



6,000 COATS FOR THE HOMELESS DISTRIBUTED ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Thanks to our Members, volunteers and donors, 6,000 Coats for the Homeless are being distributed across Australia to rough sleepers.

To everyone who has contributed to this project – **THANK YOU!**

We wanted to share some images from the distribution and messages of thanks we have received, full reports will be available at www.orderofmalta.org.au



MESSAGES OF THANKS

Many thanks for these wonderful coats.

The members of our community who are doing it tough and living on the street have found them absolutely fabulous.

We have a lot of fun when they try them on with them showing off as though they are on the catwalk. One woman who came to our crisis house had only a cardigan and now she is as warm as toast and really loving her jacket with a spring in her step.

They are all so grateful for your amazing generosity and they have all asked me to pass on their heartfelt thanks. You now have an extra 96 supporters.

Thanks again - so much appreciated.

Best wishes from all at **Cana Communities**

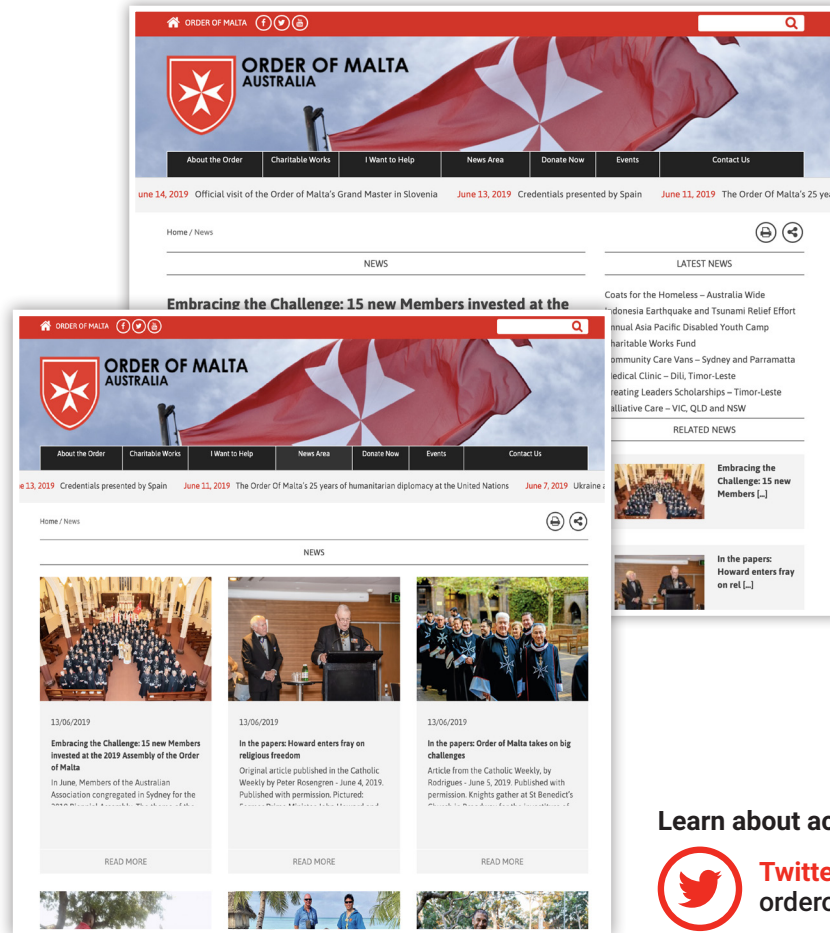
(organisation that runs homeless shelters, support and respite services)

Just a note to say a very big thank you for the wonderful donation of those great winter coats. Many of our women sleep rough or in poor conditions and those coats are not only warm but provide a boost to their self-esteem.

Thank you again for thinking of **Lou's Place**

(a community-based refuge for women in crisis, homeless, feeling isolated or needing support).

FOR MORE ORDER OF MALTA NEWS VISIT WWW.ORDEROFMALTA.ORG.AU



Learn about activities as they happen. Follow us:

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Facebook: [@orderofmalta.org.au](https://www.facebook.com/orderofmalta.org.au)

- ✱ Young Order of Malta Volunteers return to their Pacific roots
- ✱ Lunchbox Project welcomes guests, including youngest volunteer in Order of Malta Korea's history
- ✱ A family affair – three generations assist at Bread for the Weekend
- ✱ 'Working Bee' volunteers assemble 840 hygiene packs for the homeless
- ✱ XXVII International Hospitaliers Conference in Rome
- ✱ Eight years of war in Syria: 'The scale of human suffering cannot be expressed in numbers'
- ✱ Gallery: Annual Day of Retreat Victoria
- ✱ Gallery: Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception's Annual February Retreat in Victoria
- ✱ Member takes the Promise of Obedience at Subpriory Annual Retreat
- ✱ Bringing Lourdes to Aged Care Centres in Victoria
- ✱ Members attend book launch of PORTRAITS Popes, Family and Friends
- ✱ Gallery: Lourdes Day Mass Adelaide 2019



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EMBRACING THE CHALLENGE: 15 NEW MEMBERS INVESTED AT THE 2019 ASSEMBLY OF THE ORDER OF MALTA

In June, Members of the Australian Association congregated in Sydney for the 2019 Biennial Assembly.

The theme of the Assembly was 'Embracing the Challenge' and the guest speakers at the conference presented compelling and thought provoking insights about challenges facing the Catholic church today.

"The Biennial Assembly is the only opportunity for us to congregate en-masse and discuss the affairs of the Order but more importantly to meet old friends face to face, make new ones; to welcome our new Members into the Order and most importantly to gain spiritual enrichment and inspiration from each other"

Dr Ian Marshall,
President of the Australian Association

His Grace Archbishop Fisher provided the opening address and was followed

by Dr. Trudy Dantis, Director of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference National Centre for Pastoral Research, who provided insights into the changing demographic of the family in Australia today and what that means for the Catholic Faith. Senator Amanda Stoker, a Liberal member of the Australian Senate representing Queensland, continued on theme with a discussion on today's challenges for the family in Australia.

"Making the case for the importance of fundamental freedoms – freedom of thought, conscience, belief, freedom of association and freedom of speech – has never been harder. And each underpins the social political causes that are important to this room, such as religious liberty and respect for life."

Senator Amanda Stoker



NEW PROJECT PROVIDES SHOES TO 15,000 DISADVANTAGED ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN THE PHILIPPINES

A new project by the Order of Malta Philippines has provided 15,000 shoes to disadvantaged adults and children. Many of the recipients have never had a shoe.

There are many diseases contracted and spread due to bare feet, especially for those who commonly walk and run in the water. The most prevalent among them are soil-transmitted helminth, hookworms and schistosomiasis.

Not only do the shoes prevent the spread of disease, they provide the owner with dignity and opportunities to participate in work and other activities that may not of

previously been possible. For the children, it gives them the ability to attend schools and change their lives for the better.

Beneficiaries have included, Haven for Children, a national centre for street children aged 7 – 13, recovering from substance abuse, Elsie Gaches in Alabang for people with disabilities and Heaven National Centre for Women.

The project would not have been possible without the generous support of Vans Philippines who donated the shoes and our Order of Malta Members and volunteers who ensure each recipient is



correctly fitted. With 15,000 shoes to fit this can take quite some time but the smile on the recipients faces makes it worth it!



The Order of Malta (ABN 37 142 209 121) is a Public Benevolent institution and is endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as Deductible Gift Recipient.
Licence : SA - CCP3236, WA - 21310

✱ SAVE THE DATE ✱

17 AUGUST:
Lourdes Day Mass, Saint Paschal's Wavell Heights, Brisbane at 10am

23 - 26 OCTOBER:
Asia Pacific Camp for Youth with Disabilities - Hong Kong

21 - 24 NOVEMBER:
Asia Pacific Conference in Melbourne

7 DECEMBER:
Lourdes Day Mass at St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney at 10am

7 DECEMBER:
Lourdes Day Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne at 10.30am

7 DECEMBER:
Lourdes Experience in Singapore

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The Hon Greg Smith SC, former Attorney General in NSW and Judge Dyson Heydon covered threats to religious Liberty and the need for legal protection for religious freedom respectively. The final session for the opening day featured Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald who served on the Royal Commission into the Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. His reflections on this Commission was extremely powerful and Bishop Vincent Long, Bishop of Parramatta, also spoke on the response of the Church in the aftermath of the Royal Commissions findings and both speakers answered questions from the assembly attendees in an open forum.

The opening day of the Assembly closed with a Vigil Ceremony at St. Mary's Cathedral followed by a welcome dinner for attendees at the Royal Sydney Golf Club.

The second day of the Assembly, featured talks from Members of the Order, providing updates and reports on internal activities, charitable works, volunteering activities and Ambassador reports. Guest speaker Monica Doumit, Director of Public Affairs and Engagement from the Archdiocese of Sydney spoke on increasing the role of women in the Church, and members of the Order, Francine and Byron Pirola, who are also Directors of the Marriage Resource Centre addressed the assembly on 'Defending the things that matter'.

The conference segment of the assembly was wrapped up by Damian Wyld, the

Order's Hospitaller to South Australia and the former CEO of Marriage Alliance. His session focused on 'where to from here for our Order' and discussed practical and effective responses to key issues that emerged from the presentations.

Delegates then attended an investiture ceremony at St Benedict's, Broadway, with His Grace Archbishop Fisher as the principal celebrant. 15 new Members were invested and Confrere Justin Harkiewicz took the Promise of Obedience to become a member of the Subpriory of the Immaculate Conception.


A formal dinner followed with the Hon John Howard OM AC, former Prime Minister made an after dinner address. He spoke about religious freedom in Australia and discussed implications of attempts to remove current exemptions in anti-discrimination to religious schools and also questioned the right of businesses to make a person's religious beliefs subject to an employment contract. He was hopeful the new Morrison government would act to protect religious freedoms and that this would receive bipartisan support.

"If parents send their children to denominational schools because they want a Catholic education, or a Jewish education, or an Anglican education then they are entitled to have that delivered – it's as simple as that and I think that's a proposition that most people support."

**Hon John Howard
OM AC, former Prime Minister**

The Assembly concluded on Sunday with Mass at St. Mary's Cathedral with Auxiliary Bishop Anthony Randazzo as principal celebrant and concelebrants being the Order's chaplains.




Picture galleries, further reports and videos from the 2019 Assembly are available at www.orderofmalta.org.au



Dominique Prince de La Rochefoucauld-Montbel and János Count Esterhazy de Galantha have been confirmed as Grand Hospitaller and Receiver of the Common Treasure, respectively.

 **A full report is available at www.orderofmalta.org.au**

61ST INTERNATIONAL LOURDES PILGRIMAGE OF THE ORDER OF MALTA



Led by the Grand Master, Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, members, volunteers and assisted persons from 45 countries on the five continents participated to the 2019 International Lourdes pilgrimage of the Order of Malta.

Like every year on the first weekend in May, some 7,400 people, including over 1,300 malades, peacefully invaded the Marian sanctuary on the foothills of the Pyrenees for the most important of the Order's pilgrimages.

The Australian delegation consisted of 11 pilgrims from Australia and 10 from Korea. Together with the Hong Kong Association, they continued our now traditional collaboration with the Irish Association providing volunteers to accompany their Malades. This year there were 45 Irish Malades warded at Saint Claire's in Accueil Notre Dame. 25 lower dependency Irish Malades were accommodated at Hotel Roissy.



"This was my second pilgrimage to Lourdes and I again was privileged to have a unique opportunity to fully experience the charism of our Order, service to the sick and the poor, while joining together with Members of the Order from across the globe in an international community of service and faith."

I learned firsthand what belonging to the Order of Malta really means – devotion, service, and fellowship. Linked as it is with hands-on service, the pilgrimage offers a unique spiritual experience where we come into close contact with Our Lady. Personally, I felt very close to my late wife Terry, especially at the Grotto, the Crypt and in the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception."

Pilgrims, together with Malades, experience interior miracles—people who are ill, even dying, are able to leave Lourdes with an inner peace they did not before experience."

"Anyone who drinks the water that I shall give will never thirst again: the water that I shall give will turn into a spring within them, welling up to eternal life."- John 4:14."

**David Blackwell,
Member of the Order of Malta
Australia**

Each saw several thousand participants in a gentle, harmonious outpouring of faith. Our own Grotto Mass, heard under umbrellas on a wet two-degree morning, was magnificent.


Visit www.orderofmalta.org.au to see picture galleries, videos and further pilgrim reflections from the 2019 pilgrimage.

8 PARTICIPANTS CONFIRMED FOR TEAM AUSTRALIA AT THE 2019 ASIA PACIFIC CAMP FOR DISABLED YOUTH

For the 2019 Asia Pacific Camp, over 50 young people with disabilities and 100 carers and volunteers will come together in Hong Kong in October for a once in a lifetime week of fun, friendship and adventure.

Guests from all around the Asia Pacific region, including Australia, Philippines, Thailand, Hong Kong and Singapore will take part.

So far, 'Team Australia' have eight participants confirmed, who will each be accompanied by a carer. Six volunteers from Australia will also be attending the camp.

"I've never been on holiday without my family. It felt great knowing I can be independent and be among others my age!"
Wai Yin – Guest at 2018 Camp

Although this will be the third Asia Pacific Camp, the Order of Malta has been holding summer camps for disabled youth aged between 18 to 30 for over 30 years. The goals of the camps are to forge a sense of community, promote cultural exchange and help young people to overcome personal barriers.

In 2020 it will be Australia's turn to host the camp. The host country provides accommodation, meals and activities for



the participants, carers and volunteers for the four day camp. This project is funded entirely by donations.

Donations in support of the 2020 Asia Pacific Camp for Disabled Youth in Australia are tax deductible. See page 5 for details.

I WANT TO HELP



You can make a donation by completing this form and returning it in the reply paid envelope provided.

☐ I am happy for the Order to allocate my donation to where the need is greatest; or

I would like to support:

☐ Coats for the Homeless

☐ Camp for Disabled Youth (Australia 2020)

☐ Community Care Vans

REMEMBER, GIFTS OF \$2 AND OVER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

☐ Send me information about leaving the Order a bequest

☐ Please remove me from your mailing list.

Donations will be allocated to projects as requested by the donor. However if the needs of a project have already been met, we will allocate funds to another Order of Malta charitable activity.

Name

Address

State Postcode Telephone

Please find enclosed a Cheque/ Money Order

(payable to 'The Order of Malta') for \$ or;

Please debit my credit card the amount of \$

Frequency ☐ Once only ☐ Monthly Card Type ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard

Credit Card Number

Expiry Date Cardholder name

Signature