



ORDINE OSPEDALIERO | di  
SAN GIOVANNI DI DIO

Roma, 11 april 2016

## WEEK OF PRAYER FOR HOSPITALLER VOCATIONS

Dear Brothers and Co-workers, and Dear Members of the Hospitaller Family,

I am delighted to provide you with this material which is designed to help you pray during the Week of Prayer for Hospitaller Vocations. We are suggesting that the Order should celebrate this Week in preparation for "Good Shepherd" Sunday (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Easter), when the whole Church convenes the World Day of Prayer for Vocations.

Our recent meeting of Formators from all over the Order stressed the fact that prayer is one of the most important aspects of Vocations Promotion, as a means of encouraging us along our path, and that we must pray to the *Lord of the harvest to continue sending workers* to the mission of evangelisation through Hospitality.

Knowing that it is our Lord Jesus Christ who calls us to follow him, and that we are only mediators, we have to take on a personal commitment to this task, without leaving all the responsibility to others. All of us are duty-bound to bear witness to what we are as consecrated persons wherever we perform our daily work, and to persevere in our prayer for vocations. I would like to address a word of deep gratitude to all our elder Brothers who very often are active Co-workers performing the Pastoral Care of Vocations and Vocations Promotion through your prayers. The witness of a whole life of dedication, persevering prayer and the serene acceptance of your limitations, make your service to the Order so fruitful in this most important duty to promote and nurture vocations. We need your support and your prayers.

The materials we are presenting to you are simple and have been designed to be introduced into our community prayer, or at other times of prayer which we may prepare. They are organised to be used for a whole week, concluding on Good Shepherd Sunday. This is a way of enabling us to feel ourselves as *the Hospitaller Family at prayer*, united, as we face this challenge posed to the Church and to our Order.

I urge you all, as far as you can, to ensure that the whole Hospitaller Family is committed to this initiative, praying that the Lord will raise up Brothers consecrated in Hospitality to be able to continue the mission which has been bequeathed to us by the man who experienced and practised mercy to others every day of his life, and thereby became worthy of his name - John of God.

Fr. Benigno Ramos

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