It's amazing how quickly the year has gone by! We are still reeling with the shouted cheers of "Happy New Year" from three weeks ago! "Huh? What New Year? We still have a few more weeks to go" you are probably thinking to yourself. And my response is that on Sunday, December 1st, we did turn the calendar: We went from the Year B of the three year cycle of the common lectionary for Sunday readings, and from Year 2 of the Daily Office for Episcopalians and Lutherans to Year 1. And why did the cycle of reading change on December 1st? Because in 2024 it was the 1st Sunday of Advent, which for Christian traditions that follow the three year lectionary cycle, is the "liturgical" New Year. So for all of you reading this, Happy Liturgical New Year! And to keep us in the mind of our New Year, below is the collect (opening prayer) for the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

LET US PRAY: Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at His coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for Himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. ✝

*From the 1982 Book of Common Prayer. The Episcopal Church of the United States of America (ECUSA)

Your Feedback: The Grand Prioral Council



H.E. The Chevalier Harold R. "Pent" Penton, Jr.,
GCLJ, KMLJ, SCrLJ, DC3rdLJ, PhD

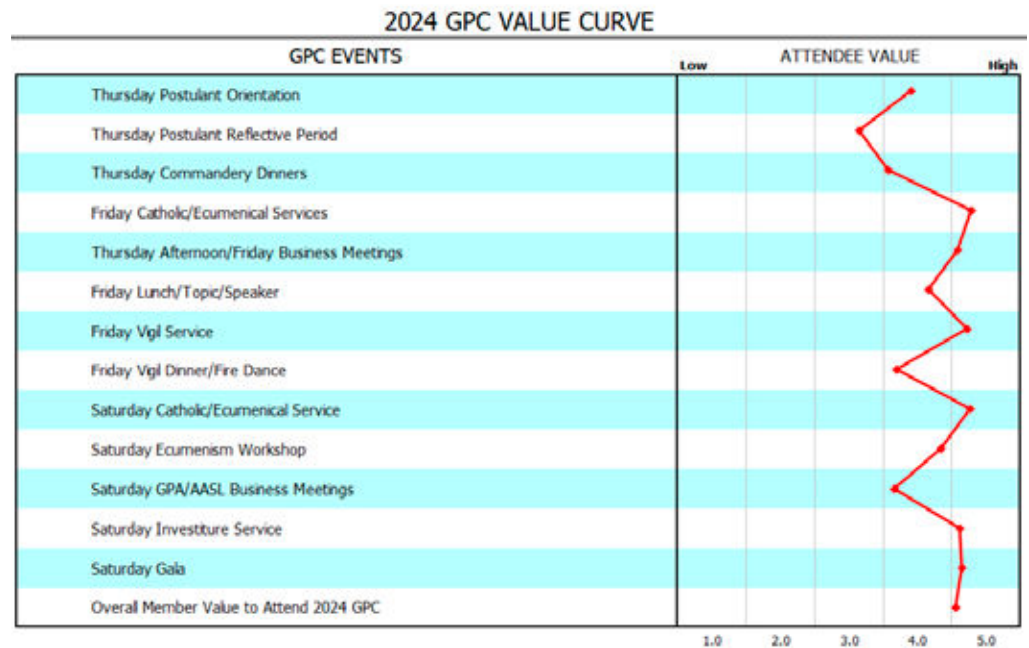
Chancellor,
Grand Priory of America

As with previous Grand Prioral Councils (GPC) since 2017, the attendees were asked to assess the value they received for attending, both the overall meeting as well as the individual events at the GPC using Survey Monkey, forwarded to the attendees from their Commanders/Delegates.

The results of the 2024 GPC survey have been tabulated. Forty members completed the survey (43% of members attending), nine of which were Postulants. The respondents were asked to assess the value of the various events at the GPC; Extremely Valuable (assigned a value of 5 on the Value Curve below), Very Valuable (4), Somewhat Valuable (3), Not So Valuable (2), Not At All Valuable (1).

Of interest is that although some events had a weighted average score between Somewhat Valuable (3) and Very Valuable (4), the overall assessment of value to attend the GPC was 4.54, between Very Valuable and Extremely Valuable suggesting that overall attending the GPC is considered well worth the time and cost to attend.

The 2024 GPC activities receiving the highest values were the Friday and Saturday morning Catholic Mass and Ecumenical services, the Vigil Service on Friday afternoon, the Gala Saturday evening and Fr Bacá's seminar on Ecumenism Saturday morning.



FROM THE GRAND PRIORAL ALMONER

Your giving has truly made a difference!



H.E. Dame Mary Ann Straub,
GCLJ, DMLJ, SCrLJ, DC2ndLJ, MEd

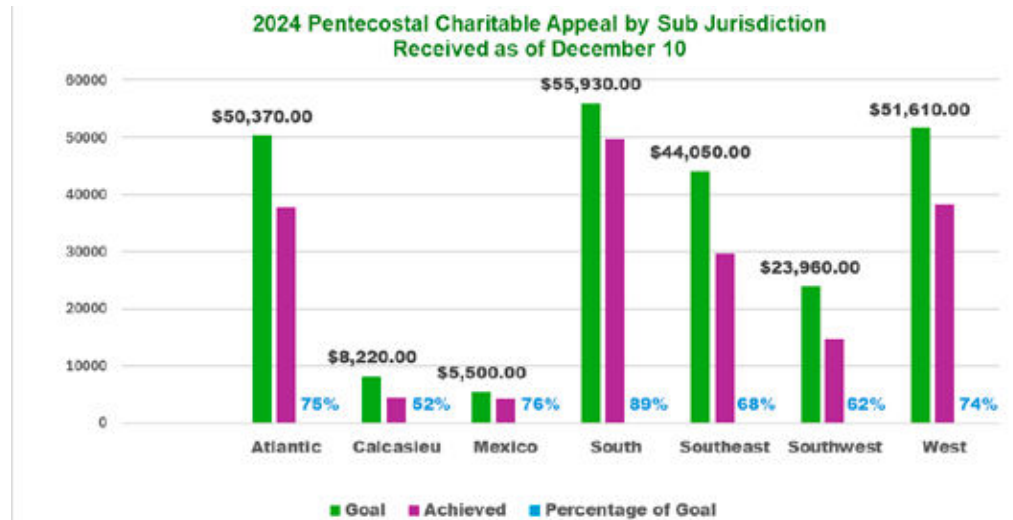
Grand Prioral Almoner,
Grand Priory of America

*In this season of giving, let's
continue our compassion.
Your generosity makes a
lasting difference in the lives of
the men, women, and children
our Order helps.*

What's new in the Hospitaller/Almoner realm? The specifics of the recently established hospitaller paradigm was at the forefront of discussion at the GPC's Friday meeting. Each sub jurisdiction will have half of the sub-jurisdictional's 2024 Pentecostal Charitable Appeal proceeds to spend on local charitable ministries. To obtain these funds, each sub jurisdictional hospitaller with the sub-jurisdictional head's approval will need to submit a grant funding proposal for each project. Prior to submission, it is the sub jurisdictions' duty to vet thoroughly the 501(c)3 charities under consideration. Proposals need to be emailed promptly to Grand Prioral Hospitaller Michael Milner. He and his committee will review the proposals for approval. The exact amount of funds available will be determined by mid-January 2025.

The other half of each sub jurisdiction's Pentecostal Charitable Appeal proceeds will be allocated by the American Association of the Order of Saint Lazarus, Inc. (AASL) to support national and international ministries, which in the past have included the Infant Welfare Center in the Old City of Jerusalem; Mexico Clinics, providing medical treatment to those with Hansen's disease; Rising Star Outreach, providing mobile medical treatment in over 30 leper colonies; St. Lazarus Tanzania UMC Hospital; St. Louis Hospital in Jerusalem; Grand Prior's Discretionary Fund. The AASL Board has committed to augment support with up to 5% of the endowment's value, the final determination to be made in mid-January 2025.

Special thanks go to the sub-jurisdictional hospitallers and almoners in attendance at the GPC Friday meeting: Beth Burke, Mike Rossi, Guy Winstead, Hung Nguyen who directed the meeting, Michelle Kwong, Mary Ettari, Rick Tonkinson, and Guillermo Salas Vargas as well as Louise Jacobbi, Wynham Loopesko, Pam Stephany, Joshua Barger, Brian Harlow, Cathy Espenan, Donald Espenan, and Paul Anderson.



If you have not yet made your donation, [click here](#) or login at www.st-lazarus.us and go to Online Payments → Annual Pentecostal Appeal Donation → Donate.

For those who wish to donate by check, please mail your contribution to The American Association of the Order of Saint Lazarus (AASL), c/o Dame Jennifer St. Victor-dePinho, DLJ, 38 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877. ✱

Activity Abounds Across Our Grand Priory and Beyond

Greetings from “Bawstun” Massachusetts!! This is our final newsletter for 2024 and it comes as no surprise that there has been a lot of activity during this year by the Grand Priory of America. I need to start off by thanking my friends Mary Ann Straub and Hung Nyguen for their help in covering the Hospitaller / Almoner Working Group meeting in Newport Beach, California this past October. Patty and I were unable to attend and both of these leaders jumped up and agreed to manage the meetings required. You will read in this newsletter the report by Mary Ann (assisted by our Grand Prior John Byrnes, Hung Nyguen and Mary Ettari) on how that meeting went and the current status of the Pentecostal Appeal donations for this year. Her article continues to explain how our new grant paradigm will be employed after the first of the year so that more grant money can be used “locally” to help meet the needs of our friends and neighbors. Thanks to all who contributed to this year’s Pentecostal Donations and remember that you can still contribute up until midnight eastern time on December 31, 2024. There is a link to the online website in Mary Ann’s article.

We have an active plan to continue to support programs with which we have developed long standing partnerships that allow the GPA to serve mankind; as well as focus donations where we can see the direct impact near our homes. All the Hospitallers and jurisdictional leaders have been briefed on the AASL’s expectations for vetting and approving local grant projects. This informational exchange began at the mid-year meeting in Dallas in April and has continued via periodic messaging from myself and our senior officers. Our goal is to support local projects that are “Christian oriented” and that are either IRS 501(c)(3) approved charities themselves or affiliated with one. We want these local projects to make the kind of ripple effect impact where our Order can be seen “in full service to our brothers and sisters in Christ” and where the funded organizations

will agree to provide periodic reports and acknowledgements so that we can share the impact of our gifts with our members and other local community leaders. Providing some visibility of our Order to other like-minded “potential Knights and Dames” is part of our vision. If you know of a local charity that has unmet needs and where a grant from our Grand Priory and your jurisdiction might make an impact, please bring these groups to the attention of your local Hospitaller and leadership chain. They have access to a simple grant application and they will gladly help you fill it out and submit for review.

The total Pentecostal Appeal's donations will be known after the first of the year and your jurisdiction's share of those donations will become known around January 15th. You will still have time to suggest a local charity to your local leaders and get a grant application submitted. These local grant applications, with appropriate vetting of the potential recipient by your local leadership, are then submitted to me for final approval. My team of Deputy Grand Prioral Hospitallers will review them and ensure that they comply with required IRS rules of engagement and if they comply, the checks will go out promptly from our Vice Chancellors. This new paradigm is hoped to give our members local opportunities to be visible as well as make stronger local connections and in some cases, “roll up their sleeves” to assist in the charity work.

Final decisions about the national and international projects that the AASL will support will occur after January 15th. These projects have been carefully vetted and monitored and include groups like the Infant Welfare Center in Jerusalem, the Mexican Leprosy Clinics, our St. Lazarus Clinic in Tanzania, and the St. Louis Hospital in Jerusalem. They will be reported out in our Spring Newsletter to all our members. Thanks go out to all our Hospitallers and others on our GP Hospitaller team who spend countless hours compiling reports and reviews to share with our members and the International members of our Order.

Speaking of reports, if you are a local Hospitaller reading this, then monitor your email in the coming next two weeks for a report template. This template is provided by the Grand Hospitaller in Malta and I



H.E. The Chevalier Michael R. Milner,
USPHS (Ret), DHSc, PA-C, KCLJ, OMLJ,
SMLJ

**Grand Prioral Hospitaller,
Grand Priory of America**

will ask you to complete it as many of you have done in the past, compiling the impact of the grants which were funded earlier in 2024. You will need to solicit a report on the overall impact from those organizations that you endorsed for funding in Tampa last October, 2023 and get your completed grant report template back to me by the end of February, or before! I have to compile our entire Grand Priory of America report and submit it by March 1st. As I have done in past years, I will actually create two distinct reports; one for the International Grand Hospitaller using his template and one for our GPA members using more of a narrative style report. These reports allow us to show our impact on humanity in time, talent and treasure, using the words of our Grand Prior Emeritus!

If you have any questions or need clarification on anything related to our grant program, please drop me an email at: hospitaller@st-lazarus.us. I will be “off the grid” having a medical procedure starting on 1/5/2025 but will get back to you as soon as I can. If you need something answered urgently, please reach out to Hung Nyguen. His contact info is in the Green Book!

Patty and I wish you all a very Blessed Christmas season and a wonderful New Year. I’ll be back in the saddle around mid-January and selfishly, I ask each of you who is reading this note to please keep both Patty and me in your prayers.

Best wishes for this Holiday Season from “Bawstun”! ✨

[Click here](#) to donate online or mail your check to the American Association of the Order of Saint Lazarus, Inc, c/o Jennifer St. Victor-de Pinho, DLJ, 38 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877. Gifts must be in hand no later than December 31.

OUR 2024 PENTECOSTAL CHARITABLE APPEAL SUPPORTERS: THANK YOU!

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A SPECIAL OFFER:
AN OFFICIAL DIPLOMA FROM THE GRAND MASTER

The Very Reverend Monsignor William L. Young, ChLJ
CDR George Williams Zimmerman, USN (Ret), CLJ, MBA

WEST

The Reverend Lane Kalani Akiona, ss.cc, ChLJ, MDiv
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Joyce Darlene von Leden, OLJ
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The Chancery Office administration is pleased to present to you the official diploma for the Grand Master of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem.

This official diploma has been available to all members since 5 May 2018, when they are admitted, promoted, or awarded. It is also available to non-members when they receive meritorious awards.

There is no cost to you for the official diploma.

The following information should be included with your requests: name, rank, meritorious award (if applicable), date admitted, promoted, or awarded Grand Chancery number, and address if different from yours.

Please send your requests to the GPA Vice Chancellor for Administration at chancery@st-lazarus.us.

The document's characteristics are as follows:

- Produced and printed in Madrid. Sent to the recipient via certified mail in a solid cardboard cylinder.
- The document is printed in full color in an A3 format (420x297 mm – 16.53x11.69 inches).

The document contains wording in Latin, name of recipient, admission/promotion/award, and the signatures of the Grand Master, Grand Chancellor, and Grand Referendary, along with each of their seals as well as the official gold seal of the Order at the bottom left side of the document.

"I SHALL SERVE."

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW POSTULANTS



Paul Curtis Anderson, OLJ
Roman Catholic
Attorney
Pasadena, CA
Commandery of the West



Wyatt David Charles Evans
Christian
Law Enforcement
Lewisburg, TN
Commandery of the Southeast



Brian Elvis Dean Harlow
Christian
Executive Security / Management
Savannah, GA
Commandery of the Southeast



Sean O'Donnell
Catholic
Owner of Executive Recruitment Firm
Loxahatchee, FL
Commandery of the Southeast



Benjamin James Cline
Christian
Law Enforcement
Winter Park, FL
Commandery of the Southeast

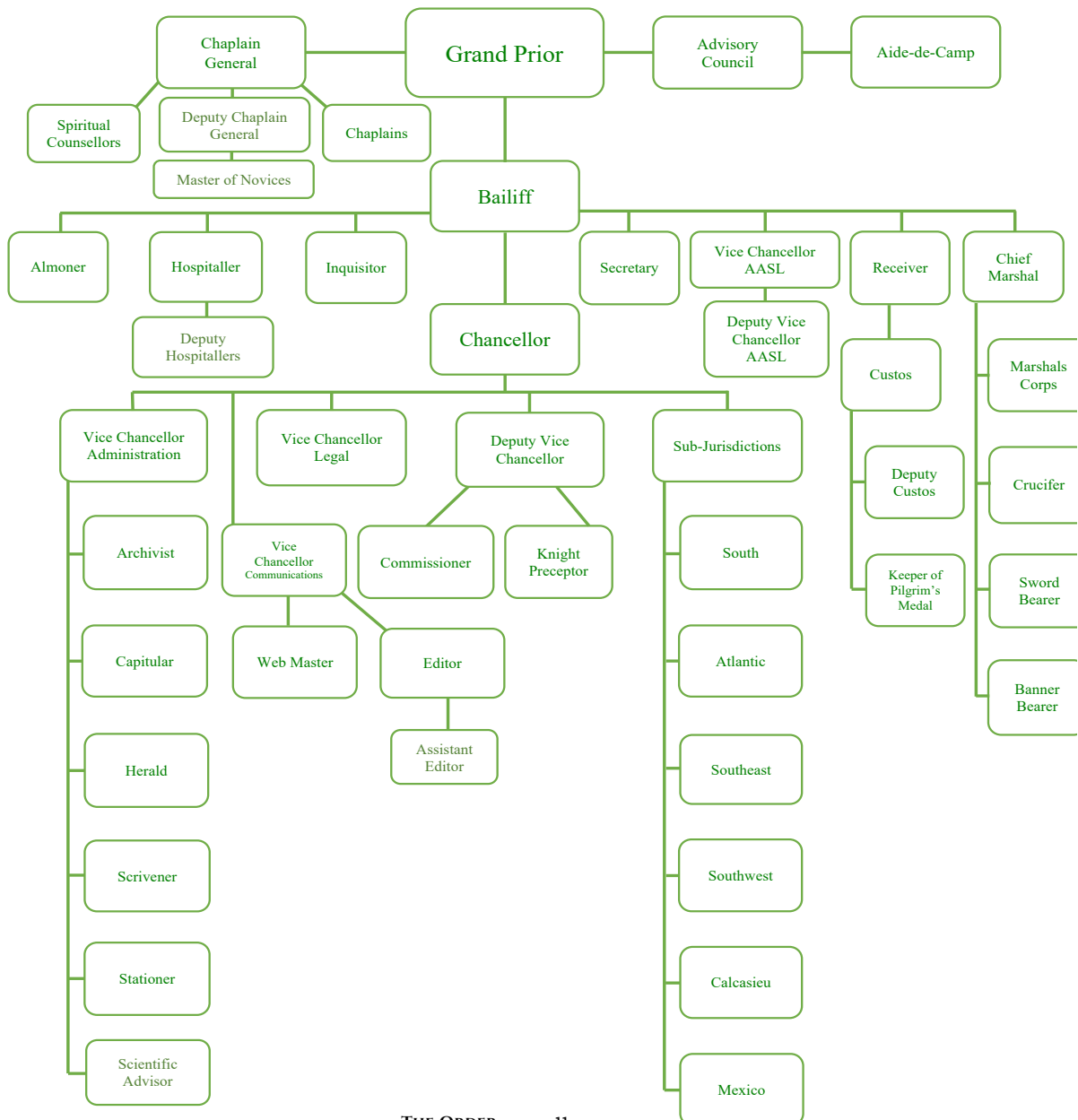
Official Appointments

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GRAND PRIOR

The Grand Prior announces that he has made the following appointments for 2025:

Grand Prioral Inquisitor:	CDR David Christopher Daniel, USNR, NDSM, CLJ, BMLJ, JD
Deputy Inquisitor:	Sean O'Donnell, OLJ
Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Administration:	Megan Eunpu, OLJ, BSc
Grand Prioral Almoner:	Guy Victor Winstead, CLJ, MMLJ, BA Eng
Capitular:	Anne-Michelle Daniel, CLJ, BMLJ, MHAGPA
Regional Communications Officer:	Brian Harlow, OLJ
Grand Prioral Almoner Emeritus:	H.E. Dame Mary Ann Straub, GCLJ, DMLJ, GMLJ, DC2ndLJ, MEd

THE ORDER'S ORDER: A LOOK AT OUR ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



A CRUSADER'S CHRONICLE: The Quest to Irapuato

Chev. Guillermo Salas Vargas



Dear Confrères,
Last Saturday, the 28th of September, our esteemed Delegate Pedro Casillas and I set out on a journey to Irapuato. Our mission was to meet with Dr. Juan José Salazar, the distinguished dermatologist and our chancellor for Irapuato, who oversees our clinic in the region, along with Sister Esperanza, who diligently manages the dispensary and coordinates visits to patients and their families in the surrounding towns. The purpose of this voyage was to deliver 23 cardboard boxes filled with the ointment "Staquis," a treatment for atopic dermatitis graciously donated to us by Pfizer through Direct Relief (see www.directrelief.org). We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Richard Payatt, who introduced us to Direct Relief several years ago. This marked the second shipment of medicines donated to us this year, with a market value of approximately US \$20,000.

Additionally, we dispatched another 23 boxes to Morelia, facilitated by a former student of Universidad Iberoamericana who fulfilled his "social service" credits with us seven years ago and now conducts his business there. As depicted in the photographs, we had the opportunity to greet a gentleman and his wife residing in a small village near Irapuato who contracted leprosy but are currently receiving treatment at our clinic. You may also observe that our return journey was quite an odyssey due to the heavy rains that day, making the trip back to Pedro's home a considerable challenge. Pedro resides in Metepec, near Toluca, about an hour from my residence in Mexico City.

Altogether, it took us approximately 3.5 hours to reach Irapuato, starting early in the morning, and about five hours to return in the afternoon. Fortunately, we travelled in a relatively large SUV with good ground clearance, as many vehicles were stranded on a bridge, waiting for the floodwaters to recede. We often jest that these excursions require an effort akin to the knights of old when they captured Saint John of Acre in 1104. But fear not for our trials,

for after delivering the boxes to Sister Esperanza and Dr. Salazar, Pedro and I enjoyed excellent steaks at a fine restaurant in Irapuato. Having missed breakfast, the meal was even more delightful.

We hope you find the photographs enjoyable.
"Atavis et Armis."



Dear Members of the Grand Priory of America, This year, the nuns at our two clinics continued to visit patients and their families almost every week, and four excellent dermatologists (two in each clinic) plus another two general M.D.'s gave close to two thousand low cost consultations to heal mostly dermatological illnesses, including a handful of leprosy cases.

We have been fortunate in that Direct Relief (see www.directrelief.org) has provided us with medicines and vitamins in June, donated by GSK Pharmaceutical, and in October, donated by Pfizer. The first time its market value was approximately US \$2,500 and the second one US \$24,500.

It may also be mentioned that the Hérdez food packaging company has continued to donate nutritional products several times along the year, which have been provided to the families of our registered patients during the nuns' visits.

In addition, our nuns distributed 113 blankets donated by a well known benefactor last Winter and are currently distributing another 150 which have already been given to us this year.

As an example of social events organized by the nuns, precisely today there will be a "posada" in Irapuato for the patients and their families. This is a very traditional party during which a song is sung outside and inside a house, where the pilgrims (Mary and Joseph) sing paragraphs asking to be let inside, and the "owners" of the house sing other paragraphs denying them entrance, until the last few words, when the people inside sing sentences to the effect of having recognized who the pilgrims are, and they then open the door and everyone joins in a happy chorus. There are piñatas and hot beverages, etc.

As informed in our article published in the previous edition of "The Order", we organized a conference on June 24th by the dean of a very important Catholic University (Universidad Panamericana) on the subject "The Challenges of the New Era" which was attended by around one hundred persons and where our Delegate Pedro Casillas and I explained what we do and promoted the Order.

As in previous years, we took advantage of the Matching Grant program of the GPA to donate US \$3,000 to "Unidos", which is a charitable organization that organizes playful and cultural activities for young people with disabilities and pairs them with youngsters without disabilities who generously give their time and effort to participate in such activities.

In October, our chaplain Father José de Jesús Aguilar, our Delegate Pedro Casillas, Fina and I attended the GPC in Newport Beach. Something to be mentioned is that since Fr. José has been active over many years in radio and TV programs in Mexico and the U.S., some of the waiters recognized him on the Hawaiian dinner on Friday night and asked to be photographed with him (see photo below). ✱



H.E. The Chev. Guillermo D. Salas Vargas, KCLJ, CMLJ, MBA

**Almoner & Hospitaller
Delegation of México**





The St. Lazarus Brand: *The Message Our Order Tells The World*



At the 2024 Midyear Commanders and Senior Officers Meeting, the thirty-two attendees broke into six groups and brainstormed “What is the Brand and Brand Identity of the Order of St. Lazarus’ Grand Priory of America?”. When the groups reported, each had a different perception of what our brand and brand identity really is. So, if thirty-two senior officers and commanders have different ideas about our brand identity, clearly, we have to work on brand definition.

This past summer, we sought volunteers to help us define our brand. Chev. Larry Merington, Vice Commander of the Grand Commandery of the South and Professor of Marketing at the Tulane University Business School, not only volunteered, but also proposed that a team of students in his Advanced Marketing Class take on the challenge as part of their class curriculum. The Tulane Team consisting of Katrina Boren, Lily Cunis, Legare Kerrison, Sabrina Libertelli and Samara Patruznick, under the mentorship of Professor Merington, began in September focusing on brand identity and communicating our brand through our website and social media. On December 2nd, the Tulane Team presented their recommendations to Dame Michie Bissell, Dame Mary Ann Straub, Chev Hugh Straub and Chev

Pent Penton attending at the Tulane Business School and to Grand Prior John Byrnes, Chev Hugh Nguyen and Joshua Barger, participating by Zoom.

The Tulane Team proposed the brand identity tag line “Christian Community based on giving Established 1098”, focusing on our charitable charter and history (which member surveys show are the two main reasons our members joined our Order). The Tulane group also recommended website changes we should consider making it more attention-grabbing and easier to navigate.

The Team also presented several recommendations for improving our presence and brand awareness on social media, together with detailed instructions on how to accomplish their suggestions. These recommendations will form the basis for a second Tulane Team next semester to take an in-depth look at implementing the recommendations from this semester’s team and a competitive assessment of our Order compared to other chivalric orders.

Following the presentation, each of the Tulane Student Team members was presented with the Companiate of Merit, in the rank of Member, in recognition for their work on this project. ✨



St. Peter Claver Lifts Up Fr. Fausz *Clergy member of the Order is recognized by the Knights of Peter Claver*

On July 27, 2024 in Oklahoma City, OK, Reverend Kevin Fausz, AChLJ received the Silver Medal of Merit from the Knights of Peter Claver. The award recognizes those who are true servant-leaders in the Knights of Peter Claver, in the Church, in the community and in leadership.

Fr. Kevin is currently the pastor of 3 Parishes. He has organized numerous community outreach programs. He has developed programs to alleviate poverty in his community. Fr. Kevin has organized food drives to provide food for the poor and has worked with the Local Food Bank to provide a monthly mobile pantry. Fr. Kevin recently established a food pantry and community garden at Holy Redeemer called the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry and Garden. He assists in providing Community Wellness and Resource Fairs, teaming up with Christus Santa Rosa and Catholic Charities. He recently collaborated with Chrysalis Ministries, Catholic Charities, United Way and several other groups to provide an Outreach Fair for families in his parish. These are just some of the activities he is involved in.

He serves on numerous boards. Some of them include the SAGE Board, Presentation Ministry Center Board, Terrafirma Homes Board and Spiritual Advisor for the Archdiocesan Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Spiritual Moderator for the ACTS-HIV community. He provides Saturday morning mass at Dominguez prison and is Chaplain at Our Lady of the Lake University. He is active in the African American and larger San Antonio community. In the Knights of Peter Claver, he is the Chaplain for his Council, 4th Degree Assembly, Ladies Auxiliary the Ladies 4th degree Chapter. Fr. Kevin currently serves as the Texas State Chaplain for the Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver. He is also involved in the Knights of Columbus, Holy Sepulchre and of course our Order.

The proposer summed his servant-leadership with these words, 'When it comes to giving back to the community, he is unrivaled. His humility, compassion and tireless dedication to serving others are qualities that make him truly deserving of this recognition.'



Leprosy-Info

No. 4

January 2025



CONTACT
Office of the Grand Hospitaller
MHOSLJ

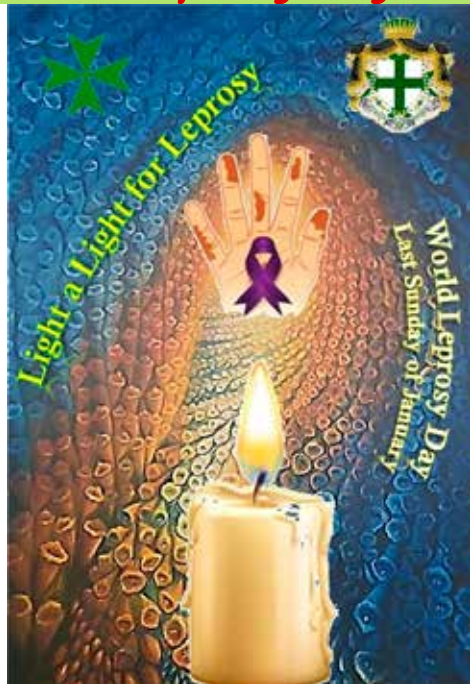
WEBSITE:
www.st-lazarus.net/content/hospitaller-activity

EMAIL ADDRESS:
grandhospitaller.mhoslj@gmail.com

The last Sunday of January - 26th January 2025 - is designated as World Leprosy Day. This annual commemoration was originally established in 1954 by French journalist Raoul Follereau with the aim of raising awareness and promoting discussion about the infection with the scope of eliminating the misinformation and myths connected with it. It also serves to draw attention to those victims afflicted by the infection and thus encourage the world community to promote the provision of services for diagnosing and managing the condition. This day is celebrated with an alternate theme. The theme chosen for 2025 is '*Beat Leprosy, End Stigma, and Advocate for Mental Well-Being*'. As the Order of St Lazarus had originally been set up with the sole aim of caring and providing solace to the victims of this condition, World Leprosy Day should be an important item in our social and philanthropic calendar. The various jurisdictions should embrace the day and organize an activity aiming to support the battle aiming to eradicate the illness.

The first step in the fight is promoting AWARENESS - the members within any jurisdiction should be made aware of the importance of the day not only because of the historical importance of the Order but because in spite of treatment being available new cases are still being diagnosed.

Awareness should be followed by EDUCATION - the victims of the infection are still stigmatized because of the fear of contagion. They often become social outcasts even when they have received treatment and are cured. The members of the Order must be encouraged to educate and inform themselves about the condition.



During World Leprosy Day, the members of the Order are encouraged to commemorate the day either as individuals or alternatively as a community. Over the last couple of years, the members of the Order have been encouraged to **Light a Light for Lepers** on the day while taking the time to contemplate on the spiritual dimension of the disease. What can we spiritually learn from the way that Jesus related to the victims of leprosy [see St. Mark 1:40-45].

- How should this influence our personal outlook as individual members of society and as members of the Order?

We are generally fortunate in that we live in well-developed countries where the incidence of leprosy is minimal. However, a significant number of new cases, including children, are being diagnosed each year presenting short and long-term medical and social challenges to these individuals. They suffer from long-term stigmatization and are emarginated from their communities. We can expand on our contemplation on the day by looking around us and identifying the groups who, for whatever reason, suffer from stigmatization as that suffered by victims of leprosy where this is prevalent.

- What are we as members of a Hospitaller Order doing to fight the suffering resulting from such stigmatization?

WHY WORLD LEPROSY DAY IS IMPORTANT

A. To eliminate social discrimination of afflicted people

The social discrimination of those who are infected has to be weeded out to allow patients to live with dignity. It is crucial to spread awareness about Leprosy for this reason. World Leprosy Day provides a platform for creating an inclusive society that treats the afflicted with the respect they deserve.

B. To spread awareness about the treatment for Leprosy

Leprosy can be cured with antibiotic treatment. However, most patients come from impoverished backgrounds and do not have the means to access treatment. Also, the stigma attached to the condition dissuades people from seeking treatment for the disease. The day helps make people aware that Leprosy can be treated.

C. To bust the myths and misconceptions surrounding the disease

There are too many misconceptions harbored by society about Leprosy. Many people feel that the digits of a person affected by Leprosy just "fall off" one day. Others feel that the disease is transmitted by sitting next to or shaking hands with an infected person. These myths can be busted on World Leprosy Day so that people living with Leprosy receive an equal opportunity to shine in society.

Of course appreciation of the suffering experienced by the victims of stigmatization is not enough to help improve their lives. Having ourselves become aware of the problems faced by these individuals, we must strive to bring the issue to the fore within our communities in order that we educate the public. BUT, this is not enough. We must as Lazarites support the on-the-ground fight against the disease. We must find means of supporting those afflicted in our communities – they do exist even if long treated – and support the fight in communities where the disease is very much more prevalent than it is in our region. We can certainly do more. During 2023, jurisdictions of the Order overall targeted 11.6% of the total annual philanthropic contribution towards the fight against leprosy. However, only 14 jurisdictions made any form of contribution towards this figure.

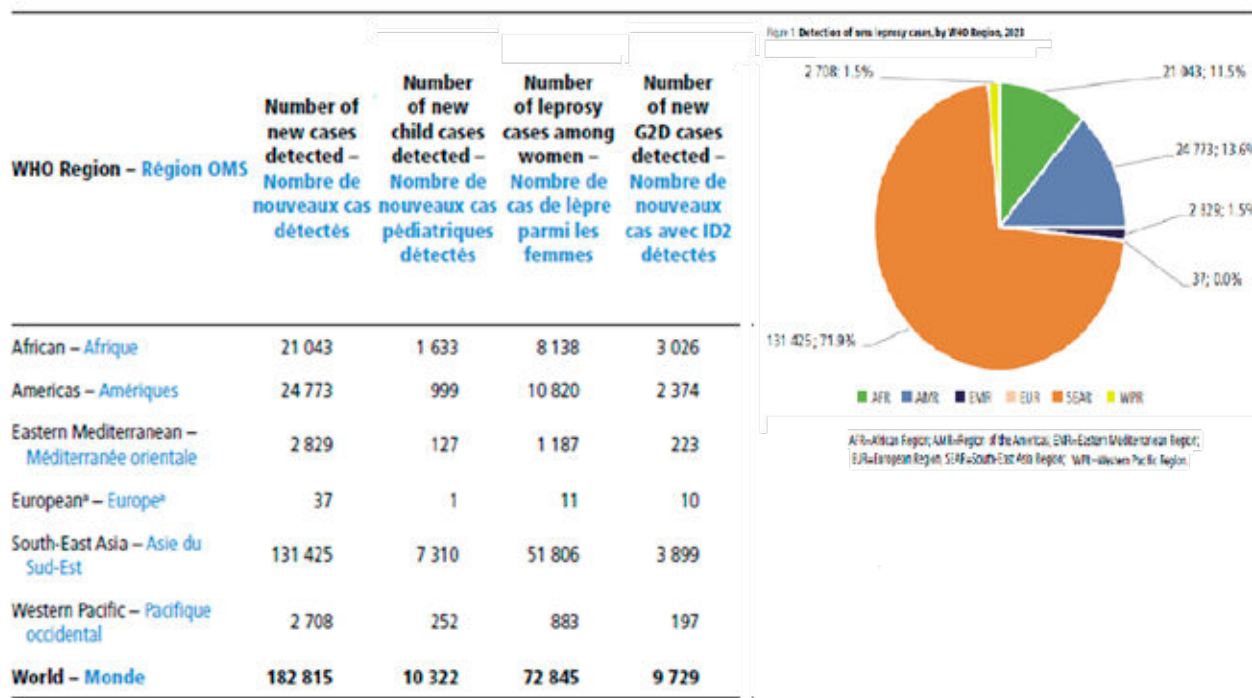
- Can your jurisdiction do more to support the fight against the disease?

A spiritual meditation for World Leprosy Day is available from the Office of the Grand Hospitaller [send email request]

NEWS

World Incidence rates – 2023 : Since the members of the Order generally live in well-developed communities, it is easy to forget that Hansen’s Disease [Leprosy] still prevails in the less developed regions of the world. The following tables published by the World Health Organization helps put the disease into perspective. Of course, the data presented in the WHO report is based on the information provided by the respective countries and may not truly represent the extent of the problem. The figures simply present what is known and reported, but a significant number of cases do not come to the fore. The figures however speak for themselves!

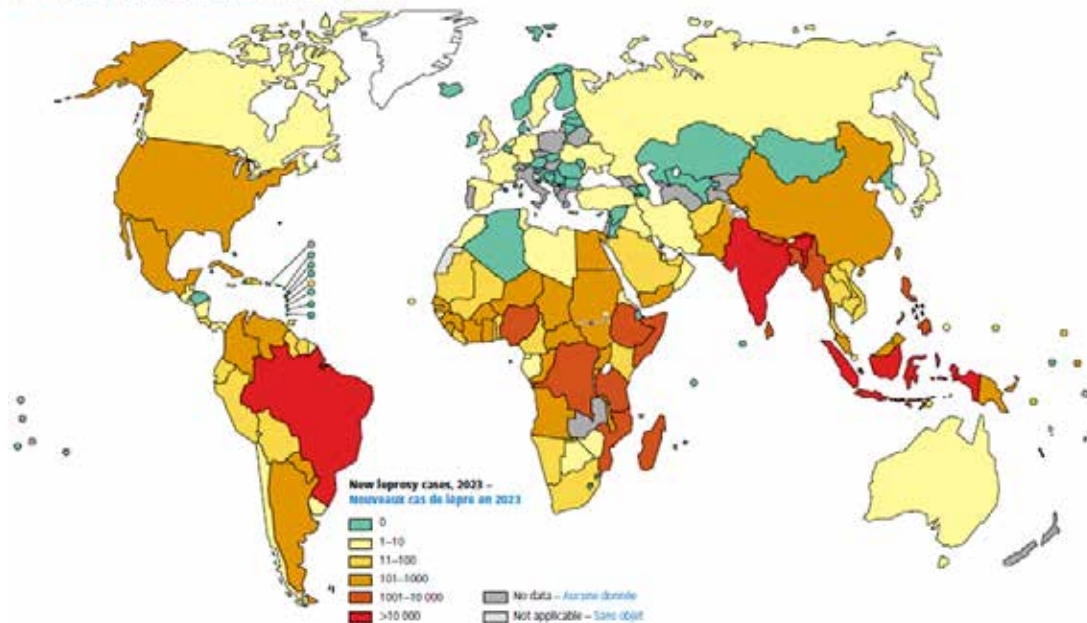
Table 1 **New case detection (disaggregated for age, gender and disability), by WHO Region, 2023**
 Tableau 1 **Détection de nouveaux cas (ventilée par âge, sexe et incapacité), par Région OMS, 2023**



G2D: grade-2 disability – ID2; incapacité de degré 2

* The number of cases reported by the European Region includes reporting from Mayotte. – Le nombre de cas signalés par la Région européenne comprend ceux de Mayotte.

Map 1. Geographical distribution of new leprosy cases, 2023
Carte 1. Répartition géographique des nouveaux cas de lèpre en 2023



Source: *Weekly Epidemiological Record (WER)*, 13 September 2024, Vol. 99, No. 37, pp. 497–522 [Download](#)

Grand Bailiwick of Germany: Appeal for donations



The primary task of the Lazarus Order is to assist leprosy sufferers and to help them selflessly. Today, the sisters and brothers of the order focus on the early detection of leprosy sufferers in order to initiate successful treatment in good time and thus prevent subsequent complications - such as mutilation. The Lazarus Order successfully supports this with partners in India, China, Vietnam and also in Madagascar... The island state of Madagascar was devastated by the tropical cyclone "Gamane" in the spring of 2024. Around 87,000 people have been affected by the destruction, the National Authority for Civil Protection announced on Easter Monday. The leper village of Belfort in the north of this island - 5 km from Antalaha

- was the worst affected. Most of the houses of the disabled, former lepers were simply washed

away by the raging waters. The villagers are left without accommodation with what little they were able to save. They were initially housed in existing school rooms until new accommodation was built for them elsewhere. The board of trustees of the German Dentist's Sponsorship for Leprosy and Distressed Areas (GDS) - consisting mainly of members of the Order - started an emergency aid program. 15,000 euros were immediately drawn from a fund for the destroyed leper village of Belfort.



Further financial aid – such as this appeal for donations – is intended to mitigate the damage to the entire infrastructure. To support them the Grand Bailiwick of Germany is selling a CD titled "Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est". One of Germany's finest male choirs are performing sacred choral music from various eras and languages. The melodies touch the soul and carry a powerful

message: *where there is love, there is God*. For only 5 euros (plus shipping costs), one will not only receive a musical masterpiece, but also support the leper village. All proceeds will go completely to this project. Christmas is just a few months away – give your loved ones and the people of Belfort double the joy. With every tone, you'll know: your support is making a real difference.

The CD (with bulk discounts for orders of 10 or more) can be ordered from the Referendary of the Grand Bailiwick, Chev. Dr. Andreas Rademachers KCLJ (referendar@stlazarus.de). Shipping will be early December.

ABSTRACTS

Willis M, Fastenau A, Penna S, et al. Interventions to reduce leprosy related stigma: A systematic review. *Public Library of Science (PLoS) Global Public Health*, 2024; 4(8):1-13.

[Download PDF](#)

Abstract

Stigmatisation is a major issue faced by those affected by leprosy globally. Reducing stigmatisation encourages care seeking behaviour to occur earlier and can help reduce harm and spread of leprosy. This systematic literature review aimed to summarise what effective stigma reducing interventions exist for leprosy, and as a secondary question explore what evidence exists regarding their cost. A systematic literature review was conducted. Three databases—PubMed, Embase and Web of science—were searched using the search terms “leprosy”, “interven*”, “reduc*”, and “stigma*”. Seventeen publications were eligible for inclusion in the review. The current manuscript identified interventions under 6 main categories (i) Information, education, and communication (IEC) (ii) community led projects, (iii) Socioeconomic rehabilitation, (iv) mixed interventions, (v) integration of leprosy within the health system and (vi) Cosmetic or surgical care. Specific evidence regarding cost was only provided by one out of the seventeen papers. Multiple interventions were shown to successfully reduce leprosy related stigma, however, information on their cost is not readily available. The evidence uncovered by this review is restricted to three Asian countries; Nepal, India and Indonesia. To ensure the success of stigma reduction in leprosy interventions worldwide these interventions need to be tried in other leprosy endemic areas to test their effectiveness across contextual and cultural scenarios.

Bonkass A, Fastenau A, Stuetzle S, et al. Psychosocial interventions for persons affected by Leprosy: A systematic review. *Public Library of Science (PLoS) Global Public Health*, 2024; 1(3):1-50.

[Download](#)

Abstract

While multi-drug therapy revolutionised the treatment of physical symptoms for leprosy, a lack of psychosocial interventions, to combat the psychological burden of the disease, is noticeable. This is especially the case in a lower-middle-income country like India, where leprosy prevalence is highest, yet, it has one of the lowest rates of mental health services in place. This paper (i) conducts a systematic review to gather academic evidence on best practices of psychosocial care interventions of to leprosy patients from across the globe, and (ii) compiles good practices of mental wellbeing and quality of life to propose plausible actions for leprosy patients in India. Following the PRISMA protocol, keywords were searched in four databases, namely PubMed, PsycInfo, Web of Science and Infolep. After examining all 145 search results through inclusion and exclusion criteria, 17 peer reviewed research articles could qualify for final review exercise, whereby the data was systematically appraised. The systematic review reveals several successful psychosocial interventions implemented worldwide. These interventions were categorised into four sub-groups: educational, counselling, cognitive behavioural therapy, and technology-supported interventions. All the studies included in the analysis showcased effective psychosocial interventions that enhanced the quality of life and reduced depression, anxiety, and stress levels in individuals affected by leprosy. These findings highlighted several promising strategies that could be integrated into India's mental healthcare system. The studies underscored the significance of involving healthcare professionals, and adopting innovative approaches. Consequently, this research proposes a comprehensive blend of diverse psychosocial interventions to alleviate the burden faced by leprosy-affected individuals in India. It is crucial to take into account various confounding factors and local contexts to tailor these interventions to the specific population group. Additionally, enhancing awareness

and updating policies related to leprosy care are essential steps in reducing stigmatization against individuals with leprosy in India and other endemic regions.

Bolorino N, Gonçalves LC, de Freitas FMB, et al. Evaluation by community health agents of the attributes of Primary Health Care for fighting leprosy: a cross-sectional study. *Online Brazilian Journal of Nursing*. 2024. [Download](#)

Abstract

Objective: To evaluate whether the attributes of Primary Healthcare are present in leprosy control actions in Londrina from Community Health Workers' (CHW) perspectives. *Methods:* Observational and evaluative study. Data collection occurred between January and March 2020 in Londrina, Paraná, using the questionnaire "Primary Care Assessment Tool (PCATool) - Hansen's disease - CHW version" and a population-based census of 246 CHWs from 52 Primary Healthcare Units. The analyses used a cutoff point (≥ 6.6), central tendency, and dispersion measures. One-way ANOVA and Tukey's post hoc tests were used to analyze differences. *Results:* The general performance towards the primary healthcare attributes were evaluated as strong (mean = 6.95 / SD = 1.08) and the essential score (mean = 7.39 / SD = 1.0). On the other hand, the derived score was evaluated as poor (mean = 6.07 / sd = 1.06). Concerning the Access attribute, the rural zone had a lower score than the urban (mean = 4.47 / SD = 1.63). *Conclusion:* The study highlights issues that can be improved, such as first contact access, catalog of services offered to leprosy patients, information provided to the community, professional training, and differences in PHC performance between urban and rural regions.

van Brakel WH, Warne G, Cambau E, et al. Strategies for leprosy services in low-endemic areas and countries. *Leprosy Review. Lepra*. 2024; 95 (3) : 1-17. [Download](#)

Abstract

Most leprosy-endemic countries have a national leprosy programme working to achieve 'zero leprosy' guided by a zero leprosy roadmap, national leprosy strategy or similar document. In July 2023, WHO published new Technical Guidance on interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy disease. The key tool is the Leprosy Elimination Framework that specifies 3 phases of elimination with indicators and cut-offs for when one phase transitions to the next. Now that interruption of transmission and elimination of leprosy are on the horizon for many countries or, indeed, have already been achieved, there is a need for detailed guidance on what strategies are appropriate for leprosy control under low-endemic circumstances (Phase 2 and 3 of the Leprosy Elimination Framework). It is important to realise that strategies for providing services to persons with leprosy-related disabilities, eliminating stigma and discrimination and implementing inclusion measures have a different horizon and will still be needed for decades to come. The International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) Technical Commission (ITC) organised a symposium and a workshop during which strategies for leprosy control were discussed under five headings that covered all operational aspects of a leprosy programme: Prevention, case detection and diagnostics; Treatment and case management; Disability prevention, management and rehabilitation (including mental health); Stigma reduction, inclusion and human rights; and Surveillance and data management. Strategies were recommended under each heading, with reference to the phase of elimination for which they are deemed appropriate.

Kinasih SE, Devy SR, Koesbardiati T, et al. Human migration, infectious diseases, plague, global health crisis - historical evidence. *Cogent Arts & Humanities*. Informa UK Limited. 2024; 11 (1) : 1-29. [Download](#)

This study examines the transmission of infectious diseases through historical studies, focusing on colonialization, slave trade, religion spread, and transcontinental and island trade. Emerging diseases like leprosy, Black Death, syphilis, malaria, Spanish flu, and COVID-19 have become significant contributors to global health crises. The study uses four stages: heuristics, critique, interpretation, and historiography. It focuses on migration, pandemics, and global health crises, using relevant literature. The findings suggest that many diseases have reached pandemic proportions due to their rapid dissemination and the influence of migration caused by historical factors such as ancient travel culture, colonialism, and modern

times. The evolution of contemporary language also facilitates international mobility. The research examines the issue of disease distribution resulting from the long-standing global migration process, focusing on how migration has played a significant role in the occurrence of pandemics, outbreaks, and global health crises throughout history. The migration of Homo Sapiens from East Africa to regions outside Africa led to the development of language, culture, and disease transmission. The domestication of animals resulted in the emergence and transmission of disease mutations, leading to the worldwide dissemination of infectious diseases like leprosy, Black Death, syphilis, malaria, and COVID-19.

Patron Saint for Lepers

I was recently approached by a member of the Order enquiring about a reliquary associated with Saint Lazarus he had purchased off the internet. This led to a discussion of potential personalities this relic [a bone fragment] belonged to and how Saint Lazarus was designated the Patron Saint of lepers, and hence of our Order.

- ➔ In the New Testament, the name Lazarus ('El'azár), literally meaning "God has helped", appears twice. *Luke 16:19-31* recounts the Parable of the Rich man and the poor leprous Lazarus. This was obviously a story with a profound meaning, namely that the poor leper should not be stigmatized and isolated but that we have the duty to care for him. This Parable was taken up by the Cappadocian Early Fathers of the Church who advocated for the provision of institutions to care for the leprous sick, in contrast to expulsion from the community. These institutions or leprosaria were therefore associated with Lazarus of the Parable and were termed *Lazar houses*. [*Feast day 21st June*]



Westphalian master, Healing of Lazarus, 1400. Courtesy of Barnes Foundation. Lazarus shown holding the leper's rattle.

- ➔ The New Testament, one of the 'friends' of Jesus, Lazarus of Bethany, is resurrected from the dead by Jesus a few days before Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. Because Lazarus served as living proof of Jesus' power over death, he became a *persona non grata* with the Jewish establishment. Orthodox tradition holds that Lazarus



and his family emigrated to Cyprus where he served the Christian community there as bishop in Larnaca. His skeletal remains were subsequently discovered in the Church dedicated to him in that city and the majority were transferred to Constantinople in 898

A.D. Emperor Leo VI Sophos transfers some of the remains to Constantinople. These were eventually lost, some being dispersed to various European countries. With increasing devotion towards Lazarus of Bethany in the Latin world, he was adopted as the patron saint of lepers replacing the Cappadocian link to the parable's Lazarus. The early Seedorf statutes of the order leave absolutely no doubt that the patron saint of the Order in the 13-14th century was Lazarus of Bethany. [*Feast day 17th December*]

➔ Other personages named Lazarus were admitted to the communion of saints during the early centuries of Christianity. These include:

- In the crypt of Saint-Victor at Marseilles an epitaph of the fifth century has been discovered informing us that a bishop named Lazarus was buried there. This led to the Western tradition belief that Lazarus and his family emigrated to France rather than Cyprus. In fact, the epitaph refers to Lazarus, Bishop of Aix, who was consecrated at Marseilles ~407 A.D. His relics are today kept in the Cathédrale Sainte-Marie-Majeure.
- A near contemporary Lazarus served as Archbishop of Milan in ~439 A.D. serving during a time when invading Ostrogoths controlled the area. He died on the 14th March 450 and was canonized in the pre-Congregation period. Feast day was moved to 11th February to avoid clashes with Lent.



Skull of Lazarus, Bishop of Aix



Relics of Lazarus Archbishop of Milan

- Another Venerable Lazarus (of Muron) born in Constantinople around 1286 became a monk at a monastery under the Elder Athanasios Diskotes. In 1343, he was sent Saint Lazarus as a noted iconographer together with monks and gifts to Saint Basil, Archbishop of Novgorod. Directed to go to Murom Island in Lake Onega, Lazarus settled and lived there in spite of the persecution at the hands of Lopari and Chud natives living on the island.



✦ LIGHT OF LAZARUS ✦



Reception and Dinner

January 25, 2025 - Honolulu Country Club

Honoring HE RADM Kenneth Moritsugu, MD, MPH, GCLJ
Grand Commander of the Order of Saint Lazarus

Guests of Honor



HE Don Francisco de Borbon y Graf von Hardenberg, GCLJ **Grand Master of the Order of Saint Lazarus**

Don Francisco de Borbon y Graf von Hardenberg, GCLJ is a businessman and entrepreneur based in Madrid, Miami and New York City. He was born in Madrid, Spain and is the son of Francisco de Borbon y Escasany, 5th Duke of Seville and Princess Beatrice Grafyn von Hardenberg Furstenberg. He worked as a manager and sports director of various sports entities and acquired the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) agent title in 2005, and is the founder and principal partner in various corporate trading companies. A long-standing member of the Order of Saint Lazarus, Francisco was appointed Coadjutor and member of the Grand Magistral Council in June 2009. He was elected and installed as the 50th Grand Master of the Order at the Chapter General in Madrid on May 05, 2018.



HE RADM Kenneth Moritsugu, MD, MPH, USPHS (ret) **Grand Commander of the Order of Saint Lazarus**

RADM Kenneth P. Moritsugu is a prominent American public health official and physician known for his role as the Surgeon General of the United States from 2002 to 2006. A graduate of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, where he gained a background in preventive medicine, Admiral Moritsugu has served in various health-related positions, focusing on issues such as organ donation, tobacco control and public health policy. Committed to improving public health through education and community engagement, he is on the Board of Regents at Chaminade University and currently serves as Grand Commander of the Order of Saint Lazarus, working to eradicate Hansen's Disease globally.



Most Reverend Clarence "Larry" Silva, D.D. **Fifth Bishop of Honolulu**

With family roots in Hawaiian Islands that extend back to the monarchy, the Most Reverend Clarence "Larry" Silva was the Vicar General of the Diocese of Oakland when Pope Benedict XVI appointed him to be the fifth Bishop of Honolulu. Ordained a bishop and installed as Bishop of Honolulu on July 21, 2005 at the Neal Blaisdell Arena in Honolulu, Bishop Silva is the only Bishop in American History to oversee the canonization of two saints, as well as the elevation of the Cathedral Basilica of Our Lady of Peace to a Papal Minor Basilica. Bishop Silva joined the Order of Saint Lazarus in 2022 and has overseen the growth of the Catholic Faithful in Hawaii during his leadership as Bishop over the past 20 years.



Very Reverend Lane Kalani Akiona, SS.CC. **Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, USA**

A native son of the Island of Moloka'i, Father Lane has served as Pastor of Saint Augustine By-The-Sea Catholic Church for over twenty years, bringing the message of Christ to the people of Waikiki. He also serves as the Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary in the United States, as well as across the South Pacific, and in India. Father Lane carries on the legacy of Saint Damien deVeuster, SS.CC. in his pastoral and administrative ministries throughout the Pacific and beyond.



Sister Alicia Damien Lau, OSF

Sister Alicia Damien Lau, OSF, has dedicated her life to serving those most in need. With over 60 years of Nursing Experience, Sister Alicia has served as a Director of Special Projects at the St. Francis Medical Center, COO of the Ito Healthcare Group, served as Mission Advancement Liaison for the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities. Sister Alicia served as a National Park Service Volunteer, and is currently a volunteer with the Hawaii DOH perpetuating the legacy of Saint Marianne Cope and the Sisters of St. Francis in Kalaupapa, while assisting the patients who call Kalaupapa home. She is a nationally renowned speaker on healthcare and was owner of Damien Healthcare Consultants, LLC.



Reverend William "Bill" Petrie, SS.CC.

Father William "Bill" Petrie is a priest with the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary – the same order as St. Damien. Inspired by the life of St. Damien, Father Bill worked 25 years in India with Saint Teresa of Calcutta, helping the poorest of the poor and many who were afflicted with Hansen's disease. Father Bill has served as Pastor of St. Damien Church on Moloka'i and supports Catholic ministry to the last Hansen's disease patients in Hawai'i. Father Bill has been a professed member of the Congregation for 62 years.



Background Information

About the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus

The Military and Hospitaller Order of St. Lazarus of Jerusalem is an order of Christian chivalry composed of men and women, lay and clergy, from North and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa, Australia, and New Zealand. Founded in 1098 by Hospitaller Knights in the Holy Land, it was the only chivalric order organized to care for the needs of “lepers,” those afflicted with Hansen’s Disease, which plagued civilization for centuries.

Today, well into its tenth century, the Order of St. Lazarus remains actively engaged in service to humanity throughout the world, keeping faith with traditions dating back to the Crusades. While continuing our fight against leprosy (Hansen’s disease) in many countries including the United States, members support a variety of other causes ranging from providing relief following natural disasters to promoting organ transplantation efforts, as well as organ and tissue donation awareness and registration.

About World Leprosy Day

World Leprosy Day is observed every year on the last Sunday of January. Leprosy, also known as Hansen’s Disease, is a neglected tropical disease (NTD) which still occurs in more than 120 countries, with more than 200,000 new cases reported every year.

The aim of observing the World Leprosy Day is to create and promote awareness against the stigma attached to the disease, by making the general public aware that it is a disease spread by a type of bacteria and it can be easily cured.

About the Light of Lazarus Around the World Candle-lighting Ceremony

Over the past few years, the Cadre of Hawaii has spearheaded an initiative called “Light of Lazarus Around the World” to acknowledge the living and dead victims of Hansen’s Disease, and to encircle the globe with prayer via a candle-light vigil in places around the world. This light of St. Lazarus will encircle the globe as a sign of our love and unity, and to promote awareness of Hansen’s Disease. Our candle-lighting ceremony will be live-streamed online and conducted in tandem with other jurisdictions of the Order of Saint Lazarus around the world.

Aid Given to Hospital in Tanzania



Mande Muyombo
Bishop

The United Methodist Church

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December 6, 2024

Chev. John Byrnes
Grand Prior, Order of St. Lazarus
grandprior@st-lazarus.us

Gratitude for Support of St. Lazarus United Methodist Hospital

Chev. Byrnes,

Thank you so much for your generous support of the St. Lazarus United Methodist Hospital in Mwanza, Tanzania. Our health ministries team, led by Dr. Bahati Faustine, has been working hard this year to complete the construction stage and submit all the necessary paperwork to register this new center with the Tanzanian health authorities.

I am told that some of the govt. officials who must give the go ahead have visited the center recently, so we are now waiting on their approvals for the next stage of the process. The Tanzanian government administrative process can be very slow; we have experienced this in our other ministries, such as education and humanitarian assistance to refugees. I will be in Dar-es-Salam this month, and I will do all that is within my power to encourage the expediting of the permits needed for us to begin accepting patients at the center.

Thank you for your patience, your prayers, and your continued support.

Wishing you a peace-filled Advent season,



The Rev. Dr. Mande Muyombo
Resident Bishop and Legal Representative
North Katanga-Tanganyika-Tanzania Episcopal Area
The United Methodist Church

Reminder:

Have you given your oblation?



Scan to Give Here

A member's annual dues are called his "oblation". The amount of dues is determined by the member's rank in the Order. The dues statements are mailed by the Grand Prioral Receiver annually calling for payment by St. Lazarus Day, December 17th.

or [Click Here.](#)



REMEMBER...

THE MILITARY AND HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM
GRAND PRIORAL COUNCIL 2025

SAN ANTONIO



OCTOBER 30 – NOVEMBER 2, 2025

Check st-lazarus.us for more informaton as it becomes available.



GRAND PRIORAL COUNCIL 2024 · NEWPORT BEACH, CA



THE MILITARY & HOSPITALLER ORDER OF ST. LAZARUS OF JERUSALEM

SIEMPRE ADELANTE!

ALWAYS FORWARD!





SCENES FROM THE RECEPTION AT THE 2024 GRAND PRIORAL COUNCIL



LAZARUS



An Evening Prayer for Members of The Order of St. Lazarus

Lord, you who are the friend of all humanity were an intimate friend of Lazarus and his sisters. His death brought tears to your eyes, and power to your voice so that you called him forth in life from the bonds of death. Lord, may you who are our life now renew us in the power of your spirit to be concerned with the lives and needs of others so that one day we may all share eternal life with you in your heavenly kingdom. Amen.