

February 24th , 2011

Prot.160/2011
Ns. Rif. AB/gt

To the Members of the Grand Magisterium
To the Lieutenants
To the Magistral Delegates
To the Grand Priors of Lieutenancy

Your Eminences,
Your Excellencies,
Your Excellencies and dear Confreres,

We all have carefully and emotionally read the letter from the Grand Master His Eminence Cardinal John Patrick Foley dated 21 February, announcing his resignation to the Holy Father from the government of the Order because of his serious health conditions.

His words reveal once again his strength of character, his feelings of kindness and serene and deep faith.

Our gratitude and admiration towards His Eminence Cardinal John Patrick Foley should be expressed in fervent prayer so that the Lord grant him solace and peace during this time, and by each of us, in a renewed commitment of hard-working militancy within our beloved Order.

While trustfully awaiting that the Holy Father appoints a new Grand Master, I assume, according to the Constitution, Article 19, par. 2, the Order's representation and regency in cooperation with the Statutory Bodies provided under the present circumstances. I promise to serve the Order as best as I can and I have confidence in your united prayers.

In the Risen Lord, yours

Archbishop Giuseppe De Andrea
Assessor of the Equestrian Order
of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem