



Marbella, May 24<sup>th</sup> 2025

In Loving Memory of My Father, H.E.D. Francisco de Borbón y Escasany, V Duke of Seville

Dear Members of the Order,

It is with a heavy heart that I share the news of the passing of my beloved father, Grand Master Emeritus of the Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem.

Words cannot truly capture the depth of my sorrow. My father was not only a nobleman and a leader of remarkable distinction, but above all, a kind and loving father. With patience, wisdom, and a boundless warmth, he guided me through life, instilling in me the values I hold dear. His unwavering support and gentle counsel were blessings I will carry with me always.

As Grand Master Emeritus, my father's legacy within the Order is both profound and enduring. His tenure was marked by a spirit of reconciliation and unity. Through his steady leadership, he achieved what many believed impossible—reuniting divided obediences and healing wounds long held. His diplomatic grace, humility, and steadfast commitment to the Order's unity remain a testament to his character.

But far beyond titles and honors, my father was a man of action and compassion. He traversed the world not for accolades, but for service—overseeing the building of hospitals, supporting humanitarian efforts, and living the mission of our Order with sincerity and devotion.

In this time of mourning, I humbly ask you, dear brothers and sisters of Saint Lazarus, to remember him in your prayers. May his soul find peace eternal, and may his legacy continue to inspire us to serve with grace, compassion, and unity.

With deepest gratitude and affection,

Don Francisco de Borbón Graf von Hardenberg. 50th Grand Master