### ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



# CONSTANTINIAN NEWS

No. 2 / 2015

### IN MEMORIAM

Give rest, O Lord, to the souls of Thy departed servants

### **GOCM**

Bror Ole Wasz-Höckert

Exarchate of Finland 1918 – 2015

### **KCCM**

Teppo Korte

Exarchate of Finland 1919 – 2015

Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who lives.



## Chancellor's Christmas Regards

### Dear Chevaliers

I am writing this column on December 6th, 2015, Finland's Independence day. This day makes me think the present situation in the world. Although we have some economical troubles in our country, we still live in a stable society and our problems are nothing compared to many other areas in the world. I believe, that we have now unbelievable difficulties to organize the invasion of refugees to European countries. The circumstances in those areas from which these people are coming from must be horrible. Still ongoing war in Syria, unstable governments in other countries in Near East etc insult that so many people are trying to find better possibilities to live. This is the truth, but what can we, as members of an Order, to do. During several years we have donated 20.000 euros to the Patriarchate of Alexandria in order to help the education program in Africa, especially teach children to read. This year the government of the OCM decided to donate 8000 euros to Pakistan in order to support a moving health care center. These donations are of course only a drop in the sea. However, we have to remember, that the most important topics in helping developing countries are to create educational level in a country and help to organize health programs in order to reach all inviduals in the country. Our activity is, let us hope, a good example for other organizations to make their charity work.

We must believe that it is possible to find solutions to the problems in many countries. I hope, that all members of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni will support the charity work, which our Order will do.

I wish to all Chevaliers and their families a Peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Toivo Salmi Chancellor of OCM

## His Serene Highness Friedrich, Duke and Prince of Beaufort-Spontin and his wife, Lady Eleonora visit the Exarchate of the U.S.A.



The Master entering the formal Ceremonies.

The Master and his wife, Lady Eleonora arrived in the United States on July 16 and departed on Thursday 16 July 2015 to attend the Exarchate of the USA's annual Investiture on Saturday, 18 July 2015 and then returned to Europe on Monday, 20 July 2015. During their stay, the Exarch Orfeo Trombetta, Jr., KCCM and Vice-Exarch Wulf Lindenau, KCCM, of the USA arranged for private tours of the US Capitol, the National Gallery of Art, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception and the Austrian Mariazell Chapel, the Shrine of Saint John Paul II, the Arlington National Cemetery and the Tomb of the Unknowns, and the US Marine Corps Iwo Jima Memorial.

At 6 PM, 61 members and guests of the Exarchate of the U.S. gathered in the John Paul Jones Room of the Army and Navy Club to commence the formal ceremonies of the Investiture and presentation of awards and decorations by the Master and by the newly invested Exarch of the U.S.A. These events began with the entrance of the persons to be promoted, decorated, and knighted by the Master.

The Exarch-elect and the Master of the Order entered the room and took their respective positions. The Exarch-elect presented himself to the Master to recite his Vow to support the Master and the Constitution of the Order. The Master presented the new Exarch of the United States of



The Master receives the Exarch's Vow.



The Master congratulates the Exarch.



The Exarchof the USA presents the Distinguished Service Medal to the Master.

America with his badge of office and congratulated him for assuming this position within the Order.

The next order of business was the promotion by the Master of former Exarch Andrew Johnson to General Officer of the Order (GOCM). The Exarch then requested that the Master come forward and presented the Master with the Exarchate's highest award, the Distinguished Service Medal, for his continued support and guidance to the Exarchate of the USA.

Three new members were then invested into the Order by the Master and the Exarch. They are Lady Tatiana Gfoeller, DCM, Chevalier John Grewelle, KCM, and Chevalier Max Lederer, KCM.

After the Investiture, the Master and his wife, the Exarch and his wife, and the Vice-Exarch and his daughter, and the members of the Exarchate of the USA moved to the Main Ballroom of the Army and Navy Club to be seated for a formal Black Tie Dinner. The Ballroom quickly fills up as the 61 members and



The Exarch, Master, and Vice-Exarch pose in front of the newly acquired OCM Banner for a formal portrait.

their guests begin to find their appropriate tables and await the call to be seated.

The dinner began by saluting the Master and the International Order with appropriate toasts and greetings.

Our distinguished Master and his wife were serenaded by the world-renowned Strolling Strings during a fabulous multi-course dinner. The event concluded with the Master and Lady Eleonora being presented with gifts by the Exarch and his wife, Lady Elizabeth to commem-orate their trip to the USA.

The visit of the Master and his wife Eleonora provided a wonderful experience to learn first-hand about the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni and to learn especially about the values and concerns of the Master, to whom we owe all of this. The Exarchate of the USA graciously thanks the Master and Lady Eleonora for the wonderful and unique opportunity of getting to spend quality time with them to include most assuredly gleaning valuable insights of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni.

Exarchate of the United States of America

## The Orthodox Academy of Crete



When spending two weeks of vacation on the isle of Crete in May 2015 I seized the opportunity to visit the Orthodox Academy of Crete. The Orthodox Academy is located 30 km westerly from the town of Chania on the isle of Crete and is closely connected to the Monastery of Our Lady Gonia. Both the monastery and the academy have an excellent location overlooking the Gulf of Chania.

The Orthodox Academy was founded in 1968 by His Eminence Eirinaios, former Metropolitan of the Diocese of Kissamos and Selynon and longstanding honorary member and prelate of the Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni, who passed away at the age of 102 years in 2013. The academy is an ecclesiastical foundation exercising the dialogical witnessing and the liturgical diaconia of Ortho-

doxy. It observes canonical reference to the Holy Metropolis of Kissamos and Selynon and operates under the spiritual auspices of the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople.

The Orthodox Academy organizes conferences and other activities in the field of an intern-Orthodox, ecumenical, interfaith, intercultural and interscientific level. Since its foundation in 1968 the academy has organized or hosted more than 2000 conferences, more than 50% on an international level.

Why I report on this visit? Today there are only a few members of the OCM, who may remember that our Order contributed a good share to the foundation of the academy. In the 1960ies all members of the OCM participated in gathering a donation of 70.000 DM for the Orthodox Academy of Crete. In 1987 an international convention of the OCM took place on the isle of Crete and the participants of the meeting had the opportunity to visit the impressing academy building at the coast of the Mediterranian Sea. Shouldn't it be an good idea after almost 50 years to think about a valuable charity program all Constantinian dames and knights unanimously good be committed themselves to join?

Jürgen Schumacher

# His Beatitude Theodoros II's Birthday event 25.11.2015 in Alexandria



Liturgy in the Patriarchic Church of St Savas



Exarch Haramis, HB the Patriarch and Honorary Knightcommander HE Metropolitan of Kenya, Makarios

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### Prot. No. 183/2015

Your Serene Highness Friedrich Duke and Prince of Beaufort-Spontin, Master of the Order of St. Constantine the Great,

This our Patriarchal Letter serves to brief you that we would like Professor George Haramis, Grand Archon and Grand Cross of the Patriarchate of Alexandria and All Africa, to represent us at the Order of St. Constantine the Great.

May the grace of God and His infinite mercy, as well as our love, be with Your Highness.

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### **†THEODOROS II**

Pope and Patriarch of Alexandria and all Africa

Alexandria, December 1st, 2015

# The meeting and Investiture of the Bailiwick of Czech Republic

The Bailiwick of Zceck Republick had Investiture 20.6.2015 in Prague. The Investiture took place in Strahov Monastery. The Bailie Krel Kucera gave the Bailie's vow and Bailie Kucera and Chevalier Miroslav Majer were promoted Knightcommanders. Two new members were invested to the Order by the Secretary General Jorma Ahonen; Dame Anna Stiborová, secretary of the Bailiwick and Knight Jan Kucera . After the Investiture was high-quality concert and banquet and next morning Holy Mass in the Basilica of Assumtion of Our Lady at Strahov. Although being small Bailiwick, everything was highly professionally organized and the atmosphere was very pleasent.



Bailie Karel Kucera opening the Investiture.



Newly invested members Dame Anna Stiborová ,Knight Jan Kucera, Knightcommander Majer and Chevalier Jan Kubin and Secretary General Jorma Ahonen.



## We Congratulate

Many members of our Order will, in the near future, celebrate their birthday. We congratulate them and wish them many happy years to come.

90		Heikki Pulkkinen	16.3.
Kurt Larpes	24.2.	Christer Mörn	7.4.
Ruit Laipes	44.4.	Raimo Loukomaa	19.4.
85			3.5.
85	150	Seppo Tuomikoski	
Anargyros Sklivaniotis	17.3.	Taisto Majapuro	11.5.
Matti Elonheimo	11.5.	Burkhard Schwerdtfeger	13.5.
Beverly Selby	3.6.	Kari Eklund	1.6.
Ilmari Lindberg	1.8	Göran Andersson	14.6.
John Wickström	1.10	David Ulmer	25.7.
		Pentti Kero	29.7.
80		Christer Nottberg	1.8.
Johan Tapaninen	15.2.	Kari Soininen	16.8.
Matti Jaskari	13.3.	Erkki Marttinen	17.8.
Seppo Pietilä	2.4.	Erkki Pääkkönen	26.8.
Kaarle Hietala	9.7.	Olof Svedeberg	30.8.
George Haramis	21.7.	Sven Modin	13.10.
Raimo Jarnila	3.8.	Hans-Olof Kvist	27.10.
Matti Sillanpää	4.8.	Matti Ehrnroot	2.11.
David Brookes	20.8.	Elias Warren	16.12.
Arno Leino	13.12.	Ville Mäkelä	31.12.
75		70	
Tuukka Alhonen	16.2.	Risto Pyysalo	14.1.
Dimitrios Kyritsakis	21.2.	Raimo Heschung	31.1.
Veli P Jokinen	5.3.	Juha Turja	16.2.
, on a joinnen	5.5.	Janu ranja	10.2.

Clas-Håkan Wigell	2.3.	Knut Skare	16.5.
Rune Torstenson	10.3.	Charles Meade	15.9.
Risto Junttila	18.3.	Antti Sarho	19.9.
Fredrik Wahlquist	3.5.	Rauli Junttila	25.9.
Martti Neva	23.5.	David Langenfeld	2.6.
Mikko Ennevaara	27.6.	Johannes Mertens	7.10.
Hannu Laitila	5.7.	Wolfgang Knogler	20.10.
Juhani Anttila	21.7.	Markku Aroma	13.12.
Wille Riekkinen	21.7.	Tiit Salumäe	25.12.
Heikki Vaiste	13.8.		
Markus Nikolainen	17.9.	60	
Tapio Mikkola	20.9.	Kari Yrjö-Koskinen	2.3.
Mats Domert	8.11.	Harri Palmu	11.3.
Mats Johnson	16.11.	Claes Thunberg	18.7.
Jarl Rosenholm	20.11.	Keijo Gärdström	9.8.
Peter Davenport	26.11.	Charles Nalls	20.8.
Jorma Ahonen	30.11.	Wolfgang Knogler	20.10.
		Pauli Heikkinen	3.12.
65		Christian Fock	24.12.
Juha Saura	5.2.		
Kari J Heiskanen	21.2.	50	
Theodosios Anagnostopoulos	22.2.	Mark Rasmussen	24.2.
Samuel Salmi	19.3.	Mika Lehto	1.4.
Jan Fidler	22.3.	Evangelos Manoudakis	19.8.
Raimo Ronkainen	21.4.		

## **Coming OCM events**

The Exarchate of USA, meeting and investiture March 2016

The Exarchate of Finland, meeting and Investiture May 2016

The International Convention in Sweden 2017

The Exarchate of Finland, 40 years Jubilee in May 2018

The International Convention 2020

The International Convention 2020 (70 years Jubilee)

### **Contents**

In memoriam	2
Chancellor's Christmas regards	
The meeting and Investiture of the Exarchate of USA	
The Orthodox Academy of Crete, Jügen Schumacher	
His Beatitude Theodoros II's Birthday event 25.11.2015 in Alexandria	
The meeting and Investiture of the Bailiwick of Czech Republic	
We congratulate	
Coming Events	

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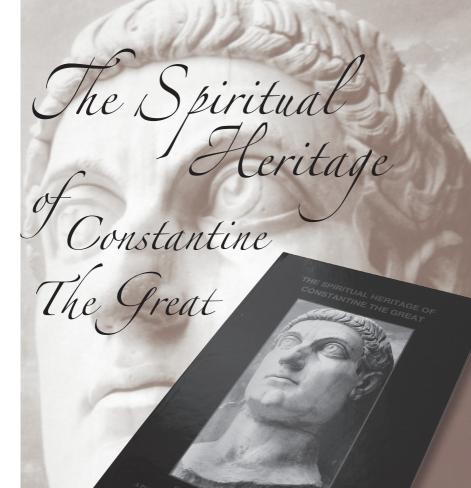
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