



Newsletter n°197 - September 2024

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

Beloved Brothers and Sisters, the time has come to resume our activities, after the beginning of a summer period marked by a degree of profane turmoil.

Reaching over from the profane world, such politicised agitation has seeped into our Jurisdiction, by a sort of capillary action, and we, Scottish Rite freemasons have often been unsettled by it.

The Olympic truce has provided a welcome and necessary respite to those concerns which have affected us and which still address us in our triple affiliations.

- As men or women, citizens in their joint personal and collective actions in civic life.
- As sisters or brothers of the G.:O.:D.:F.: committed to the values promoted by our Obedience in its fundamental principles of Liberty, Equality, Fraternity and Laïcité, which are also, need that be recalled? - those of our Republic.
- As members of our Scottish Rite Jurisdiction where all those principles are sublimated in a symbolic, philosophical, and spiritual reflexion which leads us to work ceaselessly towards building the fraternal and universalist impetus which the world so sorely lacks.

Our duty, our destiny, is to be the **contemporaries of the present moment**, albeit by a calm, liberating and prospective reflexion.

Such obligation was transmitted to us by our elders, generation after generation. Our progressivity is rooted in our past whose history is dear to us.

For us, there can be none of that “*confusion of language or of thought which greatly contributes to the present political and social confusion.*” This quote, which may seem contemporary, comes from the collection entitled “*Enracinement*¹” by Simone Weil, published well after her death by Albert Camus.

¹ Simone Weil. *L'Enracinement – A prelude to a declaration of duties toward human beings.* Gallimard .1949.

She further wrote: “...and if the need for truth is more deeply rooted than any other... One is afraid to read, once one has become aware of the amount and the enormity of concrete falsehoods, shamelessly proffered... One then reads as if one were drinking dubious water from some unreliable well²”.

How far this takes us from the fresh water mentioned in our rituals and which is supposed to revive us!

“Chaos” always lurks at the doors of our Temples, tirelessly trying to enter.

Our Autumn Grand Meetings have just been concluded, in Nantes where our Paris Zenith had to be transferred because of the Olympic and Paralympic games. All the speeches and reports which were made alluded both to our “*Ordo ab Chao*” and to the object of our fraternal love. They are available on the site of the Jurisdiction.

More than 400 sisters and brothers attended, with the presence at our side of the new Grand Master of the G.:O.:D.:F.: accompanied by his delegation, with the representatives of the Scottish Rite Jurisdiction from all over the world and the Jurisdictions of the G.:O.:D.:F.:

Jointly with the latter and the Grand Master, last June, we drafted and signed a treaty protocol which has now been validated by the National Convention about the external communication of Jurisdictions during events organised by symbolic lodges³.

That clarification had become necessary in order to maintain harmonious relationships between our organisations and to contain a number of egotistical attitudes.

Beloved Sisters and Brothers, let me wish you an excellent return to our labours, even though you may have kept your watch all along the summer period.

We will resume our work, our lodges will reawaken their candles, and new Lights will be transmitted between Officers during your installations.

Notwithstanding world events closing in on us, we ought to remain clearheaded and, with reason, to always ensure that our actions aim at a better life.

I embrace you all with my most fraternal and constant commitment to “Faith, Hope, Charity and Love” of others.

M.II.Br. Christian CONFORTINI, 33°
M.P.S.G.C, GCDRE-GODF



² Ibid.

³ June 19th 2024

