



Paris Zenith, January 13th 2025

Newsletter n° 199 – January-February 2025

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

A new year has begun, after the traditional interval of shared cheerful moments spent with our families and friends, and so, I am happy to join all of the members of our Supreme Council to offer you my best wishes for this new dawn of 2025.

This ritualised period of wishes is that of tradition. It is a hope for a better new year, a flight of swallows in the wintertime. This tradition keeps us within the rituals of a period halfway between two distinct time frames, an immediate one which provided a diversion during our festive season, and another which, tomorrow, will disrupt our daily lives, just like that hurricane roaring in the distance and which is getting nearer and nearer, up to our doors.

In a popular quote wrongly attributed to Shakespeare, one is advised *never to waste one's present to a past without a future.*

Let us not forget our history. It builds our present which is rooted there, and it sculpts our future.

Let us, however, in the present time, know how to take wise resolutions, just as the Secret Master, in order to become more open to ourselves, to others and to the world. That is where our epiphany lies: in the search for a happy life made of sharing and actions which keep the world chaos at bay.

Listening to one's desires, mastering one's own thoughts and values without perpetually scrutinising how our fellow humans live, that is the key to a return to the health and cheerfulness which I wish to everyone.

And even if “*the modalities of the future represent the realm of the may-be¹*,” let us never forget that the answer to that query also depends on us and of our capacity to imagine the future, to make choices, to take our bearings in our thoughts and to remain free. One thing is certain: the future will be. Therefore, it behoves us to make it brighter through our modest contributions.

For these purposes, our Jurisdiction and *Sources*, its Lodge of research, jointly with other Jurisdictions and in the presence of our Grand Master, is organising a symposium on the following theme: “*Universalism, a hope, a need, a will.*” It will be held next Friday March 14th in Paris, in the Arthur Groussier temple, on the eve of our Grand Spring Meetings. We hope many of you will be able to participate.

A happy new year to you, my Brothers and Sisters, in the hope that the happiness of others will be assured in a peace yet to be built between men of goodwill.

Let me conclude with a quote by the philosopher Alain, in his book *Alain on Happiness* published in 1925, - just a century ago – Alain also offers us his wishes of good humour.

I cannot refrain, today, from the pleasure of transmitting them to you.

“Good humour is what I wish you. That is what should be offered and received. That is the real politeness which enriches everyone, starting with the giver himself.”

My warm and brotherly greetings to you.

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



¹ Vladimir Jankélévitch. *Adventure, Boredom, and Seriousness*.1963.