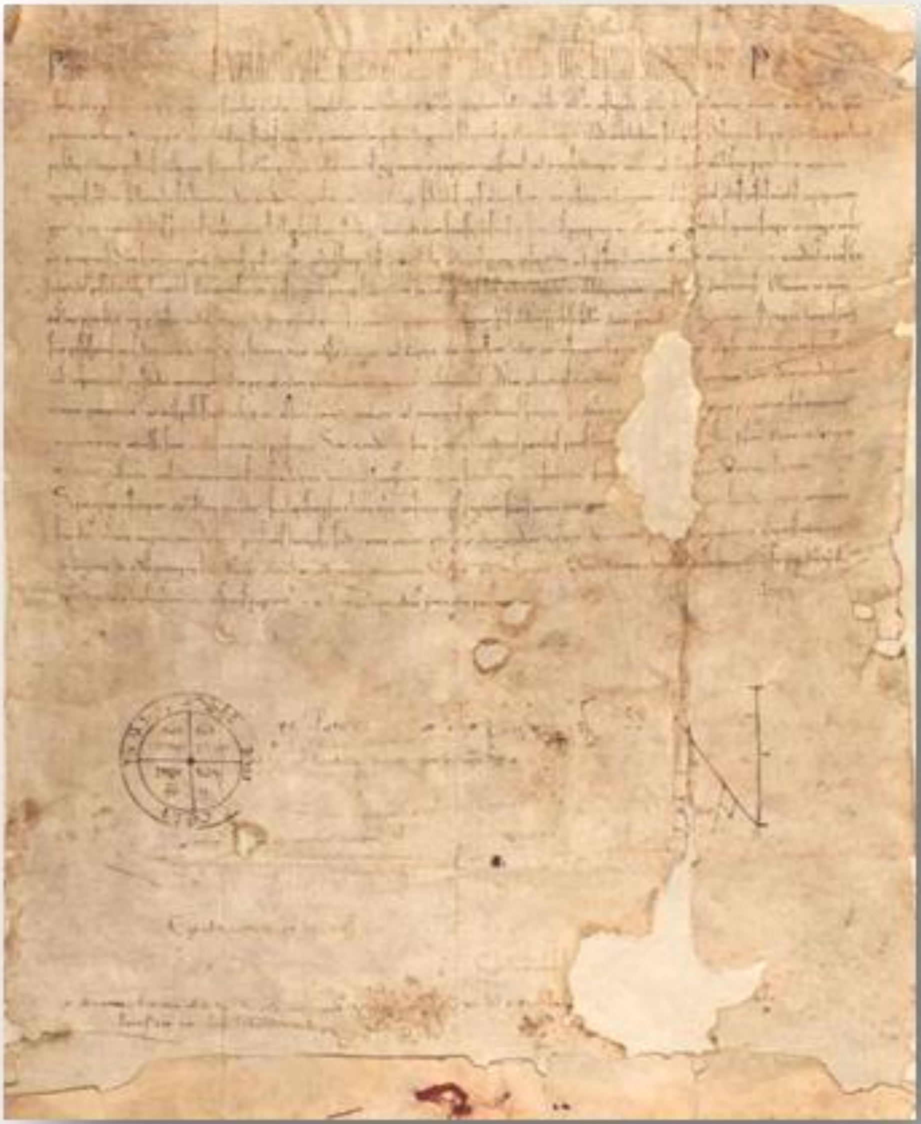

THE DECREE - PIE POSTULATIO VOLUNTATIS

The most treasured document in the Archives of the Order in the National Library of Malta

MANUSCRIPT 2013

To celebrate the 900th anniversary of what is, arguably, the most important event in the history of our Order, a contemporary adaptation of the document has been produced as a limited edition of 150. It is written in a 20th century script - an adaptation of the Caroline miniscule, similar to that used in the original decree. It simulates the illuminated manuscript presented to HMEH the Prince and Grand Master on Founder's Day 2012.

The body text is printed by giclée - a fine-art form of digital printing, using pigmented inks. The illuminated lettering, arabesque motifs and circlet components are then added, individually by hand in 22ct gold.

The substrate is goatskin parchment paper, a durable watermarked rag-content paper; both the ink and paper are of archival quality. The original seal or bulla, was suspended from a red silk cord; a double seal is debossed on a special medium to portray both faces of the original lead seal.

As each document is hand-printed and requiring several hours of dedicated attention, only a limited number will be produced.

MCXIII –MMXIII

PASCHALIS

EPISCOPUS SERVUS SERVORUM DEI

VENERABILI FILIO GIRALDO

INSTITUTORI AC PREPOSITO HIEROSOLYMITANI XENODOCHII EIUSQUE LEGITIMIS SUCCESSORIBUS IN PERPETUUM.

PIE POSTULATIO VOLUNTATIS effectu debet prosequente compleri. Postulavit siquidem dilectio tua Xenodochium quod in civitate Ierusalem iuxta Beati Iohannis Baptiste ecclesiam instituisti apostolice sedis auctoritate muniri et Beati Petri apostoli patrocinio confoveri. Nos itaque piis hospitalitatis tue studiis delectati petitionem tuam paterna benignitate suscipimus et illam Dei domum, illud Xenodochium et sub apostolice sedis tutela semper et Beati Petri protectione persistere decreti presentis auctoritate sancimus. Omnia ergo que ad sustendas peregrinorum et pauperum necessitates uel in Ierosolymitanæ ecclesiæ uel aliarum ecclesiarum parochiis et civitatum territoriis per tue sollicitudinis instantiam eidem Xenodochio acquisita, uel a quibuslibet fidelibus viris oblata sunt, aut infuturum largiente Deo offerri, uel aliis iustis modis acquiri contigerit, queque a venerabilibus fratribus Ierosolymitanæ ecclesieæ episcopis concessa sunt tam tibi quam successoribus tuis et fratribus peregrinorum illic curam gerentibus quieta semper et integra conservari precipimus. Sane fructuum vestrorum decimas, quos ubilibet vestris sumptibus laboribusque colligitis, preter episcoporum uel episcopalium ministrorum contradictionem Xenodochio vestro habendas possidendasque sancimus. Donationes etiam, quas religiosi principes de tributis seu vectigalibus suis eidem Xenodochio deliberaverunt, ratas haberi decernimus. Obeunte te nunc eius loci provisore atque preposito, nullus ibi qualibet surreptionis astutia seu violentia preponatur, nisi quem fratres ibidem professi secundum Deum providerint eligendum. Preterea honores omnes sive possessiones, quas idem Xenodochium ultra seu citra mare in Asia videlicet uel in Europa aut in presenti habet aut infuturum largiente Domino poterit adipisci tam tibi quam successoribus tuis hospitalitatis pio studio imminentibus et per vos eidem Xenodochio in perpetuum confirmamus. Ad hec adicentes decernimus ut nulli omnino hominum liceat idem Xenodochium temere perturbare aut eius possessiones auferre uel ablata retinere, minuere, uel temerariis vexationibus fatigare. Sed omnia integra conserventur eorum, pro quorum sustentatione et gubernatione concessa sunt, usibus omnimodis profutura. Sane Xenodochia sive Ptochia in occidentis partibus penes Burgum S. Egidii, Astense, Pisani, Barum, Ydrontum, Tarentum, Messanam, Ierosolymitani nominis titulo celebrata in tua uel successorum tuorum subiectione ac dispositione, sicut hodie sunt, in perpetuum manere statuimus. Si qua igitur infuturum ecclesiastica quelibet secularisve persona hanc nostre constitutionis paginam sciens contra eam venire tentaverit, secundo tertiove commonita si non satisfactione congrua emendaverit, potestatis honorisque sui dignitate careat, reamque se divino iudicio existere de perpetrata iniquitate cognoscat, et a sacratissimo corpore et sanguine Dei et Domini redemptoris nostri Iesu Christi aliena fiat, atque in extremo examine districte ultioni subiaceat. Cunctis autem eidem loco iusta servantibus sit pax Domini nostri Iesu Christi, quatenus et hic fructum bone actionis percipiant, et apud districtum iudicem premia eterne pacis inveniant. AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

Ego Paschalis Catholicæ Ecclesiæ Episcopus ss
Ego Richardus Albanensis episcopus ss.
Ego Landulfus Beneventanus archiepiscopus legi et ss.
Ego Cono Prenestinæ ecclesiæ episcopus legi et ss.
Ego Anastasius cardinalis presbiter tituli beati Clementis ss.
Ego Gregorius Terracinus episcopus legi et ss.
Ego Gregorius cardinalis presbiter tituli Sancti Grisogoni legi et ss.
Ego Iohannes Melitensis episcopus legi ss.
Ego Romoaldus diaconus cardinalis romane ecclesiæ ss.

Datum Beneventi per manum Iohannis Sancte Romane Ecclesiæ diaconus cardinalis ac bibliothecarii, XV Kalendas Martii, indictione VI, incarnationis Dominice ANNO MCXIII, Pontificatus autem Domini Paschalis secundi pape ANNO XIII.

Specification

Goatskin Parchment Paper

A prestigious grade, its watermark providing the unique goats a mark of quality - a durable watermarked rag content paper, with special lasting properties to help preserve documents.

- pH neutral
- Random watermark
- Elemental Chlorine Free
- ISO 14001 Environmental Accreditation
- An estimated life expectancy of 500 years.

Dimensions

420mm x 600mm (16.5” x 23.5”)

Pigmented ink

Pigmented inks have archival print life and colour stability

Illumination 22ct gold

Certificate of Authenticity

A certificate, signed and numbered, is included with every document.

Translation

Definitive translation affirmed by the National Library of Malta.

Beneficiary

Proceeds will be assigned to the Order of Malta Ireland (Ulster Region) exclusively for the purchase and distribution of defibrillators.