

Thy Kingdom Come!

DG-LC 1093-2025
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Rome, 21 April 2025
Monday of Easter Week

To the Legionaries of Christ

Dear Fathers and Brothers in Christ,

I am writing all of you to share an important decision that I have come to after extensive discernment in prayer.

For fifteen years now I have served in different roles of territorial and general government. It has been a grace to offer myself in service to the Congregation, Regnum Christi, and the Church. However, in recent years I have experienced deep fatigue, exacerbated by some health complications that, although at the moment not life threatening, do require greater attention and care on my part.

After a prolonged medical process, I was diagnosed with a rare neurodegenerative disease called Primary Progressive Apraxia of Speech (*PPAOS*). This disease affects the brain's capacity to coordinate the movements necessary to speak. You will have noticed that sometimes my speech is slower, strained, or less clear. This condition can influence my mental energy as well, especially after long meetings or occasions of intense reflection. All this has contributed considerably to my level of fatigue. It is not a terminal disease, but it is progressive.

I have tried to modify my workload, rest more, and delegate as much as possible to members of my team, but the responsibility I feel in exercising my mission has meant that these measures have not been enough.

I share this situation with all of you in the hope that we can continue to walk together with confidence, because, although this health condition imposes certain limitations on me, it does not prevent me from continuing to love and serve. I remain fully committed to the mission, supported by a solid team and, above all, by the grace of God that sustains me.

In this context, and with the desire to be responsible for the mission entrusted to me, I have decided to take a few months to rest. I do so following the advice of my doctors, after having discussed it with the general council and my spiritual director and, above all, after having brought it to prayer. This time will allow me to take care of my health and prepare well to participate, God willing, in the General Chapter in January 2026. The duration of this period will depend on several factors, including guidance from my doctors.

During this time, I delegate—according to numbers 157 and 167 of our *Constitutions*—the decision-making authority to our vicar general, Fr. Hernán Jiménez, LC, whom I fully trust to guide the Congregation with the support of the other general councilors and to collaborate in the governing bodies of Regnum Christi. This delegation includes all executive powers of governance, with the exception of the appointments of territorial directors and councilors, as well as admission to Holy Orders (cf. DG-LC 1092-2025). In this way, the government of the Congregation will continue to exercise its functions without interruption. Although the decree establishes September 1 as the end date, this could be brought forward or extended depending on the factors mentioned above.

I know that this news may cause surprise and concern in some. This is not my intention. Rather, I would like it to be an opportunity to reflect together on the importance of being prudent when it comes to taking care of our health, without indulging in comfort seeking, but also not ignoring the signals our bodies send us. I have given all I can, and now I must humbly listen to this call to prudence so that I can continue to serve generously in the future.

I am making this news public during Easter Week, days in which we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. This event, both historic fact and ever-present reality, should fill us with trust, knowing that the cross, when carried with love, always leads to glory.

I know that each of you also carries your own cross, many of them heavy and hidden. Know that God understands the weight we carry on our shoulders and promises us the glory of the resurrection if we remain faithful.

My gratitude goes out to each one of you for your understanding and your prayers. Count on mine for all of you.

Yours in Christ and the Legion,

Fr. John Connor, LC
General Director