

Madrid, December 17th 2024

Your Excellencies,

On behalf of the Council for Ecumenism and as member of the Grand Priory of Spain, I wanted to take this opportunity on this special occasion of Saint Lazarus Day to extend our heartfelt congratulations to all our members as we celebrate the life and legacy of Saint Lazarus, the patron saint of our Order.

This day serves as a powerful reminder of the historic and remarkable values that our Order represents: charity, compassion, and unwavering service to others. These values have been carried through generations and remain our enduring legacy for the future.

We take this opportunity to highlight the image of Saint Lazarus hereby attached in this email, which is venerated at the *Iglesia de la Encarnación* in Marbella (Málaga, Spain). A solemn mass in our patron's honor will be held this evening together with several members who will gather in prayer and reflection. The image will be wearing the Grand Master's Grand Collar as a maximum sign of distinction and respect.

May this celebration inspire us to continue walking in the footsteps of Saint Lazarus, guided by faith, unity, and service to our communities.

Atavis et Armis!

With warm regards and blessings,

Dame Patricia L. Pedrazas Freeman, DCLJ

Chancellor for Ecumenism