



GRAND MASTER

Madrid
11 October 2011

Dear Confreres and Consoeurs,

I invite all members of our beloved Order, and who ever wishes to accompany us, to make a pilgrimage to Kevelaer next year as a special symbol of our spiritual unity. We have reserved the 23rd to the 27th of May 2012 for this pilgrimage during which I hope we may be together for prayer, spiritual unity and an opportunity to plan for the future of our Order.

Since 1643, Kevelaer's chapel, known as the "Comforter of the Sad and Distressed", has been a place of pilgrimage, and numerous miracles have occurred here. Kevelaer is the best visited pilgrimage location in northwestern Europe. More than 800,000 pilgrims visit Kevelaer every year to seek consolation for daily sorrows and needs on the long pilgrims' journey through their earthly lives. These pilgrims come from all over the world looking for comfort and the blessing of our Lady of Kevelaer.

On Friday the 25th, the Heads of Jurisdictions will meet to have the opportunity to discuss important points of the activities of the Order in the different countries. On Saturday the 26th, the Order will conduct a pilgrimage for members and guests on the Way of the Cross to the Basilica of Kevelaer. On Saturday evening, there will a gala dinner hosted by the Grand Master and our Spiritual Protector in the Castle of Krickenbeck.

The pilgrimage will conclude on Sunday the 27th with a Pontifical Mass to be celebrated on the solemn Feast of Pentecost. It is hoped that all of us will receive the influence of the Holy Spirit to help us in our decisions for the future of our beloved Order.

I hope to see and personally greet as many of you as possible in Kevelaer. Please remember to reserve these days on your calendar and plan to attend this special spiritual pilgrimage. You may visit the "Events" Section of the international website at www.st-lazarus.net/international, to access the latest plans for the Kevelaer pilgrimage and other events.

Those of you who managed to come to Santiago de Compostela in May 2010 know how fruitful and wonderful that was, with nearly 450 of us present and I am certain that the Kevelaer pilgrimage will be a very happy occasion for us all.

Atavis et Armis

Carlos Gereda de Bórbon
Marquis of Almazán
Magnus XLIX Magister citra et ultra Maria, Praeceptor Biognaci