



Ordine Militare e Ospedaliero
di San Lazzaro di Gerusalemme
Gran Baliato di Sicilia



Accademia Lazzarita
Re San Luigi IX di Francia

PROT. N. U/GB-ACC/81/2026

MONREALE, 20/10/2026

**TO THE CONFRÈRES OF THE GRAND BAILIWICK OF SICILY
TO THE ACADEMICIANS OF KING SAINT LOUIS OF FRANCE
TO THE CONFRÈRES OF ALL JURISDICTIONS
OF THE ORDER OF SAINT LAZARUS**

Object: Solemn Vigil and Investiture of the new members of the Grand Bailiwick of Sicily. 2nd International Conference of the Lazarite Academy of Saint Louis IX, King of France. January 23-24, 2027.

**Venerable Brothers
Distinguished Academicians,**

On January 23rd and 24th, 2027, the Solemn Vigil and the Investiture of the new members of the Grand Bailiwick of Sicily will take place.

These upcoming ceremonies carry profound spiritual and institutional significance, marking the culmination of the official welcome extended to the new postulants, who will simultaneously become members of the Academy of Saint Louis. Called to bear witness with dedication to the Lazarite principles and the steadfast defense of Christian values, they are renewing a centuries-old tradition of faith and charity.

Within this framework of solemn rites, the Academy—in collaboration with the Grand Bailiwick and the Pontifical Theological Faculty of Sicily—will, as is customary, host a significant moment of religious and cultural reflection. During the 2nd International Conference, a theme of paramount importance will be explored: "The Eucharist, Sacrament of the Unity of Christ's Church: Historical Genesis, Doctrinal Foundations, and Perspectives for Full Communion Among Christians."



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This subject is deeply connected to the ecumenical principle that inspires and permeates the Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem – Lazarite values that both the Grand Bailiwick and the Academy fully share and uphold.

The participation of each of you is essential to seal this moment of intense communion, strengthening the bonds of belonging to both organizations and reaffirming our shared commitment to bearing witness to our ideals.

The program follows below.

Saturday, January 23, 2027

- **Location: Pontifical Theological Faculty of Sicily, Via Vittorio Emanuele, 463 90134 Palermo.**

- 9:30 AM: 2nd International Conference of the Lazarite Academy of King Saint Louis IX of France, titled *"The Eucharist, Sacrament of the Unity of the Church of Christ: Historical Genesis, Doctrinal Foundations, and Perspectives for Full Communion Among Christians."*

Please arrive at the Faculty by 9:00 AM.

The speakers who will be presenting during the conference are as follows:

- Rev. Fr. **Castro Adiebah**, Parish Priest of St. Nicholas Anglican Church at the British Embassy in Ankara, Academic Director Emeritus of St. Nicholas Seminary in Ghana (Anglican Church);
- Rev. Prof. **Antonio Amenta**, Professor of Theology and Ecclesiology of the Christian East (Catholic Church);
- Rev. Pastor **Alan Dalton Gentil**, Pastor of the Seventh-day Adventist Church;
- H.E.m.ce Cardinal **Mario Grech**, Secretary General of the Synod of Bishops (Catholic Church);
- Rev. Bishop **Kristina Kühnbaum-Schmidt**, Regional Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Northern Germany;
- H.E. Bishop **Dionysios of Kotyenion**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Holy Orthodox Archdiocese of Italy;



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➤ Pastor Prof. **Lothar Vogel**, Lutheran Pastor, Dean of the Waldensian Faculty of Theology in Rome.

- **Location: Abbey of San Martino delle Scale.**

- 6:00 PM: Solemn Prayer Vigil

Please arrive at the Abbey by 5:30 PM.

Sunday, January 24, 2027

- **Location: Lazarite Capitular Church of the Sacred Heart, Via Palermo – Monreale.**

- 10:30 AM: Holy Mass, followed by the investiture ceremony for new members and the conferral of honors and promotions.

- 1:00 PM: A celebratory luncheon at a local restaurant (the specific venue to be determined based on the number of attendees).

Please arrive at the church by 10:00 AM

Dress code

- **During the conference (January 23)**

- Members of the Order of Saint Lazarus, dark suit with a lapel rosette and the Academy medal;
 - Academicians, dark suit with the Academy medal.

- **During the solemn vigil (January 23)**

- religious members: choir dress with insignia;
 - lay members: habit (cowl) or uniform, cloak, and insignia (Order and Academy);
 - Academicians: dark attire and the Academy medal.

- **During Holy Mass and the investiture rite (January 24)**

- Catholic religious members: concelebration vestments
 - Non-Catholic religious members: choir dress
 - Lay members: habit (cowl) or uniform, cloak, and insignia (of the Order and Academy)



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-
- gli Accademici, abito scuro e medaglia dell'Accademia

Social lunch on January 24, 2027

It will be held at a restaurant in Monreale (the specific venue is yet to be determined). Those wishing to attend the lunch are requested to confirm their participation – specifying the number of family members accompanying them – by completing the attached form (available in both Italian and English). The cost per person is €90.00.

By no later than December 31, 2026 – a strict deadline – it must be:

- made the corresponding bank transfer of €90.00 per person, using the bank details provided in the aforementioned form;
- sent the duly completed form to the Registry (via email: gerivenuti@gmail.com).

Please note that your reservation for the lunch can only be confirmed once the specified fee has been paid.

The conference speakers and the bishops in attendance will be guests of the Grand Bailiwick.

Remaining entirely at your disposal for any further clarification, and looking forward to meeting you in a joyful spirit of fellowship, we extend to each of you our warmest and most fraternal greetings.

Il Gran Balì di Sicilia
Pino Zingale GCLJ-J

Il Rettore
Francesco Paolo Tronca KCLJ