

MEMBERSHIP

Membership appeals to those who:

- Are** accomplished individuals with integrity.
- Believe** in charity and enjoy the traditions of chivalry.
- Wish** to serve in a group of like-minded individuals.
- Are** Christian and believe in an ecumenical focus.
- Support** charity based on the recipients need and not religion.
- Consider** membership to be an honour.

QUALIFICATIONS

The Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem welcomes individuals from all backgrounds who share our commitment to service and compassion. Whether you're a healthcare professional, a philanthropist, or simply someone who wants to make a difference, there's a place for you in our Order. To be considered, interested people will have a record of philanthropy in terms of time, talent or volunteering.

WHAT AM I COMMITTING TO?

The SOSJ has roles that are more common in a non-profit organisation such as fund-raising, volunteer activities, events, finance etc. Opportunity exists for Members to participate according to their interests and abilities. Members gather some six to eight times per year.

IS MEMBERSHIP RIGHT FOR ME?

Membership is about people of accomplishment and integrity. The Order seeks out people who are recognised in their profession, community or local affairs and who actively support charitable works. The Order is made up of people willing to contribute time, talent, and knowledge.

Want to know more?
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Pro Fide , Pro Utilitate Hominum
For Faith, for Service to Humanity

Sovereign Order
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WHO WE ARE

The modern Sovereign Order of St John of Jerusalem Knights Hospitaller is a Christian, chivalric, ecumenical and international community directly descended from the Hospitaller activities at the Hospice founded before the turn of the 11th century by Amalfi merchants, for pilgrims in Jerusalem.

Our founders, inspired by the teachings of Christ, established a hospice in Jerusalem to care for pilgrims and the sick, regardless of their faith or background. Over the centuries, our mission expanded to encompass not only healthcare but also humanitarian efforts, chivalry, and a commitment to aiding those in need.

In Australia we are a registered charity for taxation purposes, with no administration fees, so that 100% of donations are distributed.

TODAYS MISSIONS

Today, the Sovereign Order of St. John of Jerusalem is a global organization with members from all walks of life, dedicated to serving humanity. Helping one's neighbour is a Christian duty for all Knights and Dames of the Order. Individual effort is a spiritual obligation. Each Commandery and Priory is expected to help the sick and poor with projects that involve joint action, whether it is donations, effort by members or some combination of both.

Commanderies and Priors choose which charities to support. Most charitable activities are for the benefit of a local area. Some Priors choose larger projects while others distribute smaller contributions over a broader spectrum. But everywhere, the joy of seeing others supported is a fundamental reason for membership.

DOES THE ORDER BELONG TO A PARTICULAR BRANCH OF CHRISTIANITY?

The Order does not demand adherence to any particular faith provided the prospective Aspirant commits to being Christian. We are ecumenical within that. However, we have 900 years of history as a Christian Order, 780 of which were as a militant Order co-existing with the section of the Order that built and ran hospices. The commitment to Christianity is not going to go away. Only the formal Investiture is a church service and that is traditional. Note that helping the sick and the poor is for all people regardless of their religious beliefs.

WORLD STRUCTURE

The Sovereign order of St John has Commanderies (chapters) in Europe, North and Central America. The international office is located in Vancouver Canada. In Australia, The Order has existed since 1969 and in Victoria we are hosted by Holy Trinity Church in Kew.