



**The Military and Hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem
Grand Bailiwick of Germany**

INVESTITURE 2025

**25-27 July, 2025
Gotha, Thuringia**

Dear Sir or Madam,
Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We cordially invite you to this year's investiture weekend in Gotha. After our big and glamorous anniversary, we are coming back to the place where the order in Germany has its roots. We are present in the city with the statue of the nursing knight. And we are keeping our promise not to let another hundred years pass before we gather again in the beautiful baroque and renaissance city.

This year, we will certainly gain new perspectives on the city. Or did you know that 150 years ago in Gotha was the birthplace of the Social Democratic Party? During the investiture, we will be admitting new members to our community – a great joy.

So, it is worth coming to Gotha. I look forward to welcoming you.

Secretary of State (ret.) **Clemens Stroetmann**
Grand Bailiff

PROGRAMME

Friday, 25 July

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| 10 a.m. | Meeting of the Chapter (for members of the Chapter only) |
| 6 p.m. | Welcome by the Grand Baillif in the hotel |
| 6.30 p.m. | Vigil in the Lutheran Church of the Cross (Kreuzkirche), Schelihastr. 12 |
| 7.30 p.m. | “Thuringian Summer Evening“ in the hotel |

Saturday, 26 July

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| 10 a.m. | Visit to the exhibition on the founding of the Social Democratic Party in the Gotha Tivoli |
| 11.30 a.m. | Guided tour of the Casemates of Friedenstein Palace followed by a light lunch in the restaurant "Pagenhaus" |
| 5.30 p.m. | Ecumenical Service of Investiture in the Palace Church of Friedenstein Palace |
| 19.15 p.m. | Reception and festive dinner in the hotel |

Sunday, 27 July

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| 11.15 a.m. | Holy Mass in the Catholic Church of St Boniface, Schützenallee 22 |
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ORGANISATION

Registration

Please use the link www.st-lazarus-orden.de/anmeldung to register bindingly.

Participation fees

The fees for the whole programme (meals and a limited number of drinks included) are 195.00 € resp. 153.00 € if only Saturday. You receive payment information with the registration.

Dresscode

Welcome evening/Holy Mass: suit/blazer with tie, no decorations; side programme: smart casual; investiture/dinner: white tie/black tie/uniform of the order with decorations; for all church services: mantle of the order.

Hotel

The "Hotel am Schlosspark", Lindenauallee 20, is offering a call-off contingent (single room: €106.00/night, double room: €148.00/night, each including breakfast) until 11 June. Please book directly with the hotel on +49 3621 4420 or as part of the registration process.

How to get there

Gotha is located on the A4/A45 and A71 motorways. Gotha's main train station is connected to the ICE/IC network, among others. Frankfurt Airport (approx. 230 km) is directly connected by an ICE.

Contact

Questions will be answered by the trainee lawyer of the Grand Duchy, Dr. Andreas Rademachers (+49-151-40055993, referendar@st-lazarus-orden.de).