



GRAN MAESTRE

**Christmas Eve 2007**

Dear Confrères et Consoeurs

As we wait to greet the anniversary of our Lord and Saviour's birth, I write informally to wish you, your families and your friends, wherever you may be in the world, a joyful and peaceful celebration of Christmas.

I was recently given a short prayer which I thought was very appropriate for us as members of the Order:

*An open ear to hear God's call . . .  
An open mind to acknowledge God's authority . . .  
Open eyes to perceive God's love . . .  
Open hands to share God's bounty . . .*

As a Christian chivalric Order it is our duty to help and assist those who are most in need, and I am very pleased that the support that was requested for those afflicted by Leprosy in China has been answered, and I shall be writing to all those jurisdictions who participated in this effort. This was in addition to National Jurisdictions' own charitable efforts and is very much appreciated.

Finally, though we have achieved much in recent times to reunite our great Order, this task is not yet complete, but I am pleased to tell you that I hope to be able to provide you with further good news shortly.

I wish you a happy Christmas and send my best wishes for a successful and rewarding New Year.

Atavis et Armis

Grand Master