

ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI



THE
CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS

No. 2 / 2024



Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| IN MEMORIAM | 3 |
| THE MASTER 80 YEARS..... | 4 |
| CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OCM OFFICE..... | 5 |
| ANNUAL KNIGHTLY GATHERING BAILIWICK OF AUSTRIA..... | 7 |
| THE 2024 KNIGHTING DAYS OF EXARCHATE OF SWEDEN | 10 |
| ABOUT ECUMENISM | 14 |
| WE CONGRATULATE..... | 17 |
| COMING OCM EVENTS..... | 18 |

IN MEMORIAM

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

GCCM, Deputy Master of the Order

Jürgen Schumacher

Diaspora

1935 - 2024

KCM

Rauno Jussila

Exarchate of Finland

1949 - 2024



Do not be afraid;

I am the First and the Last.

I am He who lives.

**HIS SERENE HIGHNESS
THE MASTER OF THE ORDER, GCCM Ch
BEAUFORT-SPONTIN Friedrich
80 YEARS 5. DECEMBER 2024**



The Order congratulates.

The International Government has made an additional donation to the Patriarchate of Alexandria in honour of the anniversary.

Christmas greetings from OCM office

Once again, in the endless stream of time, we are approaching Christmas - the celebration of peace. However, the idea of peace seems very distant in a time filled with wars, riots, political persecution and oppression, and above all, the desire for power. It can be said that this is the case in all parts of the world. The only question on my mind is - why has this situation come to this?

When the First World War ended on November 11, 1919 at 11:00, an ordeal that lasted more than 4 years and claimed 9 million human victims was behind us. Many are ready to believe that the world will never experience anything like it again. However, the Treaty of Versailles that followed the armistice was in reality the seed for a new war, which, as we know, became even more cruel and inhumane. The total number of victims of World War II is estimated to have been approximately 62 million people. Of these, approximately 37 million were civilians and approximately 25 million were soldiers. The Treaty of Versailles was fiercely opposed by French Marshal Ferdinand Foch and said, "This is not a peace treaty, this is a 20-year armistice." No matter how right he was in predicting the course of history, Foch's estimate of the armistice was only 64 days.

The idea of the Coal and Steel Corporation, which later became the European Union, was to bring eternal peace to Europe. Today, that idea is nothing more than a shattered dream. The same is true also in many places around the world. Are we headed for a third world war? Who was the forerunner of this seemingly inevitable development?

What does all this have to do with our Order? Yes, and a lot. Let us repeat what is written about us on our own web pages under the heading "What is OCM?"

"Ordo Sancti Constantini Magni (OCM) is a contemporary spiritual Order trying to promote the Constantinian ecumenical Christian tradition. The chivalric spirit does not depend on the period, and chivalric virtues are not bound to sword and armour. The chivalric duty to help has never depended on nationality, confession, or form of government. Chivalric thinking and principles are universal and will therefore maintain their values even in modern times. It has to recognize contemporary religious, social, and political realities. An organization which aspires to the unity of the Church that existed before the separation of Anno Domini 1054, and to the collaboration between men at peace, to Christian love, tolerance, and chivalrous conduct has a mission to fulfil in the future."

When we think about the above, the most important activity of the OCM is still to promote the ecumenical spirit and work for a more humane society. That is, broadly speaking, for world peace. Personality and acceptance of the moral principles of the Order create the basis for this work, which everyone can do in their own environment and in their daily tasks. The Knight's duty is to set an example for others and to be someone people can trust. It is with trust and only with it that lasting results can be achieved in world peace. The Knight is the servant and foundation of the Order's activities. That is, all of us as individual members.

So, there is work, and it needs its author. Each of us is also obliged to ensure that there is enough labor.

In this turbulent time, and on behalf of the International Government, I wish everyone a Peacefull and Merry Christmas and Year of Peace 2025.

Osmo Suominen
KCCM
Secretary-General

Annual Knightly Gathering of the Autonomous Bailiwick of Austria

Next some pictures of the Annual Knightly Gathering of the Autonomous Bailiwick of Austria held on 14 September 2024 in Reichersberg, Upper Austria. Apart from knights and spouses of the Austrian Bailiwick, also the Master and his dear wife as well German Bailie André Lienhard had joined us together with two candidates for the German Bailiwick.









The 2024 Knighting Days of the Exarchate of Sweden.

Concluded by Kerstin Skar, secretary of the Exarchate of Sweden.

As always when Exarchate Sweden has its Knight's days, we were able to look forward to nice weather. About 50 sisters, brothers and guests from Finland, Norway and Sweden gathered for this year's Swedish Knighting Days in the city of Helsingborg in the southernmost region of Sweden and just a stone's throw away from Denmark. The weekend was arranged by the South Swedish Bailiwick of Sancti Laurentii Scaniae.

The weekend traditionally began on Friday evening with a gathering dinner. This year's evening was held at Jacob Hansen's House. The house was built in 1641 and is thus one of the city's oldest preserved houses. The food was excellent and there was a lovely atmosphere of friendship. As usual, a charity lottery was held with great gifts to be won and of course a money base for charity.

Saturday's program

The cultural program should have started with a guided tour of the extraordinary Town Hall of Helsingborg, which dates from 1897. The Town Hall was designed by Alfred Hellerström. The Town Hall's fantastic windows with their stained glass in the plenary hall is something we really wanted to see, but at short notice the showing was canceled for safety reasons.

Instead, we went directly to point two of the program, the Dunkerska Culture House, which is an art center located by the North Harbor. In the house, which is named after the entrepreneur Henry Dunker, there are large spaces for exhibitions, performing arts and educational activities for children and young people in art, music, media, dance and theatre.

We were first guided through the "Helsingborg city exhibition" with lots of photos etc. The very interesting exhibition describes the city's history in a very educational way. After the tour, a very good lunch was served at the Dunker's House. During the afternoon, candidates and the ceremony officials practiced before the dubbing ceremony. We believe that well-prepared participants make the experience much more festive!

Knighting

As you all know, our ceremonies are public events and visitors are very welcome. To our delight we had some visitors this time as well.



The ceremony is in Sweden starting with a Christian worship ceremony with concert elements. This year Exarchate Sweden celebrated the service in the beautiful S:a Maria church. First, the installation was carried out for Dame Kerstin Skar to Bailie of the Bailiwick of Stella Maris Regina and John Olov Saxlund from Norway was then installed as Chaplain in the Exarchate of Norway. Immediately afterwards, this year's OCM awards were handed out. The awards by the OCM were: KCCM to Nils Gustaf Eriksson, Bailie of the Finnish Bailiwick of Åland. Member of Merit in different ranks were given to Swedish members Mats Johansson Stefan Andbo, Richard Carlqvist, Mats Johnson and Nils Andersson. The Swedish Exarchate's Medal of Merit in Gold (ExSGM) was awarded to Max Roseneld.

This weekend, the Grand Cross of the Exarchate of Sweden (ExSStk) was awarded to the brothers Rune Rydén, Stefan Andbo and Gottfried Heringslack.

Two ladies were inducted as new members of Sweden this year, and they were both dubbed Dames in this ceremony. Both of them, Katarina Evenseth and Lena Olinder, belong to the Bailiwick of Stella Maris Regina. They were given a very warm welcome to our Order. The audience was given an incredibly beautiful music experience throughout the ceremony.



Photo fr. left. Dame Katarina Evenseth, Bailie Kerstin Skar and Dame Lena Olinder

The evening's festive banquet was served in the Blue Hall in famous Jacob Hansen's house. An excellent dinner was served. The musicians from the church also entertained during the dinner and the whole event was so incredibly pleasant and happy in every way. The musical quartet that played and sang during the service and dinner was Åsa Sandström, soprano, Ida Blylod Meidell, violin, Adam Grauman, viola da gamba and Nils Henriksson on harpsichord and organ.

Conclusion and departure day.

After Sunday breakfast, those who could, went to St. Maria Church for worship. The Exarchate thanked the organizing Bailiwick for an exceptionally well-executed knight's weekend. And as always for the Swedish Knighting Days, the sun shined upon us. We also with great appreciation, Thank all participants from Norway and Åland/Finland. You are our dear close friends and always will be.

Pre invitation to 2025 Swedish Knighting Days

Bailiwick Stella Maris Regina on the Westcoast of Sweden is the organizer of the upcoming 2025 Swedish Knights Days. It will be held in a beautiful church in the heart of Gothenburg on September 19th-21st . Knights, Dames, candidates and guests from Sweden and the rest of the world are most welcome. More information will come in the late spring of 2025.

About Ecumenism

What is Ecumenism?

Ecumenism refers to cooperation and efforts towards closer unity between different Christian churches and denominations. The current ecumenical movement began in the late 19th century.

Christian ecumenism is different from the encounter and dialogue between religions, or religious dialogue, although the latter is also sometimes used with the word ecumenism. National ecumenical councils understand ecumenism specifically as a movement within Christianity, but on the other hand also strive to contribute to promoting the encounter of religions and general tolerance.

The biblical basis for ecumenism is found in Christ's so-called high priestly prayer: "I pray that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me and I in you. That they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that you sent me." (John 17:21)

The branch of academic theology that studies ecumenism is called ecumenical studies.

Origin of the name

The word ecumenism comes from the Greek word οἶκος 'house'. In ancient times, οἰκουμένα, Greek οἰκουμένην, usually meant the entire inhabited world or the Roman Empire, as in the beginning of the Christmas Gospel: "...all the world was taxed." Later, the word came to mean all Christians or the global mission of Christians. It was adopted as the name of the inter-Christian movement by the Swedish Archbishop Nathan Söderblom in the late 19th century.

History

Ecumenical councils

Ecumenical councils are those episcopal councils of the first Christian centuries that concerned the entire Christian community at that time, and whose decisions are still considered to represent the common doctrine of the entire Christian community. These councils

defined, among other things, the wording of the creeds and the doctrine of the Trinity. However, different churches recognize different numbers of councils as ecumenical.

Four branches of the 19th century

The modern form of ecumenism and efforts at cooperation began in the 19th century, when churches grouped themselves into four branches. Each gradually created its own organizations.

The first large organization is now the World Evangelical Alliance, which was founded in 1846. The organization has a Protestant background and sought to promote Christian unity across denominational boundaries.

The second main branch was formed by the Christian world organizations of laypeople, youth, and students that emerged in the mid-19th century. The most prominent of the organizations were the world unions of the YMCA and YWCA and the World Christian Union of Students.

The third main branch includes conferences organized around the world in the context of missionary work, which were the basis for later ecumenical efforts in the 20th century.

The fourth main branch includes the Protestant organization of churches into church families, or world organizations of confessions. In the 19th century, the Anglican Communion began organizing Lambeth Conferences through its bishops in 1867. These were followed by the Reformed World Federation founded in 1875, the World Methodist Council born in 1881, the International Congregationalist Council founded in 1891, and the Baptist World Federation founded in 1905. Cooperation among Lutheran churches began in the General Evangelical Lutheran Conference founded in 1868, on the basis of which the Lutheran World Convention was founded in 1923 and later the Lutheran World Federation in 1947.

New organizations of the 20th century

A Christian flag designed at the beginning of the 20th century.

The importance of the new cooperative organizations founded at the beginning of the 20th century became more significant in principle. The background of most of the new movements was the Edinburgh World Missionary Conference in 1910. In the 1920s and 1930s, the leading ecumenical movements were the so-called Life and Work, which developed cooperation in the social and political spheres, and Faith and Order, which clarified the doctrine and constitution of the church. Cooperation in missionary work was coordinated within the framework of the International Missionary Council, founded in 1921.

In 1920, the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople, Germanos V, called on the Christian churches to establish a cooperative body similar to the League of Nations. Pope Pius XI condemned the ecumenical movement in 1928.

On the basis of these movements, the Provisional Committee of the World Council of Churches was established in Utrecht in 1938. The establishment of the World Council itself was postponed to the general assembly held in Amsterdam in 1948 due to the war. The global ecumenical development is associated with the rapprochement of Protestant churches in different countries and regions. The most notable results of the unification process have been the Church of South India and the United Church of Canada. The Ecumenical Council of Finland is a member of the World Council of Churches. Our Order is a member of the Ecumenical Council of Finland.

Source: Wikipedia

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.

99 v

Larpes Kurt 24.2.

97 v

Ilaskivi Raimo 26.5.

92 v

Necas Jaroslaw 3.1.

91 v

Jokinen Pekka A 27.2.

Leino Rainer 18.5.

90 v

Peltonen Tapio 10.4.

Jonsson-Falck Perolow 26.6.

85 v

Uhinki Ailo 14.2.

Holm Karl Olof 17.3.

Montin Mauri 24.3.

O'Neill Malcom Ross 25.3.

80 v

Melvas Hannu 6.1.

Salmi Toivo 7.1.

Hellman Mikko 30.1.

Honka Eero 30.1.

Perola Alekski 1.3.

Vehmas Juhani 22.5.

Räisänen Reijo 7.6.

75 v

Karmiri-Simatou
Adamantia 22.1.

Kavalis Anastasios 31.5.

Koistinen Mikko 29.6.

70 v

Singh of Barvani
Divyaraj 1.1.

Hautala Petri 20.1.

Eirola Martti 4.3.

Skronias Vassilis 15.5.

Tchakounte Nana 27.5.

Loponen Vesa 29.6.

60 v

Hokkanen Jan 18.1.

Helse Olaf 28.1.

Saxlund John Olav 18.5.

50 v

Kuzera Jan 9.6.

Walker Carrie 16.6.



COMING OCM EVENTS

16.-18.5.2025 Knighting Days of Exarchate of Finland in city of Vaasa

September 2025 Knighting Days of Exarchate of Sweden

September 2025 Austrian Knights Day & General Assembly, Reichersberg



THE
**CONSTANTINIAN
NEWS**

Publisher:

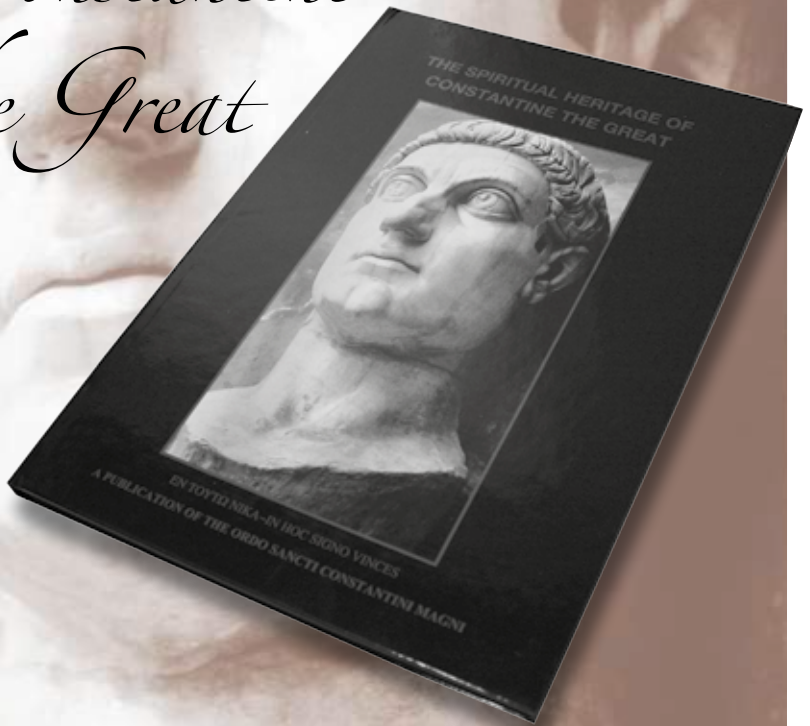
ORDO SANCTI CONSTANTINI MAGNI

Editor-in-chief and
Executive office:

Secretary General Osmo Suominen
Tupatie 1 as 4, FIN-21500 Piikkiö, FINLAND
e-mail: government@ocmonline.org

www.ocmonline.org

The Spiritual Heritage of Constantine The Great



is an OCM publication (2008) in regard to it's editorial content well estimated by several experts.

Every OCM member should read the book, which is also worth to be presented to many of your friends.

Price now: 10 Euro.

Available by treasurer Mika Pynnönen: treasurer@ocmonline.org