



IL DELEGATO SPECIALE

*presso il Sovrano Militare Ordine Ospedaliero
di San Giovanni di Gerusalemme
di Rodi e di Malta
00120 CITTÀ DEL VATICANO*

From the Vatican, 15 April 2017

Dear Venerable Brother,

From the moment I accepted the task entrusted to me by the Holy Father as his Delegate to the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of Saint John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and of Malta, a priority of mine has been to deepen my knowledge of the Order either through personal meetings with its members or by means of correspondence. In this way I have been able to appreciate the vitality of the Order as well as the complexity of its problems. What has also emerged is a certain disorientation, accompanied by deep suffering, due to the recent crisis. In all, however, one can clearly see the desire to turn a new page, working to reconcile the different elements and initiating a review of the Constitutions.

However, with a view to the Complete Council of State, to be held on 29 April, many have expressed their wish that you not come to Rome and participate in the voting sessions. Your presence would reopen wounds, only recently healed, and would prevent the event taking place in an atmosphere of peace and regained harmony.

In consideration of the above, and having shared the decision with the Holy Father, I ask you, in my capacity as Special Delegate, not to be present at the Complete Council of State and to forego your trip to Rome on this occasion. I ask you this as an act of obedience, in which you will, without doubt, recognize this sacrifice of yours as a self-giving gesture for the good of the Order of Malta.

While extending to you my wishes for a Happy Easter, I assure you of a continued remembrance in my prayers.

Yours sincerely in Christ,

Archbishop Angelo Becciu
Special Delegate

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