



**Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem
Southwestern Lieutenancy of the United States
Fort Worth, TX Section
October 2025 Newsletter**

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Seminary Pilgrimage Fund

All Knights and Dames who have made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land come away with a heightened understanding of the plight of the Christians living there, in addition to experiencing what many Biblical theologians call the Fifth Gospel. The Southwestern Lieutenancy sponsors pilgrimages for seminarians while in their last year of seminary, just prior to their ordination. Although some funds are available from the Lieutenancy, they are insufficient to allow all seminarians to make a pilgrimage. To specifically allow seminarians from the Diocese of Fort Worth to have this opportunity, we have recently set up a special fund at the Advancement Foundation of the Diocese of Fort Worth - a Seminarian Pilgrimage Fund. This fund is intended to give our FW seminarians an opportunity to experience the Gospel in the Holy Land, as well as see firsthand the situation of the Holy Land Christians, by making a pilgrimage prior to their ordination. Donations can be made to the Advancement Foundation by specifying that the donation goes to the Seminarian Pilgrimage Fund. Special thanks to Dame Renee Underwood for setting this up with the Advancement Foundation.

EOHSJ Name Tags

You may have seen some Knights and Dames wearing “permanent” Name Badges at recent events (as opposed to the paper ones with your name written with a Sharpie). If interested these Name Badges can be purchased on the website of the Southwestern Lieutenancy (<https://eohssouthwest.com>) by navigating to Resources - EOHS Items for Sale - Name Badge. Garment bags that are large enough to hold your capes are also available at the same location.

Nominees to the Order

Our Order can only continue to fulfill its mission of fostering a living, Christian presence in the Holy Land well into the future if our membership continues to grow. All members of the Order can, and are encouraged to, nominate others to the Order. However, it is very important that anyone you nominate has been informed of the obligations of membership and you feel confident of their desire and ability to foster our mission.

If you know of someone who you believe would support our mission, please prayerfully consider them for nomination. Discuss the work of the Order, and commitments of members, with them. Nomination forms are available on the website of our Lieutenancy (<https://eohssouthwest.com>) by navigating to Resources - Nominations - Application. This same site contains information regarding requirements for nomination and an Introduction to the Order. When nominating a couple, please have a separate application form completed for each of the husband and wife. Completed application forms should be sent to Patrick Bridges at pbridges849@gmail.com.

The deadline for nominations (for 2026 investiture) is February 1, 2026.

Also please recognize that, should you choose to nominate anyone to the Order, you should also take the responsibility to mentor them as they go forward through the investiture process. We are happy to help you with that process.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dinner at L'Amitié' on November 15th

The daughter of Sir Robert and Dame Deborah Meyer has a wonderful bistro restaurant near downtown Denton serving French-inspired cuisine ([L'Amitié Bistro](#)). On Saturday, November 15 at 6:00 pm, the Meyer's have reserved the party room for a casual get together of any Knights and Dames who are interested in attending. An email invitation with a request for RSVPs will be sent out in the near future. Please mark your calendars for an enjoyable time visiting with fellow Knights and Dames and enjoying a delicious meal.

Feast of Our Lady of Palestine

On October 25, members of the Order worldwide celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Palestine recognizing the Blessed Mother as the Queen of Palestine. Knights and Dames can receive a Plenary Indulgence on this day under the usual conditions (attending Mass, receiving Holy

Communion, praying for the intentions of the Holy Father, and Sacramental Confession within a reasonable period).

Advent Retreat

Plans are underway for an Advent Retreat for members of the Order. We intend to delve into the book recently written by the Grand Master the Order, Cardinal Fernando Filoni, regarding the spirituality of the Equestrian Order entitled The Room was Filled with the Fragrance of the Perfume. Further details will follow regarding location, date, and time.

2026 Investiture and Annual Meeting

The 2026 Investiture and Annual Meeting will be held in Tulsa, OK from October 16-19, 2026. We will inform you as soon as the hotel room block is open so that you can make your reservations. Mark your calendars!

RECENT EVENTS:

Annual Mass and Dinner with Bishop Olson

On August 2, 2025, nearly fifty Knights and Dames from the Diocese of Fort Worth attended Mass at St. Patrick Cathedral followed by dinner and fellowship at the parish hall. Sir Edward Smith coordinated a wonderful event that was enjoyed by all in attendance.

Diaconate Ordination of Sir Thang Nguyen

Sir Thang Nguyen (along with his wife, Dame Theresa) was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate by Bishop Olson on August 8th at St. Mark Catholic Church in Argyle. See photos below:





2025 Investiture and Annual Meeting

The 2025 Investiture and Annual Meeting was held at the Grand Hyatt – San Antonio Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas on September 5-8, 2025. Forty-eight Knights and Dames from the Fort Worth Diocese attended, including Bishop Olson. We welcomed six new investees from our diocese into the Order – Sir Bob and Dame Linda Kriz, Sir Jim Osterman and Dame Jeanne Manikowski, and Sir David and Dame Donna Uphaus. Additionally, Sir John and Dame Sharon Bateson, Sir Bill and Dame Gloria Jackson, and Dame Susan Pritchett were all promoted to Knight or Dame Grand Cross. See photos below:







Mass and Dinner on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows (September 15th)

We typically schedule a Mass with Bishop Olson, followed by dinner, every year on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14). This year the feast fell on a Sunday and was also only one week after the 2025 Investiture and Annual Meeting in San Antonio. However, Bishop Olson was so kind as to volunteer time out of his very busy schedule to hold this event

one day later than usual on the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. Forty-four Knights and Dames attended this event along with Father Jonathan Wallis, the Vicar General of our diocese. See photos below:











OTHER ITEMS:

Jerusalem Cross Newsletter

We encourage you to read the Jerusalem Cross newsletter whenever you receive it. It always contains interesting articles regarding the Holy Land as well as activities of the Order around the world.

Please continue to pray for the Christians in the Holy Land and for peace in the land of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Sir Patrick and Dame Joan Bridges, Section Presidents