

**EQUESTRIAN ORDER OF THE  
HOLY SEPULCHRE OF JERUSALEM**



**GENERAL REGULATIONS**

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*



00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

25 ottobre 2024

*Festa di Nostra Signora della Palestina*

Prot. N° 1108 / 2024

Ref. FF/et

Agli Eminentissimi/Eccellentissimi Gran Priori e Priori Vescovi  
Ai Reverendissimi Ecclesiastici Membri dell'Ordine  
Alle Loro Eccellenze i Luogotenenti  
Ai Delegati Magistrali  
Ai Cavalieri e Dame


Il Santo Padre Francesco, in data 11 maggio 2020, aveva approvato lo Statuto dell'Ordine Equestre del Santo Sepolcro di Gerusalemme, era dunque necessario, anche su richiesta di tanti Luogotenenti e Membri dell'Ordine, aggiornare il Regolamento Generale. Nei mesi scorsi era stata costituita una Commissione *ad hoc* che, per molto tempo, ha lavorato arrivando al presente testo che ora viene messo a disposizione delle Luogotenenze.

Con il Regolamento Generale si intende sostenere la vita dell'Ordine nella sua organicità e partecipazione al fine di sorreggere quel «*progetto di vita, di convinzioni, di valori, di scelte proprie di un Cavaliere e di una Dama*» (Introduzione al Libro sulla Spiritualità); inoltre, favorire quell'impegno di auto-disciplina ricca di generosità e altruismo e che dà vita a comportamenti altamente etici di quanti appartengono all'Ordine. Non dobbiamo mai dimenticare che un Cavaliere o una Dama non può mai esimersi dal condurre una vita che, insieme alle virtù teologali (fede, speranza e carità), pratici la fedeltà, la concordia e la giustizia; manifestando, al tempo stesso forza e nobiltà d'animo, senso dell'onore e abnegazione di sé; si tratta di qualità che dovrebbero costituire quell'intimo *habitus* di ogni personalità che ha il proprio riferimento al mistero di Cristo risorto.

Il Regolamento, oltre lo Statuto, deve essere conosciuto non solo dai Responsabili, ma anche da ogni Cavaliere e Dama, unitamente ai documenti sulla Spiritualità e sulla Formazione. Esso viene approvato *ad biennium*; pertanto, si potranno indicare, tramite il Luogotenente, eventuali aspetti che contribuiscano al suo miglior funzionamento.

Il Regolamento entrerà in vigore il 1° gennaio 2025, Anno Santo.

  
Leonardo Visconti di Modrone  
Governatore Generale

  
Fernando Cardinale Filoni  
Gran Maestro

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

English Translation

00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO

October 25, 2024  
*Feast of Our Lady of Palestine*

Prot. No. 1108 / 2024  
Ref. FF/et

To the Most Eminent/Excellent Grand Priors and Bishop Priors  
To the Most Reverend Ecclesiastical Members of the Order  
To Their Excellencies the Lieutenants of the Order  
To the Magistral Delegates  
To the Knights and Dames

The Holy Father, Francis, having approved the Constitution of the Order on May 11, 2020, it became necessary, also at the request of many Lieutenants and members of the Order, to update the General Regulations. In recent months, an *ad hoc* Commission was established and worked for some time, arriving at the present text which is now made available to the Lieutenancies.

The General Regulations are intended to sustain the life of the Order in its organicity and participation in order to support that “project of life, convictions, values, choices proper to a Knight and a Dame” (Introduction to the Book on Spirituality); moreover, to promote that commitment to self-discipline rich in generosity and altruism and which gives life to highly ethical behavior in those who belong to the Order. We must never forget that a Knight or Dame can never exempt themselves from leading a life which, together with the theological virtues (faith, hope, and charity), practices faithfulness, harmony, and justice; manifesting, at the same time, strength and nobility of spirit, a sense of honor and self-denial; these are qualities that should constitute the innermost nature of every personality that has its own reference to the mystery of the risen Christ.

The Regulations, in addition to the Constitution, must be known not only by the Leaders, but also by every Knight and Dame, together with the documents on Spirituality and Formation. It is approved for a two-year period, therefore, so that any aspects that contribute to its better functioning can be indicated through the Lieutenant.

The Regulations will come into force on January 1, 2025, Holy Year.

Leonardo Visconti di Madrone  
Governor General

Fernando Cardinal Filoni  
Grand Master

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

### **Foreword**

### **TITLE I ORGANIZATION AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT**

#### ***Cardinal Grand Master***

- Article 1** - The Cardinal Grand Master
- Article 2** - Power of Appointment
- Article 3** - Power of Delegation
- Article 4** - Power to Accept Resignation
- Article 5** - Right of Revocation
- Article 6** - Right of Exemption
- Article 7** - Right of Establishment
- Article 8** - Right of Dissolution
- Article 9** - Right of Convocation
- Article 10** - Admission and Promotion of Members of the Order
- Article 11** - Power to confer Distinctions
- Article 12** - Ownership of Disciplinary Action

\*\*\*

- Article 13** - The Patriarch Grand Prior
- Article 14** - The Assessor
- Article 15** - The Lieutenant General
- Article 16** - The Governor General
- Article 17** - The Vice Governors General
- Article 18** - The Chancellor
- Article 19** - The Treasurer
- Article 20** - The Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant

\*\*\*

#### ***The Grand Magisterium***

- Article 21** - Concern for Catholic Places and Institutions in the Holy Land
- Article 22** - Competencies of the Collegial Body
- Article 23** - Support Activities in Addition to the Order's Own Activities
- Article 24** - Members of the Grand Magisterium
- Article 25** - Arrangements for Meetings

\*\*\*

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

***The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium***

**Article 26** - The Collegial Body

**Article 27** - Power of Approval

\*\*\*

**Article 28** - The Consulta

\*\*\*

***The Commissions***

**Article 29** - The Commissions

**Article 30** - The Spiritual Commission

**Article 31** - The Economic Commission

**Article 32** - The Commission for the Holy Land.

**Article 33** - The Appointments Commission

**Article 34** - The Temporary Commissions

**Article 35** - The Legal Commission

**Article 36** - Committees

\*\*\*

**Article 37** - The Consultants

**Article 38** - The Consultants

**Article 39** - The Auditors

**TITLE II**  
**TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

***The Lieutenancies***

**Article 40** - Establishment of Lieutenancies

**Article 41** - The Appointment Procedures for the Lieutenant

**Article 42** - Prerogatives, Deputyship and Incompatibility of the  
Lieutenant

**Article 43** - Duties of Lieutenants

**Article 44** - Correspondence with the Central Offices of the Order

**Article 45** - The Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy

**Article 46** - The Chancellor of the Lieutenancy

**Article 47** - The Treasurer of the Lieutenancy

**Article 48** - The Secretary of the Lieutenancy

**Article 49** - Masters of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy

**Article 50** - Composition of the Councils

**Article 51** - Requirements for Appointments

**Article 52** - Power of Revocation and Dissolution

**Article 53** - Civil Liability

\*\*\*

***Administrative Management***

- Article 54** - Ordinary Resources
- Article 55** - Extraordinary resources
- Article 56** - Economic administration of resources
- Article 57** - Financial Administration
- Article 58** - Budget Planning

\*\*\*

***The Magistral Delegations***

- Article 59** - Establishment of Magistral Delegations
- Article 60** - The Grand Prior of the Magistral Delegation
- Article 61** - Procedure for the Appointment of the Magistral Delegate

\*\*\*

***Local Sections and Delegations***

- Article 62** - Establishment, Direction and Territory
- Article 63** - Section Presidents
- Article 64** - Section Priors
- Article 65** - Local Delegates
- Article 66** - Priors of the Local Delegation

**TITLE III**  
**MEMBERS OF THE ORDER**

- Article 67** - Application for Admission
- Article 68** - Admissions
- Article 69** - Training
- Article 70** - Obligations
- Article 71** - Promotions
- Article 72** - Conferring of Knightly Degrees
- Article 73** - Dignitaries of the Order
- Article 74** - Recognitions

\*\*\*

***Uniforms and Insignia***

- Article 75** - Insignia of Special Distinctions.
- Article 76** - Dress
- Article 77** - Insignia of Rank
- Article 78** - Banners of the Order.

**Article 79** - Coat of Arms and Seal

**Article 80** - Coat of Arms of the Cardinal Grand Master.

\*\*\*

**Article 81** - Attribution of Titles

**Article 82** - Celebrations of the Order

**Article 83** - Spiritual Benefits

**Article 84** - Order of Precedence

**Article 85** - Heraldic Privileges

**Article 86** - Decorations of Merit

\*\*\*

#### **TITLE IV**

#### **DISCIPLINARY MEASURES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**Article 87** - Disciplinary Measures

**Article 88** - Right of Defense

**Article 89** - Right to Confidentiality

**Article 90** - Communications

**Article 91** - Language of Disciplinary Proceedings

**Article 92** - Disciplinary Proceedings within the Competence of the Lieutenant

**Article 93** - Disciplinary Proceedings within the Competence of the Cardinal Grand Master.

**Article 94** - Appeals

**Article 95** - Self-Suspension

**Article 96** - Renunciation of Membership

**Article 97** - Conflict of Interest

\*\*\*

#### **TITLE V**

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Article 98** - Entry into Force of the General Regulations

**Article 99** - Transitional Rules

\*\*\*

#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix One** - Admissions

**Appendix Two** - Promotions

**Appendix Three** - Spiritual Benefits

**Appendix Four** - The Order in North America: Organizational Integrity

**Appendix Five** - The Order in North America: Personal Conduct

**FOREWORD**

*The Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem is a lay Order approved by the Apostolic See as a Central Body of the Catholic Church.*

*Its authority comes from the Supreme Pontiff who approves its Constitution and appoints the Cardinal Grand Master.*

*Both the Constitution and these General Regulations take into account the ecclesial and lay nature of the Order with reference to the special pontifical concern for the Holy Land.*

*Given the lay nature of the Order, the inclusion of clergy is intended to foster the growth and spiritual progress of its Members.*

*From Papal authority derives that of the Cardinal Grand Master, who rules and governs the Order and thus appoints both those responsible for the spiritual life and those for governing the Order, each distinct in his or her functions.*

## **TITLE I**

### **ORGANIZATION AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT**

#### ***Cardinal Grand Master***

##### **ARTICLE 1 - THE CARDINAL GRAND MASTER**

**§ 1. Supreme Authority** - The Cardinal Grand Master is the supreme authority of the Order. He rules the Order and governs it, assisted by the Grand Magisterium and its Presidency, according to the norms of Canon Law, the Vatican City State, the Constitution and these General Regulations. The Cardinal Grand Master may delegate his faculties in writing to Members of the Order. The Cardinal Grand Master represents the Order to the Holy See as well as to all ecclesiastical and civil authorities, internationally, nationally and locally. He presides over the Investiture Ceremonies, if present.

**§ 2. Normative Power** - The Cardinal Grand Master exercises normative power either directly, or after collegial consultation with the Grand Magisterium, or through consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium for acts concerning the life of the Order; he may, in addition, issue directives for Lieutenancies and Magistral Delegations, as well as for individual Members of the Order.

**§ 3. Exclusive Competencies** - Subject to compliance with the regulations in force issued by the Holy See, the Cardinal Grand Master is responsible for, after consultation with the Grand Magisterium or its Presidency:

- a) Authorizing alienation or the making of other dispositions regarding land, real estate or any other patrimonial property owned by the Order.
- b) Permitting, in special cases, (see Constitution, Art. 5 § 4) the leasing, purchase or incurring of extraordinary expenses in connection with any real and movable property whose value exceeds the amount determined by him periodically in writing, in accordance with the Holy See's instructions.
- c) Ordering, subject to rescript, the movement of sums in the established funds.

##### **ARTICLE 2 - POWER OF APPOINTMENT**

**§ 1. Power of appointment within the Organization and Central Government of the Order** – The Cardinal Grand Master appoints:

- a) The Assessor of the Order, subject to the approval of the Roman Pontiff.

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

- b) The Lieutenant General, if, in his sole judgment, required by special circumstances, chosen from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, after consulting the Assessor and as many others as he deems appropriate.
- c) The Governor General, chosen from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor and as many others as he deems appropriate.
- d) Vice Governors General, chosen from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor General.
- e) The Chancellor, chosen from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor General.
- f) The Treasurer, chosen from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor General.
- g) Up to a maximum of twelve members of the Grand Magisterium, chosen from among eminent Members of the Order according to criteria inspired by principles of internationality and functionality, at least three-fourths of whom are lay people, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the *ex officio* Members of the Grand Magisterium.
- h) Members of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the *ex officio* members of the same Presidency, after consultation with the Governor General.
- i) The Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant, chosen from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General and the appropriate Ordinary.
- j) Other Members of the Grand Magisterium for a specified period in order to carry out certain specific tasks, after consultation with the Governor General.
- k) Additional members, advisors and observers of the Consulta, in addition to the *ex officio* members, after consultation with the Governor General.
- l) The members of the Spiritual Commission, two of whom are chosen from among the Members of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant of the Order who is its *ex officio* President, after consultation with the Governor General
- m) The members of the Economic Commission who are experts in economics and civil law, two of whom are chosen from among the members of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Treasurer of the Order who is its *ex officio* President, after consultation with the Governor General.
- n) The three members of the Commission for the Holy Land, one of whom must be a member of the Grand Magisterium and as such assumes the presidency, after consultation with the Governor General; also, any alternate members.

- o) The members of the Appointments Commission, two of whom must be members of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Chancellor of the Order who is its *ex officio* President, after consultation with the Governor General.
- p) The members of the Legal Commission, whose President is a member of the Grand Magisterium, after consultation with the Governor General.
- q) The members of the temporary commissions, whose Presidents are to be designated from among the members of the Grand Magisterium, after consultation with the Governor General.
- r) The members of any *ad hoc* committees, after consultation with the Governor General.
- s) Consultors, chosen from among the Members or non-Members of the Order, who remain in office while the need that led to their appointment remains, after consultation with the Governor General.

**§ 2. Power of appointment within the Organization and Territorial Management of the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master, appoints:

- a) The Lieutenant and Magistral Delegate, chosen from among the Lay Members of the Order, after consultation with the Governor General and, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy/Magistral Delegation and – where possible – authorities of the local Church.
- b) Regent of the Lieutenancy, where circumstances make it necessary, chosen from among the Members of the Order, after consultation with the Governor General and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- c) The Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, chosen from among the ecclesiastical Members of the Order preferably awarded the dignity and/or episcopal character and after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Lieutenant and, where possible, the competent authorities of the local Church.
- d) The Grand Prior Coadjutor of the Lieutenancy preferably endowed with the dignity and/or episcopal character, where circumstances make it necessary and after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Grand Prior concerned, the Lieutenant and, where possible, the authority of the local Church.
- e) Section and Local Delegation Priors awarded the episcopal dignity, upon the proposal of the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**ARTICLE 3 - POWER OF DELEGATION**

The Cardinal Grand Master may delegate to bodies provided for in the Constitution, to individual members of the Grand Magisterium, to Lieutenants, Magistral Delegates or other Members of the Order, the task of acting in his

name and acting on his behalf in relation to specific problems, affairs, events, or cases.

In particular, the Cardinal Grand Master delegates:

- a) The Lieutenant General, if appointed, to events where he feels he should be represented.
- b) The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium or its Members to any task he sees fit to entrust to it.

The Cardinal Grand Master, moreover, if he does not preside over the Investiture Ceremony delegates:

- c) The Grand Priors of their respective Lieutenancies, by implied delegation, to perform the Investiture Ceremony of new Members in the Order. The Grand Priors of Lieutenancies, in turn, may subdelegate within their respective Lieutenancy this faculty to another ecclesiastical authority belonging to the Order (see Constitution, Art. 35 § 3).
- d) The Grand Prior of the Order, where invited to preside over the Investiture Ceremony outside the Patriarchate; the Cardinal Grand Master must be informed in advance and grant permission.
- e) In case of emergency, when *omnia parata sunt*, a Bishop - even if not a member of the Order - or, in his absence, an Ecclesiastical Member of the Order to preside over the Investiture Ceremony.
- f) Where exceptional circumstances require it, another cleric who is not a Member of the Order, to preside over the Investiture Ceremony, by appropriate Decree

#### **ARTICLE 4 - POWER TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION**

**§ 1. Scope of the Organization and Central Government of the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master has the power to accept or not to accept any resignation from office by:

- a) Assessor, informing the Roman Pontiff.
- b) Lieutenant General.
- c) Governor General.
- d) Vice Governors General.
- e) Chancellor.
- f) Treasurer.
- g) Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant of the Order.
- h) Members of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- i) Members of the Grand Magisterium.
- j) Members, advisors, and observers of the Consulta.
- k) Members of the Commissions.
- l) Consultants appointed to each of the governing or advisory bodies.

**§ 2. Scope of Territorial Organization and Management of the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master has the power to accept or not accept any resignation from office by:

- a) Lieutenant.
- b) Magisterial Delegate.
- c) Regent of the Lieutenancy.
- d) Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy.
- e) Grand Prior Coadjutor of the Lieutenancy.
- f) Section and Local Delegation Priors honored with episcopal dignity, after consultation with the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior of Lieutenancy

In any case, the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium will have to be informed.

#### **ARTICLE 5 - RIGHT OF REVOCATION**

**§ 1. Faculty to relieve from office** - The Cardinal Grand Master may relieve from his respective office any Member of the Order after hearing - as the case may be - the competent authorities, in accordance with the Constitution and the procedure provided for in Title IV of these General Regulations.

In particular, he may relieve from office:

- a) Members of the Grand Magisterium, after consultation with the Assessor;
- b) The Lieutenant, the Magistral Delegate and the Regent for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Governor General and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium;
- c) The Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, for serious and well-founded reasons, after hearing the Assessor, the Governor General, and the Lieutenant;
- d) The Coadjutor Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Grand Prior concerned and after hearing the opinion of the Lieutenant

**§ 2. Faculty of Revocation from Membership in the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master has the faculty to declare the forfeiture of membership in the Order of one or more Members, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Governor General and the respective Lieutenants and Grand Priors in compliance with the Constitution and the procedure provided for in Title IV of these General Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 6 – RIGHT OF EXEMPTION**

**§ 1. Faculty of dispensation** - The Cardinal Grand Master, in specific cases, in accordance with Article 40 § 1 of the Constitution, may grant a dispensation from the provisions of the Constitution or these General Regulations regarding the term of office of Members of the Order and its renewability.

**§ 2. Individual exceptions** - Although no Member of the Order may hold effective office when over the age of 75, the Cardinal Grand Master, in accordance with Article 40 § 5 of the Constitution, may grant individual exceptions when special circumstances require it.

#### **ARTICLE 7 – RIGHT OF ESTABLISHMENT**

The Cardinal Grand Master has the right to establish:

- a) New Lieutenancies and/or Magistral Delegations, defining their territorial jurisdiction; he may also modify pre-existing ones, always after hearing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and with the prior written approval of the Diocesan Ordinary or the Episcopal Conference(s) within whose boundaries the Lieutenancy and/or Magistral Delegation will be established.
- b) New Sections and Local Delegations within each Lieutenancy, defining its territorial jurisdiction, or modify pre-existing ones, upon joint proposal of the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior of Lieutenancy (see Constitution, Art. 25 § 2 and Art. 33 § 1), after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and prior written approval of the Diocesan Ordinary or Episcopal Conference(s) within whose boundaries the Section is to be established.
- c) Standing Commissions provided for in the Constitution and temporary Commissions, as well as committees for specific purposes in an advisory capacity, and determine their duration, which as a rule shall not exceed three years, after consultation with the Governor General.

#### **ARTICLE 8 - RIGHT OF DISSOLUTION**

The Cardinal Grand Master, for serious and well-founded reasons and after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may dissolve a Lieutenancy or other territorial structure of the Order.

The organs of the Magistral Delegations and those of the Regencies of the Lieutenancies, having a temporary character, may be dissolved and the appointments of the Members of the Organs of the aforesaid Magistral Delegations and the Regencies of the Lieutenancies may be revoked at any time by the Cardinal Grand Master after hearing the opinion of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

#### **ARTICLE 9 - RIGHT OF CONVOCATION**

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

Cardinal Grand Master convenes:

- a) All Grand Magisterium meetings at least twice a year, as well as whenever he deems appropriate.
- b) The Consulta, normally at least once every four years, as well as whenever he deems it appropriate.
- c) Any other meetings he deems useful.

## **ARTICLE 10 - ADMISSION AND PROMOTION OF MEMBERS OF THE ORDER**

**§ 1. Admission of Candidates to the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master has the ordinary power to admit candidates to the Order and to confer Investiture on them, subject to the examination of the Appointments Commission; this power is usually exercised at the proposal of the Lieutenant, the Governor General or, exceptionally, at the proposal of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 2. Acknowledgement** - The Cardinal Grand Master issues the relevant Diploma of admission into the Order legitimately made with extraordinary power by the Patriarch Grand Prior (see Art. 13 § 3).

**§ 3. Promotion** - The Cardinal Grand Master exercises the power to promote Members of the Order to higher degrees, after consideration by the Appointments Commission and consultation with the Governor General; the power is exercised as a rule upon the proposal of the Lieutenant. The Cardinal Grand Master may accept proposals for promotion from the Governor General or exceptionally from the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 4. Appointments and Promotions *motu proprio*** - The Cardinal Grand Master may admit meritorious persons to the Order in any degree and promote Members of the Order to higher degrees by decree *motu proprio* (see Art. 68 § 3 and Art. 71 § 5).

## **ARTICLE 11 - POWER TO CONFER DISTINCTIONS**

**§ 1. Titles of Honor** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may confer, at the conclusion of the fulfillment of the Office, the title of Honor of the office formerly held by the Dignitaries of the Order who have made themselves deserving of it. The conferral of the title of Honor is not automatic and does not necessarily occur at the termination of the office. It will be conferred by the Cardinal Grand Master at the appropriate time, after carrying out the necessary evaluations.

**§ 2. The Palm of Jerusalem** - The Cardinal Grand Master may confer the Palm of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem (Palm of Jerusalem) on Members of the Order who have demonstrated important and special merits toward the Order or the Holy Land. It has three distinct degrees: gold, silver, and bronze. The Cardinal Grand Master confers it, as a rule, only once in the grade to the same person, upon the proposal of the Governor General, the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium or the Patriarch Grand Prior of the Order or the relevant Lieutenant (see Art. 74 §§ 1-2).

The awarding of the Palm of Jerusalem, as a Distinction, is not automatic and is done after the necessary evaluations have been completed and the file has been investigated by the Appointments Commission.

**§ 3. The Pilgrim's Shell** - The Cardinal Grand Master, or the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, as recognition, may confer the Pilgrim's Shell on Knights and Dames who have made a pious Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The procedure laid down in these Regulations will be followed for the granting (see Art. 74 § 3).

**§ 4. The Cross of Merit** - The Cardinal Grand Master may confer, as an Order Award, the Cross of Merit of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem in its various degrees on persons not belonging to the Order who are distinguished for their particularly meritorious moral conduct towards the Order or the Holy Land, as a rule upon the proposal of the Governor General or the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium or the Lieutenant with territorial jurisdiction. Practices for the granting of the Cross of Merit are instructed by the Appointments Commission. The awarding of the Cross of Merit does not imply entry into the Order (see Art. 86).

It may be conferred in a single class on clergymen, subject to the positive opinion of their Ordinary.

#### **ARTICLE 12 – OWNERSHIP OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION**

**§ 1.** In the event of a violation of the obligations and duties arising from membership in the Order, as provided for in the Constitution and these General Regulations, the Cardinal Grand Master shall have the power, pursuant to and for the purposes of the articles set forth in Title IV of these General Regulations, to:

- a) Take disciplinary and precautionary measures;
- b) rule on the measures taken by the Lieutenant or Magistral Delegate.

\*\*\*

#### **ARTICLE 13 - THE PATRIARCH GRAND PRIOR**

The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem is *ex officio* Grand Prior of the Order and is the highest ecclesiastical dignitary after the Cardinal Grand Master. The Patriarch is entitled by right to the Collar of the Order. If the government of the Patriarchate is entrusted to an Apostolic Administrator, he is Grand Prior *pro-tempore*, with the same duties and faculties.

**§ 1. Duties** - The Patriarch Grand Prior reports periodically to the Cardinal Grand Master and Grand Magisterium about the pastoral needs of the Latin Patriarchate.

**§ 2.** - The Patriarch Grand Prior is an *ex officio* Member of the Consulta; he cannot be appointed a Member of the Grand Magisterium, but is invited to attend meetings without voting rights.

**§ 3. Faculty** - The Patriarch Grand Prior has the extraordinary power to admit to the Order clergy, religious, and laity permanently residing in the territory of the Latin Patriarchate, in consideration of special merits towards the Patriarchate itself, its works and institutions, the Custody of the Holy Land, or the Holy Places; in particular, He may admit:

- a) Canons of the Patriarchal Chapter of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher with the rank corresponding to their respective dignities.
- b) Secular clergy members incardinated in the Latin Patriarchate.
- c) Religious men and women residing in the territory of the Latin Patriarchate and provided with the authorization of their Major Superior.
- d) Lay men and women, permanently residing in the territory of the Latin Patriarchate, only to the initial rank of Knights and Dames. Any subsequent promotions of Members, upon the proposal of the Patriarch Grand Prior, will, however, follow the General Regulations of the Order.

All admissions, made by a *biglietto* (or decree) of appointment by the Patriarch Grand Prior, must be presented, with the relevant documentation, to the Cardinal Grand Master who validates them by issuing the relevant Diploma.

For any grants of Distinctions to the above-mentioned recipients, the Patriarch Grand Prior will submit the request to the Cardinal Grand Master.

#### **ARTICLE 14 - THE ASSESSOR**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Assessor is a Prelate appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master with the approval of the Roman Pontiff. He remains in office until the next Cardinal Grand Master takes office.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Assessor shall assist the Cardinal Grand Master, the Lieutenant General, and the Governor General; he shall be consulted by the Cardinal Grand Master in the most important decisions affecting the life and activities of the Order; he shall attend any event to which he is invited by the Cardinal Grand Master.

**§ 3. Deputyship** - The Assessor temporarily exercises the prerogatives of the Cardinal Grand Master in the event of the latter's death, resignation, inability to act or prolonged absence.

**§ 4.** - The Assessor is a Member of the Grand Magisterium and *ex officio* of the Consulta.

**§ 5. Rank** - The Assessor, if he is an Archbishop or Bishop, receives the rank of Knight Grand Cross.

#### **ARTICLE 15 - THE LIEUTENANT GENERAL**

**§ 1. Appointment** - When special circumstances arise, the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor and as many others as he deems appropriate, has the faculty, in his sole discretion, to appoint a Lieutenant General chosen from among eminent lay Members of the Order, for such term as the Cardinal Grand Master deems appropriate.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Lieutenant General represents the Cardinal Grand Master in events concerning the Order when delegated by him, and performs any other duties that the Cardinal Grand Master deems appropriate to entrust to him.

**§ 3.** - The Lieutenant General is a Member of the Grand Magisterium *ex officio*.

#### **ARTICLE 16 - THE GOVERNOR GENERAL**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Governor General is appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor and as many others as he deems appropriate, from among eminent Lay Members of the Order for a term of four years and may be reappointed.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Governor General is the central administrator of the Order and is responsible for its direction and financial and economic management, under the supervision of the Cardinal Grand Master.

The Governor General also

- a) oversees the activities of the Members of the Grand Magisterium, its Presidency, Consulta and Commissions of the Order;
- b) analyzes and reports to the Cardinal Grand Master on the needs in the Holy Land and the activities of the Order;
- c) issues directives to the Lieutenancies and Magistral Delegations, and examines and provides for their requests, if any;
- d) ensures compliance with the Constitution, these General Regulations, and the provisions issued by the statutory bodies of the Order;
- e) Represents the Order in court.

**§ 3. Prerogatives and faculties** - The Governor General:

- a) is a Member of the Grand Magisterium and its Presidency *ex officio*;
- b) is assisted by the Grand Magisterium Presidency in managing ordinary activities and ensuring the proper management of reserve funds;

- c) convenes and presides over meetings of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium - even remotely - whenever deemed necessary or requested by a majority of its members;
- d) moderates Grand Magisterium meetings and meetings of the Consulta, convened and chaired by the Cardinal Grand Master;
- e) may convene and preside over sectional meetings of the Lieutenants/ Magistral Delegates, or any other offices or Members of the Order;
- f) may convene geographical area meetings between Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates after consulting the appropriate Vice Governor General, delegating to him or her - if deemed appropriate - the organization and direction of the work;
- g) examines and acknowledges the contents of the "Annual Reports" that Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates are required to submit annually;
- h) approves, following the documented opinion from the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, customs and norms to regulate the organization of the Lieutenancies.

#### **ARTICLE 17 – THE VICE GOVERNORS GENERAL**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Vice Governors General are appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor General, from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, for a period of four years and may be reappointed in accordance with Article 40 § 1 of the Constitution.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Vice Governors General are responsible for assisting the Governor General in the general management and administration of the Order, if delegated to do so; they may be entrusted with coordinating and supervising the activities of regional or special groupings of Lieutenancies. The Vice Governor General with regional responsibility over a particular geographical area may suggest to the Governor General that he or she convene and preside over local meetings of the Lieutenants with any other Members of the Order.

**§ 3.** - Vice Governors General are *ex officio* members of the Grand Magisterium and its Presidency.

**§ 4. Deputyship** - The Vice Governor General with the most seniority may be temporarily called upon to deputize for the Governor General, in the event of the latter's impediment, unless otherwise ordered by the Cardinal Grand Master.

#### **ARTICLE 18 - THE CHANCELLOR**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Chancellor of the Order is appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor

General, from among eminent Lay Members of the Order, for a term of four years and may be reappointed in accordance with Article 40 § 1 of the Constitution.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Chancellor is the Secretary of the Grand Magisterium, its Presidency and the Consulta and ensures that all acts issued by them respectively are collected, arranged, and preserved in the archives. The Chancellor cooperates with the Governor General and reports to him regularly on the activities carried out by the Appointments Commission. He evaluates and processes proposals for admission to the Order and promotions to be submitted to the Appointments Commission; he also verifies the files on the awarding of Special Distinctions. He coordinates the communication activities and publications of the Grand Magisterium; he is the Editor-in-Chief of the Order's Magazine, and the Head of the Communications Office reports to him.

**§ 3.** - The Chancellor is *ex officio* a Member of the Grand Magisterium and its Presidency; he is also *ex officio* President of the Appointments Commission.

#### **ARTICLE 19 - THE TREASURER**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Treasurer of the Order is appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor and the Governor General, from among eminent lay Members of the Order, for a term of four years and may be reappointed in accordance with Article 40 § 1 of the Constitution.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Treasurer is the custodian of the patrimony of the Order and oversees its financial and economic management in line with the norms of Canon Law, those of the Holy See and Vatican City State, applicable national and international civil norms, those of the Constitution and these General Regulations, as well as the specific directives received from the statutory bodies; he is entrusted with the ordinary management of the Order's patrimony in collaboration with the Economic Commission; he prepares the annual budget and prepares the annual financial statements of the Order, which are to be sent to the competent Vatican Authorities; he manages the economic and financial resources according to the expenditure forecasts and prepares the related statements, taking into account the specific Italian and Vatican laws; he is also responsible for personnel management.

The Treasurer cooperates with the Governor General and reports to him periodically on the progress of the economic and financial situation; submits to him, for his approval, budgets for expenditures and countersigns payment warrants; reports on the day-to-day management of employees and on any other matters within his competence.

**§ 3.** - The Treasurer is *ex officio* a Member of the Grand Magisterium and its Presidency; he is also *ex officio* President of the Economic Commission.

**ARTICLE 20 - THE MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND SPIRITUAL ASSISTANT**

**§ 1 Appointment** - The Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant of the Order is appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Order, after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General and the competent Ordinary, for a period of four years and may be reappointed in accordance with Article 40 § 1 of the Constitution.

The Master of Ceremonies may be a cleric other than the Spiritual Assistant of the Order, at the discretion of the Cardinal Grand Master.

**§ 2. Duties** - If the Offices are assigned to two different clergy, their respective responsibilities are established as follows:

- a) the Master of Ceremonies of the Order is responsible for assisting the Cardinal Grand Master in the organization of the Order's Ceremonies and for submitting, when necessary, to the attention of the Cardinal Grand Master the revision of publications relating to liturgy and ceremonial.
- b) the Spiritual Assistant of the Order is responsible for informing the Cardinal Grand Master and the Governor General on matters related to the spiritual life of the Order and may propose to them any initiatives related to it.

**§ 3.** - The Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant of the Order is an *ex officio* Member of the Grand Magisterium; if the two offices are held by two different persons, both are *ex officio* Members of the Grand Magisterium; the Spiritual Assistant is also *ex officio* President of the Spiritual Commission.

The functions of the Spiritual Assistant remain at the discretion of the Cardinal Grand Master.

\*\*\*

***The Grand Magisterium***

**ARTICLE 21 - CONCERN FOR CATHOLIC PLACES AND INSTITUTIONS  
IN THE HOLY LAND**

**§ 1.** - The Grand Magisterium is the central governing body that directly assists the Order's commitment to Catholic Places and Institutions in the Holy Land. Since the main purpose of the Order is to keep alive the Christian presence in the Land of the Lord, material aid will be primarily directed toward the promotion of pastoral, educational and humanitarian initiatives capable of meeting the spiritual, cultural, and social needs of the Christian community within the jurisdiction of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, with which the Grand Magisterium maintains close cooperation.

§ 2. - No transfer of sums of money from the Order destined for the Holy Land may be made directly or through third party institutions, but only through the Grand Magisterium. Any exceptions must always be authorized in advance by the Governor General.

§ 3. - These general criteria should inspire the Order's contribution within the framework of the projects proposed by the *Riunione delle Opere per l'Aiuto delle Chiese Orientali* (ROACO).

§ 4. - The Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, for appropriate knowledge and coordination, is always informed about any aid decided by the Grand Magisterium and disbursed for projects concerning entities not dependent on the Patriarchate itself

## ARTICLE 22 - RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COLLEGIAL BODY

§ 1. **Duties** - The Grand Magisterium assists the Cardinal Grand Master in the government of the Order and is responsible for its administration and activities, under the coordination and direction of the Governor General.

§ 2. **Specific Responsibilities** - The Grand Magisterium is responsible for approving the Order's annual budget and final accounts and taking note of the allocation of any operating profits to the statutory reserve, as well as reviewing and taking note of the Auditors' reports; it is also responsible, through the Treasurer, for preparing an annual report to be circulated among the Lieutenants on activities and finances.

§ 3. - Members of the Grand Magisterium, therefore, are sent in advance the annual financial statements of the Order, accompanied by the written report of the professional and independent auditors.

§ 4. - Without prejudice to the observance of the regulations in force issued by the Holy See, the Grand Magisterium or its Presidency shall, when requested, provide advice to the Cardinal Grand Master in order to:

- a) Authorize alienation or make other dispositions regarding land, real estate or any other patrimonial property owned by the Order.
- b) To permit in special cases the leasing, purchase, or incurring of extraordinary expenses in connection with any real property the value of which exceeds the amount determined periodically in writing by the Cardinal Grand Master.
- c) Promulgate general provisions, supplementing the Constitution of the Order, including these General Regulations, in line with its guiding principles.

**§ 5. Meetings** - Meetings of the Grand Magisterium shall be convened at least twice a year and shall be presided over by the Cardinal Grand Master, who shall determine the agenda; the meetings shall be moderated by the Governor General and shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in Article 25 of these General Regulations.

**ARTICLE 23 - SUPPORT ACTIVITIES IN ADDITION TO THE ORDER'S OWN  
ACTIVITIES**

**§ 1.** - Any supporting activity alongside the ordinary activities of the Order, and using its logo and name, may be authorized only by the Governor General. Logo and name means the Jerusalem Cross surrounded by the inscription "*Ordo Equestris Sancti Sepulcri Hierosolymitani.*"

**§ 2.** - In addition to the activities proper to the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem, any Foundations (or other entities) may be created - subject to the authorization of the Governor General, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium - to regulate activities that cannot be assumed directly by the Order but which may be of help and support to its purposes, managing productive initiatives as well as possible donations from persons not belonging to the Order.

These new entities, in addition to being pre-authorized by the Governor General, must have their own bylaws and comply with the purposes for which they were created.

**ARTICLE 24 - MEMBERS OF THE GRAND MAGISTERIUM**

**§ 1.** The Members of the Grand Magisterium are appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master according to criteria inspired by principles of internationality and functionality, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, from among eminent Members of the Order, up to a maximum of twelve, of whom at least three-fourths must be lay persons, in addition to the *ex officio* Members of the Grand Magisterium listed below.

All Members of the Grand Magisterium, six months before the expiration of their first term, must notify the Cardinal Grand Master - through the Governor General - of their possible availability for a second term (see Constitution, Art. 40 § 1).

**§ 2.** - Members of the Grand Magisterium *ex officio* are:

- a) The Assessor
- b) The Lieutenant General (if appointed).
- c) The Governor General
- d) The Vice Governors General
- e) The Chancellor
- f) The Treasurer
- g) The Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant (both, if distinct).

§ 3. - If the Presidents of the Commissions have terminated their office as Members of the Grand Magisterium, they are invited - *perdurante munere* - to participate in the meetings of the Grand Magisterium without the right to vote.

§ 4. - Members of the Grand Magisterium carry out their activities under the coordination and direction of the Governor General and are part *ex officio* of the Consulta.

§ 5. - Members of the Grand Magisterium, who have rendered themselves particularly meritorious, at the end of their term of office may be awarded by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, the title of Honor of the office previously held. The conferral of the title of Honor is not automatic and does not necessarily occur at the end of the term of office. It will be conferred by the Cardinal Grand Master at the appropriate time, after carrying out the necessary evaluations (see Art. 11 § 1).

§ 6. - The Grand Prior of the Order, Lieutenants, Magistral Delegates, Grand Priors of Lieutenancy and Magistral Delegation in office may not be appointed as Members of the Grand Magisterium.

§ 7. - Members of the Grand Magisterium, *perdurante munere*, do not belong to any Lieutenancy. At the end of their term of office they rejoin the Lieutenancy of origin or residence.

## **ARTICLE 25 - ARRANGEMENTS FOR MEETINGS**

§ 1. **Place of Meetings** - Meetings of the Grand Magisterium are normally convened twice a year, in the spring and fall, at the Order's headquarters or at another location designated by the Cardinal Grand Master.

They may be held, where necessary, virtually through video-conference or other electronic means.

The meetings, convened and presided over by the Cardinal Grand Master, are directed by the Governor General, who moderates the discussions and sets the procedures.

The Grand Prior of the Order and an administrative officer from the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem are traditionally invited to participate in meetings of the Grand Magisterium, but without voting rights.

At the proposal of the Governor General, other individuals may also be invited extraordinarily, whether or not they are members of the Order.

In-person meetings generally take place in Italian with simultaneous translation into English and French. Expenses for the proceedings are borne by the Grand Magisterium, which also covers - where requested by the person concerned - the costs of travel and lodging for its Members residing off-site.

**§ 2. Notice of Meetings** - Notice of each meeting of the Grand Magisterium, stating the time, place - as well as, in the case of an extraordinary meeting, the purpose for which the meeting is called - shall, as a rule, be communicated by the Governor General to each Member of the Grand Magisterium not less than thirty days before the date fixed, together with the agenda, except in the case of urgent convocations for extraordinary reasons.

**§ 3. Voting** - In the event of a matter presented and put to a vote at the meeting, each Member of the Grand Magisterium shall be entitled to one vote. Any decision so taken by a majority of those voting shall be advisory in nature to the final decision of the Cardinal Grand Master or his deputy.

**§ 4. Speeches and Motions** - Every Member of the Grand Magisterium has the right to speak. Participants in meetings who are not Members of the Grand Magisterium may speak. A decision may, in extraordinary cases, be adopted outside of a meeting if every Member of the Grand Magisterium consents in writing to the adoption of what is proposed. Even in such a case, the decision is made by a majority vote of those voting and will be advisory in nature

A motion is a proposal by a Member of the Grand Magisterium requesting action or a position on a particular subject. Members of the Grand Magisterium who wish to introduce a new topic to be dealt with or propose a decision shall submit a motion to that effect to the Governor General in writing before the meeting or, in exceptional cases of urgency, at the meeting itself. The Governor General, after consulting the Cardinal Grand Master, reserves the right to decide whether or not to put the requested topic on the agenda. If the motion is accepted, it may be discussed among the miscellaneous and possible items and a vote may be taken on it, if required.

\*\*\*

### *The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium*

#### **ARTICLE 26 - THE COLLEGIAL BODY**

**§ 1. Functions** - The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium assists the Cardinal Grand Master; it is the executive body of the Grand Magisterium and - in the intervals between meetings of the Grand Magisterium - exercises its authority and responsibilities, with the exception of matters of exclusive competence of the Grand Magisterium provided for in Article 22 § 2 of these General Regulations; carries out its activities under the direction of the Governor General and assists him in the management of the ordinary activities of the Order and in ensuring the proper management of the Order's reserve funds; proposes for the approval of the Cardinal Grand Master, through the Governor General, the agenda of the meetings of the Grand Magisterium and of the

Consulta; performs any other task that the Cardinal Grand Master deems appropriate to entrust to it.

**§ 2. Members** - *Ex officio* members of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium are:

- a) The Governor General
- b) The Vice Governors General
- c) The Chancellor
- d) The Treasurer

**§ 3.** - In addition to the *ex officio* members, other Members of the Grand Magisterium may be appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Governor General, to be part of its Presidency.

**§ 4. Meetings** - Meetings of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium shall be convened by the Governor General whenever he deems it necessary or a request is made by a majority of its Members; they shall be presided over by the Governor General, who shall decide the agenda. They may also be held remotely.

**§ 5. Secretary** - The Secretary of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium is the Chancellor of the Order, who ensures that all acts issued by it are collected, arranged, and maintained on file.

#### **ARTICLE 27 - POWER OF APPROVAL**

**§1 - Responsibilities.** The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium approves:

- a) The appointment of the Members of the Lieutenancy Council;
- b) The removal of one or more *ex officio* Members of the Lieutenancy Council in compliance with the bylaws and the procedure set forth in Title IV of these General Regulations;
- c) The appointment of Section Presidents and Local Delegates;
- d) The appointment of a Section Regent;
- e) The appointment of Section and Local Delegation Priors;
- f) The dissolution of a Section and Local Delegation Council.

**§ 2.** - The Presidency of the Grand Magisterium examines, for subsequent approval by the Cardinal Grand Master, the specific local provisions supplementing the Constitution and these General Regulations of the Order submitted by the Lieutenants (applicable exclusively within their territorial boundaries) in consultation with the Juridical Commission (see Art. 35 § 1 c) and 43 § 8).

\*\*\*

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

## **ARTICLE 28 - THE CONSULTA**

**§ 1. Role** - The Consulta is the consultative body that periodically examines the most important issues concerning the Order; they are decided and approved by the Cardinal Grand Master, also upon the proposal of the Members of the Consulta, who, with suitable advance notice, must address them to the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 2. Members** - *Ex officio* members of the Consulta are:

- a) The Patriarch Grand Prior
- b) The Assessor
- c) The Members of the Grand Magisterium
- d) The incumbent Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates.
- e) A representative of the Secretary of State
- f) A representative of the Dicastery for the Oriental Churches

**§ 3. Additional Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Governor General, may appoint additional members, consultants and observers, in addition to the *ex officio* members mentioned in the previous paragraph.

If the Presidents of the Commissions have completed their term as members of the Grand Magisterium, they are invited - *perdurante munere* - to attend the meetings of the Consulta.

If a member of the Consulta is unable to attend, the Cardinal Grand Master may authorize him to be represented.

**§ 4. Plenary Meetings** - The Cardinal Grand Master convenes the Consulta as a rule at least once every four years, as well as whenever he deems it appropriate. He approves its agenda proposed by the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and presides over its plenary meetings. The Governor General moderates the meetings of the Consulta.

The work can also be divided into Commissions or Study Groups that will then report to the Plenary.

At the end of the work, Members may propose in writing topic areas to be discussed at the next Consulta.

**§ 5. Regional Meetings** - During the work of the Consulta, subdivisions into Working Groups by geographic-linguistic areas may be planned. The Governor General - or the Vice Governor General with regional responsibility over a given geographical area - may convene and preside over local meetings of the Lieutenants and/or Magistral Delegates, with any other Members of the Order.

The meetings are intended to enable the Lieutenants and Magistral Delegates to discuss and analyze common interests and issues with each other and with the central authorities of the Order.

\*\*\*

### ***The Commissions***

#### **ARTICLE 29 - THE COMMISSIONS**

§ 1. - Commissions are advisory bodies of the Order and always act collegially; they are divided into permanent and temporary.

§ 2. - Permanent Commissions must be composed of Members belonging to the Order, chosen according to criteria inspired by principles of internationality and functionality; their duration is three years.

Conversely, expert members from outside the Order may be appointed to temporary commissions.

§ 3. - Meetings may be held either in presence or remotely.

§ 4. - The respective Commission Presidents report on their activities to the Cardinal Grand Master through the Governor General and, when requested, to the Grand Magisterium.

§ 5. - Members of the Permanent Commissions serve for a period of three years and may be reappointed

§ 6. - The unexcused absence of a member for more than six meetings results in his or her disqualification.

#### **ARTICLE 30 - THE SPIRITUAL COMMISSION**

§ 1. **Tasks** - The Spiritual Commission has the task of advising and assisting the Cardinal Grand Master and the Grand Magisterium on the development of spirituality in the Order and on increasing the practice of Christian life among its Members.

§ 2. **Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted the Governor General, appoints the members of the Spiritual Commission, two of whom must be Members of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Master of Ceremonies and Spiritual Assistant of the Order who is its *ex officio* President. If the Offices are held by two different clergymen, the Spiritual Assistant of the Order shall be the President of the Commission.

### **ARTICLE 31 - THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION**

**§ 1. Tasks** - The Economic Commission has the task of advising and assisting the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium in the control of the economic administration of the Institution, including acquisitions, properties, the proper management of reserve funds and movable property, the alienation of the Order's assets, and the evaluation of risks. The Economic Commission is also responsible for reviewing the Order's annual budget and financial statements. In addition, the Commission provides guidance to the Cardinal Grand Master on the amount of financial resources available to be allocated annually for aid in the Holy Land.

**§ 2. Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, in consultation with the Governor General, appoints the members of the Economic Commission, two of whom must be members of the Grand Magisterium - preferably experts in economics and civil law - in addition to the Treasurer of the Order who is its *ex officio* President.

**§ 3.** - The Governor General and the President - even separately - may, for the purpose of ordinary economic and financial management, convene periodic meetings with some members of the Commission, some staff of the Grand Magisterium and possibly other persons.

### **ARTICLE 32 - THE COMMISSION FOR THE HOLY LAND.**

**§ 1. Tasks** - The Commission for the Holy Land has the following tasks:

- a) act in cooperation with the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem and its members collegially; the President is its liaison to the Grand Magisterium;
- b) advise and assist the Grand Magisterium in reviewing and evaluating (including through *site* visits) the progress and completion of approved projects in the Holy Land;
- c) point out particular needs that it deems worthy of attention and propose their implementation to the Grand Magisterium through the President;
- d) consider aid for projects concerning entities not dependent on the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem, in accordance with Art. 21 § 4 of these General Regulations.

**§ 2. Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted the Governor General, appoints three members of the Commission for the Holy Land and identifies its President from among the members of the Grand Magisterium. The Commission may make use of consultants when it deems it necessary, subject to the authorization of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

### **ARTICLE 33 - THE APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION**

**§ 1. Duties** - The Appointments Commission is responsible for examining, processing, and submitting to the Cardinal Grand Master for approval applications for admission and proposals for promotion in the Order. It meets, as a rule, monthly according to a calendar prepared at the beginning of each calendar year by the Chancellor and communicated to all Lieutenancies and Magistral Delegations.

**§ 2. Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consulting the Governor General, appoints the members of the Commission, two of whom must be Members of the Grand Magisterium, in addition to the Chancellor of the Order who is its President *ex officio*.

**§ 3.** - Proposals for admission to the Order and for promotions should be addressed with suitable advance notice to the Cardinal Grand Master through the exclusive intermediary of the Chancellor, in the manner provided for in Appendices 1 and 2.

The Commission also examines the files for the grants of the Palm of Jerusalem and the Cross of Merit, instructed by the Chancellor.

The minutes of the Appointments Commission are to be submitted to the Cardinal Grand Master through the Governor General.

Members of the Commission are bound by the obligation of confidentiality

### **ARTICLE 34 - THE TEMPORARY COMMISSIONS**

**§ 1. Establishment** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may establish other temporary commissions for specific purposes with an advisory function.

**§ 2. Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consulting the Governor General, appoints the members of the temporary Commissions. The person chairing each of these Commissions shall be designated from among the members of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 3. Duration** - The duration of temporary commissions is determined by the Cardinal Grand Master and normally does not exceed three years.

### **ARTICLE 35 - THE LEGAL COMMISSION**

**§ 1. Tasks** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, establishes the Legal Commission with the following tasks:

- a) To formulate opinions for the legal needs of the Order;
- b) To propose the interpretation of the Constitution and of these present General Regulations;
- c) To assist the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium in verifying the conformity of the organizational norms and specific provisions of the Lieutenancies and Magisterial Delegations with Canon Law, the Constitution, and these General Regulations (see Constitution, Art. 25 § 4 and 43 § 2);
- d) To assist the Cardinal Grand Master in the investigation, examination, and evaluation of issues of a disciplinary nature, giving reasoned non-binding written opinions.

**§ 2. Members** - The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted the Governor General, appoints the members of the Legal Commission and identifies its President from among the members of the Grand Magisterium.

It is composed of experts in the various fields of law.

In connection with their duties, members of the Commission are bound by the obligation of confidentiality and secrecy.

#### **ARTICLE 36 - COMMITTEES**

The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may establish committees to study certain matters. The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted the Governor General, appoints its members.

\*\*\*

#### **ARTICLE 37 - THE CONSULTORS**

The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Governor General, may appoint members of the Order as Consultors for each of the governing bodies. They remain in office as long as the need that determined their appointment persists. The Consultors serve free of charge.

#### **ARTICLE 38 - THE CONSULTANTS**

The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Governor General, may use Consultants for specific needs of the Order.

Members of the Order serve free of charge; non-Members of the Order may serve free of charge or with remuneration stipulated in the relevant contract.

#### **ARTICLE 39 - THE AUDITORS**

The Cardinal Grand Master confers the office of Auditor (see Constitution, Art. 5 § 4), in compliance with the current regulations of the Holy See.

## **TITLE II**

### **TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT**

#### *The Lieutenancies*

#### **ARTICLE 40 - ESTABLISHMENT OF LIEUTENANCIES**

**§ 1. Nature** - The life of the Order is carried out in its territorial structures, called Lieutenancies and/or Magistral Delegations, within which the candidates are formed. Within them the spirituality of the Order is promoted and developed, which grows in the practice of love toward God and the brothers and sisters with special solicitude toward the Mother Church of Jerusalem and in communion with the local Churches.

**§ 2. Scope of applicability** - The norms of the Constitution and these General Regulations of the Order concerning Lieutenancies and Lieutenants are to be understood as equally applicable to Magistral Delegations, unless expressly provided otherwise (see Constitution, Art. 25 § 5)

**§ 3. Establishment** - The Establishment of a Lieutenancy may take place, in addition to the provisions of Article 7 of these General Regulations, through the elevation of an existing Magistral Delegation with an adequate number of Members, in agreement with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 4.** - The right to establish, subdivide, merge or otherwise change the territorial jurisdiction of the Lieutenancies belongs to the Cardinal Grand Master and is exercised in agreement with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 5.** - Prior to the establishment of a Magistral Delegation or a Lieutenancy, it is necessary to obtain the written approval, requested by the Cardinal Grand Master, of the Episcopal Conferences within whose boundaries the future Magistral Delegation or Lieutenancy will be established.

**§ 6.** - Whenever possible, the boundaries of the Lieutenancies should coincide with those of national, regional, and inter-territorial Episcopal Conferences.

#### **ARTICLE 41 - THE APPOINTMENT PROCEDURES FOR THE LIEUTENANT**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Lieutenants are appointed for a period of four years, according to the appointment procedures set forth in the Constitution and these General Regulations. They may be reappointed once, should the Cardinal Grand

Master deem it necessary. He/she shall be chosen from among the Lay Members of the Order by the Cardinal Grand Master, in agreement with the Governor General, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, who - if he/she deems it appropriate - will ask the candidate's Ordinary for an opinion.

**§ 2. Exception** - This Article does not apply to Magistral Delegations in accordance with Article 59

**§ 3. Dignity and eligibility requirements** - In order to preserve a uniform procedure, it is required that candidates:

- a) Have as a rule at least five years of active participation in the life of the Order.
- b) Be people of authority, highly worthy on religious, civil, and social levels.
- c) Be people who are willing to perform a service that requires time and participation in the life of the Order.
- d) Be suitable for listening and dialogue, aware that they are providing a free service to the Order and balanced in their choice of collaborators.
- e) Earn esteem from their brothers and sisters and know how to treat everyone with respect.
- f) Have gained significant experience in the field of formation.
- g) Be animated by the desire to support Catholic institutions in the Holy Land and, primarily, the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem.
- h) Have shown generous participation in the activities of the particular churches to which they belong.
- i) Be open to considering possible collaborations with other Bodies and Organizations recognized by the Holy See that share similar goals and objectives of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, particularly peace, interreligious dialogue, and the promotion of unity among Christians.

**§ 4. Procedure for reappointment** - Subject to the general directions for appointment provided by the Constitution and these General Rules of the Order for each territorial body:

- a) The Lieutenant, at least six months before the expiration of the first term, must notify the Cardinal Grand Master - through the Governor General - of the expiration of his or her term.
- b) The Governor General, having ascertained the Lieutenant's willingness to continue in the post and having made due evaluations, may propose a renewal of term to the Cardinal Grand Master who will proceed to grant a second term after acquiring the opinion of the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and having consulted the opinion of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

- c) Where it is not deemed necessary to proceed with the renewal or there is a lack of willingness on the part of the Lieutenant to renew or, in any case, at the end of the second term, the outgoing Lieutenant after a confidential discussion with the Governor General will initiate - with careful consideration - a consultation in order to know the expectations of the Members and identify possible candidates to be proposed; it will involve the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Members of the Lieutenancy Council. At the end of this consultation and on the basis of the results obtained, the Lieutenant will compile - as a rule - a "terna" of names to be proposed to the Cardinal Grand Master, through the Governor General, the latter of whom may avail himself of further consultations. For each of the three candidates, it is preferable to acquire a written opinion from the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, which can also be transmitted, if necessary, in confidential form to the Cardinal Grand Master. The final choice, however, rests with the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

#### **ARTICLE 42 - PREROGATIVES, DEPUTYSHIP AND INCOMPATIBILITY OF THE LIEUTENANT**

**§ 1. Representation** - On the Lieutenants falls, by implicit delegation of the Cardinal Grand Master, the representation of the respective Lieutenancies before the local, ecclesiastical and civil Authorities, as well as before any other administrative body.

**§ 2. Delegation** - The Lieutenants, when formally delegated, may act in the name of and on behalf of the Cardinal Grand Master in relation to specific problems or issues.

**§ 3.** - The incumbent Lieutenants are *ex officio* members of the Consulta.

**§ 4. Deputyship** - In the event of the death or resignation of the incumbent Lieutenant (or Regent), the Chancellor of the Lieutenancy temporarily exercises his or her duties until a new Lieutenant, or Regent, appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master in consultation with the Governor General and after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, takes over

In case of incapacity to act or the prolonged absence of a Lieutenant, the case will be submitted to the Cardinal Grand Master who will consider the measures to be taken. Pending his determinations regarding the vacancy of the office of a Lieutenant or Regent, the members of the Lieutenancy Council shall remain in office until a successor is appointed.

**§ 5. Incompatibility** - Incumbent Lieutenants or Regents may not be appointed as members of the Grand Magisterium unless the Regent is already a member.

#### **ARTICLE 43 - DUTIES OF LIEUTENANTS**

**§ 1. Duties** - The Lieutenants direct the Lieutenancies entrusted to them in a spirit of service, exercising their authority in line with the norms of Canon Law, the Constitution, these General Regulations, the Rules of the Lieutenancy formally approved by the Cardinal Grand Master, and Local Law.

Lieutenants are responsible for:

- a) the Order's life, spiritual growth, and activities of their respective Lieutenancies;
- b) candidate selection and training;
- c) the continuing education of Members;
- d) contacts with the local Hierarchy and the ecclesial communion of the Members;
- e) raising funds for charitable aid;
- f) organizing the annual meeting of all Members as well as pilgrimages to the Holy Land and other Shrines;
- g) the proper application of the Constitution and these General Regulations, the directives of the Cardinal Grand Master, the Governor General and the Grand Magisterium;
- h) the application of various national regulations that do not conflict with Church doctrine;
- i) the possible drafting of Rules of Lieutenancy for approval by the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

The Lieutenants are assisted in the performance of their duties by the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Lieutenancy Council.

**§ 2. Selection of Members** - The Lieutenants have the responsibility to select candidates for admission to the Order in close cooperation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, after consultation with the competent ecclesiastical authorities (Pastor or Ordinary). The exercise of this responsibility consists not only in assessing the suitability of candidates, where possible by personal interview, but also in identifying within the territory of the Lieutenancy persons who meet the requirements for admission to the Order (see General Regulations, Art. 67).

**§ 3. Power of Appointment** - The Lieutenant appoints the following co-workers, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy who may seek the advice of the Ordinary of the person concerned:

- a) Chancellor, Treasurer, Secretary of the Lieutenancy and Lay Master and Mistress of Ceremonies, chosen from among the Lay Members of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- b) Other Members of the Lieutenancy Council, for the purpose of discharging specific tasks deemed necessary, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- c) Section Presidents, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, with the advice of the competent Ordinary and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- d) Local Delegates, after consultation with the Section President and Prior of the Section and Local Delegation, with the advice of the competent Ordinary and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- e) The Regent of Section and Local Delegation, chosen from among the Members of the Lieutenancy, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, for the purpose of temporarily exercising the duties of Section President or Local Delegate in the event of the death, resignation, inability to act, or prolonged absence of the Office holder.

Section and Local Delegation Priors awarded episcopal dignity are appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master upon the proposal of the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

Section and Local Delegation Priors who are not invested with episcopal dignity are appointed by the Lieutenant in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, the Ordinary proper, and after receiving approval from the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and the Cardinal Grand Master.

#### **§ 4. Annual report and reviewed financial statements -**

- a) each Lieutenant must submit annually to the Governor General, by April 30, the financial statements of the Lieutenancy reviewed by its Council and, if applicable, of any associated civil or Church entity, together with the certification, if any, of independent auditors and their suggestions;
- b) when submitting the accounts, the Lieutenant should accompany the accounting data with a brief report of the activities of the Lieutenancy, any problems encountered and guidelines that have emerged;
- c) in particularly serious cases, the Governor General may grant a waiver related to the annual deadline for submission of financial statements.

**§ 5. Direction** - The Lieutenants shall report on their activities to the Governor General and, if relevant, for information, to the Vice Governor General responsible for their geographical area. The Lieutenant shall prepare his or her Members to make specific commitments to the operation of the Lieutenancy, ensuring a regular turnover of Members and duties on the Lieutenancy Council.

**§ 6. Active Members** - The Lieutenants shall constantly attend to the regular review of the lists of Members of the Lieutenancy in order to ascertain the real intentions of those who, with the passage of years, have lost interest in the ideals and activities of the Order

This review should be conducted according to discretion and Christian charity, with the aim of bringing those who have drifted away from the Order back to it.

In order to facilitate communications between Lieutenants and Members, the latter are required to give timely notice of any change of residence or domicile through the Local Officers.

A Member of the Order who fails to comply with one or more of the obligations contemplated in Article 36 §§ 1,3, and 4 of the Constitution, after an interview with the person concerned, where possible, and after hearing the non-binding opinion of the Delegation Council, shall be sent an initial written notice, signed by the Local Delegate, asking him or her for the reasons for non-compliance. Such notice shall be copied to the Section President and the Lieutenant.

After at least one hundred and eighty days have elapsed since the above communication, in the event of a failure to reply or of a reply citing inadequate justification, the Local Delegate shall forward the case to the Section President, who, after hearing the non-binding opinion of the Section Council, shall send a second written communication to the person concerned as a reminder or as a supplement to the first. Such second communication shall be copied to the Lieutenant.

At least one hundred and eighty days after this second communication, in the absence of a reply or in the case of inadequate justification, the Section President shall forward the file to the Lieutenant, who shall send a third written communication informing the person concerned that the file will be forwarded, within the next ninety days, to the Cardinal Grand Master for appropriate action (see Constitution, Art. 39). On the actual transmission of the file to the Cardinal Grand Master, the Lieutenant will promptly inform the person concerned in writing.

At any time prior to the transmission of the file to the Cardinal Grand Master, the person concerned may request an interview with the Lieutenant to present his or her justifications.

In case of established special situations, the Lieutenant may temporarily relieve a Member from one or more of the obligations under Article 36 of the Constitution arising from membership in the Order

In the absence of Local Sections and Delegations, all communications are made by the Lieutenant.

In the absence of Local Delegations, the first two communications are made by the Section President, where constituted.

**§ 7. Regional Meetings** - Regional meetings of the Lieutenants shall be convened and chaired by the Governor General or, by his delegation, by the Vice Governor General responsible for the geographical area. The purpose of the meetings is to enable the Lieutenants to discuss and analyze among themselves, and with the central authorities of the Order, common interests and problems.

**§ 8. Local Rules** - The Lieutenants, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may draw up specific Rules - applicable exclusively within the territorial boundaries of their Lieutenancies - supplementing these General Regulations of the Order. They must be in line with the norms of Canon Law, the Constitution, these General Regulations and local regulations and be formally approved by the Cardinal Grand Master (see Art. 27 § 2).

**§ 9. Organization of Pilgrimages** - The Lieutenant, either personally or through a pilgrimage coordinator, shall ensure the proper planning, promotion, organization, and proper conduct of pilgrimages of the Lieutenancy to the Holy Land and other Shrines. Pilgrimages to the Holy Land should include visits to the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher, other Holy Places and the Latin Patriarchate, visits to Institutions related to the Catholic Church (e.g., visit to a parish and/or to a work supported by the Order). The assistance and advice of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem may be sought for this purpose. The Lieutenant shall make use of Christian guides who are suitable and particularly knowledgeable in the fields of scripture and archaeology, given that the pilgrimage to the Holy Land is a qualifying event for membership in the Order.

**§ 10. Disciplinary and precautionary measures**

a) Admonition. The Lieutenant, in the case of a violation of the obligations and duties arising from membership in the Order, in accordance with the current Constitution (see Constitution, Articles 2 § 2 and 36), after contacting and as far as possible hearing the person concerned, and after hearing the Grand Prior and the Lieutenancy Council, may admonish a Member by written order in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 87 § 1 a).

b) Precautionary suspension. In cases of severe urgency and seriousness, if there has been a violation of the obligations and duties arising from membership in the Order, or if the action or behavior threatens the reputation and honor of the Order, the Lieutenant, after contacting the person concerned and consulting with the Grand Prior and the Lieutenancy Council, may issue a precautionary suspension.

Within seven days from the date of the issuance of the order, the Lieutenant shall transmit it electronically or other suitable way, together with a

comprehensive and documented explanatory report, regarding the person concerned, to the Cardinal Grand Master for evaluations of competence, and to the Governor General for information.

The precautionary suspension order imposed by the Lieutenant may be confirmed, modified, or revoked by the Cardinal Grand Master within thirty days from the date of transmission by the Lieutenant.

The order of the Cardinal Grand Master must be communicated electronically or by some other suitable means, to the person concerned and the Lieutenant within thirty days.

In the event of a late transmission by the Lieutenant or the failure of the Cardinal Grand Master to confirm/change through transmitted electronic means within the specified time limit, the precautionary suspension is considered null and void and as not having taken place.

The precautionary suspension order loses effect when the situation that caused it ceases to exist.

Provisional suspension does not relieve the Member of the Order from the obligation to pay the annual financial contribution.

**§ 11. Social Communication activities** - The Lieutenants shall pay due attention to the social communication activities of the Lieutenancy and any of their written expositions about the Order shall be in line with the Grand Magisterium's guidelines and publications (official website and official social media pages). The communication activities of the Lieutenancy are divided into two sections: 1) the central information provided by the Grand Magisterium through the Order's official website, those reported (among the most significant) in *The Jerusalem Cross* (Magazine and Newsletter) and the relevant official social media pages, but without replacing them; 2) the communication of local life and activities.

\*\*\*

#### **ARTICLE 44 - CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE CENTRAL OFFICES OF THE ORDER**

**§ 1.** - The Lieutenants shall address their correspondence as follows:

- a) **To the Cardinal Grand Master**, for matters of primary importance as well as those related to the liturgical and logistical planning of the Investitures presided over by him; also for all matters that one wishes to submit to him personally and directly.
- b) **To the Lieutenant General**, if appointed, for matters entrusted to him by the Cardinal Grand Master under the Constitution.
- c) **To the Governor General**, for all ordinary matters of the Lieutenancies, their activities, administrative issues, and disciplinary matters.
- d) **To the Chancellor**, for Admissions, Appointments, Promotions, protocol matters, for matters concerning communication and

publications on the activities, projects and events of the Order, as well as for any requests for copies or duplicates of official archival documentation.

- e) **To the Treasurer**, for administrative matters, budgets, and funding of projects in the Holy Land.

**§ 2.** - Ordinary non-confidential correspondence and any parcels from the Lieutenants relating to the matters of the aforementioned offices should be addressed to the ***Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem - 00120 Vatican City*** - taking care to indicate the wording "*to the courteous attention of*" accompanied by the name of the Head of the aforementioned offices; matters of particular importance should be sent, for information, in copy to the Governor General, who will report on it to the Cardinal Grand Master.

#### **ARTICLE 45 - THE GRAND PRIOR OF THE LIEUTENANCY**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy is appointed from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Order, preferably awarded the episcopal character, by the Cardinal Grand Master after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Lieutenant, and the competent authorities of the local Church. The Grand Prior holds office for a period of four years and may be reappointed (see Constitution, Art. 27 § 1).

#### **§ 2. Duties**

- a) The Grand Prior assists the Lieutenant and cooperates with him/her in the direction of the Lieutenancy, represents its spiritual leadership and follows the action of the Priors of the Sections and Local Delegations, giving appropriate directives (see Constitution, Art. 27 § 2).
- b) The actions of the Grand Priors should always take place in harmony with the Ordinaries of those called to service within the Order, since it draws its strength from the life of the Church and communion with it.

#### **§ 3. Coadjutor**

- a) When circumstances make it necessary, the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Grand Prior concerned, and the Lieutenant, may appoint a Coadjutor to assist the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy.
- b) The Cardinal Grand Master, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consulting with the Assessor, the Governor General, the Grand Prior concerned and after hearing the opinion of the Lieutenant, may revoke the appointment of a Coadjutor Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy (see Constitution, Art. 27 § 3).
- c) The Coadjutor can be a cleric without episcopal character.

**§ 4. Incompatibility** - Grand Priors of the Lieutenancy and Magistral Delegation may not be appointed as members of the Grand Magisterium, *perdurante munere*.

**§ 5. Delegation** - The Grand Priors of the respective Lieutenancies are granted by the Cardinal Grand Master, in his absence, the authority to celebrate the Investiture Ceremony of new Members in the Order (see Constitution, Art. 35 § 3).

The Grand Priors of the Lieutenancy, in turn, may delegate this faculty to another ecclesiastical authority belonging to the Order within the Lieutenancy to which they belong, who has episcopal character. In case of the absence of an ecclesiastical authority with episcopal character, the authorization lies with the Cardinal Grand Master (see Art. 3 c), d), e), f).

#### **ARTICLE 46 - THE CHANCELLOR OF THE LIEUTENANCY**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The importance of the role of the Chancellor of the Lieutenancy requires that he or she be chosen from among personalities with a high moral profile, experience and who enjoy wide esteem among the Members of the Order.

The Chancellor is appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Lay Members of the Lieutenancy, in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Constitution, Art. 29 § 1).

**§ 2. Duties** - The Chancellor of the Lieutenancy is accountable to the Lieutenant and is responsible for assisting him in his duties by reviewing applications for admission to the Order; evaluating the activities of individual Members of the Lieutenancy and any proposals for promotion. The Chancellor also oversees the communication activities of the Lieutenancy established by Article 43 § 11 of these General Regulations (see Constitution, Art. 29 § 2)

**§ 3. Replacement** - The Chancellor of the Lieutenancy may temporarily exercise the duties of the Lieutenant in the event of death, resignation, inability to act or prolonged absence, or in the period preceding the taking over of a new incumbent or eventual Regent (see Constitution, Art. 29 § 3).

#### **ARTICLE 47 - THE TREASURER OF THE LIEUTENANCY**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Because of the delicacy of the office and the role of special trust entrusted to the Treasurer of the Lieutenancy, as the custodian of the Lieutenancy's collections of funds for the Order's own purposes, he or she must have significant administrative and accounting experience.

The Treasurer of the Lieutenancy is appointed by the Lieutenancy from among the Lay Members of the Lieutenancy, in consultation with the Grand

Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Constitution, Art. 30 § 1).

**§ 2. Duties** - The Lieutenancy Treasurer is accountable to the Lieutenant for the administration of the economic affairs of the Lieutenancy. His or her duties include: property management, updating of inventories, preparation of the annual budget, as well as the administration of capital resources in line with the approved annual budget forecast. The Treasurer also oversees the preparation of the annual financial statements of the Lieutenancy (see Constitution, Art. 30 § 2).

#### **ARTICLE 48 - THE SECRETARY OF THE LIEUTENANCY**

**§ 1. Appointment** - By virtue of the office he or she holds, the Lieutenancy Secretary must be endowed with confidentiality, organizational ability, reliability and availability of time in serving the Members of the Lieutenancy

The Secretary is appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Lay Members of the Lieutenancy, in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Constitution, Art. 31 § 1).

**§ 2. Duties** - The Secretary of the Lieutenancy reports to the Lieutenant and is responsible for recording and archiving the acts of the Lieutenancy; for keeping, in accordance with current regulations, data concerning Members; and for providing administrative assistance to the Lieutenant and the Registrar of the Lieutenancy (see Constitution, Art. 31 § 2).

#### **ARTICLE 49 – MASTERS OF CEREMONIES OF THE LIEUTENANCY**

**§ 1. Lay Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy** - The Lay Master (meaning also Lay Mistress) of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy is expected to have the ability to take care of the ceremonies with high attention to the Liturgy and the orderly participation of the Members in them, taking into consideration any invited personalities.

He or she is appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Lay Members of the Lieutenancy, in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium; he or she is accountable to the Lieutenant and is responsible for the logistical-protocol organization of the events and ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.

He or she shall also see to the preservation of the furnishings and whatever else is necessary, taking care of the safekeeping and good condition of everything. He or she may, in the performance of his duties, avail himself or herself of the cooperation of other Members.

**§ 2. Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy** - The Lieutenant may appoint an Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Lieutenancy; he, in agreement with the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior, shall be responsible for organizing the religious and spiritual events of the Lieutenancy. In a spirit of union with the whole Order, he will cherish adherence to the Ritual of Celebrations

**§ 3. Liturgies and Ceremonial** - In accordance with local traditions, the Master of Ceremonies (lay and ecclesiastical) will take care of liturgical and ceremonial aids (e.g., texts to be used in the circumstance) to facilitate the participation of the Members of the Order in the ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.

In case of special needs (such as, for example, the presence of the Cardinal Grand Master), it is desirable that the Liturgy and Ceremonial be agreed upon with the Central Offices of the Order as well

#### **ARTICLE 50 - COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCILS**

**§ 1. Lieutenancy Council** - As an advisory body assisting the Lieutenant in the direction of the Lieutenancy, especially in developing the spiritual life of its Members, guiding its charitable activity, and taking care of its administration, it should be composed of a suitable number of Members chosen preferably from among those who have at least three years of active life in the Order.

At least three-fourths of the members of the Council of Lieutenancy in principle must be lay people. In addition to the members who are *ex officio* (Chancellor, Treasurer and Secretary), the following may be part of it:

- a) The Grand Prior and the Coadjutor (if any) (or their delegate).
- b) The Lay Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.
- c) The Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.
- d) Section Presidents.

In addition, the Lieutenant may appoint other Members as Councilors of the Lieutenancy in a number not exceeding one Councilor for every one hundred members.

All Council members are appointed by the Lieutenant, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium in the case of *ex officio* members; with communication to the same Presidency of the Grand Magisterium in other cases (see Constitution, Articles 28 and 32).

**§ 2. Section Council** - This is the advisory body that assists the President in directing the activities of the Section. Its members are:

- a) Section Treasurer.
- b) Section Secretary.
- c) The Section Prior (or his delegate).
- d) Section Lay Master of Ceremonies.
- e) The Section Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies.
- f) Local Delegates.

In addition, the Section President, after consultation with the Lieutenant and the Section Prior, may appoint additional members in numbers not exceeding one Councilor for every 25 members.

All Council members are appointed by the Section President, in consultation with the Lieutenant, after informing the respective Diocesan Ordinaries of the nominees.

The Lieutenant, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Lieutenantcy Council, in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenantcy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may dissolve a Section Council (see Constitution, Art. 33 § 5).

**§ 3. Local Delegation Council** - As an advisory body assisting the Delegate in directing the activities of the Local Delegation, it consists of:

- a) The Local Delegation Treasurer.
- b) The Local Delegation Secretary.
- c) The Prior of the Local Delegation (or his delegate)
- d) The Lay Master of Ceremonies of Local Delegation.
- e) The Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies of the Local Delegation.

In addition, the Local Delegate - having consulted with the Prior of the Local Delegation, the Section President, and the Lieutenant - may appoint other Council members, up to a maximum of five. The request should be made respecting the hierarchical order (Section President and Lieutenant).

All Council members are appointed by the Local Delegate, after consultation with the Section President and the Lieutenant and after informing the respective Diocesan Ordinaries of the nominees.

The Lieutenant, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Lieutenantcy Council and the respective Section President, in consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenantcy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may dissolve a Local Delegation Council (where established) or revoke the appointment of one or more of its respective members (see Constitution, Art. 33 § 5).

## **ARTICLE 51 - REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENTS**

For all of the offices previously stated, it is required that the appointees meet the requirements of dignity and suitability and comply with the principles and obligations set forth in the Constitution (see Constitution, Art. 36) and these General Regulations (Art. 67 § 2 and 68), i.e., that they are persons of distinguished moral conduct, in good standing with the statutory financial contribution, and have hopefully made a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

## **ARTICLE 52 - POWER OF REVOCATION AND DISSOLUTION**

**§ 1. Power of Revocation** - The Lieutenant may revoke, subject to the Constitution and the procedure set forth in Title IV of these General Regulations

- a) The appointment of one or more members of the Council of the Lieutenancy for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium; the removal of one of the members *ex officio*, on the other hand, requires the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Constitution, Art. 28 § 4).
- b) The appointment of a Section President for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Prior of the Section, after informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Constitution, Art. 33 § 2).
- c) The appointment of a Local Delegate for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Prior of Section and Local Delegation, after informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and after consultation also with the respective Section President (see Constitution, Art. 33 § 2).
- d) The appointment of a Section Prior who has not been awarded episcopal dignity, for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and after informing the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium. In the same manner, after also consulting with the respective Section President, the Lieutenant may revoke the appointment of a Prior of a Local Delegation who has not been awarded episcopal dignity. In the case of a Prior of Section or Local Delegation who has been awarded episcopal dignity, the Lieutenant may, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, propose a rotation to the Cardinal Grand Master.
- e) The appointment of one or more members of the Section Council or Local Delegation, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Lieutenancy Council and the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and - in the case of a Local Delegation Council - after

consultation with the respective Section President (see Constitution, Art. 33 § 5).

**§ 2. Faculty of dissolution** - The Lieutenant may dissolve:

- a) The Lieutenancy Council for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- b) The Council of one or more Sections for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, after consultation with the Council of the Lieutenancy.
- c) The Council of one or more Local Delegations for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and after hearing the Section President and Prior of the Local Delegation, after obtaining the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and consulting the Lieutenancy Council.

## **ARTICLE 53 - CIVIL LIABILITY**

**§ 1. Limits of civil liability** - Territorial organizations of the Order with legal personality in civil law are normally considered autonomous entities before the law, even where they cooperate with a central entity.

In the event that a Lieutenant is responsible for a violation of the rules of civil law concerning the financial or general administration of his or her Lieutenancy, such failure does not legally involve the Cardinal Grand Master, the Grand Magisterium or its Presidency, or any other central authority of the Order.

The Lieutenant shall promptly inform the Governor General and the Vice Governor General of his or her geographical area of any situation of conflict between the rules of civil law and those of the Constitution and these General Regulations of Order.

The issue of individual responsibility must be explicitly specified in the Rules of the Lieutenancy formally approved by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and the Legal Commission.

**§ 2. Liability Insurance** - If affordable at a reasonable cost, each Lieutenancy may carry liability insurance in an amount adequate to indemnify any person - in the performance of his or her duties as a Member or officer of the Lieutenancy - who becomes involved in legal action.

The insurance will be for the purpose of covering court costs and any other reasonable and justified expenses related thereto.

\*\*\*

## ***Administrative Management***

## **ARTICLE 54 - ORDINARY RESOURCES**

§ 1. - Bearing in mind that the Order is by its nature contributory, the resources of the Lieutenancy consist of:

- a) oblations upon entry into the Order and promotions, set by the Lieutenancy Council, according to the socio-economic situation of the Lieutenancy;
- b) annual statutory economic contributions, set by the Lieutenancy Council according to the socio-economic situation of the Lieutenancy;
- c) generous donations;
- d) income from the economic and financial management of movable and immovable property (regulated);
- e) testamentary bequests (regulated).

§ 2. - Oblations for entry into the Order and for any subsequent promotions are to be allocated to the support of Catholic Places and Institutions in the Holy Land, **through the Grand Magisterium**, which will also take into account its own organizational needs and, subject to its authorization; the Lieutenancies may use these funds to the maximum extent of **20%** for general administration expenses.

The 20% share of oblations is calculated with reference to the budget estimate.

§ 3. - Statutory economic contributions made by Members to the Lieutenancy are to be allocated to the support of Catholic Places and Institutions in the Holy Land, according to the Order's annual programming; however, Lieutenancies may allocate these funds, to the maximum extent of **10%**, to the discretionary support of projects in the Holy Land not included in the Order's annual programming; such discretionary economic contributions (i.e., the maximum 10% share) are to be sent to the Holy Land through the Grand Magisterium.

The 10% share of discretionary economic contributions is calculated with reference to the budget estimate, less the amount of general administration expenses.

§ 4. - Other generous donations must take into consideration the wishes of the donor; in the absence of a precise indication from the latter, the decision regarding the use of these resources is the responsibility of the Cardinal Grand Master, after hearing the opinion of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and the Lieutenancy concerned.

§ 5. - The economic and financial management of movable and immovable property is entrusted to the Lieutenant in cooperation with the Treasurer of the

Lieutenancy in accordance with Article 26 § 5 of the Constitution, in compliance with local civil laws and international regulations.

**§ 6.** - Any exceptions to the above norms must be authorized in advance by the Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium

#### **ARTICLE 55 - EXTRAORDINARY RESOURCES**

The Lieutenants are encouraged to promote the raising of additional resources and income, including from external sources, aimed at sustaining the Lieutenancy or other activities of the Order in favor of the Holy Land. Any initiative that takes place in the name and with the emblem of the Order must be studied by the Lieutenancy Council, communicated to the Governor General, and authorized by him in writing (see Art. 23 § 1).

Any donations, in support of projects or programs not included in the Order's annual budget, must obtain the authorization of the Governor General in advance to avoid any possible duplication of allocation of funds. The relevant amounts will be transferred to the beneficiary through the administrative bodies of the Grand Magisterium.

Such activities must be carried out in accordance with ethical principles and expediency and must be authorized in advance.

The procurement and allocation of any monies collected or donated must be in accordance with international economic regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 56 - ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION OF RESOURCES**

**§ 1.** - The Lieutenant is responsible for the administration of the movable and immovable property of the Lieutenancy, according to the aforementioned rules. In the exercise of this activity he or she shall avail themselves of the cooperation of the Treasurer of the Lieutenancy (see Constitution, Art. 26 § 5).

**§ 2.** - The economic administration of the Lieutenancy shall be conducted in accordance with prudent management inspired by the principles of ethics, transparency, and restraint of expenses.

#### **ARTICLE 57 - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**§ 1. Format of budget forecasts and financial statements** Following international accounting procedures - including anti-money laundering regulations (see Appendix) - the budget forecasts and financial statements of the Lieutenancies must cover a calendar fiscal year (January 1 to December 31) and include, in particular:

- a) Assets, liabilities, and equity (balance sheets).

- b) Revenues broken down into the accounting categories provided by the Annual Report forms and according to any donor's instructions.
- c) Expenditures, broken down by programmatic or operational purposes and according to any donor guidance, and expenditures, broken down into the accounting categories provided in the Annual Report forms and according to any donor guidance.

**§ 2. Audited financial statements**

- a) each Lieutenant must submit annually to the Governor General, by April 30, the financial statements of the Lieutenancy reviewed by its Council and, if applicable, of any associated civil or Church entity, together with the certification, if any, of independent auditors and their suggestions,
- b) when submitting the accounts, the Lieutenant must accompany the accounting data with a brief report on the activities of the Lieutenancy and any problems encountered and guidelines that have emerged (see Art. 43 § 4);
- c) in exceptional cases, the Governor General may grant a waiver regarding the annual deadline for submission of financial statements.

**N.B.:** See Appendix Four: The Order in North America – Organizational Integrity, adopted by the North American Lieutenants on June 2, 2023, and incorporated herein for North America.

**ARTICLE 58 - BUDGET PLANNING**

**§ 1. Revenue Projections** - Each Lieutenancy - in the financial statements regulated in the preceding Article - must communicate to the Governor General, by the end of June, an estimate of the projected revenue of the Lieutenancy that it will send to the Grand Magisterium in the following year. This financial projection, complete with the dates when contributions are expected to be sent, will enable the Grand Magisterium to plan and program more accurately the nature, destination, and amount of financial aid to the Holy Land.

**§ 2. Use of Contributions** - In drawing up the budget estimates and institutional operating expenditures of the Lieutenancy, the Lieutenants shall follow the directions set forth in Article 54 of these Regulations.

\*\*\*

***The Magistral Delegations***

**ARTICLE 59 - ESTABLISHMENT OF MAGISTRAL DELEGATIONS.**

**§ 1.** - The introduction of the Order in a geographical area in which it was not present or the autonomy granted to a Section with respect to the original

Lieutenancy to which it belonged usually takes place initially with the creation of a Magistral Delegation. The establishment of a Magistral Delegation involves the appointment of a Grand Prior, a Magistral Delegate, and a Council according to the following rules. It also preferably requires a minimum of ten Members. It may be elevated to the rank of a Lieutenancy when it has reached a sufficient number of Members, subject to the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Art. 40 §§ 3, 5).

**§ 2.** - Magistral Delegations and Delegates follow the norms of the Constitution and these General Regulations of the Order concerning Lieutenancies and Lieutenants, unless expressly provided otherwise (see Art. 40 §§ 2, 4; 62).

The Magistral Delegate participates in the Order's Consulta.

**§ 3. Incompatibility** - To avoid any possible conflict of interest, Magistral Delegates and Grand Priors of Magistral Delegations in office may not be appointed as members of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 4. Term of office** - The Magistral Delegate and the Councilors of the Magistral Delegation, the Grand Prior of the Magistral Delegation, the Coadjutor Prior of the Magistral Delegation, and the Regent of the Magistral Delegation shall hold office *ad nutum*.

#### **ARTICLE 60 - THE GRAND PRIOR OF THE MAGISTRAL DELEGATION**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Grand Prior of a Magistral Delegation is appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Order, preferably awarded the episcopal character, after consultation with the Assessor, the Governor General and the Diocesan Ordinary. The Grand Prior remains in office *ad nutum*.

**§ 2. Duties** - The Grand Prior is responsible, in the first stage, for identifying potential candidates for entry into the Order and their formation; from among them, he will identify the future Magistral Delegate whose appointment he will submit to the Cardinal Grand Master according to the general norms.

In a second phase, he will assist the Magistral Delegate by cooperating in the ordinary and spiritual management of the Magistral Delegation, continuing in the work of training the aspirants.

#### **ARTICLE 61 - PROCEDURE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE MAGISTRAL DELEGATE**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Magistral Delegates shall be identified by the Grand Prior according to the appointment procedures set forth in these General

Regulations and shall hold office *ad nutum*. He/she shall be chosen from among the Lay Members of the Order and shall be appointed by the Cardinal Grand Master, in consultation with the Governor General, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and the Grand Prior of the Magistral Delegation. If appropriate, the opinion of the candidate's Ordinary may be sought.

Candidates, where possible and applicable, should be identified according to the general rules provided for Lieutenants (see Art. 41 §§ 1, 3).

**§ 2. Duties** - The Magistral Delegates are assisted in the performance of their duties, by the Grand Prior and the Council.

**§ 3. Power of Appointment** - The Magistral Delegate appoints the following collaborators, after consultation with the Grand Prior, who may possibly take advice from the Ordinary regarding the person concerned:

- The Chancellor, the Treasurer, the Secretary of the Magistral Delegation and the Lay Master of Ceremonies, chosen from the Lay Members and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.
- Other Members of the Council, in order to perform specific tasks deemed necessary by him, after hearing the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 4. Deferral** - For all matters not expressly provided for, the General Regulations provided for Lieutenants and Lieutenancies shall apply.

\*\*\*

### ***Local Sections and Delegations***

#### **ARTICLE 62 - ESTABLISHMENT, DIRECTION, AND TERRITORY**

**§ 1. Establishment** - The Cardinal Grand Master, upon the joint proposal of the Lieutenant and the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, with the approval of the local Ordinary, in agreement with the Governor General, after consultation with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may establish Sections within each Lieutenancy and these, in turn and similarly, may be divided into Local Delegations.

**§ 2. Direction** - Sections are headed by Section Presidents, Local Delegations by Local Delegates.

In the case of the unification of several Sections or Local Delegations, the leadership of the newly formed entity is decided by the Cardinal Grand Master upon the proposal of the Lieutenant, in agreement with the Governor General after consulting with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 3. Territory** - Whenever possible, the boundaries of Sections and Local Delegations should coincide with those of Ecclesiastical Provinces and Particular Churches, respectively.

#### **ARTICLE 63 - SECTION PRESIDENTS**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Section Presidents shall be appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Lay Members of the Order for a period of four years renewable once, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, obtaining the opinion of the Ordinary to whose Diocese the proposed President for appointment belongs, after informing the Ordinary of the Diocese (if different) where the Section is located of the appointment, and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 2. Deputyship** - In the event of the death, resignation, inability to act, or prolonged absence for serious and well-founded reasons of a Section President, the Lieutenant, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and subject to the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, shall appoint from among the Members of the Lieutenancy a Section Regent to temporarily exercise the authority of the Section President.

**§ 3. Vacancy in Office** - In the event that the office of Section President becomes vacant for any reason, the members of the Section Council shall remain in office, automatically falling from office when the successor takes office; the successor, however, may reappoint them to the office.

**§ 4. Revocation** - The Lieutenant, for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Prior of the Section, after informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may revoke the appointment of a Section President (see Art. 52 § 1 b)) in accordance with the Constitution and the procedure set forth in Title IV of these General Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 64 - SECTION PRIORS**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Section Priors not conferred with episcopal character are appointed by the Lieutenant from among the ecclesiastical Members of the Order, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Ordinary of the candidate, subject to the approval of the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium. For Section Priors awarded the episcopal character, see Article 2 § 2 (e) of these Regulations.

#### **§ 2. Tasks**

- a) Section Priors cooperate with their respective Section President and serve as spiritual leaders of the Section, directing all of its religious activities.
- b) The actions of Section Priors should always take place in harmony with the Ordinaries of those called to service within the Order, since it draws its strength from the life of the Church and communion with it.

**§ 3. Revocation** - The appointment of a Section Prior who has not been conferred with episcopal dignity may be revoked by the Lieutenant, for serious and well-founded reasons, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, after informing the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, in accordance with the Constitution and the procedure provided for in Title IV of these General Regulations.

In the case of a Section Prior who has been honored with episcopal dignity, the Lieutenant may, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, propose a rotation to the Cardinal Grand Master (see Art. 52 § 1 d)).

#### **ARTICLE 65 - LOCAL DELEGATES**

**§ 1. Appointment** - Local Delegates are appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Lay Members of the Order for a period of four years renewable once, after consultation with the Section Prior, the Section President, obtaining the advice of the competent Ordinary, and with the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 2. Deputyship** - In the event of the death, resignation, inability to act, or prolonged absence of a Local Delegate for serious and well-founded reasons, the Lieutenant, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and subject to the approval of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, shall appoint from among the Members of the Lieutenancy a Local Delegation Regent to temporarily exercise the authority of the Local Delegate.

**§ 3. Vacancy in Office** - In the event that the office of a Local Delegate becomes vacant for any reason, the members of the Local Delegation Council shall remain in office, automatically lapsing upon taking office of the successor; the successor, however, may reappoint them to the office.

**§ 4. Revocation** - The appointment of a Local Delegate may be revoked - after consultation with the respective Section President - by the Lieutenant, for serious and well-founded reasons, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Section Prior, after informing the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium (see Art. 52 § 1 c)), in accordance with the Constitution and the procedure set forth in Title IV of these General Regulations.

#### **ARTICLE 66 - PRIORS OF THE LOCAL DELEGATION**

**§ 1. Appointment** - The Priors of Local Delegations are appointed by the Lieutenant from among the Ecclesiastical Members of the Order, after consultation with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy and the Ordinary of the candidates if not awarded the episcopal character, subject to the approval of the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium. For Priors of Delegations who are awarded the episcopal character, see Article 2 § 2 (e) of these General Regulations.

**§ 2.**

- a) Local Delegation Priors cooperate with their respective Local Delegate and serve as spiritual leaders of the Local Delegation, directing all of its religious activities.
- b) the actions of the Local Delegation Priors should always take place in harmony with the Ordinaries of those who are called to assume service within the Order, since it draws its strength from the life of the Church and communion with it.

**§ 3. Revocation** - The appointment of a Prior of a Local Delegation who has not been conferred with episcopal dignity may be revoked by the Lieutenant in agreement with the relevant Section President, for serious and well-founded reasons, in accordance with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, after informing the Cardinal Grand Master and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, in accordance with the Constitution and the procedure provided in Title IV of these General Regulations.

In the case of a Prior of a Local Delegation who has been conferred with episcopal dignity, the Lieutenant may, in agreement with the Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, propose a rotation to the Cardinal Grand Master (see Art. 52 § 1 d).

\*\*\*

**TITLE III**  
**MEMBERS OF THE ORDER**

## **ARTICLE 67 - APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

**§ 1. Search for Candidates** - Each Member of the Order may identify persons who meet the requirements as possible candidates for admission, to be presented to the Lieutenancy through the hierarchy.

The Lieutenant of their territory is responsible for the final assessment of their suitability, where possible with a personal interview, in order to guide the application file.

**§ 2. Requirements** - For the purpose of admission, an aspiring candidate must be selected from among those who meet the requirements listed below (see Constitution, Art. 34 § 2):

- a) be a Catholic of exemplary faith and moral conduct;
- b) actively participate in the life of the local church and generously support its activities;
- c) be animated by a desire to live intensely the spirituality of the Order, to contribute to the fulfillment of its mission, and not to pursue mere honorific ends;
- d) have experience and seriousness of purpose and have already demonstrated competence and maturity in other fields of activity;
- e) be willing to attend a period of training, lasting ideally one year, directed by a Member with proven experience and adequate seniority in the Order;
- f) be at least twenty-five years of age;
- g) submit a written commitment indicating a desire to be a member of the Order, accepting all of the obligations set forth in the Constitution and these General Regulations.

## **ARTICLE 68 - ADMISSIONS**

**§ 1. Documents for Admissions** - Applications for admissions must be submitted by the Lieutenant to the Appointments Commission and must arrive at least 60 days before the established date of the Commission meeting. Applications must be accompanied by the documents listed in Appendix 1 - ADMISSIONS.

**§ 2. Ordinary Admission** - The ordinary power to admit candidates to the Order and to confer Investiture on them belongs to the Cardinal Grand Master according to the Constitution and these General Regulations. This power is normally exercised upon the proposal of the Lieutenant. The latter, having completed the selection of the aspiring candidates after verifying the existence of the requirements referred to in the preceding paragraph and having acquired the declaration referred to in letter g), shall send the files for admissions (enclosing a summary translation where the documentation indicated in § 1 above is not drawn up in French, English, Italian, Spanish, or German) to the Chancellor of

the Order for their information and subsequent examination by the Appointments Commission, before being submitted to the Cardinal Grand Master for approval. Upon completion of the approval process, the Chancellor will give appropriate information to the respective Lieutenants.

**§ 3. Admissions *motu proprio*** - The Cardinal Grand Master, at his discretion, has the power to admit *motu proprio* to any rank in the Order candidate(s), if necessary after consultation with the Diocesan Ordinary. In *motu proprio* admissions, the candidate must be informed of the rights and duties required of Members of the Order; in addition, the respective Lieutenant, Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy, and Diocesan Ordinary must be informed of the admission.

**§ 4. Extraordinary Admission** - Exceptionally, both the Governor General and the Grand Magisterium (unanimously) have the faculty to propose any selected candidates to the Appointments Commission, enclosing the required documentation in § 1; the Commission, after consideration, will present the files to the Cardinal Grand Master for approval. The respective Lieutenant and Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy must be informed of the admission.

**§ 5. Membership** - Membership in the Order takes place with the Investiture of the candidate by the Cardinal Grand Master or his delegate according to the Ritual of Celebrations.

It is attested by a Diploma signed by the Cardinal Grand Master, bearing his own seal, the seal of the Order, and the Visa and Seal of the Secretariat of State of the Holy See.

Only after the formal Investiture, will the Lieutenant present the newly admitted Knights and Dames with the relevant Diploma.

## **ARTICLE 69 - TRAINING**

**§ 1. Formation Period** - Candidates for admission to the Order need to undergo a period of formation, lasting not less than one year, according to the guidelines of the "Document on Formation" approved by the Cardinal Grand Master. The formation is coordinated by a Member with proven experience and adequate seniority in the Order ( see Constitution, Art. 34 § 4) and by an Ecclesiastical Member of the Order who fosters the spiritual dimension.

**§ 2. Preparatory Formation** - The preparation of candidates for admission to the Order, in addition to participation in religious activities, should initiate the candidate in the knowledge of the mission, objectives, and ideals of spirituality that are proper to the Order, as well as its central and territorial structure, its work, and charitable commitment. Such preparation will enable candidates, before their final decision to join the Order, to be aware of the obligations and implications of being a Member.

**§ 3. Prayer Vigil** - The formation of the candidates concludes with the Prayer Vigil, celebrated according to the Ritual for Celebrations, usually the evening before their Investiture. During the Vigil the candidate makes a solemn commitment, also in writing, to a life inspired by the ideals and rules of the Order.

**§ 4. Ongoing Formation** - The ongoing formation of the Members of the Order through regular meetings, pilgrimages, conferences, and retreats should include an in-depth study of the Christian life, knowledge of the Holy Scriptures, the mystery of the Lord's Passion and Resurrection, the teachings of the Church, as well as the spirituality and history of the Order. In addition, the Lieutenancies are to promote activities to nurture charity, dialogue and enlighten public opinion on moral, cultural, and religious problems, as well as the situation in the Holy Land.

In continuing formation, moreover, Members are called to accept with a spirit of true understanding the Directives that come from the Order in the liturgical, disciplinary, economic, and administrative fields.

**§ 5. Publications** - The written and digital publications of the central and territorial authorities of the Order constitute a valuable support for the continuing education of its Members and to nurture their interest and involvement in the meritorious activities of the Order. Such publications should be disseminated widely and extensively.

Each Lieutenancy may publish and disseminate digital or printed bulletins related to its activities in keeping with the guidelines of the Grand Magisterium.

Lieutenancies are required to seek the written approval of the Governor General where they intend to produce extraordinary and non-periodic publications in the name and at the expense of the Order with the use of logo and wording.

## **ARTICLE 70 - OBLIGATIONS**

**§ 1. General Obligations** - Members of the Order are required to participate actively, both individually and collectively, in the life of the Order, particularly in those activities aimed at the achievement of the statutory objectives; to observe punctually the norms of the Constitution and these General Regulations; to comply faithfully with the Directives of the Cardinal Grand Master, the Grand Magisterium, and the Governor General and all other Members of the Order deputed to act on their behalf.

**§ 2. Pilgrimage** - Except for justified and substantiated reasons, Members of the Order are expected go to the Holy Land at least once in their lifetime on pilgrimage, preferably organized in an official form by the central or local authorities of the Order. The Member of the Order will also personally see to his

or her own preparation for and participation in the pilgrimage, taking into consideration what is expressed in Article 43 § 9.

**§ 3. Local Activities** - The Members of the Order are called to participate actively in the life of the Order, especially by taking part in liturgical celebrations, religious, charitable and institutional activities proposed by the Lieutenancy and local bodies, including the annual meeting of the Lieutenancy, if any.

**§ 4. Member Contributions** - Continued contribution is the Member's material connection with the Order in relation to the Holy Land and the Order's own institutional participation. The continuing contribution of Members has not only material but also moral significance with regard to the Order itself.

Lay and ecclesiastical Members of the Order are required to pay annually the recommended economic contribution set by their Lieutenancy (see also Art. 54), intended primarily to support the Institutions and projects in the Holy Land, also committing themselves to an additional oblation predetermined by their Lieutenancy in the event of promotion to higher rank.

The Lieutenant, after consulting the Grand Prior or Prior, may - according to exceptional and particularly serious cases - dispense in whole or in part from this obligation.

**§ 5. Rules of Conduct** - Members of the Order shall refrain from any action or conduct that, in the judgment of the competent authority of the Order, would constitute a serious public violation of divine or ecclesiastical law, seriously threaten ecclesial communion, or in any way damage the reputation and honor of the Order even at the local level. In dealing with particular disputes, each Knight and Dame will be guided by principles of charity and dialogue according to the teaching of the Gospel.

**§ 6. Use of the Means of Social Communication** - Without prejudice to the fact that Members of the Order who disseminate content on the means of Social Communication are personally responsible for it, they must avoid any polemical attitude towards the authority of the Church and its teaching, as well as any disrespect towards the Order and its Members. It is not acceptable to the dignity of a Knight or Dame to use social media to make judgments and fuel controversy or to entrench oneself behind anonymity.

**§ 7. Residence and Domicile** - Each Member of the Order undertakes to promptly notify the respective Lieutenancy of any change of residence and, where possible, telephone and email contact information.

**§ 8. Violations** - Failure to comply with one or more of the obligations contemplated in §§ 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this Article may result in disciplinary action being taken in the manner set forth in these General Regulations.

**N.B.:** See Appendix Five: The Order in North America – Personal Conduct, adopted by the North American Lieutenants on June 2, 2023 and incorporated herein for North America.

## **ARTICLE 71 - PROMOTIONS**

**§ 1. Requirements** - The promotion of a Member of the Order to a higher rank constitutes recognition of commitment to the Order, participation, and quality service in the rank for at least five years.

**§ 2. Promotion Documents** - Applications for promotions must be submitted by the Lieutenant to the Appointments Commission and must be received at least 60 days before the established date of the Commission meeting. Applications must be accompanied by the documents listed in Appendix 2 - PROMOTIONS.

**§ 3. Ordinary Promotion** - Ordinary power to promote candidates in the Order belongs to the Cardinal Grand Master according to the Constitution and these General Regulations (see, in this regard, what is provided in Article 99 §1)

This power is normally exercised upon the proposal of the Lieutenant. The latter shall send the files for promotions (enclosing a summary translation where the documents indicated in § 2 above are not in French, English, Italian, Spanish, or German) to the Chancellor of the Order for their information and subsequent examination by the Appointments Commission; the Chancellor shall communicate the results of the examination by the Appointments Commission to the Governor General and submit them to the Cardinal Grand Master for approval. Thereafter, the respective Lieutenants are to be informed.

**§ 4. Extraordinary Promotion** - Exceptionally, both the Governor General and the Grand Magisterium (unanimously) have the faculty to propose to the Cardinal Grand Master, who will send to the Appointments Commission, any selected candidates to be promoted, enclosing the documentation provided for in § 2; the Commission, after examination, will present the files to the Cardinal Grand Master for final approval. The respective Lieutenant and Grand Prior of Lieutenancy must be informed in advance of the request for promotion

**§ 5. *Motu proprio* Promotions** - The Cardinal Grand Master, at his discretion, has the faculty to promote *motu proprio* to any rank in the Order candidate(s), having taken such information as he deems appropriate. The respective Lieutenant, Grand Prior, and Diocesan Ordinary are informed of the promotion.

**§ 6. Promotion of a Member of the Grand Magisterium and a Lieutenant** - The conferring on a Member of the Grand Magisterium or a

Lieutenant of a distinction of higher rank is done by the Cardinal Grand Master.

In the case of Grand Magistral Members, promotion is upon the proposal of the Governor General; in the case of Lieutenants, it is normally upon the proposal of the respective Grand Priors, exceptionally upon the proposal of the Governor General.

## **ARTICLE 72 – CONFERRING OF KNIGHTLY DEGREES**

**§ 1.** The Order consists of Knights and Dames who are divided into two classes:

- A.** Class of Knights of the Collar and Dames of the Collar:
  - a) The Collar of the Order rightfully belongs to the Cardinal Grand Master and the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem.
  - b) The Cardinal Grand Master confers the Collar of the Order on eminent ecclesiastical or lay personalities of the highest dignity in very exceptional cases.
  
- B.** Class of Knights and Dames, distinguished in the ranks of:
  - a) Knight and Dame. *Eques* and *Domina*
  - b) Knight Commander and Dame Commander. *Commendator* and *Domina a Commenda*
  - c) Knight Commander with Star and Dame Commander with Star (Grand Official). *Commendator cum Nomismate* and *Domina a Commenda cum Nomismate*.
  - d) Knight Grand Cross and Dame Grand Cross. *Eques a Magna Cruce* and *Domina a Magna Cruce*.

### **§ 2. Knights and Dames**

#### **A. Laity:**

The Knights and Dames of the Order are lay faithful Members, men and women, who are at least 25 years of age, of deep faith and religious practice, of exemplary moral conduct, who wish to commit themselves to the goals and objectives of the Order, and who participate in the activities of their local churches (see Constitution, Art. 34 § 2).

#### **B. Ecclesiastics:**

For priests and deacons, the degree conferred is the title of Knight.

#### **C. Religious:**

The title of Knight-Religious/Dame-Religious is normally conferred on religious who perform spiritual duties within the Order, wish to commit themselves to its goals and objectives, and have a special connection to the Holy

Land. The title of Knight/Dame is the highest degree that can be conferred on religious.

**§ 3. Knight Commanders and Dame Commanders -**

**A. *Laity*:**

The rank of Knight Commander and Dame Commander is conferred on Knights and Dames at least 35 years of age who have distinguished themselves by achieving merits on behalf of the Order and its works.

**B. *Ecclesiastics*:**

As a rule, the rank of Commander is the highest rank that can be conferred on priests and deacons as well as full canons of the Patriarchal Chapter of the Basilica of the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem

**§ 4. Knight Commanders with Star and Dame Commanders with Star -**

**A. *Laity*:**

The rank of Knight Commander with Star (Grand Officer) and Dame Commander with Star is conferred on lay Knight Commanders and Dame Commanders who have continued to distinguish themselves by a high degree of participation, care, and charity toward the Holy Land and the life of the Order; furthermore, who are ready to accept additional responsibilities for the Order and have received the Pilgrim's Shell.

**B. *Ecclesiastics*:**

The rank of Commander with Star (Grand Officer) is normally conferred on clerics vested with episcopal dignity.

**§ 5. Knights Grand Cross and Dame Grand Cross**

**A. *Laity*:**

The degree of Knight Grand Cross or Dame Grand Cross is conferred on Knight Commanders with Star (Grand Officers) and Dame Commanders with Star who have continued to distinguish themselves for their extraordinary participation toward the Holy Land and the life of the Order; moreover, have assumed additional responsibilities in the Order and attained at least 50 years of age, as well as received the Pilgrim's Shell.

**B. *Ecclesiastics*:**

The rank of Knight Grand Cross is normally conferred on Cardinals.

### **ARTICLE 73 - DIGNITARIES OF THE ORDER**

§ 1. - To the Patriarch Grand Prior, the Assessor, the Members of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, the Members of the Grand Magisterium, the Lieutenants, the Magistral Delegates, the Grand Priors of the Lieutenancy and Magistral Delegation, the title of "Dignitary of the Order" is due, *durante munere*.

§ 2. - The Cardinal Grand Master, having consulted with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, may confer the title of honor of the office held on those Dignitaries of the Order who have rendered themselves particularly deserving of it; the conferment of the title takes place upon the termination of the office held by the Dignitary.

The conferral of the title of Honor is not automatic and does not necessarily occur when the Dignitary ceases to hold office. It will be conferred by the Cardinal Grand Master at the appropriate time, after carrying out the necessary evaluations, according to the provisions of the Constitution and these General Regulations.

### **ARTICLE 74 - RECOGNITIONS**

§ 1. **Recognitions for Knights and Dames of the Order** - The Cardinal Grand Master, after consultation with the territorially competent Lieutenant or Magistral Delegate, has the power to confer on Knights and Dames of irreproachable moral conduct and particularly meritorious in charity for the Holy Land the following Distinctions: *Palm of Jerusalem* (gold, silver and bronze) and the *Pilgrim's Shell*.

§ 2. - The *Palm of Jerusalem* (gold, silver, and bronze) is conferred by the Cardinal Grand Master on Members of the Order who have acquired important and special merits towards the Order or the Holy Land. The Palm of Jerusalem may be conferred for the same reasons and under the same conditions, in special cases, by the Patriarch Grand Prior to Members of the Order with permanent residence in the Holy Land; the Patriarch will regularly inform the Grand Magisterium, forwarding the relevant documentation.

The Palm of Jerusalem is as a rule conferred only once in rank on the same person upon the proposal of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium or the Patriarch Grand Prior of the Order or the relevant Lieutenant. Ecclesiastical Members without episcopal dignity may be awarded, after a suitable number of years as a token of appreciation for their service, the Silver Palm as the highest award.

The conferral of the Palm of Jerusalem is not automatic and does not necessarily occur upon termination of office. It will be conferred by the Cardinal Grand Master at the appropriate time, after carrying out the necessary evaluations.

§ 3. - The *Pilgrim's Shell* is granted only once by the Cardinal Grand Master, or the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, to Knights and Dames who have made a pious Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

The Pilgrimage to the Holy Land is carried out in the manner prescribed in Article 70 § 2 of these General Regulations or exceptionally on its own.

The Lieutenant, upon request of the Pilgrim Members, prepares a list of the names of participants to be submitted to the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem so that they can then receive the Pilgrim's Shell.

In the case of pious pilgrimage carried out exceptionally independently, without the coordination of the Lieutenancy, the individual will notify the Lieutenancy of his or her intention to travel to the Holy Land; the Lieutenancy, having evaluated the specifics of the pilgrimage, will notify the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem of the name of the Pilgrim Member.

Should a Knight or Dame have made a pious pilgrimage to the Holy Land prior to joining the Order, he or she will present the relevant and appropriate documentation (or a statement attesting to his or her participation in a pilgrimage to the Holy Land) to the Lieutenant, who will forward it to the Cardinal Grand Master for the eventual granting of the Pilgrim's Shell.

§ 4. - Special Distinctions of Chapters of ancient historical significance authorized by the Cardinal Grand Master are to be worn exclusively in the territory where the tradition is in force.

\*\*\*

### *Uniforms and Insignia*

#### **ARTICLE 75 - INSIGNIA OF SPECIAL DISTINCTIONS**

§ 1. **Palm of Jerusalem (gold, silver and bronze)** - The Palm of the Order (cm. 4 x 4) bears on the recto the Cross of Jerusalem on a shield in gold, silver, or bronze, the whole bordered by two elliptical Palms, one with olive fronds, the other with laurel berries, enameled green.

Engraved on the verso is the inscription, "*Palma Equestris Ordinis Sancti Sepulcri Hierosolymitani.*"

All recipients of the Palm of the Order wear the Palm on the left side of the cloak at chest height, hanging from a 5.5-cm ribbon of black marbled silk.

§ 2. **Pilgrim's Shell** - The Pilgrim's Shell (cm. 4 x 4.5) is a special badge depicting the silver-colored, frontally open valva shell, fielded by the red enameled Jerusalem Cross threaded in gold, cm. 2.

#### **ARTICLE 76 - DRESS**

**§ 1. Knight's Cloak** - Knights wear a cloak of ivory white cloth falling 10 cm below the knee, with a collar of white velvet, frogs of white cord, lining of white satin, and a 25 cm high Jerusalem Cross of scarlet cloth below the left shoulder.

**§ 2. Dame's Cloak** - Dames wear an ankle-length cloak, lined with black silk, with a black velvet collar and a 25 cm. high Jerusalem Cross made of scarlet cloth threaded in gold below the left shoulder.

**§ 3. Capitular Cloak** - Members of the Grand Magisterium and Lieutenants, both incumbent and honorary, wear a long capitular cloak - of white fabric for Knights and black for Dames - with an inverted lapel closed at the front with an opening of about 50 cm. below the lapel, a scarlet Jerusalem Cross below the left shoulder, and long cord adorned with tassels with a slip knot just below the sternum. The ornate tasseled cords are gold-colored for Grand Magisterium Members and currently serving Lieutenants, and silver-colored for honorary ones. The lapels of the Lieutenant General and Governor General are striped with a gold ribbon.

In addition, the Dames designated to the following positions wear the following rank distinctions on both sides of their lapels:

- Lieutenants: silver-colored olive leaf wreath.
- Members of the Grand Magisterium: gold-colored olive leaf wreath.
- Vice Governor General: two gold-colored olive leaf wreaths.
- Lieutenant General and Governor General: three gold-colored olive leaf wreaths

**§ 4. Knight's Headgear** - Lay Knights wear a beret (cap) of black velvet, in the form of a cap supported vertically on the right by a band of equal velvet, with a raised and shaped wing, which goes all around the cap and on the left slopes down to a height of cm. 4. A badge is applied in the bicorn of the cm. 12 sash, with the following distinctions of rank:

- Knight: Scarlet Jerusalem Cross on a silver-colored Shield mm. 40 x 37.5
- Knight Commander: Scarlet Jerusalem Cross on a silver-colored Shield measuring mm. 40 x 37.5 on black velvet disk measuring cm. 6 surrounded by gold-colored embroidery cord mm. 3;
- Knight Commander with Star (Grand Officer): scarlet Jerusalem Cross on a silver-colored Shield measuring mm. 40 x 37.5 on a black velvet disk measuring cm. 7.5 surrounded by two gold-colored embroidery cords measuring mm. 3;
- Knight Grand Cross: Scarlet Jerusalem Cross on silver-colored Shield measuring mm. 40 x 37.5, on black velvet disk measuring cm. 7.5, surrounded by a wreath of olive leaves and finished with a gold-colored embroidery cord measuring mm. 3.

- Knight's Collar: Scarlet Jerusalem Cross on a silver-colored Shield on black velvet disk 7.5 cm. surrounded by a wreath-shaped Crown of Thorns and finished with a 3 mm. gold-colored embroidery cord.

In addition, Grand Magisterium members and Lieutenants wear the following insignia of office, along both sides of the badge:

- Lieutenants: silver-colored olive leaf wreath.
- Members of the Grand Magisterium: gold-colored olive leaf wreath.
- Vice Governor General: two gold-colored olive leaf wreaths.
- Lieutenant General and Governor General: three gold-colored olive leaf wreaths.

**§ 5. Dame's Veil** - Dames of all ranks wear a black mantilla or veil on their heads.

In addition, the veil of the Lieutenants and Members of the Grand Magisterium is edged with 1.5 cm. gold embroidery.

**§ 6. Gloves** - Knights wear short-sleeved white gloves. Dames wear short-sleeved white gloves with long-sleeved dresses, or long-sleeved white gloves with short-sleeved dresses

**N.B.:** Black gloves are worn in the Lieutenancies of North America, except in those areas where white is the tradition.

**§ 7. Clergy** - Ecclesiastical Members of the Order clothed in the choral vesture may wear the white colored mozzetta (satin for Bishops), normal size, with a scarlet Jerusalem Cross on the left shoulder (cm. 20x20) on a rochet/coat, with black cassock, unless by other title they are entitled to robes of purple or crimson.

**§ 8. Lay members of the Order** - The cloak constitutes the specific dress for the Knights and Dames together with the proper Neck Cross; they are to be worn in the church; they may be worn outside the church in procession, after consultation with the local Bishop. As a rule, the cloak is to be worn closed.

Knights will wear their own cloak, Neck Cross, beret, and white gloves; in church, the beret and gloves are removed at the beginning and put on again at the end of the ceremonies, following the instructions of the Lay Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.

The Ladies will wear their own cloak, Neck Cross, black veil or mantilla, and gloves; the latter are taken off at the beginning and put on again at the end of the ceremonies, following the instructions of the Lay Master of Ceremonies of the Lieutenancy.

The cloak is the Church dress of the Members of the Order, it is to be worn with due respect and not outside the area where the Ceremony takes place.

Members may not wear the cloak in public functions or ceremonies, other than those of the Order, without prior permission from their Lieutenant and the Lieutenant of the place where the function or ceremony is held.

The criteria established for the cloak in these General Regulations should be observed, except for different ancient local customs that have been approved by the Cardinal Grand Master.

**§ 9. Ecclesiastical Order Members** - On the occasion of the Order's Ceremonies, those who do not participate in the liturgical service shall adhere to the following directions:

- a) Bishops will wear the proper vesture with the Order's white satin rochet and mozzetta with the Neck Cross, possible Star and stole of the Order;
- b) Prelates of Honor and Chaplains of His Holiness will wear their proper cassock with rochet and white mozzetta with Neck Cross;
- c) Priests will wear the cassock and white mozzetta with the Neck Cross;
- d) Permanent Deacons will follow the provisions for Lay Knights;
- e) Ecclesiastical Knights awarded the Grand Cross will not wear the sash, but only the Star and Neck Cross.

**§ 10. Members of a Religious Order** - Religious Knights and Religious Dames shall wear the proper dress of the Institute to which they belong, with a white scarf or black shawl with an enhanced Cross and the proper Neck Cross.

**§ 11. Investees** - Investees go to the Prayer Vigil and Investiture Ceremony, wearing:

- a) dark or ceremonial dress for lay people;
- b) proper cassock and rochet for Bishops; rochet for Prelates of Honor; surplice for Chaplains of His Holiness; and black cassock and surplice for Secular Priests;
- c) dark dress for permanent deacons;
- d) Religious habit proper for the Religious.

**§ 12. Allowable Decorations** - The following Insignia of rank are allowed on the cloak:

- a) On the capitular cloak with gold/silver thread cords should be worn the proper Neck Cross suspended from a black marbled silk ribbon or the Collar.
- b) On the cloak of Knights and Dames is to be worn the proper Neck Cross suspended from a black marbled silk ribbon.

**§ 13. Allowable Distinctions** - As Special Distinctions, the following are allowed:

- a) The “*Pilgrim's Shell*,” placed in the center of the Enhanced Cross of the cloak and capitular cloak as a testimony to the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land; it is worn with the umbo (i.e., hinge) at the top.
- b) The “*Jerusalem Palm*,” placed on the left side of the cloak at chest level. It will be placed at the highest level.

Dignitaries of the Order who, upon leaving office, have been awarded the title of honor, replace the gold-colored cords on their cloaks with a silver-colored one (with silver thread clasp and tassels). They retain the capitular cloak.

Outside of the above-mentioned Insignia of Rank and Special Distinctions of the Order, no other decoration or insignia may be applied to the cloak.

**§ 14. Dress of participants during the Vigil Ceremony** - The Knights and Dames are dressed in the cloak, Neck Cross and insignia according to their rank.

For the Knights, the beret and gloves are removed at the beginning and worn again at the end of the ceremony.

Religious-Knights and Religious-Dames wear the proper dress of the Institute to which they belong with a scarf or shawl with an enhanced cross and their own Neck Cross.

Knights on duty will keep the beret on during the ceremony, except during the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and until the conclusion of the exposition. Dames in charge of the service will wear the veil and gloves.

The cloaks of the Investee Knights and Dames are worn on the left arm, with the enhanced cross facing outward; the gloves will be held in the left hand as well as the beret or veil or mantilla and the Neck Cross.

The scarves of the Investee Religious/Knights and the shawls of the Investee Religious/Dames are worn on the left arm with the enhanced cross facing outward and the Neck Cross in the left hand.

Permanent Deacons, when participating in an active role in the rite, wear alb and stole.

During the Rite of Vigil, the one who presides will wear an alb, stole, and cope, if not vested with episcopal dignity.

The Bishop uses the mitre and crosier.

**§ 15. Dress of participants during the Investiture Ceremony** - Knights and Dames are dressed in the cloak, Neck Cross, and insignia according to their rank. For Knights, the beret and gloves are removed at the beginning and put back on at the end of the ceremony.

Religious-Knights and Religious-Dames wear the proper dress of the Institute to which they belong with a scarf or shawl with an enhanced cross and their own Neck Cross.

Knights on duty will keep the beret on during ceremonies, except during the consecration and when receiving communion. The Dames in charge of the ceremonies will wear the veil or mantilla and gloves.

The cloaks of the Investee Knights and Dames are normally worn on the left arm with the enhanced cross facing outward; the gloves will be held in the left hand as well as the beret or veil and the proper Neck Cross; however, it is permissible to place the cloaks and Neck Crosses on a pillow or in other arrangement so as to facilitate their blessing.

The scarves of the Investee Religious Knights and the shawls of the Religious Dames are worn on the left arm with the enhanced cross facing outward and the proper Neck Cross in the left hand.

The Investee Priests' mozzettas are worn on the left arm with the enhanced cross facing outward and the proper Neck Cross in the left hand.

Permanent Deacons, when participating in an active role in the rite wear alb and stole.

Clergy, if concelebrating, will wear from the beginning the alb, stole, and, on the chasuble, the Neck Cross suspended exclusively by a black marbled silk ribbon. Other non-concelebrating clergy shall dress as prescribed in the General Considerations of the Ritual of Celebrations.

During the Investiture, the one who presides will wear alb, stole, and cope, if not invested with episcopal dignity. The Bishop uses the miter and crozier.

For the Act of Investiture, the Celebrant will use the Processional Cross or crozier.

**§ 16.** Local traditions, of ancient custom or recognized by the Cardinal Grand Master, shall remain in force.

## **ARTICLE 77 – INSIGNIA OF RANK**

**§ 1.** Insignia of the Order - The insignia of the Order, according to ancient custom, is the Jerusalem Cross, that is, a gold-colored enhanced Cross, enameled in blood color and four crosses in the four corners, all equally gold-colored and enameled in blood color. It is worn with certain characteristics peculiar to each degree, as below.

**§ 2. Knights and Dames** – Knights and Dames wear a Jerusalem Cross, 3.5 cm. suspended from a 3.5 cm. black marbled silk ribbon. For the Knights, the Cross is surmounted by a “Military Trophy” and worn around the neck; for the Dames, the Cross is surmounted by a gold metal ornamental bow and hangs around the neck. Dames in civilian formal dress wear only the gold metal ornamental bow.

**§ 3. Knight Commanders and Dame Commanders** – Knight Commanders and Dame Commanders wear a 5 cm. Jerusalem Cross suspended from a 5 cm. black marbled silk ribbon. For Knights, the Cross is surmounted by a "Military Trophy" and worn around the neck; for Ladies, the Cross is surmounted by a gold metal ornamental bow and hung around the neck. Dame Commanders in civilian formal dress wear only the gold metal ornamental bow.

**§ 4. Knight Commanders with Star (Grand Officers) and Dame Commanders with Star** – Knight Commanders with Star (Grand Officers) and Dame Commanders with Star wear a 5-cm Jerusalem Cross suspended from a 5-cm ribbon of black marbled silk. For the Knights, the Cross is surmounted by a "Military Trophy" and worn around the neck; for the Dames, the Cross is surmounted by an ornamental gold metal bow and hung around the neck.

In addition, Commanders with Star (Grand Officers) and Dame Commanders with Star wear the silver-colored Star measuring 8.5 cm, on which is superimposed the Jerusalem Cross on a white enameled background surrounded by a garland of olive leaves, gold-colored, enameled in green. For Knights, the Star is worn on the left side of the jacket; for Dames, the Star is worn on the left side of the dress. [N.B.: Because the Star is heavy and may be difficult to pin to certain fabrics, it is also appropriate to wear it suspended from a black ribbon hung around the neck. In this case, the Jerusalem Cross should not be worn.]

Dame Commanders with Star in civilian formal dress wear only the ornamental gold metal bow.

**§ 5. Knights Grand Cross and Dames Grand Cross** – Knights and Dames Grand Cross wear a cm. 5 Jerusalem Cross suspended from a cm. 5 ribbon of black marbled silk. For Knights, the Cross is surmounted by a "Military Trophy" and worn around the neck and another 6.5 cm. Jerusalem Cross is tied at the height of the left hip to a 10 cm. band of black marbled silk, worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

For the Dames, the Cross is tied at hip height to an 8-cm band of black marbled silk, worn from the right shoulder to the left hip.

In addition, Knights and Dames Grand Cross wear a radiant silver-colored Star measuring 8.5 cm, on which is superimposed a 5 cm Jerusalem Cross. For Knights, the Star is worn on the left side of the jacket; for Dames, the star is worn on the left side of the dress. [N.B.: Because the Star is heavy and may be difficult to pin to certain fabrics, it is also appropriate to wear it suspended from a black ribbon hung around the neck.]

Ecclesiastical Members awarded the Grand Cross wear the Star on the left side of the mozzetta.

**§ 6. Knights and Dames of the Collar** – Knights and Dames of the Collar wear a Collar consisting of a chain of six Jerusalem Crosses, alternating with seven pairs of gold-colored rectangular platelets, from which hangs the Jerusalem Cross enameled in red surmounted by the gold-colored relief figure of Christ Rising from the Sepulchre and surrounded by a garland of gold-colored leaves, enameled in green. For Knights, the Cross is surmounted by a "Military Trophy"; for the Dames, the Cross is surmounted by an ornamental gold-colored metal bow. In addition, Knights and Dames of the Collar wear a silver-colored radiant medal of 8.5 cm. surmounted by a gold-colored disk of 4 cm. on which is

superimposed on a white enameled background the Jerusalem Cross enameled in red with applied the gold-colored relief figure of Christ Rising from the Sepulcher and surrounded by gold-colored olive leaves enameled in green. For Knights, the medal is worn on the left shoulder of the tailcoat; for Dames, the medal is worn on the left side of the gown. [N.B.: Because the medal is heavy and may be difficult to pin to certain fabrics, it is also appropriate to wear it suspended from a black ribbon hung around the neck.]

**§ 7. Miniature Insignia** - Grade insignia in miniature format are worn hanging from a ribbon for Knights or a bow for Dames on the left side of the formal dress that provides for the affixing of decorations. Knights may wear a rosette with their highest rank on the left lapel of their jacket; Dames may wear a black bow with a miniature of their highest rank on formal dress that provides for the affixing of decorations (for description and measurements, see the [Table](#) attached to these General Regulations).

## **ARTICLE 78 - BANNERS OF THE ORDER.**

**§ 1. Banner of the Order** - The Insignia of the Order consists of the banner of white silk on a red pole, surmounted by "Military Trophy." The 1.80 x 2.10 cm panel is knotted to the transverse pole by crenellated loops. From the lower horizontal rod hangs a fringe of m. 0.40, depicting in colors and pendants the Lieutenancies of the Order. On the front of the Banner stands the figure of Christ Rising from the Tomb, holding the Crusader Banner.

On the head of the empty Sepulcher is spread in ornate form the cartouche with the motto "*Deus lo Vult.*"

The figure of the Risen Christ is enclosed on the sides by an ornamental motif alternating between Jerusalem Crosses and Crowns of Thorns. From the upper transverse rod knobs hang the Order's ribbons of marbled black silk.

On the verso of the Gonfalone stands out the Jerusalem Cross.

The Banner is kept in the Order's headquarters in Rome. Its use is regulated by the Cardinal Grand Master.

**§ 2. Banner of the Lieutenancies** - The Banner of the Lieutenancies is the Banner of white silk, with a red staff, surmounted by the "Military Trophy." The 0.80 x 2.40 m. wide panel, ending in a point, bears on the front the figure of Christ Risen from the Tomb, holding the Crusader Banner and, at the base, the cartouche with the motto "*Deus lo vult.*" From the knobs of the transverse staff hang ribbons: on the right that of the Order of marbled black silk, on the left with the colors of the nation of the Lieutenancy. On the back of the standard is the Jerusalem Cross.

The standard is kept in the seat of the Lieutenancy and the Lieutenant regulates its use.

**§ 3. Insignia of the Sections** - The Insignia of the Sections is the banner of white silk with a red staff, surmounted by the "Military Trophy."

On the front of the drape 0.60 x 0.60 m high with a swallowtail of 0.80 m is placed the Jerusalem Cross. The arms or colors of the seat of the administrative territory of the Section are on the side. From the staff hang the ribbons of the Order and the seat of the administrative territory of the Section.

The banner shall be kept in the headquarters of the Section, and the President regulates its use.

**§ 4. Insignia of the Delegations** - The Insignia of the Delegations is the banner of white silk on a metal pole, surmounted by the golden Cross of the Order.

On the front of the drape 0.60 x 0.60 m high with a swallowtail of 0.80 m is the Jerusalem Cross.

From the pole of the banner hang the ribbons of the Order and the city, seat of the Delegation.

The Vessel is kept in the Delegation headquarters and is disposed of by the Delegate.

#### **ARTICLE 79 - COAT OF ARMS AND SEAL**

**§ 1. Coat of Arms** - The Coat of Arms of the Order is silver in color with the Jerusalem Cross in gold and enameled in sanguine color.

The Golden Helmet, surmounted with the Crown of Thorns of Our Lord Jesus Christ, to the Crest, of the globe surmounted by the Cross, is flanked by two Silver Flags with the purple Jerusalem Cross in the center.

The Lieutenants are represented by two Angels wearing red dalmatics; one (right) holding the Crusader's Banner; the other (left) holding the pilgrim staff and shell.

Motto: "*Deus lo vult*"

**§ 2. Seal** - The Seal of the Order, in the shape of a mandorla, enclosed by a gold-colored frame with the Crown of Thorns of Our Lord Jesus Christ, depicts, embossed in silver color, or imprinted in wax, the figure of Christ Risen from the Tomb.

#### **ARTICLE 80 - COAT OF ARMS OF THE CARDINAL GRAND MASTER**

The Cardinal Grand Master frames his own coat of arms with the coat of arms of the Order: of Silver to the Golden Cross, enameled in sanguine color, surmounted by the Red Hat, with the faculty of the cloak, topped by the Crown of Thorns surmounted by the Crest.

The Shield is surrounded by the Collar of the Order.

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

The Cardinal Grand Master in his coat of arms makes use of the Cross of Jerusalem.

\*\*\*

**ARTICLE 81 – ATTRIBUTIONS OF TITLES**

**Offices of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem**

<i>OFFICE HOLDER</i>	<i>SALUTATION</i>
Cardinal Grand Master	Eminence - Cardinal
Patriarch Grand Prior	Beatitude or Most Eminent Beatitude (if Cardinal)
Assessor	Excellency (if of episcopal rank) - Bishop (or Archbishop)
Lieutenant General	Excellency Lieutenant General
Governor General	Excellency Governor General
Vice Governor General	Excellency Vice Governor General
Chancellor	Sir Chancellor
Treasurer	Sir Treasurer
Ecclesiastical Master of Ceremonies	Excellency (if of episcopal rank) Most Reverend.
Members of the Grand Magisterium	
Grand Prior of the Lieutenancy	Eminence Excellency (if of episcopal rank)
Lieutenant	Excellency
Magisterial Delegate	
Chancellor of the Lieutenancy	
Treasurer of the Lieutenancy	
Secretary of the Lieutenancy	
Councilors of Lieutenancy	
Section President	
Local Delegate	
Section Regent	
Regent of Local Delegation	
Section Prior	Excellency (if of episcopal rank)
Prior of Local Delegation	Excellency (if of episcopal rank)
Section Councilors	
Local Delegation Councilors	

## **ARTICLE 82 - CELEBRATIONS OF THE ORDER**

**Investiture** - Admission into the Order takes place at a solemn Investiture Ceremony, preceded by a Prayer Vigil.

The celebration of the Investiture Ceremony of new Members in the Order is the responsibility of the Cardinal Grand Master; in his absence, the power to celebrate the Investiture Ceremony is delegated to the Grand Priors of the respective Lieutenancies, by implicit delegation (see Constitution, Art. 35 § 3). The Grand Priors of Lieutenancies, in turn, may sub-delegate to another ecclesiastical authority belonging to the Order (see Constitution Art. 3). Immediate spiritual and preparatory meetings may be scheduled.

For the ritual, please refer to the Ritual for Celebrations of the Order.

## **ARTICLE 83 - SPIRITUAL BENEFITS**

According to Article 37 of the Constitution, members of the Order enjoy a plenary indulgence once the usual conditions of confession, communion, and prayers established for the Holy Father's intentions are met:

- The day of one's Investiture
- The day of the Blessed Virgin Mary Queen of Palestine, Patroness of the Order (Oct. 25)
- The Day of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 14)
- On the feast day of Pope St. Pius X (August 21).
- On the feast day of St. Helen (August 18).

They are also required to commit themselves, or renew their commitment, at least in private, to faithfully observe the Constitution of the Order (in the Appendix to these General Regulations is a copy of the Decree issued by the Apostolic Penitentiary on 09/23/1967, Appendix 3 - SPIRITUAL BENEFITS).

## **ARTICLE 84 - ORDER OF PRECEDENCE**

The precedences among Members holding particular offices in the Order are as follows:

- Cardinal Grand Master
- Patriarch Grand Prior
- Assessor
- Lieutenant General
- Governor General
- Vice Governors General
- Chancellor of the Order
- Treasurer of the Order

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

- Master of Ceremonies of the Order
- Spiritual Assistant of the Order (if appointed)
- Other Members of the Grand Magisterium
- Other Consulta Members
- Lieutenants/Regents of the Lieutenancy
- Grand Priors of the Lieutenancy
- Magistral Delegates/Regents of Magistral Delegation.
- Grand Priors of Magistral Delegations
- Coadjutor Grand Priors of the Lieutenancy or Magistral Delegation
- Section Presidents/Regents
- Section Priors
- Local Delegates/Regents of Local Delegation
- Priors of the Local Delegation
- Chancellor, Treasurer, Secretary of the Lieutenancy
- Other Members of the Lieutenancy Council

In the case of equality of office and rank, precedence follows seniority in the office.

Where Cardinals, whether Members of the Order or not, as well as Civil Authorities, whether Members of the Order or not, are present, precedence is followed according to their rank.

#### **ARTICLE 85 - HERALDIC PRIVILEGES**

Ecclesiastics who can make use of a coat of arms are as follows:

1. Cardinals shall quarter their arms with the Jerusalem arms.
2. Other Ecclesiastics may attach their shield to the Jerusalem Cross.

Knights and Dames, who legitimately make use of the coat of arms, may have the Cross of the Order hanging below the tip of the shield:

- Knights with a black knot;
- Knight and Dame Commanders hanging from a black ribbon coming out from under the base of the shield;
- Knight and Dame Commanders with Star with trophy hanging from a black ribbon hugging the sides of the shield;
- Knights and Dames Grand Cross hugging the entire shield with the ribbon of the Order, from which the Cross with trophy hangs;
- The Knights of Collar, the members of the Grand Magisterium, the Lieutenants-in-Office and of Honor, and the Grand Priors will be able to attach with the Jerusalem arms to the right; Knights of Collar may also place the Collar around the shield.

The Patriarch Grand Prior and the Assessor make use of the chief charged with the Jerusalem Cross.

Knights and Dames who do not have their own coat of arms are entitled to bear the Cross of the Order.

## **ARTICLE 86 - DECORATIONS OF MERIT**

**§ 1. Decorations of Merit** - The Cardinal Grand Master has the faculty to confer on persons not belonging to the Order, including non-Catholics or non-Christians, of irreproachable moral conduct and particularly meritorious in charity for the Holy Land, the Decoration of Merit, distinguished in the following classes:

- a) Cross of Merit;
- b) Cross with Silver Star of Merit;
- c) Cross with Gold Star of Merit;
- d) Collar of Merit for eminent personalities including non-Catholics or non-Christians.

It is conferred, as a rule, upon the proposal of the Governor General or the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, after informing the territorially competent Lieutenant General or Magistral Delegate, and does not involve entry into the Order.

The Decoration of Merit cannot be conferred on Members of the Order.

Its award does not imply membership in the Order; however, it does not prevent subsequent membership.

**§ 2. Insignia of the Cross of Merit** - The Insignia of the Cross of Merit consists of an enhanced, gold-colored Cross, enameled red, with a gold-colored crown of thorns, passing between the arms of the Cross. The ribbon is white silk with three longitudinal red stripes.

**§ 3. Insignia of Individual Classes** – The insignia of individual classes have the following characteristics:

- *Cross of Merit of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*: the 5.2-cm insignia is worn around the neck hanging from a 4.5-cm ribbon.
- *Cross with Silver Star of Merit of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*: the 5.2-cm insignia is worn around the neck hanging from a 4.5-cm ribbon. The Star is radiant silver-colored, 7.2 cm. with the 3.5 cm. insignia superimposed.
- *Cross with gold Star of Merit of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*: the 6.4 cm. insignia hangs from a 10 cm. wide silk sash that is worn over

the shoulder from the right shoulder to the left hip. The Star is radiant silver-colored cm. 8.5 with the insignia superimposed, cm. 5.2.

- *Collar of Merit*: Collar jointed in two sections, with links to the Cross of cm. 1.5 enhanced gold-colored, enameled red, with a gold-colored Crown of Thorns, passing between the arms of the Cross (eight Crosses), alternating with eight pairs of rectangular gold-colored platelets, with the motto "*Meriti causa*," from which hangs the cross of cm. 5.2 enhanced gold-colored, enameled red, with a gold-colored Crown of Thorns, passing between the arms of the Cross.

The Star, radiant gold-colored cm. 8.2 with the above Cross superimposed, measuring cm. 2.8; the Star is worn on the left side of the chest.

\*\*\*

## TITLE IV

### DISCIPLINARY MEASURES AND PROCEEDINGS

#### ARTICLE 87 - DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

**§ 1. Disciplinary Measures** - In the event of violation of the obligations and duties arising from membership in the Order provided for in the Constitution and these General Regulations or, in any case, upon the occurrence of personal situations incompatible with it, disciplinary measures may be taken - exclusively within the Order - in the following manner:

a) *Admonition*. It is normally issued by the competent Lieutenant or by the Cardinal Grand Master in a written order to be communicated, in writing, to the person concerned ( see Art. 43 § 10);

b) *Suspension from membership in the Order*. It is always imposed by the Cardinal Grand Master by written order. Only in cases of particular urgency and seriousness may it be decided provisionally by the competent Lieutenant, Magistral Delegate or Regent, who will immediately inform the Cardinal Grand Master, providing an exhaustive and documented report illustrating the case, for the evaluations of competence.

Where suspension is imposed by the local authority, it must always be confirmed by the Cardinal Grand Master; in case of non-confirmation, the suspension is considered null and void.

Suspension cannot be indefinite in time, but must provide for a time limit, even a general one, such as the cessation of the situation that caused it or the final judgment of the judicial authority competent to hear any case brought against the person concerned.

The suspension imposed by the local authority, which is permissible only in cases of particular urgency and seriousness, having an *ad cautelam*

function, has temporal effects limited to the persistence of the situation that generated it. These effects cease when the urgency and gravity that gave rise to it cease. As for the procedure to be followed for the imposition of such a disciplinary measure, it shall refer to what is indicated in Title IV of these General Regulations.

c) Removal from the rolls of the Order. It is decided by Decree by the Cardinal Grand Master for serious and proven reasons, according to the norms of the Code of Canon Law, the Constitution of the Order, and these General Regulations. This faculty is exercised, as the case may be, upon the proposal of the Lieutenant or the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium and always after having had thorough investigations carried out and having completed the necessary consultations with the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

Causes for removal may include, but are not limited to, violation of the obligations of Members mentioned in Articles 36 of the Constitution, and **Articles 68 § 1 f) and 70** of these General Regulations. The disbarred Member may no longer wear the insignia or the cloak; furthermore, he/she must return the Diploma of appointment and of any subsequent promotions to the Lieutenant, who will transmit it to the Chancellor of the Order; the latter will register the disbarment from the rolls, after the Cardinal Grand Master has noted the correctness of the procedure.

The Cardinal Grand Master has, however, the power to readmit the former Member to the rolls at any time, after hearing the opinion of the relevant Lieutenant and the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium.

**§ 2. Persistence of annual contribution obligation** - Disciplinary measures of reprimand and suspension do not exempt from paying the annual financial contribution to the Order.

## **ARTICLE 88 - RIGHT OF DEFENSE**

**§ 1. Right of defense** - Disciplinary proceedings must guarantee the right of defense, be conducted fairly, and be concluded within a reasonable time.

Specifically, each Member of the Order is entitled to:

- a) be informed, as soon as possible, in a language he or she understands and in detail, of the nature and grounds of the challenge made against him or her;
- b) have the time necessary to prepare a defense;
- c) defend himself or herself in person or through a lawyer of their choice who is a Member of the Order or a registered member of the Bar or the official list of lawyers.

## **ARTICLE 89 - RIGHT TO CONFIDENTIALITY**

**§ 1. Confidentiality** - The Cardinal Grand Master, or any Dignitary in his stead, is not required to disclose to anyone other than the person concerned and/or their lawyer, if any, the reasons for which the disciplinary action has been brought.

The Cardinal Grand Master may send, for information and in confidence, a copy of the measure taken to the relevant Lieutenant.

## **ARTICLE 90 - COMMUNICATIONS**

Communications related to disciplinary proceedings shall be made electronically or, if not possible, by other suitable means.

## **ARTICLE 91 - LANGUAGE OF DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

The official language applied in disciplinary proceedings is Italian. However, the Member of the Order subject to the proceedings may choose, by communicating this in writing, to use a different language from among those currently in use in the Order (French, English, Spanish, and German)

Disciplinary proceedings before the Lieutenant may also be held in one of the official languages of the place, other than the Italian language or those currently in use in the Order, as long as it is understandable to the person concerned.

The proposal for the adoption of the disciplinary sanction formulated by the Lieutenant and all documentation related to the disciplinary proceedings, if they are drawn up in a language other than the official language and those in current use in the Order, are transmitted to the Cardinal Grand Master accompanied by a translation into Italian.

## **ARTICLE 92 - DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE LIEUTENANT**

**§ 1. Opening of Proceedings** - In case of violation of the obligations and duties arising from membership in the Order (see Constitution, Art. 36), the Lieutenant, within thirty days of being informed about the conduct of the person concerned, must make contact and hear the person for appropriate clarification.

Within seven days of such a meeting, the Lieutenant may decide, in writing, to open disciplinary proceedings directed at taking disciplinary action within the limits provided by the Constitution and these General Regulations.

**§ 2. File Creation and Notification** - If the Lieutenant deems it necessary to open disciplinary proceedings, the Lieutenantcy Council, upon his written assignment, shall:

- a) create a file in which will be contained, by way of example, the documents, communications, defense writings, findings of the investigations carried out, and the recordings that have taken place;
- b) notify the person concerned in writing, electronically, or in another suitable manner, within seven days, of the opening of disciplinary proceedings, with the enumeration of the charges made and an invitation to exercise the right of defense, in writing, within the next fifteen days.

**§ 3. Proceedings** - Within ninety days of the notice to the person concerned of the opening of disciplinary proceedings, the Lieutenancy Council will conclude the investigation and transmit the file to the Lieutenant and the person concerned (or a defense counsel), by electronic means or other suitable mode.

Within thirty days of receiving the file, the Lieutenant may issue, in writing, reasoned disciplinary action against the person concerned within the limits provided by the Constitution and these General Regulations.

Any disciplinary measure must be communicated, under penalty of invalidation, to the person concerned or his or her counsel, by electronic or other suitable means, within thirty days of its issuance.

If the Lieutenant fails to take any disciplinary action within the above time limits, or if the action deemed appropriate exceeds rightful authority, he or she shall forward the file to the Cardinal Grand Master for his consideration within thirty days of the expiration of the time limit for issuing the action.

### **ARTICLE 93 - DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS WITHIN THE COMPETENCE OF THE CARDINAL GRAND MASTER**

**§ 1. Opening of Proceedings** - In case of violation of the obligations and duties deriving from membership in the Order or, in any case, upon the occurrence of personal situations incompatible with such membership, upon the written proposal of the Lieutenant and, exceptionally, of the Presidency of the Grand Magisterium, the Cardinal Grand Master, within a reasonable period of time, however, not exceeding thirty days from the information received, may decide - in writing - to open disciplinary proceedings aimed at adopting, exclusively within the Order, disciplinary measures according to the norms provided for by the Constitution and these General Regulations.

**§ 2. File Creation and Notification** - If the Cardinal Grand Master deems it necessary to open disciplinary proceedings, the Legal Commission, upon his written assignment, shall provide:

- a) the creation of a file in which will be contained, by way of example, documents, communications, defense writings, findings of investigations carried out, and minutes taken;

- b) communicate to the person concerned, electronically or in another suitable manner, within a reasonable time, but not more than thirty days from the date of proposed disciplinary action, a document containing the notice of the opening of disciplinary proceedings, with the enumeration of the charges made.

**§ 3. Proceedings** - The person concerned, upon receiving notice of the opening of disciplinary proceedings, shall, before taking any action, in the spirit of the Order, consult with a local authority of his or her choice or with the Vice Governor General having territorial jurisdiction, regarding the proceedings.

The relevant local authority or Vice Governor General will send a written report to the Cardinal Grand Master and to the Legal Commission within thirty days of the consultation.

Within the peremptory term of sixty days from the receipt of the communication referred to in § 2, b) above, the person concerned may transmit to the Cardinal Grand Master, and to the Legal Commission, the special power of attorney, if any, conferred in writing on the lawyer, the defensive writings, and the inherent documentation. Failure to transmit the defensive writings and inherent documentation, as well as any special power of attorney conferred in writing on the lawyer, will result in proceedings in absentia.

Within three hundred and sixty-five days from the communication to the person concerned of the notice of the opening of the disciplinary proceedings, the Legal Commission will conclude the investigation and express a reasoned written opinion, non-binding, which it will transmit to the Cardinal Grand Master and to the person concerned or his or her lawyer, by electronic means or in another suitable manner. This deadline may be extended for exceptional reasons and, in any case, by order of the Cardinal Grand Master who will also fix the period of extension.

Within ninety days of receiving the opinion rendered by the Legal Commission, the Cardinal Grand Master may issue, in writing, a reasoned disciplinary measure against the person concerned.

Any disciplinary measure must be communicated, under penalty of ineffectiveness, to the person concerned or his or her lawyer, electronically or in another suitable manner, within thirty days of its issuance.

If no disciplinary action is taken by the Cardinal Grand Master, the proceedings shall be deemed to have been terminated, and notice of the termination shall be given to the person concerned or his or her lawyer, electronically or in another suitable manner.

## **ARTICLE 94 - APPEALS**

**§ 1. Appeal in *supplicatio*** - The Member of the Order against whom a disciplinary measure has been ordered by the Cardinal Grand Master, before any other appeal, must first request in writing from its author, the revocation or

correction of the measure within the peremptory term of ten days from the communication of the measure.

The filing of the appeal *in supplicatio* suspends the execution of the disciplinary measure

Late or irregular filing of the appeal renders it inadmissible.

The Cardinal Grand Master decides within thirty days from the date of receipt of the request for revocation or correction. Failing this, the appeal shall be deemed dismissed.

**§ 2. Hierarchical Appeal** - A Member of the Order against whom a disciplinary measure has been ordered by the Lieutenant or Magistral Delegate or Regent shall have the right to explicitly request, by written appeal, within sixty days of receipt of the notice, revocation, or correction from the Cardinal Grand Master.

Submission of the hierarchical appeal does not suspend the effect of the order. Late or irregular submission of the appeal renders it inadmissible.

The Cardinal Grand Master shall rule within ninety days of receiving the appeal. Failing this, the appeal shall be deemed dismissed

**§ 3. Content of appeals.** The appeal, whether *in supplicatio* or hierarchical, must contain:

- a) The copy of the contested act and the elements necessary for the computation of the time limit of its communication;
- b) All personal data of the claimant, including an indication of domicile, including electronic address, for the purpose of communication;
- c) The reasoning, at least in summary fashion, for the appeal and any new elements;
- d) The appellant's claim with respect to the contested act;
- e) The date and signature of the plaintiff.

## **ARTICLE 95 - SELF-SUSPENSION**

If a Member finds himself or herself in personal situations that could be detrimental to the Order, he or she is invited to self-suspend.

Self-suspension also entails suspension from all possible offices held and terms of service received within the Order.

Self-suspension does not relieve the Member of the obligation to pay the annual financial contribution to the Order.

Self-suspension must be immediately communicated in writing to the relevant Lieutenant, who will inform, for information, the Cardinal Grand Master.

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

Self-suspension takes effect from the date on which the relevant notice is sent to the Lieutenant. In the event of self-suspension by a Member holding an office, the Lieutenant may appoint an *interim* replacement.

Self-suspension ceases to produce its effects only upon an act ordered by the Lieutenant upon the written petition of the Member of the Order documenting the cessation of the cause that determined it. The act must be communicated to the Cardinal Grand Master.

**ARTICLE 96 - RENUNCIATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

**§ 1. Renunciation of Membership in the Order** - Members may renounce their membership in the Order by submitting, in writing, their resignation to their Lieutenant. He shall forward them to the Cardinal Grand Master who shall take note of them.

Resignations take effect from the date they are found to have been received by the recipient. The effectiveness of resignation does not require acceptance by any authority of the Order (see Constitution, Art. 35 § 4).

**§ 2. Procedure for the Renunciation of a Member's Membership in the Order** - A Member who has renounced membership in the Order shall return the Diploma of Appointment and of any subsequent promotions to the Lieutenant, who shall transmit it to the Chancellor of the Order; the latter shall register the Member's renunciation, after the Cardinal Grand Master has noted the correctness of the procedure.

**ARTICLE 97 - CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Conflict between self-interest and that of the Order arises when a behavior or decision, within the scope of one's activity within the Order, may generate a direct and/or indirect, mediated and/or immediate, or even only potential advantage for oneself and/or related persons.

A non-Dignitary Member of the Order who finds himself in a situation of conflict of interest will inform the relevant Lieutenant who, after making the necessary verifications, and after consulting the Lieutenancy Council, will take appropriate action.

The Dignitary Member of the Order who finds himself in the same situation as above will inform the Cardinal Grand Master who, after making the necessary verifications, will take the appropriate measures.

Failure to inform about the existence of the conflict of interest is a violation of the obligations of membership in the Order.

\*\*\*

**TITLE V**  
**GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**ARTICLE 98 - ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS**

These General Regulations, except as provided in the transitional rules, will take effect on **January 1, 2025** *ad experimentum* for the following two years.

**ARTICLE 99 - TRANSITIONAL RULES**

**§ 1. Promotions** - As a partial amendment to the provisions of Art. 71 § 1, the following is provided:

- as of the entry into force of these General Regulations and throughout the year 2025, the starting time for the promotion of a Member of the Order to the higher rank shall remain THREE years;
- starting on January 1, 2026 and throughout the year 2026, the minimum effective date will change to FOUR years;
- effective January 1, 2027, the General Regulations with a minimum effective date of FIVE years in the lower grade will come into effect.

**§ 2. General Cross-reference Clause** - For anything not explicitly referred to and/or modified, the regulations set forth in the current Ceremonial and Standards of Conduct remain in effect.

\*\*\*

*The reference text of these Regulations is the original Italian.*

\*\*\*

## **APPENDICES**

### **APPENDIX ONE - ADMISSIONS**

#### **Documentation for Admission to the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem**

Applications for admissions must be submitted by the Lieutenant to the Appointments Commission and must arrive at least 60 days before the established date of the Commission meeting. Applications should be accompanied by the following documents:

1. for Lay Candidates:

- a) a certificate concerning the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and that of Religious Marriage for married persons; in the event a candidate has recently converted to Christianity and has previously contracted a non-Christian marriage, the case must be submitted beforehand in its entirety to the local Ordinary whose opinion will then be acquired by the Appointments Commission;
- b) an updated curriculum vitae (with biographical data, residence, and professional activities performed);
- c) a certificate from the parish priest confirming the candidate's exemplary religious practice and moral conduct;
- d) a nihil obstat confirming the non-existence of any reasons preventing the candidate's admission to the Order from the Diocesan Ordinary, the Military Ordinary for candidates belonging to the Armed Forces or Law Enforcement;
- e) a criminal record and criminal record certificate [**N.B.:** While common in certain countries, this requirement does not apply to North America and certain other countries where prohibited by national laws];
- f) a declaration by the candidate that he/she does not belong to Bodies, Organizations, and Associations whose character and purposes and programs are contrary to the doctrine and teachings of the Catholic Church, as well as to purported Orders and Institutions of an allegedly chivalrous character, not recognized by the Holy See or not granted or recognized by Sovereign States, as well as a commitment not to belong to them in the future;
- g) a declaration of intent of the candidate to enter the Order;

2. for Ecclesiastical and Religious Candidates (for Religious see also Circular Prot. 485/2021 of 20/05/2021):

- a) a certificate regarding the Sacrament of Holy Orders or membership in a Religious Institute with the authorization of one's Ordinary and Superior, together with a curriculum vitae (see lett. b);
- b) the timing of the Investiture must be agreed upon with the Lieutenant.

For matters not specifically indicated in this Appendix, please refer to the General Regulations, Articles 68 et seq.

## **APPENDIX TWO - PROMOTIONS**

### **Documentation for Promotion in the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem**

Applications for promotions must be submitted by the Lieutenant to the Appointments Commission and must arrive at least 60 days before the established date of the Commission meeting. Applications must be accompanied by the following documents:

- a) a certificate from the pastor confirming the candidate's religious practice and moral conduct;
- b) approval from the Grand Prior;
- c) a certificate of religious marriage (if it was contracted after admission);
- d) a *nihil obstat* confirming the non-existence of any reasons preventing promotion by the Diocesan Ordinary for lay candidates, and by the Military Ordinary (or equivalent ecclesiastical authority) for candidates belonging to Armed Forces or Law Enforcement;
- e) a criminal record and criminal record certificate [**N.B.:** While common in certain countries, this requirement does not apply to North America and certain other countries where prohibited by national laws];

For matters not specifically mentioned in this Appendix, please refer to the General Regulations, Articles 71 et seq.

**APPENDIX THREE – SPIRITUAL BENEFITS**

**SPIRITUAL BENEFITS**

granted to the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem by the Supreme Pontiffs

**SACRA PAENITENTIARIA APOSTOLICA**

Beatissime Pater,

Moderator in spiritualibus Ordinis Equestris S. Sepulcri Hierosolymitani, \_ \_  
\_ humiliter petit ut, ad normam Constitutionis Apostolicae “Indulgentiarum  
doctrina” diei 1 ianuarii 1967, n. 14, Indulgentiae, a Sancta Sede sodalibus praedicti  
Ordinis concessae, recognoscantur.

Et Deus, etc.

Die 23 septembris 1967

SACRA PAENITENTIARIA, de speciali et expressa Apostolica Auctoritate,  
benigne concedit plenariam Indulgentiam, a praedictis sodalibus acquirendam,  
dummodo, suetis conditionibus (confessione, communionem et orationem ad mentem  
Summi Pontificis) rite adimpletis, emiserint vel renovaverint, saltem privatim,  
promissionem fideliter servandi consociationis statuta:

- **die inscriptionis;**
- diebus festis: Beatae Mariae Virg. Reginae Palestinae, (rec. 22 augusti)
- Exaltationis S. Crucis, (rec. 14 septembris)
- S. Pii X, (rec. 21 augusti)
- S. Helenae, (rec. 18 augusti)

Praesenti in perpetuum valituro absque ulla Apostolicarum Litterarum in forma  
brevi expeditione. Contrariis quibuslibet minime obstantibus.

**DE MANDATO EMINENTISSIMI**

*Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem*  
*General Regulations*

