



**HOSPITALLER ORDER OF SAINT JOHN OF JERUSALEM  
KNIGHTS HOSPITALLER GRAND PRIORY OF THE BALTIC SEA**

**January 5. 2022**

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021 TO THE SOVEREIGN COUNCIL**

Grand Priory of the Baltic Sea consists of two Commanderies; Commandery of Turku – Finland and Commandery of Helsinki – Finland.

The activities during the year 2021 have still been fairly few due to the Covid-19 crisis. Some traditional and new events have been arranged.

The Grand Priory held two Priory Council meetings during this year and several smaller work sessions.

**Sovereign Council members**

Grand Prior Paavo Vilpo, KH  
Grand Councillor Asko Laite, KH and Blanche Croix Juge d'Armes  
Grand Councillor Nils Grönberg, KH  
Grand Prelate Hannu Hurme, PH

Grand Master Emeritus Pekka Saarela, KH, as Honored Guest

**The High Officers of the Grand Priory**

H.E. Bailiff Paavo Vilpo, KH	Grand Prior and Grand Priory Registrar
H.E. Bailiff Pirjo Aarnio, DH	Lieutenant Grand Prior and Grand Priory Treasurer
H.E. Bailiff Asko Laite, KH	Grand Priory Chancellor and Heraldic Officer
DCdr. Raili Hurme, DH	Commander of the Commandery of Turku-Finland and Grand Priory Archivist
KCdr. Jaffa Toivanen, KH	Commander of the Commandery of Helsinki-Finland
H.E. Hannu Hurme, PH	Grand Prelate
KCdr. Jarmo Heinonen, KH	Grand Priory Marshall

**Honored Guests:**

H.E. Bailiff Pekka Saarela, KH	Grand Master Emeritus
H.E. Bailiff Nils Grönberg, KH	Grand Prior Emeritus

**The General Officers of the Grand Priory**

Knight Juha Tomberg, KH	Grand Priory Information Officer
Dame Taru-Maija Gustafsson, DH	Grand Priory Pilgrimage Master
KCdr. Teppo Hurme, KH	Grand Priory Attorney
Dame Leena Vilpo, DH	Grand Priory Insignia Officer

**The membership by the rank are listed below at the end of year**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Bailiff Grand Cross	4	4
Prelate	1	1
Sub Prelates	3	3
Knight Commander	9	9
Dame Commander	4	4
Chaplain	0	0
Knight	18	18
Dame	18	19
Companion	5	5
Jurat	14	14
Assistant Chaplain	0	1
Member	1	0
Resigned	1	1
Deceased	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>78</b>

At the end of the year 2021 the Grand Priory had following amounts of members. Two new members have joined us this year.

- Commandery of Turku had 64 members of which two (2) new
- Commandery of Helsinki had 14 members.

**Promotions**

At the Grand Priory of the Baltic Sea Investiture at 13th of November 2021, was following appointments made to our ranks:

to Dame;	Companion, Ritva Manner, CH	CoT-F
to Assistant Chaplain;	Member, Saara Palmunen, MH	CoT-F
to Companion;	Jurat, Pertti Korkalo, JH	CoT-F
to Jurat;	Member, Olli Laivoranta, MH	CoT-F

## **Grand Priory activities**

A training seminar for Grand Priory members was arranged October 31. on an one-day ferry cruise from Turku and back. Due to somewhat better Covid-19 situation 45 members participated. The topics of the seminar were: Knights path from Jurat to Grand Master, Order history, Pilgrimages, Order Heraldry, Rules and regulations of the Order.

An Investiture was arranged November 13, in Kakskerta Church in Turku. 46 members and 6 avocs were attending the Investiture and the dinner in the Odd Fellows house in Turku.

A heraldic booklet including all known Order Coats of Arms was published in the Seminar. The booklet was edited by GME Pekka Saarela and Asko Laite, Blanche Croix Juge d'Armes of the Order.

The volume 14th magazine (2020) of the Grand Priory, "Sanomat - News", was published by Grand Priory Information Officer Juha Tomberg, KH. All our magazines can be read at our web site.

The Grand Priory of the Baltic Sea webpages, [www.johanneksenritarit.fi](http://www.johanneksenritarit.fi), has been updated constantly. Grand Priory continued also to publish and update Coats of Arms of our members on our webpages.

The Grand Priory has also established webpages <https://www.knightshospitaller.org> for the Sovereign Council.

All current Grand Priory rules and regulations were constantly updated by Grand Prior Paavo Vilpo, KH.

## **The Grand Priory Commanderies activities**

### **Commandery of Turku**

April 24. Annual Meeting of Commandery of Turku Association as a Teams meeting.

August 20. Guided tour at Turku Old and New Cemetery by Grand Prelate Hannu Hurme. Attending 32 persons.

October 17. Turku Castle exhibition "Vanitas", attending 23 persons.

November 12. Vigilia in Turku YMCA festival hall, attending 23 persons.

December 9. Christmas dinner in Turku Henrik Church, attending 48 persons.

Several Turku Commandery council meetings were arranged as web meetings.

### **Commandery of Helsinki**

During the Summer months the Seamen's Mission flea markets were arranged two times. During those days about 2-3 members were organizing and participating to the arrangements each time together with scouts and guides.

### **Anniversaries**

Hanna Suomela  
Tuukka Alhonen  
Jari Hlavaty  
Raili Hurme  
Timo Vainio  
Marita Heinä  
Matti Koivurinta

## The Grand Priory Charitable Contributions

The Commandery of Turku has made the following donations.

* Lakkatie Special Children's Home in Turku	1500 €
* Kaarina Family Support Center	500€

## Coming Year

Grand Priory will arrange during the Autumn 2022 (Covid-19 permitting) an Investiture to all of our members. The Commanderies will arrange traditional events during the next year including meetings, excursions, donations and Christmas services. As always, our main goal for the coming years is to recruit new members to our ranks and to continue the work to develop our Grand Priory and Commanderies.

In Christ and Saint John,



Paavo Vilpo, KH  
Grand Prior (2021- )



Asko Laite, KH  
Grand Priory Chancellor (2013- )