



GRAND MASTER

Madrid, 24th. of September, 2010

Message

Having now completed two years as the head of our beloved Order, I wish to express my sense of satisfaction and gratitude to all of you: satisfaction in the achievements that have been made and gratitude for the effort of all who have worked hard for the Order and their "neighbours". Despite our successes we must not be tempted to fall into a state of self-indulgence, because there is still a great deal to be done. First of all, the times we are living demand a more profound religiousness and so I invite you to pray daily for the unity of the Christian Church and of our Order; this aim was confirmed by the sight of H.H. the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury praying together for reconciliation. We must continue our charitable work as a primary target and leave aside all personal interests in power and politics, as we strive to improve the actions of the Order.

Still fresh in our minds is our Pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela where a reconfirmed ecumenism and unity were evident; I pray all that was established there will be vigorously continued in our Jurisdictions and in our lives. From my point of view I am already thinking in the next pilgrimage for the Order.

Now that we are united we must think about others who are still not in the fold and so I urge you to accept, with love and fraternal understanding, all those brethren who have remained, until now, in another obedience and who wish to be accepted into our Order. May the Hospitaller and Military Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem be gracious enough to welcome all members of good will with humility and Christian charity to join us in our quest.

Contemporary challenges incite us to strengthen the institutions of our Order so that, through their stability, we may serve our objectives efficiently. I strongly believe in a transparent Order and in a renewed organization, re-enforcing the need for information and better internal communications, so that our Knights and Dames can feel a greater participation in the government of the Order without confusing personal interpretations getting in the way. We are already taking steps to ensure that the Jurisdictions will be better and more frequently informed of the work of the governing bodies of the Order and I hope that this will create a better atmosphere of communication and dialogue.

Of all the human associations, the most idealistic and transcendent are, and have been, the orders of chivalry; and even in these modern times, the ideals that consecrate a knight are still valid. So we must remain faithful to the spirit of our foundation without deviation and go further in our charitable aims and objectives, maintaining our traditions and facing the future with conviction - I believe these matters to be fundamental in our lives and work.

With the help of our Patron, Saint Lazarus, I am certain we will attain all that we hope for.
Atavis et Armis


Carlos Gereda de Bourbon
Marquis of Almazan
Magnus XLIX Magister citra et ultra maria, Praeceptor Boignaci
