

NEW APPOINTMENT IN THE
GRAND MAGISTERIUM

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THE
2003 CONSULTA

News Letter

ORDO EQUESTRIS SANCTI SEPULCRI HIROSOLYMITANI

AS A FINAL NOTE TO END 2003: **IMPORTANT DELIBERATIONS AND CHANGES**

The 2003 Consulta and changes in the leadership of the Order will set their stamp on our sodality in the coming years. Both involve great expectations and many commitments.

The first report of the progress made by the 2003 Consulta and its future direction was presented immediately after the deliberations ended. But then the Grand Master Cardinal

Furno, who wanted to fill the vacant post of Lieutenant General, announced another very important decision that also affects the office of Governor General. Since both decisions and the

reasons behind them have far-reaching effects for our Order, it was proper that this Newsletter should at once report on both and that is why it has been somewhat delayed.

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A world apart: the Lieutenancy of England & Wales attempts to provide training for English teachers



NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE GRAND MAGISTERIUM

On 12 December 2003 Carlo Cardinal Furno, Grand Master of the Order, issued two decrees, one of which promotes the Governor General Ludovico Carducci Artensio to Lieutenant General of the Order, whilst the other appoints Vice-Governor Pier Luigi Parola as the new Governor General. Earlier, by his decree of 25 October 2003, the Grand Master had appointed Monsignor Juan J. Dorronsoro as the Order's new Ceremonial Officer following the resignation of his predecessor, Monsignor Bernard de Lanversin.

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LUDOVICO CARDUCCI ARTENISIO.

The new Lieutenant General of the Order was born in Rome in 1922. A career diplomat, he was Italian Ambassador to Dakar, Permanent Representative at UNESCO and, until 1987, Ambassador to the Netherlands. He became Governor General of the Order in 1991. The Order has grown considerably during his

period in office, the number of Lieutenancies having increased from 39 to 52.

PIER LUIGI PAROLA.

Born in Rome in 1936, he has a degree in Electronic Engineering from Genoa University. He has held a number of important posts in industry, including General Manager of the Italian Operation of the General Electric Company (1982-1988), then General Manager, and Managing Director of GE Medical Systems Italia (until 1995). In 1992 he became the Order's Lieutenant for Central Italy and on 10 April 2000 he was appointed

Vice-Governor General, whilst continuing in office as "Regent ad interim" of his Lieutenancy.

JUAN J. DORRONSORO.

Born in Zumárraga (Guipúzcoa, Spain) in 1931, he was ordained in 1957. His whole ecclesiastical career has been spent in Rome, culminating in the post of Under-secretary of the Congregation for the Religious and for Secular Institutions. He has been a Prelate of Honour to His Holiness since 1986 and a Canon of the Patriarchal Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore since 2002. He was made a Commander of the Order in April this year.



THE 2003 CONSULTA

*13–17 October – General assembly of the Order in Rome.
Watchword: Grow in order to serve and serve in order to grow.
Two plenary meetings and four working sessions
of concentrated discussion.*

Article 28 of the Order's Constitution provides for a Consulta presided over by the Cardinal Grand Master, in which all the officers of the Order, its Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates, as well as a representative from the Secretariat of State of the Vatican and one from the Congregation for the Eastern Churches are expected to take part. This year, only two Lieutenants were unable to come. In all, 75 people from all over the world were at the meeting. The subject under discussion was the INSTRUMENTUM LABORIS, which served as a working document with sections entitled "Spirituality", "Image and Development of the Order", "Education" and "Special Problems". These four topics reflect the contributions made by the Lieutenants, Magistral Delegates and Members of the Grand Magisterium.

The outcome of the Consulta discussions is put before the Cardinal Grand Master, who will reflect on the results and promulgate the conclusions. This then sets the direction of the Order's work for the coming years. Discussions took place in Italian, English, French and German. The further the work progressed, the clearer was the strength of feeling that, as an expression of our spirit of fraternity, we must help the Patriarchate and the Christians in the Holy Land. In a homily, H.B. the Patriarch Michel Sabbah issued an extremely strong invitation to members of the Order to undertake pilgrimages to the Holy Land. He said that if Christians from the rest of the world wait until conditions are more peaceful they will probably find themselves in the heavenly Jerusalem first. Reports from Lieutenants

confirm that it is possible for small groups of pilgrims to visit the Holy Places in Jerusalem without any problem. One recommendation was heard repeatedly: let us not forget to visit Christian communities in the Holy Land too. The Patriarchate will be glad to assist. Members of the Consulta and all those who accompanied them were able to attend the great Holy Mass held in St. Peter's Square to celebrate the Holy Father's silver jubilee. John Paul II himself, the occasion and the wonderful atmosphere were moving and most impressive. At the plenary meeting that closed the Consulta, the representative of the Secretariat of State read out an eloquent message of greeting from the Pope (see translation in this Newsletter).



MESSAGE FROM HIS HOLINESS JOHN PAUL II

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CONSULTA OF THE EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am delighted to address an affectionate greeting to you today on the occasion of the Consultation of the meritorious Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre. A special and grateful thought goes to Cardinal Carlo Furno, Grand Master of the Order, who follows your activities with great dedication. Through you, dear members of the Grand Magisterium and Lieutenants, I express my appreciation to all the Knights and Ladies of the Holy Sepulchre who work for the Christians in the Holy Land. I praise you all and I encourage you in the support which you never fail to offer to the institutions of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.

Collaboration of one and all is vital to building peace

“Grow to serve: serve to grow”: this motto is dear to you. It serves as a goal to achieve for every individual member of your Sodality. The needs you must meet to further justice and peace in the region of the Middle East, marked by a persistent and serious social

and economic crisis, are numerous, indeed, immense. The desired prospects of peace-making and rebuilding demand the responsible cooperation of all: governments and religious institutions, humanitarian organizations and every person of good will.

Your humanitarian and spiritual action fits into this context. It concerns a particularly vital sector: youth. Aid to the Christians of the Holy Land takes the concrete form of providing children and young people with an appropriate school education. In this regard I hope that it will be increasingly possible to assure a stable Christian education in the schools, in a climate of respect and collaboration between the various members of society. Equally important is the Order’s financial support to “help the charitable, cultural and social institutions in the Holy Land, particularly those of and in the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem” (*Statutes, Art. 2*).

Aspire to holiness, take Mary as your model

Dear brothers and sisters, part of your mission consists in meeting

the needs of the Church in the Holy Land; but it is even more necessary to offer a consistent witness of faith. May your first concern, therefore, be to strive for holiness, which is the universal vocation of all Christians. Be builders of love and peace, inspired in your life and actions by the Gospel and especially by the mystery of the passion and Resurrection of Christ. May you take as your model Mary, Mother of Believers and ever-ready to adhere joyfully to God’s will. Call upon her every day with the beautiful, traditional prayer of the Rosary that helps us to contemplate Christ with the gaze of his holy Mother. This will be a source of growth for you, as it was for your illustrious confrere, Bl. Bartolo Longo. With these sentiments I cordially impart to each one of you a special Apostolic Blessing that I willingly extend to the members of the entire Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre, and to their respective families.

Joannes Paulus II

From the Vatican, 16 October 2003



SCHOOLS COMMISSION OF THE GRAND MAGISTERIUM MEETS IN THE HOLY LAND

From 4 to 6 September 2003, the Grand Magisterium's Commission for the Schools in the Holy Land held meetings in Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The President of the Commission, Professor Bart McGettrick, chaired the events which were attended by all the other members:

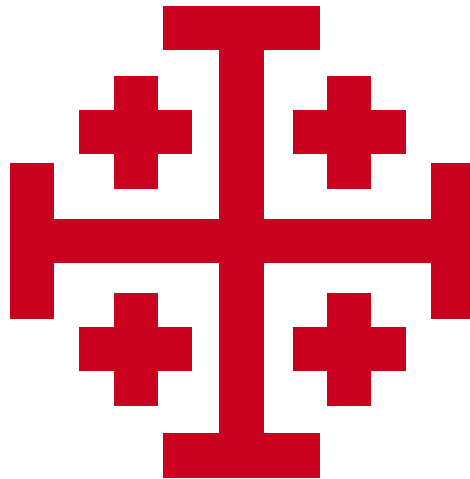
The Chancellor of the Order, Professor Agostino Borromeo; the Lieutenant for Austria, Professor Edwin Gräupl; Knight Grand Cross Thomas McKiernan; Professor Jacqueline Sfeir, Dean of the Teacher Training Faculty of Bethlehem University, and Monsignor William Shomali, Procurator General of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem. An invited expert, Mrs Pilar Lara, Lady of the Order and President of the Spanish organisation, Fundación para la Promoción Social de la Cultura, also took part in some of the sessions. In fact, the Spanish organisation has agreed to finance educational programmes which the Order is promoting in the Holy Land. During their meetings, the Commission emphasised that it was their own main purpose to use every possible means to ensure

that a Christian education – in Christian schools – should be available to students in the Holy Land. The Order must therefore work to attain this objective. If Christian students are being taught in non-Christian schools, the Order must assist the Church in the Holy Land in her task of providing them with a religious education. The Commission also launched a project, known as the *Initial Teacher Education Project*, which aims to improve teaching standards. At a special meeting at Bethlehem University, Prof. McGettrick and Prof. Sfeir presented the outline of this programme to group of managers from the Christian schools in the Holy Land, including some run by Churches other than the Catholic Church. In addition to those from various schools

belonging to the Latin and Melkite Patriarchates, representatives from Greek Orthodox and Lutheran schools were also present. There was general interest in the project – which in its initial phase will involve five pilot schools from different denominations – and everyone declared their readiness to take part. The meeting marks a milestone in the history of the Order's commitment to the Holy Land because, for the first time, at the instigation of the Grand Magisterium, a programme of an ecumenical nature has been launched and that in an area that is vital to the future of young Christians in that troubled region.



**ORDER TO HOLD A SECOND
INTERNATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES
(4–8 JUNE 2005)**



*At the end of the Consulta,
the Grand Master announced that plans for the second
international pilgrimage of the Order to Lourdes
from 4 to 8 June 2005 were going ahead.*

*After the success enjoyed by the first Pilgrimage in 2002,
in which 1439 Knights and Ladies of the Order,
their friends and family members took part,
the Grand Magisterium hopes that even more participants
will join this second pilgrimage,
especially in view of its importance to the spiritual life
of the Order.*



SHORT REPORTS

CREATION OF THE NEW LIEUTENANCY FOR SWEDEN

By three decrees dated 21 November 2003, His Eminence Carlo Cardinal Furno has established the new Lieutenancy for Sweden and, at the same time, appointed Ambassador Bo J. Theutenberg as Lieutenant and Monsignor Lars Cavallin as Grand Prior. The latter is presently the Episcopal Vicar for Southern Sweden. Further information will be available in the next issue of *Annales*.

A GREAT SUCCESS

The parish priest from Hosson-Shatana in Jordan, Abouna Imam Twal, asked the Holy Land Commission of Germany for help for one of his parishioners. 15-year old Ruba Jalal Suleiman Quandah was blind in one eye and had only 20% vision in the other. Confrère Professor Dr. Klaus

Ruprecht, director of the ophthalmic clinic of the Saar-in-Homburg University Hospital (the biggest centre for corneal transplantation in Southwest Germany) was immediately willing to operate on the young girl, free of charge.

After the transplant, Ruba now has 70 percent vision in one eye and 100 percent in the other. The successful operation has really opened up new prospects in Ruba's life.

HOLIDAYS IN AUSTRIA FOR CHILDREN FROM GAZA AND BETHLEHEM

At the invitation of the Austrian Lieutenancy, 31 girls and boys from the Holy Family School in Gaza, accompanied by 3 supervisors, spent a carefree holiday in Königswiesen (Upper Austria). The Linz Komturei (section) was responsible for the care of the group and for the programme during their 3-week stay, which was put into effect by individual members of the Order and by some outside associations.

The idea was for the young people to get to know the country and its people, so trips were organised to the area around Königswiesen, to Linz and as far away as Dachstein; also an indoor football match, a visit to the Bishop of Linz and to the "County Hall". A visit to the Ars Electronica Center was especially successful - the children took the opportunity to send e-mails home. As they set off back to their own country there were quite a few tears and everyone hopes they will soon meet again, in Gaza or in Austria. The scheme was widely reported in the Press and on TV.

Another Austrian Komturei, St. Polten, invited around a dozen children from Bethlehem to Lower Austria. They spent 2 weeks in families with children in the same age range.



A WORLD APART

In the Summer of 2002 the Lieutenancy of England and Wales invited six teachers of English from Schools in Jordan to attend a two week course to improve their English language and teaching skills at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill in London. The course was a great success and the teachers returned to Jordan full of confidence and enthusiasm.

It was decided in 2003 to offer six more places on a similar course at St Mary's College, Strawberry Hill, to teachers of English from Palestinian Schools. This is a brief account of what happened.

Names of suitable teachers were obtained through Fr Majdi Siriani the Director of Education for Palestine and documented invitations were provided to each teacher. After a great deal of time and effort on the part of many people, visas were obtained for 5 teachers. The sixth teacher had a Jordanian passport and was able to fly out through

Jordan. (One replacement had to be introduced into the party as an initial nominee was determined to be a 'non-person' as they had moved from the place in which they had been originally recorded as living. She was then faced with the problem of trying to get herself 're-registered' or run the risk of being deported.)

Once visas had been obtained air-tickets were purchased... and with air tickets confirmed, applications could be made for passes through the roadblocks. Full of enthusiasm the teachers assembled in Ramallah with luggage packed.

Passes through the roadblocks are usually released 5 – 6 hours before the designated flight departs from Tel Aviv to provide the minimum amount of time to drive to the airport, clear security and board the plane. On this occasion, the deadline for the roadblock passes came... and went. No Passes. Air-tickets were cancelled and new ones booked. The new deadline came and telephone calls were made. Eventually a message was received.

This was "due to security reasons the teachers could not travel to Tel Aviv and please do not apply again". Exit via Jordan was also prohibited. The travellers in Ramallah picked up their cases and went home. The effect on the morale of these teachers must have been enormous.

For the one teacher that flew from Jordan, arrangements were made for her to join in an existing course at St Mary's and she benefited significantly from her two weeks in London. She has taken that enthusiasm back with her and is utilising it now in her school and in other local schools.

What a great pity that assistance in the advancement of education in Palestine is so cruelly thwarted by those who are exercising control in such an arbitrary fashion.

Please continue to pray and work for peace and freedom.



IMPRESSUM

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