

# JERUSALEM CROSS

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## Message from the Grand Master

### “CUSTODIANS AND MISSIONARIES OF THE EASTER PROCLAMATION”

*Wrapped in light we live in the joy of the Resurrection the time of Easter that accompanies us to the Solemnity of Pentecost, May 23. In his Easter message, the Grand Master invites us to welcome the gift of the Risen One, all the more so in this time still so profoundly insecure. May the restored friendship – as with the Disciples – continue to be present in our lives, making us become “custodians and missionaries of the Easter proclamation”.*

Easter is a ‘story’ that is passed on and an ‘event’ that continues. It is not a simple recurrence on the religious calendar, even if it is sometimes perceived that way; nor is it merely an annual event. Yet there is always an element of this, in respect to the repetitiveness of our lives, to the cyclic nature of the calendar and in the habits of not forgetting.

In the daily liturgy of the Mass, the Church prays to God: “as we celebrate the memorial of the death and resurrection of your Son... we give you thanks (o Father)” (Eucharistic Prayer II). We find the core of our Easter in these words; that is, we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,

thanking the Father for the love manifested to us in Him, our brother. In a famous Paschal homily, Bishop Melito of Sardis prefigured Jesus like a lamb: slain in Abel; bound hand and foot in Isaac; in Jacob a stranger; in Joseph sold; in Moses exposed on the waters; in David persecuted; in the prophets dishonoured;



“Easter is a ‘story’ that is handed down and an ‘event’ that continues,” says Cardinal Filoni as he addresses the Knights and Dames of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre (in photo: mosaic by Father Marko Ivan Rupnik and collaborators, Descent to the Underworld and Resurrection, 2006, Chapel of St. Stanislaus College in Ljubljana, Slovenia).

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sacrificed at eventide, buried at night and not subjected to corruption, because God raised him from the dead by drawing him from the depths of the tomb and reviving humanity in him. God's inscrutable plan becomes a 'sign' or 'sacrament' of salvation. Easter is a sacrament of grace!

Jerusalem, with the empty tomb, is the place of the event, but the tremor of his resurrection went beyond the Holy City and beyond all time.

### The Eternal Lord spoke to him

The book of Exodus tells us that Moses, moved by the theophany – the powerful manifestation of the Eternal Lord speaking to him – sought a hiding place on Sinai, such was his surprise and his fear: *"I will set you in the cleft of the rock and will cover you with my hand"* (Ex 33:22) the Lord then said to him. Moreover, Moses saw a little of the glory of God. That *"cleft of rock"* was the prefiguration of Jesus' tomb carved in the rock, and in the words – *'I will cover you with my hand'* – there was a pious gesture of affection, almost a final caress of the Father towards the

sacrificed Son of man and Son of God. The primordial womb of Mary was now replaced by the womb of the cold earth.

However, it could not all end in such a way. *"Then I will remove my hand"* the Eternal Lord had said to Moses, and it was new life. Jesus is risen! The resurrection is the life that Jesus takes up again; he is not a revenant, dead only by appearance; his life is no longer what it was before. In Him, there is new life and with it, he precedes his disciples and us in that 'Galilee' of the peoples where our existence, our work, our illnesses and fears, our sins humble us.

### The gift of the Risen Lord is a gift that we need

The Church now proclaims in the same words of the Angel: *"Do not be afraid! (...) Come and see the place where he lay (...) he is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him. Behold, I have told you."* (Matthew 28:5-7)

This encounter with the Risen Lord has an index of absolute necessity; it is necessary in order to re-establish relations with the confused disciples, new relations that stir the



spirits: *"Peace be with you"* (John 20:19). Peace is the gift of the Risen Lord, and God knows how much we need it in order to reconcile ourselves with nature, with ourselves and with others, and to give meaning to the faith that is troubled by unbelief, in order to centre ourselves on Christ.

### Today, a new Easter

We live in a new Pasch of resurrection still shrouded by the fog of the Covid-19 pandemic (and we do not know how long it will last), with its Lenten restrictions and perhaps purification, but also laden with many hopes. The papal trip to Iraq, the land of many martyrs, which was so brief but intense, has raised expectations there of peace and reconciliation, as well as the possibilities of dialogue and understanding between peoples and religions that have always been in conflict for supremacy, thus opening a horizon that embraces the whole of the Middle East, Palestine, Syria and every continent.

The visit to Ur of the Chaldeans had - I

would say - a profound universal flavour: Ur was the homeland of Abraham, the man who believed, and to whom Jesus made a clear Easter reference: *"Abraham your father rejoiced to see my day; he saw it and was glad."* (John 8:56). Abraham had glimpsed the day of Jesus and at the same time the day of his resurrection, rejoicing in his heart, because the promises of becoming father to a multitude of peoples were fulfilled in this 'other' Son (cf Gen 17: 5-8).

At Easter, we can now look up to the Risen Lord, who was pierced and whose wounds have been made glorious. We must not forget. Jesus fulfils the promises of the covenant with Abraham and his resurrection renders them eternal. The Risen Lord therefore, has meaning for our life and our humanity.

As Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre, we know that we can make our contribution to peace and to the good; we are custodians and missionaries of the Easter proclamation: Peace, peace be with you, the Lord is truly risen!

**Fernando Cardinal Filoni**

## The Order in Union with the Universal Church

# "FROM THE RUBBLE OF OUR HEARTS GOD CAN BUILD A WORK OF ART"

### *The Easter message of the successor of Peter*

**D**uring the Easter Vigil, in St. Peter's Basilica, the Pope summarized in a few words his message connected to the announcement of the Resurrection: "it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures." The successor of Peter added that "From the rubble of our hearts - and each one of us knows the rubble of our hearts - God can create a work of art;

from the ruined remnants of our humanity, God can prepare a new history." The Holy Father also stressed the fact that God always goes before us "in the cross of suffering, desolation and death, and in the glory of a life that rises again, a history that changes, a hope that is reborn. In these dark months of the pandemic, let us listen to the Risen Lord as he invites us to begin anew and never lose hope."



The next day, on the occasion of the *Urbi et Orbi* message on Easter Sunday, Francis did not fail to speak of the Holy Land, which is very close to our hearts. "The Resurrection naturally takes us to Jerusalem," he said, stressing that "On Jerusalem we ask the Lord to grant peace and security (cf. *Ps* 122), so that it can embrace its calling to be a place of encounter where all can see one another as brothers and sisters, and where Israelis and Palestinians will rediscover the power of dialogue for reaching a stable solution that will enable the two states to dwell side by side in peace and prosperity."

The following Sunday, Divine Mercy Sunday, the Pope celebrated Mass near



*"From the rubble of our hearts God can build a work of art," Pope Francis emphasized on the occasion of the Easter Vigil.*

Palazzo della Rovere, in the church of Santo Spirito in Sassia, renewing the invitation he has made since the beginning of his pontificate: to adore the five wounds of Christ, sources of supernatural love. "In adoring and kissing his wounds, we come to realize that in his tender love all our weaknesses are accepted (...) His radiant wounds dispel the darkness we carry within (...)

Only if we accept the love of God, will we be able to offer something new to the world."

In the light of papal teaching, in this Easter season we can continue to entertain a living relationship with the Risen Lord so that, transformed by his Love, we may consider others as brothers and sisters.

## THREE DAYS FOR A RESURRECTION

### *A brief account of our Grand Master's trip to Iraq*

**O**n the occasion of the Pope's trip to Iraq, Grand Master Cardinal Filoni – part of the papal delegation – received affectionate messages from numerous local leaders of the Order around the world. After reading these emotional messages, full of spiritual depth, the Grand Master decided to write a few lines to share his impressions with the Dames and Knights of the Order, knowing that they contributed to the success of the event, thanks to their prayers.

Iraq is a country that has been in great

need of a visit from the Pope.

Even if it was "locked down" due to security and Covid, its people were able to participate by following every moment of the Pontiff's words and events on TV. I am very grateful to have been invited by the Pope and thus able to participate in this pastoral visit so desired by the Iraqis, especially by the Christians and minorities.

After many years of bad news, of violence and human and social traumas, it seemed to me that Iraq – after a lengthy Lent – celebrated the day of the "Resurrection", its





*The Grand Master of the Order, who accompanied the Holy Father to Iraq, says that this historic journey shows to what extent "the miracle of charity and life is stronger than any misfortune."*

Easter. Thus I thought of this historical event, also full of emotion for me personally, as I saw places and people once more with whom I had shared both sufferings and hopes.

Ur remains the strongest symbolic place for dialogue between monotheistic religions that refer to the Patriarch Abraham. Mossul and Qaraqosh have been symbolic places for the people of Mossul, who witnessed this ancient city destroyed and ransacked; and

for the Christians of Qaraqosh, who were also driven out of nearby villages in the unfortunate occupation by Isis (2014-2017). The Syriac Catholic Cathedral of Baghdad has been the symbol-place of many Christians' martyrdom where numerous priests, children, women and men have been slaughtered by terrorist fanaticism.

Yet here I met a young girl, 'Luce' (a pseudonym). When I saw her for the first time in 2001 she was only a few months old; she suffered from

phocomelia but her face was bright and intelligent. She had not been "eliminated" because she had been taken in by the Sisters of Mother Theresa, who were invited into Iraq by the then powerful Saddam Hussein. Now she is a young woman, with a sweet and friendly face, who speaks English. We looked at each other with mutual wonder.

For me it was the miracle of charity and life that is stronger than any misfortune.

**Fernando Cardinal Filoni**

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## Proceedings of the Grand Magisterium

Four fundamental principles of the administrative management of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre

### OBEDIENCE, TRANSPARENCY, COLLEGIALITY, AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

*Ambassador Leonardo Visconti di Modrone, Governor General of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, expresses his views of the administrative management of our Pontifical Institution, presenting also the role of the Commissions that support him in the government of the Order.*

The Cardinal Grand Master has given strong impetus to the theme of spirituality. With one of his publications he has outlined a meditation for the members of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, and for anyone who wants to approach the Word of God. He also reformed the liturgical rituals of all ceremonies through a work of revision and simplification corresponding to the most recent guidelines of the Holy See.

As Governor General, it is up to me to

govern and manage the Order and many Lieutenants have asked me how I set up my work. I would like to answer their questions with these brief comments.

First of all, it is my duty to offer grateful tribute to my predecessor, Prof. Agostino Borromeo, who never failed to offer his advice deriving from a vast academic experience and extensive knowledge of the Church, and who accompanied me in the beginning of my mandate. I drew inspiration from continuity with his exemplary

## News from the Commissions of the Grand Magisterium

The **Commission for Admissions**, chaired by the Chancellor of the Order, Ambassador Alfredo Bastianelli, met every month (with the exception of March and April 2020 because of the lockdown), and approved during the year 2020, 737 cases of admission to the Order and 790 cases of promotions to higher rank, for a total of 1527 cases, compared to 2138 (1129 and 1009) in the previous year.

The **Legal Commission**, chaired by attorney Flavio Rondinini, analyzed the Regulations of the Lieutenancies to verify their compatibility with the

New Statute of the Order. It also expressed its opinion on numerous disciplinary cases, drawing up rules that could offer consistency of treatment and guarantees of a fair trial. Finally, it has made proposals on fiscal matters aimed at finding, at the European level, common formulas for tax deductions.

The **Protocol Commission**, chaired by Ambassador Bastianelli, met periodically, in the presence of the Grand Master, to update the protocol norms as well as the liturgies of the principal ceremonies and to prepare the texts for





*The administrative office of the Grand Magisterium during one of its recent working meetings, together with the Order's Governor General, Leonardo Visconti di Modrone.*

governorship, while adding the fruits of a different experience, gained in over forty years of diplomatic life and in public administration. I would also like to thank the two Grand Masters, with whom I had the privilege of working, for the trust and kindness shown to me. Without their support I would never have been able to carry out the task entrusted to me. Finally, I must give credit and thanks to the staff who assist me – who are not numerous, but are extremely qualified – for their efficient assistance and constant dedication. I have often wondered about the reasons why I had been called to this office, and chosen from among many confrères with greater seniority in the Order. The answer I gave

myself was that the Order was looking for someone with experience in international contacts, who could give new impetus to the dissemination of knowledge of our Order and above all of the works it promotes in the Holy Land.

It was evident, in fact, from the first interviews held, that the charitable activity carried out by the Order of the Holy Sepulchre in compliance with the mandate entrusted to it by the Supreme Pontiffs, to protect the Christian presence in the Land of Jesus, was not as well-known and appreciated in public opinion as it deserved. Greater dissemination of the work of the members of the Order would certainly have favoured its strengthening, its expansion and increased its charitable role.

Therefore, I decided to set up my work on the basis of four principles: obedience, transparency, collegiality, and fiscal responsibility.

**Obedience** because I have the privilege of being able to report on my work to the



the publication of a manual for use by the Lieutenancies.

The **Commission for Spirituality**, chaired by the Master of Ceremonies of the Order, Msgr. Fortunato Frezza, assisted the Cardinal Grand Master in the revision of all the liturgical texts of the Order's ceremonies and rites. The Master of Ceremonies takes care of the protocol of the ceremonies celebrated by the Cardinal Grand Master.

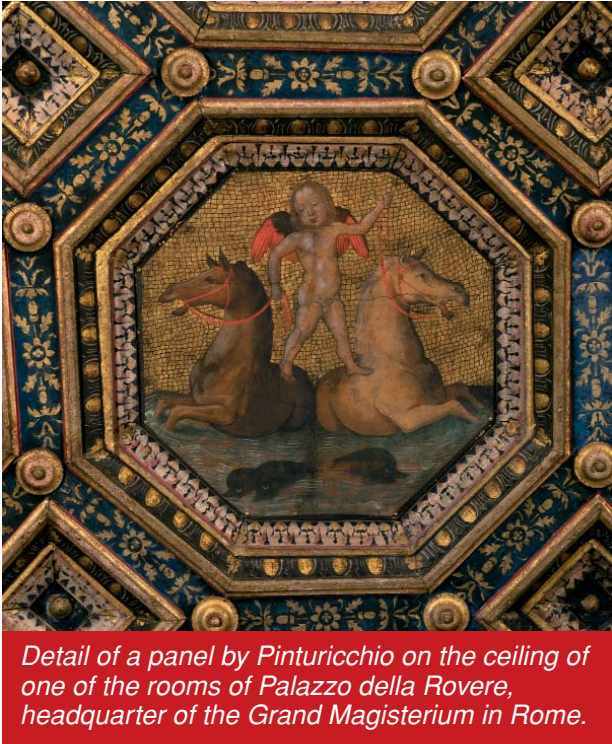
The **Economic and Financial Commission**, chaired by the Treasurer of the Order, Dr. Saverio Petrillo, is responsible for drawing up the annual budget and managing the Order's economic and financial resources. It meets periodically to decide on investments. The Treasurer submits weekly to

the Governor General and countersigns the management of incoming and outgoing financial flows.

The **Commission for Palazzo della Rovere**, chaired by the Vice Governor Jean Pierre de Glutz-Ruchti, met in the presence of the Cardinal Grand Master, to determine the steps to be taken to choose the future manager of the hotel in the light of the New Vatican Procurement Code and to monitor the work being undertaken to renovate the building.

To this list should be added the **Holy Land Commission**, provided for in the Constitution, and the **Commission for the Consulta**, whose work is specifically linked to the general assemblies of the Order.





*Detail of a panel by Pinturicchio on the ceiling of one of the rooms of Palazzo della Rovere, headquarter of the Grand Magisterium in Rome.*

Grand Master every day and receive his approval. Both from Cardinal O'Brien, with his extensive contacts in North America and the frequency and dynamism of his visits to the various Lieutenancies in the world, and from Cardinal Filoni, thanks to his many years of diplomatic experience, as Substitute in the Secretariat of State and Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples, I have received firm directives and authoritative guidance.

**Transparency** because I wanted the budget, both of the Order (which collects donations from the Lieutenancies), and of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem (to which the vast majority of these donations are forwarded) to be certified by a leading financial institution, and that all accounting operations be documented and approved by the Treasurer and by the Economic-Financial Commission meeting on a weekly basis. Furthermore, I have ordered that every purchase or service must comply with those correct accounting rules that I had learned and applied in my service in the Public Administration, so that upon the entry into force of a New Procurement Code of the Holy See in the summer of 2020, the Order was perfectly prepared to apply the directives.

**Collegiality** because I asked to be joined by four Vice Governors with regional geographic mandates, respectively responsible for Europe, North America, Latin America, and one for Australia, Oceania, and the Far East. Furthermore, at my request, a series of consultative commissions have been set up, chaired by a member of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Holy Land Commission, the Commission for Admissions, and the Commission for the Consulta. These are the Economic and Financial Commission, chaired by the Treasurer Dr. Saverio Petrillo; the Legal Commission, chaired by attorney Flavio Rondinini; the Commission for Spirituality, chaired by the Master of Ceremonies Msgr. Fortunato Frezza; the Protocol Commission, chaired by the Chancellor Ambassador Alfredo Bastianelli; the Commission for Palazzo della Rovere, chaired by the Vice Governor Jean-Pierre de Glutz Ruchti. Each of these commissions carries out an important consultative task by providing a contribution of skill and professionalism fundamental for collegial management.

**Fiscal Responsibility** because the expenses of the Grand Magisterium are based on the utmost economy: the radical cuts applied during 2020 have allowed savings compared to the previous year. In this regard, I would also like to note – answering a question often put by Lieutenants – that the expenses for the restorations of the portion of Palazzo della Rovere, which will include an hotel, do not affect the resources deriving from the contributions of the Lieutenancies, but are covered in part by a special reserve set up in the past by the Grand Master Cardinal Foley, and in part by the future manager of the hotel.

With this spirit and with renewed faith, after a difficult year 2020, we are preparing to face the new year 2021.

**Leonardo Visconti di Modrone**  
*Governor General*





## THE SPRING MEETING OF THE GRAND MAGISTERIUM

**T**hursday, April 15, the Spring meeting of the Grand Magisterium of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem was held, with the participation in the presence of Cardinal Fernando Filoni, Grand Master; Archbishop Tommaso Caputo, Assessor; Prof. Agostino Borromeo, Lieutenant General; Enric Mas, Vice Governor; Ambassador Alfredo Bastianelli, Chancellor; and Dr. Saverio Petrillo, Treasurer. Archbishop Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Grand Prior of the Order and Patriarch of Jerusalem of the Latins, who was unable to



*The Grand Master and the Governor General of the Order at the Spring meeting of the Grand Magisterium last April 15.*

### The Order's 2020 Budget in a Time of Health Crisis

## “Supporting people in the Holy Land is our priority”

*Interview with Dr. Saverio Petrillo, Treasurer of the Grand Magisterium*

**D**r. Petrillo, as Treasurer, during the meeting of the Grand Magisterium you presented, as usual, the Order's budget for fiscal year 2020. What can you tell us about it?

The Order's budget for the year 2020 closes – quite exceptionally and for the first time – with a deficit of € 1,397,729.07. This negative result is attributable to the social and economic emergency due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which has seen all the Lieutenancies involved in a great economic effort. This commitment has resulted in the collection of € 2,574,749.46 to help our brothers

and sisters in the Holy Land, specifically for the Covid-19 emergency.

**How would you explain this result, so different from previous years?**

Despite the increase in total donations – which went from € 14,743,685.47 in 2019 to € 15,363,788.71 in 2020 – the generous attention of the Lieutenancies towards the public health emergency and the contributions sent for the “Covid-19 Humanitarian Support Fund”, established by the Grand Master in May 2020, has meant at the same time a lower availability of





*Support for people in need in the Holy Land is the Order's priority, especially with regard to access to medicines and health services during the pandemic.*

attend because of a meeting with the President of the State of Israel, sent a message. The other members of the Grand Magisterium were connected online.

The meetings, coordinated and directed by the Governor General Ambassador Leonardo Visconti di Modrone, were preceded by the sending to Rome of a series of written reports by the Vice Governors, the Presidents of the various Commissions and the CEO of the Latin Patriarchate, which were the object of analysis and debate among the members of the Grand Magisterium.

Among other things, the final budget for 2020 was approved, which closed with a liability of € 1,397,729.07. This included an increase in the resources sent to the Holy Land, which grew from 12 million in 2019 to over 16 million in 2020, including 2.5 million in extraordinary aid for the Covid emergency. Important decisions were

also made regarding the deepening of spirituality among members of the Order, the admission of religious, liturgies for rites, and initiatives in favour of young people.

“unrestricted” contributions (annual contributions, oblations for admissions and promotions, pro Holy Land offerings, etc.).

entailed for our budget. Supporting the people currently in difficulty in the Holy Land is our top priority.

**What choices have therefore been made by the Grand Magisterium to deal with this problem?**

The situation has in fact obliged the Grand Magisterium to draw on its reserves to meet the monthly commitments made with the Latin Patriarchate. For the year 2020, therefore, the Order has made available to the Holy Land the total sum of € 16,112,788.71.

We wanted to fully honour our commitment to the Patriarchate of Jerusalem, even though we are aware of the risk this would have



*Dr. Petrillo, Treasurer of the Grand Magisterium, spoke before the authorities of the Order to present the institutional budget during this time of health crisis.*



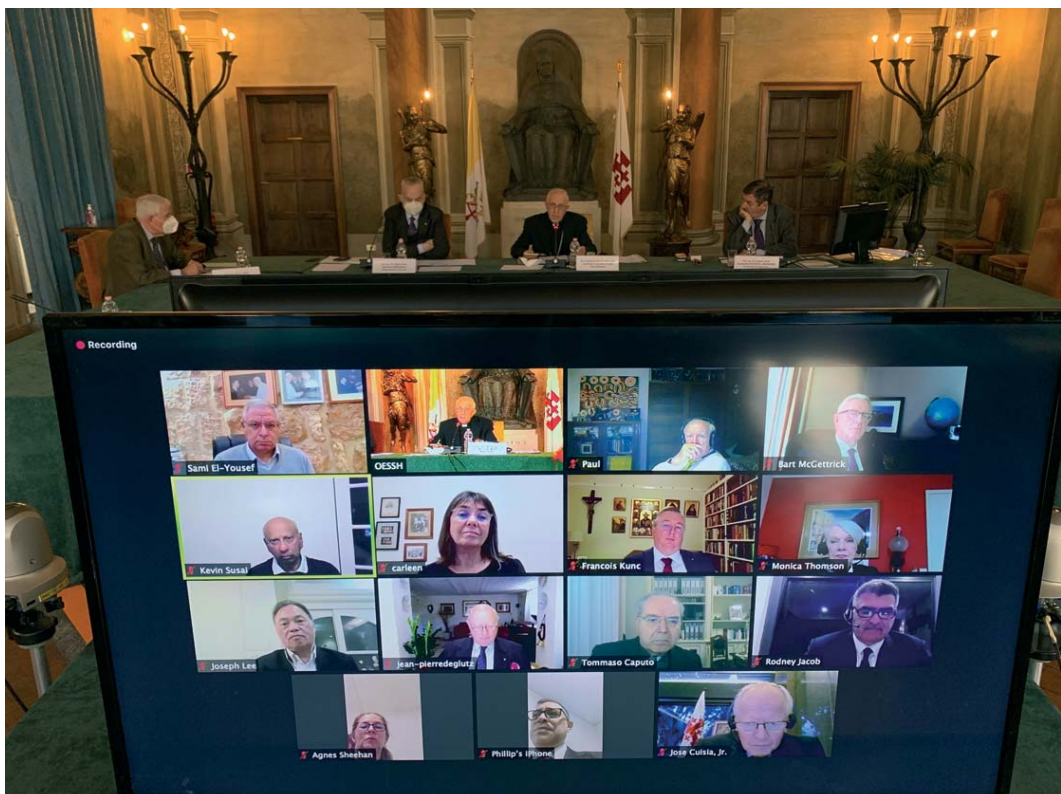
## THE MEETING OF THE LIEUTENANTS AND MAGISTRAL DELEGATES OF ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

**W**ednesday, 14 April, the meeting of the Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates of Asia and the Pacific took place virtually with the participation from Rome of Cardinal Filoni, Grand Master of the Order, and in from Jerusalem of the Latin Patriarch, His Beatitude Pierbattista Pizzaballa, Grand Prior of the Order, and from Pompei of Archbishop Tommaso Caputo, Assessor of the Order. The Lieutenant General and the Treasurer Dr. Saverio Petrillo were also present.

The meeting, coordinated and directed by the Governor General, Leonardo Visconti di Modrone and carefully prepared by the Vice Governor General, Paul Bartley, allowed an examination of the problems of that geographical area, giving the floor to each of

the five Australian Lieutenants, to those of the Philippines and Taiwan, and to the Magistral Delegates of Guam and New Zealand.

Among the main topics discussed were overcoming the current difficult phase of health emergencies, the need to spread awareness of the identity and mission of the Order, the Order's reflection on the involvement of young people among its ranks, the reflections of some controversial cases on the image of the Catholic Church, the expansion of the Order in Malaysia, through the creation of a Magistral Delegation in Penang, and possible forms of direct collaboration with parishes in the Holy Places to bring the faithful from areas so distant closer to the Land of Jesus.



*Thanks to virtual media, the Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates of Asia and the Pacific were able to meet with representatives of the Grand Magisterium at their annual meeting.*



## VIA DEI CAVALIERI DEL SANTO SEPOLCRO IN ROME



In November 1946, in execution of a resolution of the Municipal Commission for the Toponymy of the City of Rome, the mayor, Prince Filippo Doria Pamphili, ordered the creation of the marble plaques inscribed with Via dei Cavalieri del Santo Sepolcro (Knights of the Holy Sepulchre Street) in the short stretch of road that runs south from Via della Conciliazione, slightly uphill towards the church of Santo Spirito in Sassia, on the western side of Palazzo della Rovere, headquarters of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

The historic Renaissance palace built by Cardinal Domenico della Rovere, in the late 1400s, had always given the adjacent streets the name of the tenant who lived there. From Cardinal Luigi Aragona, who lived there from 1513, receiving personalities of the time such as the Duke of Ferrara and Isabella d'Este, the square in front took the name for a few years of Piazza d'Aragona. From Cardinal Salviati, who lived in the palace from 1526 to 1533, the square took the name of Piazza Salviati. When the famous Cardinal Mandruzzo, Bishop of Trent, who had such a great part in starting the Catholic Reformation Council that was held in that city, took up residence there, the square in question was called Piazza di Trento. Finally, when the Palazzo became



*Adjacent to the Palazzo della Rovere in Rome, the international headquarters of the Order, the Via dei Cavalieri del Santo Sepolcro is perpendicular to Via della Conciliazione, not far from St. Peter's Square.*

the seat of the College of Penitentiaries, the adjacent street took on the name, still preserved by a southeasterly stretch towards Porta Santo Spirito.

Thus Rome has since 1946 had a street dedicated to our Order, as does Milan, which named the street next to the Basilica of San Simpliciano after the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre, and Palermo, which wanted a similar dedication for the square next to the church of San Cataldo, built in 1150 and entrusted to the Order.

**Leonardo Visconti di Modrone**  
*Governor General*



## The Order and the Holy Land

### “OPEN EYES” AT THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

**I**n Jerusalem, on Sunday, April 4, 2021, the solemn Easter Sunday Mass and procession was presided over by Patriarch Pizzaballa at the Basilica of the Holy Sepulchre. “I believe that Easter is this, especially this: not bodies found but eyes that open,” the Patriarch said during his homily, inviting the faithful to “a new seeing, more than finding former things, things as usual.”



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## THE ORDER'S SUPPORT FOR IRAQI CHRISTIANS IN JORDAN

*Pope Francis' trip to Iraq, which our Grand Master, Cardinal Fernando Filoni, attended invited by the Holy Father, was of extraordinary historical importance. In the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, we followed this moment in special union of prayer with the Iraqi refugees whom we have been supporting for several years through various projects in Jordan. In this short article we tell some of their stories.*

**I**rraqi Christians have been present in Jordan for many years. “As a result of the continuous violence and insecurity in Iraq and after the military intervention in 2003, large numbers of Iraqis have been

displaced from Iraq to neighbouring countries including the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, which hosts some hundreds of thousands of Iraqis since 2003,” says Deacon Jubran Salameh, administrative vice director





*Iraqi Christian refugees in Jordan, a country within the territory of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, have been able to count on the help of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre for several years.*

of the Latin Patriarchate in Jordan. Since 2014, the advance of armed groups and ISIS violence have forced even more people, especially minorities, to flee Iraq in an attempt to save their lives.

"Since the arrival of Iraqi Christians in Jordan in 2014, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem has been committed to making their daily lives better. Thanks to the generosity of the Knights and Dames of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, of Caritas Jordan and of the Holy See, aid has been forthcoming in various fields, allowing them the opportunity to continue to practice their faith," wrote the Communications Office of the Latin Patriarchate in 2019, reporting on the work carried out in recent years to support these refugee families.

"On a legal level," explains Deacon Salameh, "Iraqis are considered guests,

which means that they are respected but that they live in a 'grey area'. Although there is a growing sensitivity to human rights and the situations that refugees find themselves living in, with no legal status or defined access to livelihoods, coupled with the spiralling and precarious economic situation of the country, large numbers of Iraqis are finding themselves in dire straits."

The donations made by the Order in recent years have funded a series of projects in support of Iraqi Christian refugees, in particular aid to cover rent, job creation, medical assistance and educational programmes. In 2019-2020 the Order contributed over \$ 430,000 to these initiatives.

The story of every refugee in need of support is similar and clearly unique at the same time. Busrha lived in Nineveh with her



family. When ISIS invaded her village, women and children fled and walked for sixteen hours, carrying only their passports to escape. Arriving in Erbil for a year they hoped to be able to return to their homes but this dream never came true. Now Busrha lives with other Iraqi families in Hashimi and thanks the Knights and Dames of the Order for their support and love.

Remon fled Iraq with his mother and father. He has been in Jordan for six years and for four years has been in the Patriarchate's Our Lady of Peace Centre that welcomes various refugee families. "Thanks to the help and support we receive from the Knights and Dames of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre," shares Remon, "we can have dignity and meet our main needs."

Upon their arrival in Jordan, Christian refugees lived in caravans or in parish halls, in shared spaces and without privacy. Over the years the Patriarchate has developed a plan that has allowed them to be moved into apartments. Attention to the economic needs of these families is not just meant to be

assistance and, when possible, jobs have been created for a few dozen refugees in the structures of the Patriarchate so that they themselves could contribute to the sustenance of their families. As for the children, the Patriarchate "provides educational and scholarship support to the Iraqi children and youth living in Jordan through paying tuition fees and providing capacity building courses such as languages, math, religious education, Microsoft Office trainings and more. In addition, we have now two separate schools for Iraqi Christian refugees that serve around 500 students, one in Hashimi and the other in Marka" says the deputy administrative director of the Patriarchate in Jordan.

Thus, during the visit of the Holy Father to Iraq, Iraqi Christians who no longer live in their own country were certainly looking forward to this moment and are grateful for the interest that the Universal Church shows in them. We joined in their prayers by accompanying Pope Francis' journey and asking for the gift of peace.



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## The Life of the Lieutenancies

Servant of God Enrique Ernesto Shaw, Argentine family man and entrepreneur

### KNIGHT OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM ON HIS WAY TOWARD CANONIZATION

*Pope Francis granted the request of the Argentine Church and recognized the heroic virtues of the Servant of God Enrique Ernesto Shaw, a layman, born in Paris on 26 February 1921, to an Argentine family, and died in Buenos Aires on 27 July 1962. The Holy Father, authorized the Congregation for the Causes of Saints to promulgate the relative decree, during an audience on 24 April 2021 with the Prefect of the Congregation.*

**W**ho is Enrique Ernesto Shaw? A layman, married, and father of nine children. His life was short, but full of commitments and responsibilities; at the age of four he had lost his mother, a Catholic woman, and his father, an agnostic, left little Enrique to be cared for by his maternal aunts, from whom he learned the sense of moral, civil, and social elevation to which a good Catholic was called. From 1931 to 1935 he was a student at De La Salle College, where he received an excellent religious formation, while at the same time achieving excellent scholastic results.

In 1936 he entered the Naval Academy in Rio



*The Lieutenancy of Argentina counts among its most eminent members a Servant of God whose cause for beatification is open: Enrique Ernesto Shaw, model of Christian life for all Knights and Dames of Latin America and the world.*

Santiago, near La Plata, achieving the ranks of Ensign and then Frigate Lieutenant. In 1943 he married Cecilia Ana Maria Luisa Bunge with whom he had a deep emotional and spiritual communion. He was strongly committed to the preservation of workers' benefits, especially wages and family allowances, to the point of threatening his resignation as CEO of Rigolleau, a renowned glassware company that belonged to the economic elite of Argentina at the time.

His brilliant human and Christian qualities were also appreciated by the Argentine Episcopate who chose him as President of the Men of Catholic Action. As a young man he had been a





valuable collaborator of his parish, then economic and social delegate of the Archdiocesan Council of Men of Buenos Aires and later Vice President of the same body. He participated in the creation of the Catholic University of Argentina, of which he was Treasurer; he was elected President of the Catholic Association of Business Executives; finally, he was a member of the Serra Club, the organization designed to foster apostolic vocations, and a Franciscan tertiary.

In 1958 he was diagnosed with malignant melanoma; despite this, he did not fail to fulfill his family responsibilities and work and social commitments. In the same year, on December 5, Fr. León B. Martinengo O.F.M., National Commissioner of the Third Order of St. Francis, proposed him to the Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, Card. Nicola Canali, for nomination as a Knight, considering him "a person truly worthy and deserving of the high honour to which he aspires, reason for which I am grateful to encourage the favorable reception of this request" (Letter of 5.12.1958).

In a list of February 11, 1959, the Apostolic Administrator of Buenos Aires willingly recommended him to the Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem; a request made again on 20 August 1961, by the Rector of the Third Order, Fra' Bernardino Santini, O.F. M.; the parish priest of the Basilica del Pilar, Rev. Juan Di Falco, on June 14, 1961, wrote: "Mr. Enrique Shaw belongs to this parish, he participates in it with constancy and edification (... he is) exemplary (and...) deserves the highest consideration as a

knight and a Christian". The nomination took place with a diploma from Cardinal Eugene Tisserant on 17 July 1962 and the news was immediately brought to his attention; but by then his earthly life was coming to an end. The Servant of God died on 27 August 1962, while in Rome final preparations were being made for the Second Vatican Council, and its renewal of the role of the laity in the Church.

Alvaro Manfredi from Buenos Aires, on August 30, 1962, announced: "Unfortunately, with great sorrow we experience the untimely death of Knight Shaw, an

irreparable loss, but one more saint in heaven. He had greatly appreciated the nomination that I had given him almost *in articulo mortis*." Later, the Vicar General of Buenos Aires sadly recalled: "Mr. Enrique Shaw (...) was very worthy of this distinction".

From Rome, on learning the sad news, they replied that it was "comforting to know that before his death, he had the satisfaction of learning of his admission to the Order".

Pope Francis, who as Archbishop had encouraged the opening of the canonical cause, now

approves the heroic nature of Shaw's virtues, the first step on the path to the honours of the altar.

As Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre, we rejoice that the Church has recognized the great virtues of this brother who follows in the footsteps of Blessed Bartolo Longo, and I am particularly pleased to point him out to the common attention of our Order as a brother who leaves us and the Church a shining example of Christian virtue.

**Fernando Cardinal Filoni**

*Grand Master  
Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre*

**“ Christ’s sacrifice,  
the Cross, is at the center  
of all earthly  
perspectives. Any solution  
that would claim to set  
aside the Cross would be  
precarious.**

• • •

**The best Catholic  
conception of professional  
life is to fulfill one’s  
duties of justice and  
charity to the best of  
one’s ability ”**

**Enrique Ernesto Shaw**



## *Next year in Jerusalem*

**T**he months of the pandemic have touched everyone deeply: from the health dimension, to the economic, to social relations, everyone has had to face various difficulties. The Knights and Dames have endeavoured in many ways to carry on the activities of the Order: charity, prayer, and mutual support. Now, within the Lieutenancies, there is hope that in the months to come we can reunite, with fewer restrictions, with our brothers and sisters and again experience the joy of the pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

## BETWEEN A PARALYSING SHOCK AND A CREATIVE AWAKENING

### *German Delegations facing the pandemic*

**F**or the Delegations of the German Lieutenancy – as for the Delegations of all the European Lieutenancies – the Coronavirus pandemic has represented a great challenge: For a year, it has meant keeping one's distance, wearing masks, and abstaining from the majority of face-to-face meetings. Only summer 2020 offered a few welcome weeks of relaxation.

At the start of the pandemic, most commanderies went into shock. All the Order's events were cancelled: Delegation meetings, spiritual retreats, jubilee celebrations, the Spring Investiture, and planned trips to the Holy Land. In the summer, the Delegations benefitted from a relaxation of sanitary regulations, and showed remarkable creativity in holding their meetings: pilgrimages were organised in the local area, and processions respected social distancing. Gatherings were held in the gardens of the brothers and sisters of

the Order and masses celebrated in the open air. Individual organ recitals were organised, and the first hybrid family excursion took place. The Delegations' meetings were relocated to churches where we not only celebrated masses but also attended conferences. Face-to-face meetings were moved outside – to the church forecourt or even in a cloister.

The second lockdown, from the end of



*Procession on the occasion of the Investiture ceremony in Fulda, September 2020.*



autumn 2020, has freed up more creativity in the Delegations (we had no choice!) to find new ways of meeting: now, we often meet online to take part in conferences and to come together for retreats.

In some cases, unfortunately, the Delegations have failed to actively maintain the life of the Order. The long distances to travel to meetings without having the opportunity of spending time together deterred participants as much as a fear for their personal health. Additionally, we have observed a certain reluctance to use digital media.

Despite all the restrictions, the two Investitures in Fulda in the Autumn were a positive experience for all 100 participants. As parish singing was of course prohibited, it was replaced by soloists. The procession took place respecting social distancing and the wearing of masks. Thus 37 new confreres and consœurs were able to be

invested in a dignified setting. Through live streaming, those attending the celebrations could connect with the members of the Order at home. In parallel, more modest celebrations took place in the Sections to pray for the newly invested members.

The less that face-to-face meetings were possible, the more spiritual closeness and alternative methods of communication became increasingly important. Now, Delegations receive spiritual instruction often through newsletters and regularly through the Lieutenancy app. The Delegations meet with the representatives of the Latin Patriarchate by videoconference and thus have a first-hand insight into the situation in the Holy Land. Finally, we are especially united through our common prayer – and more than ever in this time of pandemic.

**Susanne Schumacher**

*Press Officer of the Lieutenancy for Germany*

## LOOKING DOWN THE ROAD TO RECOVERY: RESUMING PILGRIMAGES TO THE HOLY LAND

*A testimony of faith by Henrique Abreu, Knight of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, former director of the Project Development Office of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and current director of GEMM Travel, a travel agency specializing in pilgrimages based in Jerusalem.*

**T**he Holy Land is the place where we can experience the Fifth Gospel, as Pope Benedict XVI once said. Our salvation history is there, in the land of Jesus, Mary, and the Apostles.

A pilgrimage to the Holy Land is indeed a life-transforming experience, where we discover hidden treasures, such as the life of Jesus and the Christian communities, the living stones.

Historically, people would always travel on pilgrimages in times of difficulties, given

that "faith travel" was one of the first forms of tourism, where the journey was as important and the destination itself.

The pilgrimages are of great importance in a time of great division in the world, as we face today. The journey to the Holy Land becomes a unique time, where we can reach out to the communities, sharing common faith and values. The need for a human and spiritual connection is greater than ever.

The four pillars of the pilgrimage are: union in prayer with all the Christian





*Pilgrims are essential to maintain living links with the Mother Church that is in Jerusalem, as Henrique Abreu, a Portuguese Knight committed to the recovery of the spiritual experiences that pilgrimages to the Holy Land offer, testifies in this article.*

brothers and sisters; renew, as a pilgrim, our faith in the land of Jesus; support the local Christian communities through pilgrimages and projects of the Church; and finally, give testimony of Risen Christ after living the Gospel on His land.

We know Jesus lives in the suffering places.

The streets of the Old Cities of Jerusalem and Bethlehem, empty of pilgrims for almost a year, show deep signs of the fragility experienced by those communities, which highly depend on pilgrims and visitors. Families and individuals need their dignity and faith restored. Healthy spirituality and employment contribute enormously to restoring dignity. A dire situation, indeed.

As the Holy Land and the holy places prepare for a full recovery, let us prepare our hearts in charity and compassion, and return to Bethlehem and rejoice where the Christmas miracle is every day. Let us join our souls to Jesus at Golgotha again and again, seeing Him in our suffering brothers

and sisters of the Middle East. Let us meet again in the Sea of Galilee and reach out to Jesus, who taught us to trust Him during all life's storms and turbulence we encounter.

There is no virtual replacement for a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The return of pilgrims would be a light of hope to sustain the Christian communities and the Church's mission. One of the spiritual gifts we will have, is the profound sense of gratitude for experiencing these holy places again.

When travels resume to the Holy Land, we will need to regain those experiences that we once lived. We can re-write our history, reaching our hand to our communities and being part of the Mission Jesus entrusted to all Christians: to live for one another as brothers in Christ.

Pilgrim Knights and Dames of the Holy Sepulchre can embrace the core of our mission towards the Mother Church and the Holy Land's Christians, enriching our spirituality and emerging more robust in the faith.

