



SOVEREIGN MILITARY HOSPITALLER ORDER  
OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM OF RHODES AND OF MALTA

# 1113-2013

NOVECENTO ANNI DAL RICONO-  
SCIMENTO DI PAPA PASQUALE II

NINE HUNDRED YEARS SINCE THE  
RECOGNITION BY POPE PASCHAL II



THE MOST SIGNIFICANT  
MOMENTS OF THE ANNIVERSARY  
CELEBRATIONS IN ROME

February 2013

“ erano giorni pieni di bellissimi momenti, sentimenti ed incontri sempre ricchi e molto familiari ”

“ une très belle réussite qui ne peut que contribuer au rayonnement et au développement de l'Ordre dans le monde ”

“ none of us will be around to celebrate the 1,000 anniversary... but I cannot see how it could be better than the 900th anniversary! ”

“ everybody had a great time! ”

“ souvenir inoubliables! ”

“ la magnificence de la célébration eucharistique, l'audience tant attendue du Saint Père, la réception extraordinaire offert aux participants à l'Aventin: une journée extraordinaire ”

“ todos los participantes españoles se han sentido profundamente conmovidos por la solemnidad y trascendencia de los mismos. ”

“ it was both an insightful and enjoyable experience for us ”

“ cérémonies religieuses simples et recueillies, les paroles de SE le Grand Maître, celles du Saint Père émouvantes et mobilisatrices ”

“ it was a stupendous event ”

“ it was a pleasure and an honour to be part of this memorable occasion ”

“ it was a massive effort, the positive results of which shall live long in all our memories ”

“ ...a commemorative gathering, a very special touch we will not lightly forget ”

“ unglaublich schön, ”

## THE MOST SIGNIFICANT MOMENTS OF THE ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS IN ROME

February 2013 marked an important anniversary for the Sovereign Order of Malta: 900 years have elapsed since the proclamation of the Solemn Privilege with which Pope Paschal II officially recognised the monastic community of the Hospitallers of St John of Jerusalem in 1113.

The *Pie Postulatio Voluntatis* laid the legal basis of its sovereignty and independence and proved a fundamental stage in the development of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, now known as the Sovereign Order of Malta.

Over 5,000 members and volunteers of the Order of Malta travelled to Rome from five continents to celebrate this event, together with state authorities and diplomatic representatives. The culmination was the Solemn Mass in St Peter's Basilica celebrated on 9th February 2013 by Cardinal Secretary of State Tarcisio Bertone followed by a special address by Pope Benedict XVI.

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## 1. Arrival

Over 5,000 members and volunteers of the Sovereign Order of Malta, coming from five continents, gathered in the Vatican on the morning of 9th February, along with ambassadors and diplomatic representatives.





## 2. Procession

Participants advanced in solemn procession through St. Peter's Square and into the Basilica of St Peter.









## 4. Papal Audience

The Holy Father Pope Benedict XVI addressed the congregation, calling on the Sovereign Order of Malta to continue in its millennial mission of *Tuitio Fidei et Obsequium Pauperum*.





# II. Magistral Villa

More than 2,400 participants attended an "open day" at the Magistral Villa of the Sovereign Order of Malta in Rome.



### 3. International Working Conference

Two days of meetings were attended by the Sovereign Order of Malta's heads of government, Grand Priors, Presidents of National Associations, Chancellors, Treasurers, Ambassadors and official representatives. The Conference focused on themes central to the Order – spirituality, medical and humanitarian activities, diplomacy and communications.



## 4. 2050 Vision Meeting

The "Youth Conference", attended by 150 people aged between 18-35, explored how the Sovereign Order of Malta can adapt and thrive in a fast changing world, and how the perspectives and experiences of young members and volunteers can contribute to its future success.

