

3 June 2022



A BEAUCEANT!!

NO 40

A little Knight Templar news does you good

Dear Brother Knights

Staying in touch

May was a month of great events. As you will read in this edition of the newsletter Great Priory and Provincial Priory met for the first time in three years. Both celebrations were well supported and produced a wonderful atmosphere.

Local life also returned to its normal happy rhythm and the oldest Preceptory in Wales Installed a new Eminent Preceptor to take it forward into its second 150 years. The new Eminent Preceptor, E Kt Tony Charles, is in the centre of the photo



I am sure we all recall that on the day when we became Knights Templar, we were asked to sign the Declaration Book, affirming our belief in the Trinitarian Christian Faith. Thus Trinity Sunday has special resonance for us and it is therefore very appropriate that this edition of the newsletter includes the Great Prelate's stirring Trinity Sunday Sermon.

As we enter the welcome summer break, *A Beauceant* will now take a few month's rest. I look forward to your company in September. Meanwhile enjoy the summer.

Yours in the Bonds of the Order

Paul Calderwood

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E Kt Tony Jones writes:

You might be interested in this photo. The figurine was created by E. Kt. David Bisson from the West Yorks Province, and presented to the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement by E. Kt. Michael John Moore, who was, like myself, a Founder of Lord Swansea Preceptory.

The figurine has exceptional detail including the Grand Master's Coat of Arms on the shield.

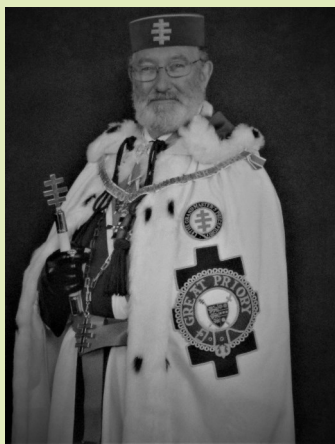
It was very well received and as you can see from the photo he is delighted with it.



Great Priory Meeting in London

May marked the return of the Knights Templar Annual Chapter of Great Priory to Freemasons' Hall after the long break due to Covid, since May 2019; although we had been fortunate enough to enjoy the Great Priory of Malta meeting in November of 2021.

The meeting was tinged with sadness as only days previously, we had received the news of the passing of our Immediate Past Grand Master, Most Eminent and Supreme Knight Timothy John Lewis, G.C.T. Brother Knights of the K.T., along with Brethren of the Allied Masonic Degrees (the two Orders of which Tim, as he was affectionately known, had been the Grand Master), had received instructions to wear black ties at their meetings as a mark of respect, with further instructions for members of Preceptories and Councils of which he was a member. M.E. & S.Kt. Lewis' Masonic record speaks for itself and is long and varied, but four years as Grand Master of the A.M.D, eight years as Grand Secretary across all of our Orders at Mark Masons' Hall, and six years as Grand Master of the K.T. must be the shining and standout highlights. The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master, Paul Raymond Clement, G.C.T., opened the meeting with a touching tribute, recalling the effort his predecessor had made to attend Great Priory in 2017 in order to Install Paul as his successor.



After the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master had been re-elected, he then re-appointed Very High and Right Eminent Knight Andrew Christopher Rainbow, G.C.T., as Great Seneschal. There followed the appointment and investiture of the active Great Priory Officers of the year, and investiture of those receiving first appointments and promotions in Great Rank.

The Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master then invited E.Kt. Jamie Ingham Clark, the newly invested Deputy Great Sword Bearer and trustee of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital, to join him on the dais to receive a cheque for £80,677. This was the magnificent total raised for the Eye Hospital by the "20 for 2020" appeal and it was very pleasing to see so many swift lapel pins on display at the meeting, worn as tokens of appreciation by those who had made a contribution.



This is a milestone year for the Eye Hospital as it is the 140th anniversary of its founding, and the centenary of its reopening after World War One. The Knights Templar raised approximately one quarter of the funding needed for the reopening! There is due to be a published history of the Hospital to mark this special occasion. Jamie has been able to report that services are almost back to normal post pandemic. In 2021 they treated over 134,000 patients (2019 was 137,000) and performed almost 6,500 major surgeries (2019 was less than 5,800). Compared to some other sources, the Knights Templar fundraising has been wonderfully resilient over the last two years and the 20 for 2020 appeal is part of that success. The Trustees acknowledge and appreciate the over 100 years of support from the K.T.

In his address, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master welcomed visitors from sister Great Pories; Scotland, Greece, Germany, Finland, France, Netherlands, and the Great Priory of CBCS of Belgium: as well as Brother Knights from our own Provinces of South East Asia, and Far East; and a host of Heads of Order from other UK Masonic Orders. We were then reminded of the Knights Templar Church Service being held at Wells Cathedral in the K.T. Province of Somerset, on Saturday, 24 September this year.



In closing, the Most Eminent and Supreme Grand Master said that this is a golden opportunity to grow the Order by attracting quality Knights through quality ceremonies.

Our photo shows some of Knights from South Wales at Great Priory.

Brethren from our Province whose achievements were recognised at this meeting of Great Priory included:

R E Kt Rev Malcolm Lane who was reappointed as Great Prelate

R E Kt Ryan Williams who was reappointed as Great Vice Chancellor.

E Kt Carl Davies who was reappointed as Deputy Great Marshal and

E Kt Michael Eckley was appointed as Great Standard Bearer (VB).

In addition to these Active ranks, **E Kt David Court** was promoted to the rank of Past Great Registrar (and therefore became a V E Kt) and

E Kt Nigel Williams as Past Deputy Great Sword Bearer

At Great Priory, three more of our brethren received First Appointments:

E Kt James Ross appointed as Past Great Herald

E Kt Derek Hemfrey appointed as Past Great Aide-de-Camp

E Kt Michael Lewis appointed as Past Great Captain of Guards

Let us celebrate and congratulate them upon these distinctions.

THE SWIFT IS ON THE WING AGAIN

Our model of the Swift sculpture took flight again at the end of May, as it resumed its post-pandemic flight travelling from one Preceptory to another - recognising the generous support that has been given by the members of this Province to the Eye Hospital in Jerusalem.

It was another sign of the return to happier times! The Provincial Chancellor, E Kt John Everett, accompanied by a distinguished group of senior members of the Province, took the Swift to Sant Madoc Preceptory in Porthcawl and presented it to their Eminent Preceptor E Kt Alan Hulbert.

Flanked by the Past Provincial Prior, R E Kt Gordon France, and the Immediate Past Preceptor, E Kt Norry Tetzlaff, Alan proudly displayed the Swift at the after-proceedings also.

Please make a note of the date when the Swift will arrive at your Preceptory and if possible try to be part of the escort party when it travels on from your Preceptory to its next destination:



Flight Path of the Travelling Swift

Sant Madoc – 31 May 22

Morganwg – 22 June 22

Gwent – 25 Nov 22

Fforest – 21 Feb 23

Sir William Marshall – 2 Mar 23

Brecknock Castle – 21 June 23

St John of Cardiff – 27 Sep 23

Owain Glyndwr – 2 Dec 23

Menevia – 7 Feb 24

Giraldis Cambrensis – 12 Apr 24

Temple Slebech – 21 Jun 24

Castell Nedd – 8 July 24

Lord Swansea – 24 Sept 24

St David's – 21 Oct 24

Cefn Ydfa – 14 Nov 24

Holy Palestine – 17 Feb 25

Sant Madoc – 3 June 25

A Provincial Celebration

A large turnout of Brethren produced a wonderful atmosphere in May, at the first physical meeting of the Province for three years. More than 90 Brethren were there to celebrate the event and to witness the Installation of the new Sub-Prior, E Kt Richard Phillips – before which the enormous contribution, made to the life of the Province, by his predecessor, E Kt David Court, was loudly and sincerely praised by the Provincial Prior, R E Kt Dr Paul Calderwood.

The impressive ceremonial of Installing the new Sub-Prior was masterminded by the Provincial Marshal, E Kt Carl Davies and his Deputy, E Kt Roger Thompson. For the incoming procession, the Sub-Prior Designate had invited E Kts Mark Newbold, Michael Swann, Alun H Thomas and Philip Harries to act as his Escort Party.

The day's events commenced however with a solemn requiem - devoted to the memory of those Knights and family members who had heard the call of the Great Captain of our Salvation since 2019.

Following this the Provincial Prior welcomed individually each of the new Knights who had entered the United Orders since that time and he presented each one of those present with a distinctive pin-badge which is exclusive to First Timers.

The important business of Installing the new Sub-Prior then took place and it was followed by the appointment and investiture of this year's Provincial Officers and the Provincial Prior's Bodyguard (the full list is detailed on the next page).

In order to encourage this year's bumper attendance by members of the Province, the number of invitations sent out to other Provinces had been deliberately restricted - in order to allow everyone to have as much personal space as possible - and this approach succeeded in producing a substantial response from the membership as well as a comfortable gathering.

In his Address, the Provincial Prior praised the efforts of all those who had worked so hard over the past three years to keep the Province ticking over and united – not least those who had contributed articles to *A Beauceant*, the newsletter which had been born in the early days of the pandemic.

He also referred to the busy time which followed the lifting of the Local Suspension in July last year. Since then, every Preceptory had had at least one Installation Meeting, more than a dozen new members had been admitted to the Order of the Temple and a similar number had been admitted to the Order of St John of Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes and Malta. In addition, he highlighted the record attendance at the Christmas Carol Service in Brecon and the sparkling 150th anniversary celebration of Gwent Preceptory – the oldest working Preceptory in Wales.

In closing, the Provincial Prior recalled the following words spoken by a wartime leader in 1945 which he said had such resonance with state of the world in which we find ourselves today:

“The Journey of Life”

Let us be contented with what has happened to us and be thankful for all we have been spared. Let us accept the natural order in which we move.

Let us reconcile ourselves to the mysterious rhythm of our destinies,
such as they must be in this world of space and time...

Let us treasure our joys but not bewail our sorrows.

The glory of light cannot exist without its shadows. Life is a whole, and good and ill
must be accepted together.

The journey has been enjoyable and well worth making - once.



Appointments and Promotions

To take effect from Wednesday 25th May 2022

Provincial Sub-Prior	E.Kt. Richard J. Phillips
Provincial Prelate	R.E.Kt. Malcolm C.G. Lane KCT <i>JP</i>
Provincial Chancellor	E.Kt. John Everett
Provincial First Constable	E.Kt. Ron Slater
Provincial Second Constable	E.Kt. Keri J. Evans
Provincial Treasurer	E.Kt. Stephen P. Howlett
Provincial Registrar	E.Kt. Derek J. Hemfrey
Provincial Vice-Chancellor	E.Kt. Nigel E. Williams
Provincial Marshal	E.Kt. Carl D. Davies
Provincial Deputy Marshal	E.Kt. Roger P. Thompson
Provincial Almoner	E.Kt. Rev'd Anthony H. Stevens
Provincial Herald	E.Kt. R. Anthony Marno
Provincial Herald	E.Kt. Christopher R. Evans
Provincial Standard Bearer (B)	E.Kt. M. James Bevan
Provincial Standard Bearer (VB)	E.Kt. Peter D. Gregory
Provincial Banner Bearer	E.Kt. Ian H. Jones
Provincial Sword Bearer	E.Kt. Christopher E. Mugford
Provincial Aide-de-Camp	E.Kt. Andrew Clark
Provincial Aide-de-Camp	E.Kt. Dr. Jonathan L. Jones
Provincial Warden of Regalia	E.Kt. Peter R. Vincent
Provincial Chamberlain	E.Kt. Phillip F. Poole
Provincial Captain of Guards	E.Kt. Julian J. Pye
Provincial Organist	E.Kt. Terrence L. Price
Provincial Guard	E.Kt. Steven J. Davies

Past Rank First Appointment

Past Provincial Aide de Camp	E.Kt. Norry F.J. Tetzlaff
Past Provincial Chamberlain	E.Kt. Rev'd Edward F. Dowland-Owen
Past Provincial Chamberlain	E.Kt. Lee Saunders

Past Rank Promotions

Past Provincial 2 nd Constable	E.Kt Christopher J. Samuel
Past Provincial Registrar	E.Kt. James D. Driscoll
Past Provincial Registrar	E.Kt. Anthony D. Jones
Past Provincial Standard Bearer (B)	E.Kt. John M. Steward
Past Provincial Standard Bearer (VB)	E.Kt. Paul Sayce
Past Provincial Sword Bearer	E.Kt. Mark T. Reynolds
Past Provincial Sword Bearer	E.Kt. Stewart Richards

The Provincial Prior's Bodyguard

Commander	Registrar	Dep Commander
E.Kt. James E.C. Thompson	E.Kt. R. Anthony Marno	Kt. Timothy Parr

Knight Members

Kt. Shaun Cuddihy	Kt. Terrance Bailey	Kt. Simon Webb	Kt. Mike McNiff
Kt. Luke Stokes	Kt. Ceri de Lloyd	Kt. Martin Dykstra	Kt. Matthew Symonds
Kt. Brian Rees	Kt John Cooper	Kt. Martin Curtis	Kt. Mark Mulford

The Provincial Prior also expressed his appreciation to the following in their roles of

Assistant Vice-Chancellor – E.Kt. R. Anthony Marno

Webmaster – E.Kt. Dr Anthony Strachan

Trinity Sunday Sermon

By The Great Prelate, R E Kt Revd Malcolm Lane

You could get quite depressed when you look around at the world and see such a pitiful state of affairs and the inability of good people to bring about change and stop the decline. Yet we Christians should not be surprised at our inability to make everything good and wholesome.

Jesus never promised to us that we would establish his rule on earth. Indeed it is made quite plain that God's kingdom is not a kingdom established upon this earth, with power and authority. Christians are not supposed to set up an earthly country.

That does not mean that God is not at work in this world. There is most wonderful change and growth going on all the time, but the growth of the kingdom is imperceptible. You have to look for it very carefully and to those who lack the eyes of faith, it will be impossible to see. However, those who follow Jesus will never underestimate the power of God. They belong not to this world but to a world to come, their country is not an earthly state but the kingdom which is growing soul by soul and silently. I love the words of this well known hymn and I quote:

*And there's another country, I've heard of long ago,
most dear to them that love her, most great to them that know;
we may not count her armies, we may not see her King;
her fortress is a faithful heart, her pride is suffering;
and soul by soul and silently her shining bounds increase,
and her ways are ways of gentleness and all her paths are peace*

- wonderful words

Today's Gospel reading continues the parables in the fourth chapter of Mark. Chapter four opens with the parable of the seed sown in various types of soil, one which everyone seems to know, continues with the parable of a lamp's not being hidden under a bushel, and a parable about measuring out what has been received.

Next we hear two parables about growing things from seeds. The first parable is about how the Kingdom of God grows within a person precisely because it is of God's goodness, it cannot be attained by merely human intellectual processing or problem solving. It grows even while we are sleeping or distracted. The Kingdom of God parable is about the tiniest of all seeds which grows into the largest shrub and gives shade and rest to the birds of the air. These pictures of the "Kingdom of God" are spoken and heard within the context and experience of the Roman kingdom which was the occupying force in Israel during the time of Jesus 2000 years ago

The Kingdom of God will not be established by any kind of force, nor reinforced or regulated by outside authorities. It is established quietly, in the inside where the heart is attracted to the supreme goodness of God himself. It grows almost like a weed. But it is identified by the fruits or actions of faith, hope and love. Jesus speaks in these parables for the listening pleasure (or distress) of the crowds. To His disciples He speaks plainly and yet, the story, which ends this chapter, which follows these parables, which we do have in today's readings, is about how fragile is the faith of those disciples.

They are with Jesus in a boat and the storm comes up, but Jesus is asleep. The disciples have heard all the parables in his teaching and His teachings, but their faith, once tested, is like a mustard seed, very small and slowly growing very slowly. We know that they panic. Sometimes it seems that Jesus expects faith and trusting should be easy. Jesus asks Peter to leave everything to follow Him and later invites Peter to get out of a boat and walk on water! We all know how God asks the Blessed Virgin Mary to believe she is pregnant and she does, but she has some very good questions first. God is always asking that we be not afraid. I think that it is perhaps that's because He knows we sometimes can be uncertain, hesitating and afraid to step out with Him.

Seeds of the Kingdom grow into fruits of faith very slowly and sometimes in secret. The parable of the seed growing secretly seeks to encourage trust on the part of Jesus' disciples that the kingdom, already hidden but at work in Jesus' ministry, will, in God's good time, become visible and unmistakable. And whilst we are co-workers with God, it is also true that the Kingdom will achieve its full development by virtue of its own intrinsic power. The extension and growth of God's Kingdom is not entirely dependent upon co-operation from the human race. We can help or hinder its growth, but it would appear from scripture that neither we, or indeed anything on earth, can stop it. It will break out where it will, sometimes without, or even in spite of, our own efforts. We may not always understand where its shoots will break through the hard rock of indifference in our world, but we should not deny that they will. We may not always see the small seeds that are planted, but they will surely grow. And as they do, as people come to see Jesus in the light of the Messiah that has come, so their lives and the lives of those around them and society at large are transformed into new creations.

I recently read that Joyce Ann Zimmerman writes, 'Much of what we do successfully every day depends upon our cooperation with others. Making visible God's kingdom is first of all the work of God, but isn't it wonderful that God chooses to invite us to cooperate in this great work!' Today's reading demonstrates that as ambiguous as God's Kingdom may seem, we all have a responsibility to work alongside God to bring about its coming on earth. Sometimes how we do this may seem insignificant, as small as a mustard seed, but God can take our lowly and seemingly small efforts, a brief word spoken, a small act of kindness, a hand of friendship, and from these, do what on our own would have been unimaginable. With God, all things are possible, even if from miniscule and small beginnings. The Kingdom of God is living and growing, and we are an integral part of its evolution and revelation.

