

## FRA' MARCO LUZZAGO ELECTED LIEUTENANT OF GRAND MASTER OF SOVEREIGN ORDER OF MALTA



Fra' Marco Luzzago has been elected with a large majority Lieutenant of the Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta. The Council Complete of State, the electoral body, met on 7 and 8 November in the Magistral Villa in Rome, one of the Order of Malta's two institutional seats. All phases of the election were carried out in full compliance with anti-COVID-19 measures.

There were 44 participants at the Council Complete of State out of the 56 entitled to vote. They came to Rome from Argentina, Peru, the United States, Lebanon, France, Sweden, Austria, Germany, Holland, Spain, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Malta and Italy.

Fra' Marco Luzzago succeeds Fra' Giacomo Dalla Torre del Tempio di Sanguinetto, Prince and 80th Grand Master, who died on 29 April last.

Pope Francis was informed of the election by letter. Subsequently all the Order of Malta's Grand Pories, Subpories and National Associations worldwide were informed, together with the 110 states with which the Sovereign Order of Malta entertains diplomatic relations.

The Lieutenant of the Grand Master – who will remain in office for one year – when addressing the members of the Council Complete said, “the Holy Spirit has graciously turned his gaze to me. I thank each one of you for placing your trust in me and for showing by your presence here today a great love and a great dedication to our Order. For my part, I can only assure you of my maximum commitment to address the challenges that lie ahead of us in the coming months. First of all, the reform of the Constitutional Charter and the Code carried on with such fervour by our late Fra' Giacomo, whom at this moment I remember with emotion.”

Visit [orderofmalta.org.au](https://orderofmalta.org.au) for the profile of the Lieutenant and similar articles including:

Archbishop Silvano Tomasi appointed new Special Delegate to the Sovereign Order of Malta

Welcoming new Magistral Chaplains Fr Josh Scott and Fr Paul Nulley

## INAUGURAL ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

To mark the end of a tumultuous year, and the dawn of new beginnings, the members, volunteers, family and friends of the South Eastern Region were invited to attend our inaugural Advent Carols Service that was held on Thursday 17th December at 7pm, in St Peter's Catholic Church, Toorak.

The Carols Service reflected the Advent season's growing anticipation for both the first coming of Christ and of that Day when the prayer “Thy Kingdom come” is finally and fully answered.

Victorian Government COVID-19 restrictions meant St. Peter's Church could only accommodate a congregation of up to 90 people. However, in the future the carol service intends to welcome greater numbers.

One of our Chaplains, the Very Rev Joe Caddy AM presided over the service and Dr Brianna Chesser, who is undertaking her year of preparation to join the Order, led the singing. Brianna has been a Cantor at St Patrick's Cathedral since 2009 and a



member of the Music Ministry team at her parish, St John's in Heidelberg.

The Service was supported by Mr Daniel Brace, Organist and Music Director at St. Peter's, Toorak.

The carol service will become an annual event in the Order's calendar.

Members, candidates, volunteers and family from across Australia also participated in special “Rosary and Carols” Zoom on Christmas Eve.

Learn more about upcoming events at [orderofmalta.org.au](https://orderofmalta.org.au)



## 'FRANCISCO'S NEIGHBOURS': NEW PROJECT ADDRESSING URBAN POVERTY IN KOREA

Members and volunteers of the Order of Malta Korea are continuing their work to address urban poverty in Korea. The most recent initiative has commenced operation in the Changsin-dong and Soongin-dong areas, both known to have poor living conditions and no aid or support from any other organisations.

There are about 700 small-sized sewing factories in Changshin-dong and Soongin-dong, producing goods for the clothing shops in Dongdaemun. The town is on the

slope of steep hills and is severely underdeveloped compared to other residential towns in Seoul and is home to many low-wage workers.

The centre, called 'Francisco's Neighbours', was inspired by the Holy Father Pope Francis' countless remarks on serving and loving our neighbours and the Order of Malta Korea intends to assist the most marginalised households located in the area.

Whilst the premises were being renovated, members and volunteers of the Order began to provide fruit deliveries as part of a weekly service to those in need in the district.

The centre's renovations finished in November and the premises were consecrated by H.E. Cardinal Andrew Yeom. When COVID-19 restrictions allow, the centre will expand to provide cooked foods and laundry services to those in need.

Learn about activities as they happen. Follow us:



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AUSTRALIA

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## LOURDES DAY MASS 2020 BRINGING LOURDES TO AUSTRALIA

Whilst COVID-19 has resulted in the cancellation of Lourdes Day Masses around the country, the mass at St Mary's Cathedral in Sydney, held on the first Saturday in December each year, was able to go ahead but with capacity restrictions. Thankfully a livestream of the celebration meant thousands of others across the country joined Archbishop Fisher and the congregation of 150, including 35 malades and 60 members and volunteers of the Order of Malta.

One of the attendees remarked: “It was a truly happy occasion. Looking at so many smiling faces after such a tough year really lifted my spirits. Archbishop Fisher's offering of the Mass, his moving homily, his blessing of the sick and his generous and kind presence amongst us after Mass was greatly appreciated.”



A recording of the Sydney Lourdes Day Mass is available at [orderofmalta.org.au](https://orderofmalta.org.au)



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ORDER OF MALTA  
AUSTRALIA

FEBRUARY 2021  
NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE - PROJECT UPDATES / UPCOMING EVENTS / LATEST NEWS



## COMMUNITY CARE VAN LAUNCHES IN VICTORIA TO EXPAND WORK WITH THE HOMELESS

Members and volunteers of the Order of Malta in Victoria will now be able to expand their activities in the region thanks to a new Community Care Van.

The Order of Malta is active in assisting the homeless in Melbourne by distributing Coats for the Homeless and COVID-19 care packs. The new van will support this activity by providing safe transport for members and volunteers and increase the coats, care packs and medical supplies that can be transported for each outreach activity.

The van will also allow the Order of Malta to expand the geographic distribution of services and the frequency. Historically the Order of Malta in Victoria have worked with the Vinnies food van to provide its outreach services. The van will enable

members and volunteers to expand its own service, therefore providing more opportunities for them to work 'hands on' with the homeless, outside of the Vinnies food van schedule.

The Community Care van was purchased thanks to a grant from the Fra' Richard Divall estate.

Order of Malta Community Care Vans already operate in Sydney CBD and Parramatta, and will soon operate one in Canberra. In addition to the distribution of Coats for the Homeless, COVID-19 care packs and sun protection, a nurse is also present to provide advice and medical assistance. Plans for a fifth van to commence operation in Queensland are also underway.

Please consider a donation to support the work of our Community Care Vans. Donations can be made on page 5.



## ASIA PACIFIC YOUTH CAMP 2021 REMOVING BARRIERS FOR DISABLED YOUTH

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas appeal for the 2021 Youth Camp on the Gold Coast in September. We can report that, at the time of going to print, we have raised \$130,000 – a fantastic result!

As hosts we need to raise \$250,000 for the accommodation, meals and activities for the 150 participants over 5 days.

Activities at the 2021 Youth Camp include:

- \* An Outback Experience
- \* Visit to a theme park
- \* The Christopher Cup (a croquet competition that is a camp tradition across the world)
- \* Nightly discos
- \* And much more (we are trying to keep some surprises!)

If you would like to make a tax-deductible donation to this project, you can do so on page 5.



ONE YEAR ON:
SUPPORT TO
BUSHFIRE
VICTIMS
CONTINUES



CONJOLA RESIDENTS GATHER
TO COMMEMORATE FIRST-
YEAR ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday 2 January residents of
Conjolo gathered to commemorate
the first-year anniversary of the
devastating fires that impacted them
on the property of Frank and Lynne
Condello.

The Condellos' property was destroyed
by the fires. They are currently living in a
caravan and a 'pod' (fitted out shipping
container) on their property while they are
waiting to rebuild.

A number of speakers told their stories
of that day one year ago. People spoke of
their terror and how decisions made in the
blink of an eye saved their lives. Others told
stories of neighbours who made wrong
decisions and paid for it with their lives.

Representatives of the local branch of the
Red Cross were there too and told of their
experiences at the community civic centre
and member of the Order of Malta, Frank
Testa, who has been leading our bushfire
recovery activities, was also present.

Snacks and drinks were shared and
everyone toasted the new year.

MEN'S BBQ IN MILTON
GIVES BUSHFIRE SURVIVORS
AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK
AND HEAL

In December, members of the Order of
Malta visited the South Coast to host a
BBQ for bushfire survivors. Despite the
40-degree heat, 28 guests attended the
BBQ at Mick Ryan Park in Milton,
many of whom had lost their homes in

the fires last summer and have had to
continue to struggle through this year
with the trials of COVID.



The Bawley Point Rural Bushfire Service
also attended, and squad commander Bob
addressed the group about his personal
experiences and how last summer's fires
personally affected him and his mental
health. He spoke passionately about how
it is important to talk about your feelings
and experiences and allow yourself to
be vulnerable. His message resonated
throughout the group and encouraged
others to address the group of their feelings
and where they are at in their mental
journey of recovery.

"The idea of the BBQ was to reach people
that may not necessarily visit the Story
Telling and Healing Space in Milton"
explained Frank Testa, Bushfire Relief Co-
ordinator for the Order of Malta. "It was a
magnificent opportunity for the men to sit
around and chat and share their stories. I
was told by one man that 'this is the first
time that I have really spoken about how I
felt about it all'".



STORY TELLING AND HEALING
SPACE OPENS TO ASSIST
BUSHFIRE VICTIMS

'Rising from the Ashes' is a community
group based in Milton, NSW. Its aim
is to support and help the community
after the challenges of fire, floods
and COVID-19. The Story Telling and
Healing Space aims to bring together
those who have been impacted to
share their stories and help them heal.
The Centre offers free workshops to
create inspiration, hope and resilience,
and to encourage people to explore
their stories in a creative space.

This service was officially launched on
7 November 2020. Fr Michael Dyer from
the Milton Catholic Parish and foundation
member of the project addressed the
audience, referencing Pope Francis'
new encyclical letter, and expressing his
appreciation to the Order of Malta for
making this project possible. Representing
the Order of Malta, Dr Steve Christie wanted
to "thank the committee for giving us the
opportunity to serve those in need as in
doing so we serve our Lord Jesus Christ".

Whilst the official opening was in
November, the Centre has been open
operating since the beginning of October.
Volunteers, including members of the
Order, are trained to listen to those
touched by traumatic events. The Story
Telling and Healing Space at 23, Wason
Street, Milton provides a welcoming and
safe environment for anyone afflicted by
the New Year's Eve bushfires and other
traumas.

In addition to these activities, members of
the Order of Malta continue to regularly visit
bushfire victims in Batemans Bay, Moruya
and Mogo to provide friendship
and support.

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If you would like to make a donation to
our Natural Disaster Fund, you can
do so on page 5.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR MORE NEWS:
orderofmalta.org.au

- \* VIDEO: The Order of Malta's
most significant moments
of 2020
\* The First Baby of Christmas
in Bethlehem 2020
\* NER Advent Mass and
Dinner 2020
\* Order of Malta Thailand
Vehicle to serve the Elderly
and the Sick
\* Malteser International bids
farewell to Secretary General
Ingo Radtke

AUSTRALIAN
MEMBERS
HONoured



Congratulations to the members of
the Australian Association who have
recently been honoured:

Professor Edward Byrne,
Principal of King's College London, who
was awarded a Knighthood in the Queen's
Birthday Honours.

Greg Crafter AO,
who was appointed by Pope Francis as a
Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great.

Richard Haddock AM (above)
was honoured by Pope Francis for his
contributions to the Church. Richard
was promoted to Knight Commander
of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great.
Archbishop Fisher invested him in a
small ceremony in the Chapter Hall at
Saint Mary's.

Dr Tracey Rowland (above)
has won the prestigious Ratzinger Prize,
often referred to as the "Nobel Prize of
theology". Dr Rowland, who is a professor
at the University of Notre Dame Australia,
is the first Australian and only the third
woman to receive the award.

Paul Zammit OAM
who was awarded the Medal of the Order of
Australia for service to the parliaments of
Australia and New South Wales, and to the
community.

ORDER OF MALTA
VOLUNTEERS:
CARING FOR PEOPLE IN
NEED - TOGETHER



Anna (bottom, far right) at the 2019 Asia Pacific Youth Camp

Order of Malta Volunteers (OMV) is
a group for volunteers and young
members between the age of 18
and 35 participating in the works of
the Order.

OMV care for people in need and work
both in local regions and nationally with
members of the Association on existing
projects, creating their own projects as
well as involvement in activities to share
and develop their Catholic faith.

- \* To give young Australians
the opportunity to care
for others and assist the
organising of activities true
to the traditions of the Order.
\* Expand current and future
works of the Order
\* To creative an environment
for Christian fellowship for
young members
\* To identify and nurture future
Candidates for the Order

Visit orderofmalta.org.au
to learn more about becoming
an Order of Malta Volunteer

VOLUNTEER PROFILE:
ANNA FROM SYDNEY:

"Volunteering for the Order of Malta,
I feel a sense of belonging, service and
a commitment to people in need.

I've made many friendships with a
diversified community. Many of these
friendships were formed whilst I
attended the 2019 Asia Pacific Camp
in Hong Kong. The camp for me was
life changing in so many ways, from
forming friendships with people from
Asia Pacific countries to being able to
learn and take life lessons away from my
experiences at the camp.

This has allowed me to see the
challenges and the joys in life that
perhaps I may not have otherwise
encountered. This has been the case
especially whilst volunteering in a
number of events such as the World Day
of the Poor Mass which was held at St
Aloysius Cronulla, participating in the
annual Lourdes Day Mass at St Mary's
Cathedral and being asked to be a co-
leader for the NSW and ACT Order of
Malta Volunteers.

Above all, I have had the opportunity
to help those in need which is a true
encounter which I have always wished to
experience in my faith life."



"STRETCH OUT
YOUR HAND TO
THE POOR"
4TH WORLD DAY
OF THE POOR

In November 2020, members and
volunteers of the Order of Malta
in Australia marked World Day of
the Poor.

World Day of the Poor was established by
Pope Francis in 2017 and is celebrated
in November each year. In announcing

the theme for 2020, "Stretch forth your
hand to the poor" (Sir 7:32), Pope Francis
concluded by reminding us that "In this
journey of daily encounter with the poor,
the Mother of God is ever at our side.
More than any other, she is the Mother
of the Poor." Given the Order of Malta's
dedication to the poor and our Lady, this
speaks to us directly.

To acknowledge this special day,
members and volunteers of the Order
of Malta across Australia participated in
both organised activities and
personal acts.

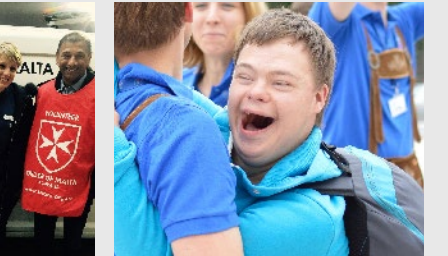
With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions
in Melbourne, members and volunteers
distributed COVID-19 care packs
directly to the homeless and through the
Missionary Sisters of Charity. They also
shared breakfast and warm coffee served
with homeless in the city of Melbourne
who were delighted to be greeted early
Sunday with a smile.

In Brisbane, members, candidates and
volunteers shared personal care packs
and solidarity with many friends from the
Emmanuel City Mission. During friendly
conversations, attendees expressed

appreciation for the thoughtful care packs
and "early Christmas" sweets.

In Sydney, Magistral Chaplain, Father
James McCarthy, offered Mass at his
Parish, St Aloysius in Cronulla. After Mass,
the Order of Malta Volunteers hosted a
BBQ next to our Order of Malta marque,
where parishioners were invited to join
our members and volunteers to learn
about our activities to assist those in
greatest need.

In the Northern Territory members and
volunteers packed 100 hygiene bags for
the homeless in preparation for World Day
of the Poor and connected with St Vincent
de Paul to distribute the packs to the
homeless who visit Ozanam House.



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:
Community Care Vans
Coats for the Homeless
Natural Disaster Fund
2021 Asia Pacific Youth Camp

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.

Form fields for Name, Address, State, Postcode, Telephone, Frequency, Card Type, Credit Card Number, Expiry Date, Cardholder name, and Signature.