# The Grand Priory of Brazil

of

# The Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem



# **SOLEMN CEREMONY OF INVESTITURE**

Saturday March 3, 2012



SÃO PAULO – BRAZIL

### **INVESTITURE**

On this day were invested in the ranks of our order of knighthood, receiving the Green Cross according to their grades and the Mantles, the following postulants:

- Confrere Claudiomiro Bispo Sub-ChLJ
- Confrere Daniel Emiliano Guedes OLJ
- Confrere Walmir Dutra de Morais OLJ
- Confrere Adílio Jorge Marques OLJ
- Confrere Marcos César Moraes da Silva OLJ
- Confrere Fabrício Souza Santos OLJ
- Confrere Neil Shaw OLJ
- Confrere Leandro Ribeiro OLJ
- Confrere Everton Silva de Almeida OLJ



In recognition of their dedication and work to order, were promoted in the ranks of the order:

- Consoeur Adaljiz<mark>a Ma</mark>rta Machado Cuan OLJ
- Confrère Marcos Ferasso OLJ

In addition, the Grand Priory of Brazil and the Supreme Grand Priory of the Order have recognized the merits of the worthy members and awarded them in the Companionate of Merit:

- Consoeur Daniella Ortiz OMLJ
- Confrère Ivair Antonio Cantelli de Oliveira OMLJ
- Confrère André Luiz de Souza Dias OMLJ
- Confrère Marcio Pereira do Couto OMLJ
- Chevalier Roberto Ortiz CMLJ



'Let me remind those of you who are about to become members of this Hospitaller Order that the Cross which you will receive is, to Christians, the sign of Man's Redemption; its four arms symbolize the cardinal virtues: Prudence, Temperance, Justice and Fortitude; its points represent the eight beatitudes, which spring from the practice of those virtues, namely: Humility; Sorrow for Sin; Meekness; Thirst for Righteousness; Mercy; Purity; Peace; Suffering under Persecution; whilst its greenness will ever remind you of the humanitarian care required of Christ's soldiers and servants'



#### **OTHER CELEBRATIONS**

The **CSLI** (**Corps Saint Lazare International**) acknowledged the merits of **Confrère Luiz Henrique de Sousa – OLJ** (and **Captain CSLI**), awarding him with the **CSLI Cross of Honour in Bronze**.



The Bearers of the Banners and their Commander, Confrère Demétrio Mateus Moreira – OLJ (First Lieutenant CSLI) officially received, as a sign of gratitude, the insignia of the CSLI.





The partnerships with the following entities were officially announced and the *Instruments of Cooperation and Partnership* signed and exchanged:

- Obras Assistenciais da Igreja de San Gennaro
- Academia Boituvense de Letras e Artes
- Academia de Ciências Letras e Artes de Minas Gerais









# The Work and Main Actions of the Grand Priory

As presented in the ceremony of the March 3, I present a brief summary about our works and actions in Brazil:

## - UN Registration:



The Association of Saint Lazarus Brazil (the incorporated Brazilian entity responsible for the Grand Priory of Brazil) received the official registration in the UN (United Nations Organization) as humanitarian association, with the code 620028.

This registration is a great achievement and proves our seriousness and commitment, it can be verified on the UN site below, performing the search by part of the name in Portuguese ("Lazaro" for example) or in English ("lazarus"). In the case of search in English, other grand priories which obtained recognition will also appear.

http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/displayAdvancedSearch.do?method=search&sessionCheck=false

#### Or direct through the link:

http://esango.un.org/civilsociety/showProfileDetail.do?method=showProfileDetails&profileCode=620028

## - World Food Program and OCHA

The official registration by the UN allowed us to also get the registration with the **World Food Program** through the action We Feed Back, and gives us the legitimacy to work on actions for collecting and distributing food.



In addition, we have postulated within the *Office for* the *Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) of the United Nations* for the possibility to act as official representatives of that body in Brazil, since the country does not count with it. They agreed with our intentions, organization and objectives and during the years 2012 and 2013 we will be in trial and under observation, so that this can be effective in 2014.



# - Official Register of the Insignias

With the support and coordination of our member Confrère André Luiz de Souza Dias - OLJ, the insignia and decorations of the Order and of the CSLI began to be registered in the Brazilian Armed Forces Oficial Database. This will make it easy for us to award them and for the military personnel to wear them.

Due to the large number of insignia and awards, this is a slow and gradual process; however, we have already had three registrations:

Officer of the Order of St. Lazarus
CSLI Foundation Cross - Silver
CSLI Merit Cross - Bronze

#### - School in Paraíba



With the approval of a new zoning law by the City Council of the municipality of Conde, Paraíba, some terrains that were suposed for the construction of hotels, do not allow this usage nomore. Through a member of our Order in this State we achieved to get one of these areas by a loan of 30 years, and we will build and install on this site a school of tourism, hospitality and gastronomy to underprivileged youth.

At the end of 2011 we had the plans and designs approved, and in January 2012 we received the donation of material that allowed us to begin the foundations.

As all the work is based on voluntary labour, construction will follow the pace of the "possible" and not the one desirable, but we believe that the implementation of this project will be a major milestone for our actions and, in the future, an example to export.

# - University Training Project

By the initiative of the *Confrère Marcos Ferasso – OLJ*, professor at the Federal University of Piauí, the Order and the CSLI became partners in an education project that will provide training for adults of poor communities in Piauí.

The project, officially approved and registered by the MEC (Ministry of Education and Culture) aims at Training for Entrepreneurship as a way to form people and prepare them for development and social inclusion.



In this way, workers of poor communities (such as electricians, plumbers, masons, among others) receive training will and qualification to manage their business in a professional way, allowing them to improve their incomes and their lives.

Initially 50 individuals will receive this training, and this project is a matter of great pride for us.



# - Saint Lazarus Academy



Under the coordination of the Confrère Márcio Pereira do Couto - OLJ, the Grand Priory of Brazil of the Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem in creating its Academy.

It is our thought that education is the best and surest way to bring prosperity, respect, honour and values, in this sense, the **Saint Lazarus Academy** of Chivalric and Humanitarian Studies will work to disseminate our values and goals.

Among other subjects, the Academy will provide:

- Historical texts relating to the Chivalry, Orders and the Order of St. Lazarus;
- *Heraldic texts and studies:*
- Material for study of charitable and humanitarian actions;
- Training of individuals for actions of first aid, humanita<mark>ria</mark>n, etc:
- Dissemination of articles, texts and the imprint material related to Hospitaller Actions, and any other that focus on the highest moral values or that encourage the cardinal virtues of chivalry.



## - Partnership with other Academies

As presented earlier, we believe that education and culture are the main pillars for the development of a better, more fair and responsible society. So, in a path for both to spread cultural values to as many people as possible, and to make that Artistic Manifestations include values of citizenship, equality and charity, we have initiated a process of partnership with other Academies that share our values.

In joint projects with our partners, we will encourage: the adoption of environmentally responsible projects; the dissemination of Art as a way to develop the citizen and the poor communities to which they belong; the sharing of the artist's knowledge with others, in order to open new perspectives; the initiation and education of underprivileged youth in Art; inclusion of disabled individuals in artistic projects.

#### - Saint Lazarus Scouts

We think that currently the Society has flaws in its function to pass on to children and to young people the correct values of honor, respect, honesty, peace, humility, etc. We also believe that the teachings of Scouts can help to overcame (at least in part) these flaws. However, so that we can disseminate these teachings, we have to, before anything else, prepare ourselves.



In this way, we will act initially on Adult training so we can later move on to the creation of Scout Groups. And for so we are already in contact with the Scouts of Brazil Union in order to determine the best paths to follow and get supporting materials.

We also recommend and ask our members to begin contact Scouts Groups of their regions and localities, in order to be able to have support for the creation of other groups and establishing partnerships.



# - Groups and Commands of CSLI

In order to encourage the increase in local actions and projects, we want to implement and create new Groups of *Corps Saint Lazarus International (CSLI)*, as well as District and Regional Commands.



CSLI, headquartered in Vienna (Austria), is one of the main international partners of the Order, and in Brazil it is part of the same unified chain of command. CSLI members represent our "arms", and its structure and organization allow us to have a large number of individuals, enlarging our actions and partnerships.

All members of the order are also officers of the CSLI, and have among its functions the recruitment of new members to the CSLI as well as encouraging the creation of Groups and the signature partnerships in their regions.

# - Partnership with the social works of San Gennaro



As a way to increase our participation in social actions, last year we have initiated a partnership with the social projects of the *Church of San Gennaro in São Paulo*.

This partnership, besides providing us with a place and a sort of headquarter for our actions, will also serve as a model for other partnerships with similar entities that we want to implement in Brazil.

We will work, among other things, for the strengthening of some of the projects that we have already begun in the Church and in the implementation of new ones:

- Clothes for Solidarity: Organization of clothes collects for posterior donations and also for sale at popular prices. After three campaigns among our members we have quadrupled the material and new premises are needed to store all the clothes;
- Infocentre: Donation of computers and other equipment for use on the free training courses offered to the community. Today we have achieved to have a room with 20 computers and a class schedule that allow the training of almost 300 people weekly;
- San Gennaro Party: Involvement of members of the Order of the CSLI as partners and volunteers to work on the Party. This is one of the biggest popular parties of the city, more than 5.000 m<sup>2</sup> and about 150.000 visitors;
- *Blood Donation*: Organization of campaigns to encourage blood donation that will happen in the dependencies of the Church;



- *Scouts Group*: Organization and creation of a Scout Group in the church premises, in order to integrate and educate the underprivileged children of the community;
- Fundraising Events: Organization of fundraising events to collect moneys for social projects and for the maintenance of the nursery.

## - Ceremony in Boituva

As a way to celebrate and landmark the location of the first investiture ceremony of the Grand Priory of Brazil that happened in our country, the City Council of Boituva, the Academia Boituvense de Letras e Artes (ABLA) and the Grand Priory Brazil of the Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem arranged the planting of a tree in the garden of the City Council and inaugurated a plaque that will be displayed in the same premises





The ceremony was attended by the **President** of the **City Council**, **Mrs. Noêmia Genaro Nunes**, as well as numerous members of ABLA and citizens of Boituva.

In addition to the ceremonial itself, we have discussed the development of the activities and partnerships in the city. For sure we will deepen the work and humanitarian actions in the city and we have a solid foundation for our projects in this region.

# - Consecration of the Commandery of RJ

During the ceremony, and counting with the presence of some members of the Order from the State of RIO DE JANEIRO, we presented the project to the Official *Consecration of the Commandery of RJ*.



In this sense, we have announced our intent for the **Solemn Ceremony of Investiture for the year 2013** to be organized and happen in this State.

Until then we hope we can have the required number of members and postulants in the State to increase our presence and our actions in this extremely important Unit of the Federation.



# - State of Minas Gerais

Considering also the great importance of this State to the Grand Priory, it was announced the intention to create and consecrate two Commanderies in the State.



The great territorial extension of this Unit of the Federation and the huge differences between its regions led us to the idea of split it into two distinct commands, and counting that our two representatives of the State live in distinct regions, we pass them the leadership of this project.

Thus, Confrère Luiz Henrique de Sousa – OLJ and Confrère Fabrício Souza Santos – OLJ were designated as "Chargé de Mission" responsible for the task, and both of them shall start the assembly of their teams, the recruitment of new postulants, and working for a solemn investiture ceremony that shall be held in the State in the year 2014.



