



HOLY SEE

PERMANENT OBSERVER MISSION OF THE HOLY SEE TO THE UNITED NATIONS 25 EAST 39th STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016-0903 (212) 370-7885

Press Release

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His Holiness Pope John Paul II Bestows Pontifical Honor upon Mr. Gary Krupp of Long Island, New York

On July 29, 2000, His Holiness Pope John Paul II named Mr. Gary Krupp, of Long and, New York, a Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Gregory the Great.

Mr. Krupp, who is the seventh Jewish person since 1831 to receive this particular Pontifical Honor, has been recognized by the Holy See for his tireless and outstanding efforts in assisting the *Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza*, a health care facility in Italy started by Blessed Padre Pio. Through the generosity and commitment of Mr. Krupp, this state-of-the-art hospital has been able to acquire some of the most advanced medical equipment in Europe, thereby helping to expand the outstanding medical attention, care and compassion of the Catholic health care system for countless men, women and children.

The Pontifical Honor was conferred upon Mr. Krupp by His Excellency Archbishop Renato R. Martino, Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations., who was assisted by His Excellency Riccardo Ruotolo, President of the Casa Sollievo dell Sofferenza, His Excellency Bishop Ignatius Catanello, of Brooklyn, and His Excellency Bishop Luigi Sposito, of Italy, during a ceremony at Saint Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hempstead, New York on August 19, 2000.

The Order of Saint Gregory the Great was founded by Pope Gregory XVI in 1831, who named it after his predecessor, Pope Saint Gregory the Great, and is most frequently bestowed as a special mark of favor of the Holy See for persons who diligently serve the Catholic Church, or who have distinguished themselves by their accomplishments benefitting society, regardless of their religion or gender.