


# JERUSALEM CROSS

ORDINIS EQUESTRIS SANCTI SEPULCHRI HIEROSOLYMITANI

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## Reflections of the Grand Master

### “YOU MIGHT BE A MODERN SAINT!”

In his recent Apostolic Exhortation, *Gaudete et Exultate* on our call to holiness in today's world<sup>1</sup>, Pope Francis declares at the outset: "Jesus wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre spiritual existence."

Modern saints need not to be formally canonized, nor do they live in "swooning and mystic rapture." You might know, or even be a modern saint! Not perfect, but trying to be, drawing closer to Christ and imitating him in small gestures and selfless service to others. Saints live in trustful joy whatever the circumstances. They recognize the face of Christ in their beatitudinal awareness



*The members of the Order must bear witness to their commitment to following Christ in the heart of the cities in which they live, drawing this spiritual power from the celebrations that bring them together.*



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**IMPRESSUM** GRAND MAGISTERIUM OF  
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and response to the poor, the weak and those suffering persecution for His sake.

Saints will necessarily suffer in a spiritual combat, but they can always be assured of the strength gained in personal prayer and frequent sacramental life, especially the Eucharist and Penance.

In a challenging statement, Pope Francis summarizes the identity of a saint: "A mission planned by the Father to reflect and embody, at a specific moment in history, a certain aspect of the Gospel." The mission of everyone of us is defined in family, occupation, social contacts and personal status such as health, economic status, etc.

In our case, the mission of a knight or dame of the Order is additionally defined by a solemn commitment to Christ and His Church in the Holy Land. In this regard, note that Pope Francis insists: "Growth in holiness is a journey in community, side by side with others." Accordingly, we can conclude that our Order "...is called to create a God-enlightened space in which to experience the hidden presence of the Risen

Lord."

Does our special devotion to the Empty Tomb enable us to experience "the hidden presence of the Risen Lord"?

What effect has a Pilgrimage there had in experiencing his hidden presence – in the Mass and Holy Eucharist, perhaps?

What can each of us contribute to make our Lieutenancy "a God-enlightened space to experience the Risen Lord's hidden presence"?

I conclude with the final prayer of the Pope's document:

"Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us a fervent longing to be saints for God's greater glory, and let us encourage one another in this effort. In this way, we will share a happiness that the world will not be able to take from us." Amen!

**Edwin, Cardinal O'Brien**

<sup>1</sup> Visit our website [www.oessh.va](http://www.oessh.va) for an in-depth analysis on this recent Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, a document of fundamental importance for all the baptized.



## The Order in Union with the Universal Church

### “MAY THE SPIRIT CHANGE HEARTS AND SITUATIONS AND BRING PEACE TO THE HOLY LAND!”

**P**ope Francis says he was present both in heart and soul at the prayer vigil for peace in the Holy Land organized on Saturday 19 May by the diocese of Jerusalem. Speaking after the Regina Coeli on the feast of Pentecost, he said: “Last night I was spiritually united to the prayer vigil for peace that took place in that city, holy for Jews, Christians and Muslims. And today, let us continue to invoke the Holy Spirit to inspire wills and gestures of dialogue and reconciliation in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East”. Earlier on Sunday 20 May, during Mass, he also recalled the situation in the Holy Land, citing the Acts of the Apostles and indicating that the Holy Spirit who “opens new paths” is capable of changing events, “as in the episode of the deacon Philip. “The Spirit drives Philip to a desert road from Jerusalem to Gaza... How heartrending that name sounds to us today! May the Spirit change hearts and situations and bring peace to the Holy Land!”, exclaimed the Holy Father.

## PEACE IS A GIFT: LET US INVOKE IT!

“**W**e are distressed, today’s events do not lead us towards peace, but in the exactly opposite direction”, commented Msgr. Giacinto-Boulos Marcuzzo, patriarchal vicar for Jerusalem and Palestine, in the immediate aftermath of grave clashes along the security barrier between Gaza and Israel on May 14 last. The violence led to the deaths of dozens of Palestinians while many others (some news agencies speak of more than 2000) are injured.

The bishop who has held the post of patriarchal vicar for Israel for almost 25 years and who has an in-depth knowledge of the situation continued: “We want to believe that a truce can be reached with the good will of all. This is why we ask the whole international community to support the desire of Jews and Palestinians to move towards peace. Let us move away from ideologies and look at reality”.

Having spent 28 years in the Holy Land,

Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Apostolic Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, described the atmosphere in this divided land: “People’s minds are too exacerbated, there has been too much violence, hate ... there is a truly profound hatred and a very deep distrust especially between the parties. So realistically I do not think there will be changes in the short term, unfortunately. In the long term it is clear that the situation cannot remain as it is, it needs to be taken in hand”. The Assembly of the Catholic Ordinaries of the Holy Land, which gathers together Latin, Melkite, Maronite, Syriac, Armenian, Chaldean leaders as well as the Custody of the Holy Land, described the situation in raw terms: “These casualties, or most of them, could have been avoided if non-lethal tools had been used by the Israeli forces. We do call all parties involved to avoid use of violence and to find ways to end siege imposed on about two million Palestinians in





*The dove of peace – in the church of St. Stephen in Jerusalem – symbolized the hope of the numerous people who came to pray following the appeal of Msgr. Pizzaballa, Apostolic Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate, for the Vigil of Pentecost.*

Gaza Strip as soon as possible."

In the face of the concern caused by growing tension and violence, Archbishop Pizzaballa called a prayer meeting for the Pentecost vigil. The initiative was immediately supported by the Council of European Bishops' Conferences, which invited "communities and individuals, including those in Europe, to join the prayer

of the Church of Jerusalem, through a time of recollection and prayer for the peace and the defence of life at all cost, Saturday, May 19, the eve of Pentecost".

The call to prayer is the voice that unites the Christians of the Holy Land who, in this profound conviction of the power of recourse to God, are sustained by the Holy Father who during the general audience of May 16 expressed himself with these words: "I am very concerned about the escalation of tensions in the Holy Land and in the Middle East, and about the spiral of violence that deviates ever farther from the path of peace, dialogue and negotiation. I express my great sorrow for the victims and the wounded and, through prayer and affection; I am close to all those who are suffering. I emphasize again that the use of violence never leads to peace. War begets war; violence begets violence. I invite all the parties involved and the international community to renew their commitment so that dialogue, justice and peace may prevail. Let us Let us invoke Mary, Queen of Peace. "Hail Mary...". May God have mercy on us! I address my cordial best wishes for the month of Ramadan, which will begin tomorrow. May this privileged time of prayer and fasting help you to walk on the path of God which is the way of peace."

Let us therefore join in prayer so that once again the Father who is in heaven can say: "I have heard the cry of my people" (see *Exodus* 3: 7) and make us the gift of peace.

## HOMAGE TO THE NEW CARDINAL MEMBERS OF THE ORDER

On Sunday 20 May 2018, Feast of Pentecost, Pope Francis announced that he will celebrate a consistory in which 14 new cardinals will be created. They include two members of the Order, Monsignor Angelo De Donatis, Vicar General of His Holiness for the diocese of Rome, and Monsignor Giuseppe Petrocchi, Archbishop of L'Aquila (Italy). In the name of the whole Order, the Grand Magisterium expresses the most heartfelt congratulations to the two future cardinals and entrusts these pastors to the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church.



## AN IMPORTANT ENCOUNTER TO PRAY FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

*Francis believes in prayer and believes in the divine gift of peace. Fortified by these convictions, and inspired by the Spirit, in order to invoke and mature peace in the Middle East, he has called for a prayer encounter on July 7 in Bari. An unusual meeting, singled out by the choice in location which has strong ecumenical connotations: the Basilica of Saint Nicholas.*

**T**he Pope is motivated by the need for a new and special supplication to God to begin to unravel the many, and increasingly tangled knots that encompass human affairs in that region, paradoxically the cradle of the three great monotheistic religions. This not only solicits our excitement and involvement, it also urges us to better understand the reasons for such an important decision.

The first consideration certainly involves faith in prayer. The invitation to pray from a man who ceaselessly reminds us "not to forget" to pray for him, may seem obvious. His exhortation is based on the richness of the interior life that every baptized person has the duty to cultivate by practicing the weapon of prayer, besides being nourished by the Word of God and the sacraments. So not only is he in a position to be able to adore, love and invoke God the Father in Truth but also to battle Satan who "like a roaring lion", St. Peter reminds us (1 Pt 5,8), is bent on the destruction of our spiritual life through division among men and their removal from the immanent presence of God.

### **A divine intervention to open a path to peace**

In the Near and Middle East this very division is manifesting itself as ever more lacerating, inappassable in its annihilation of all signs of life, never satisfied with its total destruction, even of the smallest buds that

open to hope. The images that come to us from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan, Yemen of stray and frightened refugees, victims of suicide bombers, camps of refugees exhausted with resignation, survivors of deadly gas, buildings in rubble, skeletal palaces, churches profaned, all testify to an endemic conflict that like a monster feeds on its wickedness. And it shows no sign of stopping given the converging resources of powers, some far from the area, determined to assert their own interests, which are above all economic and strategic (even nuclear), or their own political-religious primacy. The increased rivalries between nations and peoples of the region have complicated and aggravated the persistent Israeli-Palestinian tensions.

All human power seems to have faded, given the failures of the diplomatic action and the paradoxical impotence of the military one, capable of taming the ruthless struggle for peace. Thus Pope Francis, who is passionately devoted to Mary Untier of Knots, certainly thought of her intercession in the peroration of divine intervention. The only one who can open to hope, to peace. He prepared for this with the prayer for the emblematic, beloved Syria which, on Easter Sunday, he called all Catholics to pray for; then with the pilgrimage, at the beginning of May, to the Roman Shrine of Divine Love and reiterating the invitation to recite, with this intention and throughout the month, the Holy Rosary. He then called a special prayer meeting, of all Christians, from the West and





*This summer the Basilica of Bari – an ecumenical and spiritual place where the relics of St. Nicholas are venerated – will host a prayer meeting for peace in the Middle East.*

the East, inviting the Patriarchs of the Catholic and Orthodox Churches of all rites to Bari.

### **The Basilica of Bari, a place of ecumenical prayer facing the East**

The value of Bari for this general prayer mobilization certainly lies in the fact that it is the capital of a region historically seen as the "gateway to the East" and "bridge" in the Mediterranean between continental Europe and the closest Asian coasts. The peoples have always met here, with their fruits and cultures, and through here the Christian pilgrimage for the Holy Land flowed from many parts of Europe, under the protection of the Gargano, just as in Normandy, of the Archangel Michael. But Bari is above all a witness to the anxiety and commitment of Christians for the re-establishment of their

unity that has as its protagonist the holy thaumaturge Nicholas of Mira. He is highly revered in the East as in the West, his relics kept in the splendid basilica that the city has erected in his honor, a destination of pilgrimages and unique in Christianity where both Mass in the Latin rite and the Divine Liturgy in the rites of our Orthodox brothers, are celebrated.

Memory and circumstances make the July 7 meeting extraordinary in the invocation to God of the gift of peace by His children united in His name. Jesus, after having revealed to us (Jn 14: 5-6) that He is the "way, the truth and the life", has left us this assurance, repeating it even twice (Jn 14: 13-14): "Whatever you ask in my name, I will do it, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you anything of me in my name, I will do it."

**Graziano Motta**



## Proceedings of the Grand Magisterium

### THE GRAND MASTER'S VISITS

**A**fter the Easter celebrations and the autumn meeting of the Grand Magisterium, on April 25 Cardinal Edwin O'Brien presided at Mass in the ancient basilica of Saint Mark in Piazza Venezia, Rome, to mark the homonymous feast day of the evangelist known as "the interpreter of Peter". At the invitation of the parish priest, Fr Renzo Giuliano, many faithful – both parishioners and pilgrims eager to "become disciples" – gathered in the heart of the Eternal City around the Grand Master of the Order – to pray together.

At the beginning of May, the Grand Master went to the ancient abbey of Casamari, in the province of Frosinone, to celebrate the Investiture ceremony of the Lazio Section of the Lieutenancy for Central Italy and then, the following weekend, he travelled to Lucerne to meet the members of the Swiss Lieutenancy and preside over the Investiture of new members and the installation ceremony for the new

Lieutenant, Donata Maria Krethlow-Benziger, who succeeded Jean-Pierre Marie de Glutz-Ruchti to this vital office.

On May 17, Cardinal O'Brien took part in the meeting of Latin American Lieutenancies in Buenos Aires, also celebrating 130 years of the Argentine Lieutenancy and presiding the following day at the Investiture Mass at the Basilica of Our Lady Help of Christians in Buenos Aires. His journey continued with a visit to the Brazilian Lieutenancies. This meeting gave him the opportunity to go on a pilgrimage to the shrine of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro, after which he celebrated the Investiture ceremony of the new Brazilian members in the Rio cathedral. In late May he arrived in Washington, DC, to officiate Mass together with members of the Lieutenancy USA Middle Atlantic at the shrine of St. John Paul II, where many American pilgrims venerate a relic of this illustrious Pope.

His Eminence also presided over the important meeting of the Lieutenants of North America in Toronto, from May 31 to June 2. Furthermore, he welcomes new Knights and Dames within the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, celebrating an Investiture ceremony in Brussels during the second week of June. Later, he will return to Rome for the meeting of the European Lieutenants, on June 13 and 14.

**Pauline Bourgogne**



*Cardinal O'Brien – accompanied by the Governor General Visconti di Modrone and the Vice Governor General Moroni Stampa – officiated at the handing over ceremony for the new Lieutenant for Switzerland last May.*



## THE GRAND MAGISTERIUM'S SPRING MEETING

**W**elcoming participants in his opening address for the Grand Magisterium Spring meeting, Grand Master Cardinal Edwin O'Brien asserted the importance of fostering a wider and deeper understanding of the mission and action of Knights and Dames. This particularly in the few months leading up to the important appointment of the *Consulta*, when representatives of the Order from across the globe gather in Rome.

He fervently encouraged the participants to invite a reflection on the presence of priests in the Order for the spiritual accompaniment of the members, a subject that he also dwelt upon again during the meeting. The Governor General, Leonardo Visconti di Modrone, presented the major current issues for the Order, concerning the first nine months of his mandate. A new direction is emerging regarding the projects

followed by the Grand Magisterium: human formation will be privileged over the construction of buildings, in particular through the support of the Catholic schools network of the Patriarchate in the Holy Land, which corresponds to two thirds of the diocesan budget.

Following the agenda, Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa – Administrator of the Latin Patriarchate – updated the members of the Grand Magisterium about the situation in his diocese, especially on a pastoral level. He rejoiced that the influx of pilgrims has been once again reconfirmed this year, especially from Latin America and Asia, despite a rather tense political context on the ground. As regards the activity of the Patriarchate, the Archbishop emphasized the desire for better coordination of the schools, thanks to the creation of a "central office", insisting on the importance of catechesis. "We are not an NGO. What is important to us is first of all



*Morning Mass presided by Msgr. Pierbattista Pizzaballa in the Palazzo della Rovere, seat of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre in Rome, on the occasion of the Grand Magisterium's Spring meeting.*





pastoral in nature, it is a question of forming future generations in a Christian way", he remarked in essence, thanking the Order for offering him the means to continue in this direction.

An overview of the financial management of the Order also shows that, thanks to the reserves, the contributions sent to the Holy Land remain at the same level as the previous year, despite a reduction in donations received by the Grand Magisterium (about 14.5 million euro in 2017, compared to the historical record of over 16 million euro in 2016). The Lieutenancies of Germany and Italy are always on the front lines in their generosity, after those of the United States.

During a debate concerning operational expenses, the Vice Governor for North America Patrick Powers considered the need to boost the Order's possibilities by increasing its visibility so that its vocation to serve the Mother Church in

Jerusalem may be better known and attract new members.

Subsequently, Sami El-Yousef, chief executive officer of the Latin Patriarchate, presented the budget for the year 2017, explaining the rationalization under way for a clear and precise control of management, especially for the 41 schools and 34 kindergartens that - with almost 20,000 students and 1,500 employees - constitute the diocese's greatest financial involvement. He thanked the Grand Magisterium for the continuous contribution provided in this regard, as well as for the coverage of institutional expenses, especially relating to the formation of future priests.

Following the items on the agenda, the President of the Holy Land Commission of the Grand Magisterium, Thomas McKiernan, commented on the help given to the Patriarchate for evangelization activities,

emphasizing that in addition to the major projects in 2018 (the school and the presbytery of Jaffa of Nazareth, in Israel; the kindergarten in Hashimi in Jordan; the church of Jubeiha in Jordan; the renovation of the parish house in Anjara in Jordan; as well as the raise in teachers' salaries), some "small projects" will be favored on a human scale, allowing to diversify the motivation of Knights and Dames. These small projects 2018 - proposed by the Patriarchate - amount to little more than 300,000 euros and can be consulted by the Lieutenants on a dedicated section of the Grand Magisterium's administration website.

These themes together with the role

played by the Lieutenants will be reflected upon during the general assembly of the Order, the *Consulta*, scheduled in Rome from November 13 to 16. Lieutenant General Agostino Borromeo spoke about it, underlining that he is

*The Lieutenancies  
for Germany and Italy  
are always at the  
forefront of generosity,  
after those for the  
United States.*

currently cooperating with a preparatory commission for the *Instrumentum Laboris*, which will guide the work. This event will also be an opportunity to develop the Order's communications, as was pointed out by Chancellor Bastianelli, who also ascertained the need for a renewal and rejuvenation of the membership, the number of which remains stable (about 29,000). The number of deaths increased by 12% in 2017 compared to 2016, highlighting the essential need for measures in favor of recruitment. North America is still leading with 15,000 members, followed by Europe with 12,000 (a 5% decrease is observed in Europe, while the trend is on the upside in other regions); then follows Oceania, Latin America - revitalized thanks to the restoration of the Mexican Lieutenancy - and finally Asia, together with Southern Africa.

**François Vayne**



# THE 2018 PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN AND SUPPORTED AT THE REQUEST OF THE LATIN PATRIARCHATE OF JERUSALEM

*Sami El-Yousef, chief executive officer of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, shared with us some important details about the projects the Grand Magisterium will support during 2018 in agreement with the Latin Patriarchate.*

In 2018 the Order's commitment to the projects proposed by the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem focuses primarily on the conclusion of projects already underway.

One example is the **Jubeiha church**. In Jubeiha, Jordan, there is a growing Christian community. The first phase of the project was the basement floor, which was completed before Christmas 2017, enabling the parish to host Christmas celebrations there and to use the basement floor as a temporary church. The project continues in 2018 with the construction and completion of the church itself and the bell tower. "We hope to finish it by Easter 2019", stated Sami El-Yousef during the Grand Magisterium meeting of April 2018.

Another ongoing project concerns the **kindergarten in Jaffa of Nazareth**, serving an important parish in North Israel. This structure will have 6 classrooms as well as a multipurpose hall on the top floor of the building. The project is expected to be completed in Summer 2018 so that hopefully with the start of the new school year in September 2018, the new kindergarten will be opened. This is the site where the Governor General placed the cornerstone during his first official visit to the Holy Land.

The third ongoing project is the **kindergarten in Hashimi**, Jordan. According to Ministry of Education regulations, a kindergarten cannot be on three levels but only on one level for



*The Grand Magisterium of the Order has chosen to direct more economic aid granted to the Holy Land to support education, especially in terms of the salaries of teachers in the schools of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.*



children's safety so a new building has to be constructed next to the school. The chief executive officer of the Latin Patriarchate informs us that "the project has already started and digging has begun. Like Jaffa of Nazareth, it is estimated to be completed by Summer 2018 to be ready to welcome students for new school year."

Giving priority to completion of already ongoing projects, only one new big project has been added: the **renovation of a residence for priests in Anjara** where priests were very busy in developing the new building for the care of children but were not taking care of their own needs. "When I visited the premises a few months ago - states Sami - I found the place where they live in a bad shape. A project was then prepared and submitted to the Order who accepted to support it so that in a short span of time, the priests will have renovated premises to live in." In addition, the Order is continuing to fund the **salary increase for teachers**. 1,500 employees work in the 45 schools of the Patriarchate and their

salaries are really below the standard of the local cost of living both in Palestine and Jordan. Talking about this action that the Grand Magisterium decided to support, Sami underlines that "it is particularly important because there are 1,500 families whose sustenance is guaranteed by the employment opportunity created by the schools and this is a contribution to keep Christian families in the Holy Land and provide them with a dignified life."

Finally, this year the Order has agreed to fund some **small projects** totalling around 300,000 \$ to provide support for a number of initiatives which will not exceed 30,000 \$ each. Those types of projects will be able to invest in capacity building projects, infrastructure development, equipment projects for schools, centres, parishes. A total of 18 projects have been approved and these will support civil and mechanical works (60%), human resources and development (20%) and pastoral care (20%).

**Elena Dini**





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## The Order and the Holy Land

# AN "EVENING SCHOOL" FOR THE CHILDREN OF REFUGEES IN JORDAN

*The Order of the Holy Sepulchre participates in the reception of refugees on the territory of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.*

*As a concrete example of this solidarity, we propose one of the many experiences unfolding within Jordan's parishes.*

In August 2014, hundreds of Iraqi refugees fleeing Daesh poured into the Marka-Hashemi neighbourhood, one of the poorest in Amman, near the Latin parish of Marka (Jordan). Father Khalil Jaar has opened a free "evening school" for all those children who could not find a place elsewhere and who are awaiting – along with their family – a visa to reach a host country.

An immense courtyard is filled with pupils in grey and red uniforms. Suddenly, a bell is heard: Abuna Jaar sounds the hour of

prayer. Students line up in front of the chaplain and sing a powerful song. This is the Our Father in Aramaic, the language of Christ, which young pupils also call the "language of Christians" ... that language in which they were accustomed to praying in Iraq. In order not to forget their roots, Father Jaar instituted this daily Our Father, learning it himself by heart.

In August 2014, the relentless parish priest of Marka parish had to face the arrival of over 800 Iraqi Christian families, driven out by Daesh. The priest tells: "At the

*Daily prayer in Aramaic – the language of Christ – with refugee children, during the activities of the evening school organized in a Jordanian parish.*



beginning, everyone was sleeping here. We had to turn the school into a giant dormitory. It was hard, there were many sick people. Then, little by little, we were able to rent some apartments into which two or three families moved". In February 2015, once the "humanitarian crisis" had receded, an "evening school" was born. Today, it welcomes 200 children completely free of charge in the evening, in addition to the 100 students integrated in classes with Jordanians in the morning. Within a few months, the institute has become a pillar in the lives of many families, a community in which they find shelter.

In order to bring this project to life, Father Jaar skilfully juggled the Iraqi

community, the parishioners and some local Muslims employed in the school: a difficult but successful gamble. "The Iraqis have given new impetus to the Christian community of Marka," the religious commented. The priest, originally from Bethlehem and ordained in Iraq before the Daesh tragedy, lives his apostolate as a radical call. "When these families arrived, I realized that the Good Lord had sent me here to take care of them ... They are martyrs. I have a phrase of the Gospel in my head that says 'they will persecute you because of your faith'. It is precisely what they have experienced! Yes, I care for the saints of the twenty-first century ..."

**Claire Guigou (from Amman)**

## FROM BETHLEHEM TO PANAMA: ROSARIES FOR WYD

*The "AveJmj" project mobilizes Bethlehem's young workers to produce thousands of Rosaries that will be gifted to everyone attending the WYD 2019. The Order of the Holy Sepulchre, on the initiative of the Grand Master, wished to financially support this generous project.*

"Praying for peace, especially for Jerusalem and the Middle East" is Pope Francis' special prayer request for WYD 2019 in Panama. This appeal has given rise to the beautiful project "AveJmj": "Ave" for the prayer to Mary, while "Jmj" (acronym in Spanish) stands for the World Youth Day, but also for "Jesus, Mary, Joseph". Next January, young participants from around the world will be united in prayer to the Christians of the Holy Land thanks to the Rosaries that will be distributed to them, olive wood

Rosaries crafted by the inhabitants of Bethlehem. Promoted by Bishop Pierre Bürcher of Iceland and Swiss author Daniel Pittet, the "AveJmj" project provides for the manufacture and shipment of 1.5 million Rosaries from the port of Ashdod (Israel) to Panama. The associations 'Saint Jean-Marie Vianney' Lausanne and Caritas Jerusalem support the initiative, raising funds and

managing the operating sector. The Order of the Holy Sepulchre strongly supports this project of solidarity with the Christians of the Holy Land.



**JMJ**  
**PANAMÁ**  
**2019**





## The Life of the Lieutenancies

# A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE TO THE LIEUTENANCY FOR GERMANY

**O**n May 5, 2018, the Investiture of nine Dames and thirteen Knights of the Lieutenancy for Germany took place in Würzburg, Bavaria, presided over by Cardinal Reinhard Marx, Archbishop of Munich and Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy. On this occasion, the Governor General, Ambassador Leonardo Visconti di Modrone, gave a historic speech in which he wished to thank "one of the most important Lieutenancies of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre".

Stressing in particular the cultural and emotional ties between Italy and Bavaria – whose Minister of the Interior, member of the Order, was present at the event – the Governor General spoke about the dream of a united Europe, in the spirit of the Founding Fathers, De Gasperi, Adenauer and Schumann. "A dream that still today is a hope for men and women fleeing war, persecution and suffering," he noted, in light of his experience as a diplomat of the Italian

*In his speech to the Lieutenancy for Germany, the Governor General praised the generosity of the German members: their donations are the most substantial, along with those from the United States and Italy.*



Republic, having dedicated more than forty years of his professional life to the realization of this dream with his German friends and colleagues.

Speaking of his mission alongside the Grand Master of the Order, the Governor General recalled that "the needs of the Holy Land are endless". "The Christian presence and resources in the places where Our Lord

was born, lived, died are under constant threat. The conditions in which the refugees live are dramatic. Our presence is meant to be a testimony to the values of our faith and a teaching of the principles of coexistence and peace, especially for future generations", he continued. Visconti di Modrone concluded by expressing his gratitude and the gratitude of the Grand Magisterium to the 1500 members of this Lieutenancy for their work, Germany being second with Italy only to the United States for the generosity of its donations.

*Members of the Lieutenancy for Germany together with Cardinal Marx and the Governor General Visconti di Modrone.*



## A KNIGHT CHAPLAIN IN THE ORDER FOR OVER 20 YEARS

*Grand Master, Cardinal Edwin O'Brien, has recently insisted again on the role of priests within the Order. They are a great resource and, by serving as chaplains, they can spiritually support the members of our Pontifical Institution, who are mainly lay people. In the coming months we aim to give space to some of them so as to listen more closely to their experiences.*

**F**ather Adrian Farrelly has a long history within the Order. For 21 years he has held the post of Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies of the Queensland Lieutenancy. Father Adrian recalls how his engagement with the Order began: "When I was invested by Cardinal Furno in 1997 I knew very little about the Order. Archbishop Bathersby, then the archbishop of Brisbane, asked me if I would consider being spiritual director to this new group which was establishing itself in the archdiocese."

Father Adrian was ready to accept the task and since then he has taken care of the various spiritual needs of Knights and Dames: "I support the local Knights and Dames

by participating in the monthly meetings of the executive council, and assisting in the liturgies for the Investiture and for our annual Jerusalem day. This day, usually held in April, is marked by morning prayer and meditation, guest speakers, lunch, and the annual general meeting." Another important



*Father Farrelly with members of the Order during "Jerusalem Day", organized in the Archdiocese of Brisbane.*





moment of the year is the Investiture, preceded by the Vigil.

A real highlight of the Order's experience is the pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Father Adrian ponders these changing life moments and the importance of meeting the living stones in the land of Jesus: "Over the course of these 21 years we have made 4 pilgrimages to the Holy Land. On each pilgrimage we have stayed with the Christian community in Taybeh and enjoyed the hospitality of the people as well as celebrating the Eucharist with them. Visiting the tomb in the church of the Holy Sepulchre is special but meeting and talking to the local Christians is the highlight for me." The pilgrimage experience is not something intended to remain in the past since one's own approach to Scriptures is enlightened by what one lives and sees in the Holy Land: "The experience you gain on a pilgrimage brings Scripture to life, offering a different understanding to what may be

attained through devotional reading or study."

As a knight chaplain, Father Adrian loves to talk about the relationship he has established with the members of the Order. Having served the Order for more than 20 years, he has gotten to know and has worked closely with four Lieutenants in the Lieutenancy for Australia Queensland. The present Lieutenant, Monica Thomson, is the first woman Lieutenant in Australia. Praying together and gathering informally to get to know each other better is part of what makes a Lieutenancy a more fraternal and vibrant community and Father Adrian truly enjoys this aspect of the Order: "Some years back we adopted the custom of gathering in St Patrick's Church, Fortitude Valley, for Eucharist on the first Sunday of each month. After Eucharist those attending share brunch at a nearby eatery. This regular contact enables stronger friendships to develop."

E. D.

## NEW NORTH AMERICAN LIEUTENANTS' ORIENTATION MEETING

**T**he Order of the Holy Sepulchre conducted its 'first-ever Lieutenants' Orientation Meeting in Washington, DC, on Saturday, 24 February 2018. The purpose of the Orientation Meeting was to provide four new North American Lieutenants with essential information on how to function and effectively carry out their duties and responsibilities. Using feedback from four seasoned members of the Grand Magisterium, the Orientation provided many benefits and practical input.

The Vice-Governor General Patrick Powers, travelled from Los Angeles to conduct the meeting. The two-day orientation meeting was held in the Rectory of Saint Ann Church in Northwest Washington, DC. The new Lieutenants

participating in the Orientation Meeting were: José Frontera (Lieutenancy of Puerto Rico), Valencia Yvonne Camp (Middle Atlantic USA Lieutenancy), Mark Rodi (Southeastern USA Lieutenancy) and Gerald Foley (Northeastern USA Lieutenancy). Joining Vice-Governor General Powers were three members of the Grand Magisterium; Professor Thomas McKiernan (Archdiocese of Cincinnati), John Carmen Piunno (Archdiocese of Washington), and Mary Currivan O'Brien (Archdiocese of San Francisco). Monsignor James D. Watkins, Pastor of Saint Ann Church, graciously provided the meeting space and welcomed the attendees at the Saturday morning session.

The first day's work was divided up into





*The new Lieutenants of North America together with the American members of the Grand Magisterium, gathered for an important formation day.*

Professor McKiernan explained to the new Lieutenants the importance of the Commission's work and how and why it functions. The Holy Land Commission is responsible for examining, assessing and recommending all proposals for the funding of projects by the Order, and for monitoring and reporting on the execution of the approved and funded projects. Professor McKiernan gave a synopsis of the Commission's 2017 site visit to the Holy Land

four parts and focused on the fundamentals of the Order; the Order's History, Constitution, Statutes, General Regulations, the Government of the Order, and the role of the Lieutenant. Following a working lunch, the second part of the day was dedicated to the Nomination Process, Admissions, Promotions, Accounting and Finance, and a Lieutenancy's Annual Report.

After a full day of work, the group attended the Saturday evening Vigil Mass with parishioners at Saint Ann Church, where Monsignor James D. Watkins was the principal celebrant and homilist. After Holy Mass and a brief repose in the rectory, the group headed to nearby Chevy Chase, Maryland, where discussions of the day's topics continued over dinner.

On Sunday morning the group reconvened addressing the previous day's business. Following some brief remarks by Vice-Governor General Powers, Professor Thomas J. McKiernan, President of the Holy Land Commission, gave a comprehensive presentation on the work of the Commission.

with the Governor General Leonardo Visconti di Modrone that focused on education, humanitarian aid, and pastoral care. He concluded his presentation by providing an update on the projects currently underway and some insight into the planned 2018 programs.

Closing discussions focused on the Legacy Program, recruitment efforts, organizing pilgrimages, member formation and personal spirituality, the upcoming North American Lieutenants' Meeting in Toronto, and the November Consulta in Rome.

The Lieutenants' Orientation Meeting concluded with an open forum discussion in which ideas, observations, and questions, were exchanged among the participants. Everyone agreed that the advantages of a systematic orientation are of inestimable value for any in-coming Lieutenant. The meeting closed with Vice-Governor General Powers thanking everyone present for making the first-ever Lieutenant's Orientation Meeting a success.

**John Carmen Piunno**



## AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND PREPARE FOR THE GRAND MASTER'S VISIT

The five Australian Lieutenants (Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia) as well as the New Zealand Magistral Delegate met on April 28 in Perth for their regional meeting. This meeting was hosted by Jack Gardner, Lieutenant for Western Australia and led by the Vice Governor General Paul Bartley.

At the beginning of the meeting the notes of the previous regional meeting that was held in Sydney in 2017 were read. The main topic on the agenda was the visit of the Grand Master, Cardinal Edwin O'Brien, who will be in Australia and New Zealand between August 31 and September 20, 2018 taking advantage of these days to visit all of the Lieutenancies (His Eminence will be in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Auckland and Brisbane during his trip) where he will celebrate Investitures.

During the meeting the Vice Governor General gave an overview of the situation regarding the projects of the Order, also explaining the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem's new proposal to support smaller projects in addition to the continuation of those projects already underway. One issue that closely affects the Australian Lieutenancies is the possibility of having a tax deduction for the entire sum of their contributions. The possibility, which is still a distant one, is under study.

The selection procedure for new Lieutenants was another important topic of discussion. The participants decided to invite some members of the various councils (treasurers and chancellors) to take part in the next meetings, to get to know possible future candidates for the role of Lieutenant of the other Lieutenancies.

Other issues on the agenda regarded future events: the pilgrimage to the Holy Land from October 18, 2018 for 18 days which already has several dozen members taking part, the appointment for the 2018

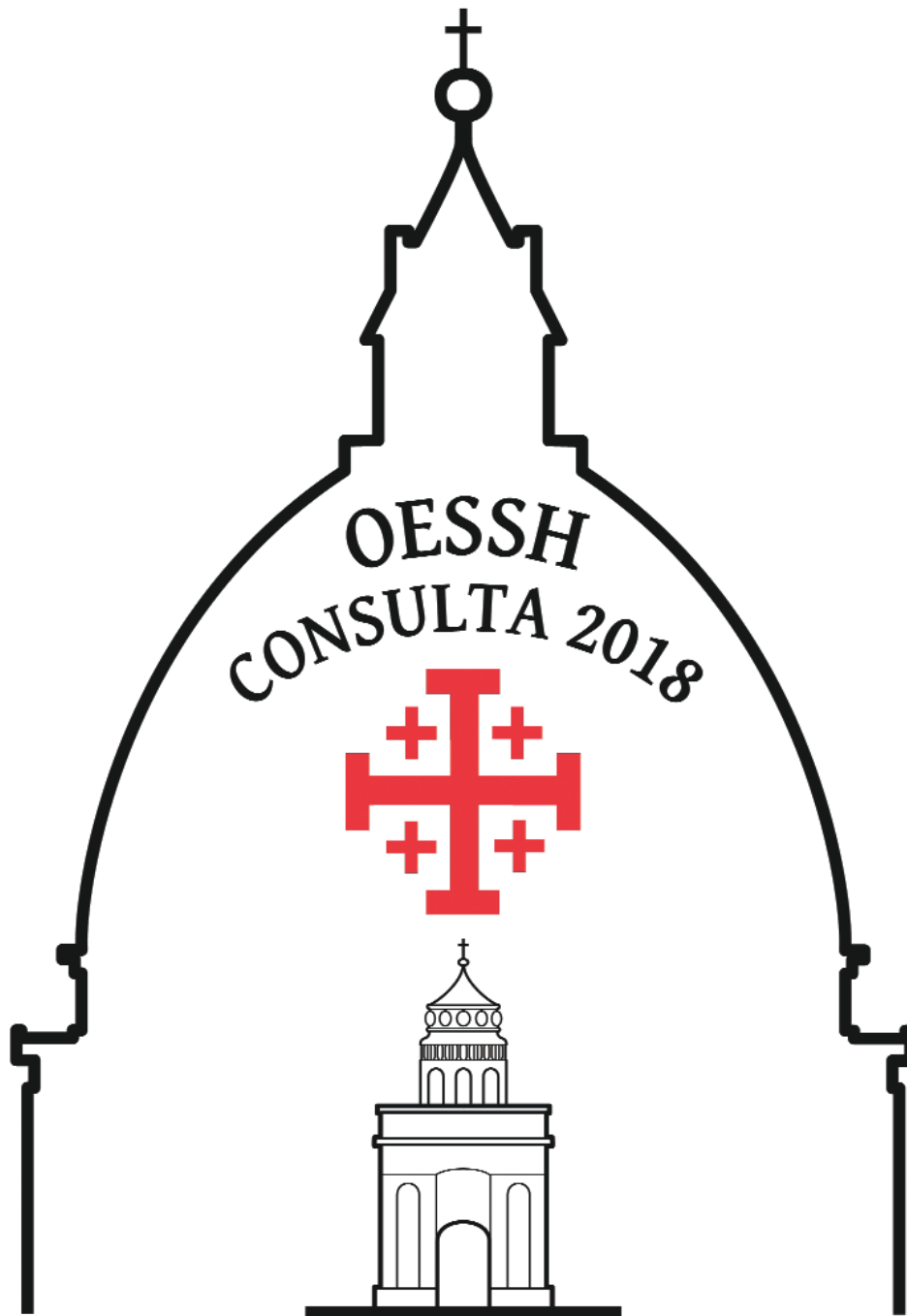
*Australian Lieutenants have gathered together with Vice-Governor General Paul Bartley, pending the Grand Master's visit to Australia and New Zealand, scheduled for late summer 2018.*



Consulta in Rome in November and the Australian national retreat in May 2019 in Brisbane, which will be preceded by a meeting of the Lieutenants. Lieutenants from region that extends from South Africa to Taiwan will also be invited to the gathering.

The meeting ended with a Mass celebrated by Msgr. Kevin Long in the church of St. Joseph in Subiaco with the local community and 32 members of the Western Australia Lieutenancy. Ending the day in a sign of fraternity, Jack and Janet Gardner invited the group to have dinner at their home.





The Consulta, the five-year general assembly of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, will take place from November 13 to 16, 2018 in Rome. The Lieutenants, who come from across the globe, will gather around the Grand Master and the highest authorities of the Order. A logo was created for the event: it symbolizes the shrine of the Holy Sepulchre, the tomb of Christ, surmounted by the sign of the Order that recalls the five wounds of the Savior, with the basilica of Saint Peter offering the picture of together. This logo indicates that the mission of Knights and Dames - to serve our brothers and sisters of the Holy Land - is received from the Holy Father and involves the commitment to witness to the presence of the Risen One in daily life.

