



# LEGIONARIES OF CHRIST

## **Statement on the delegation of the general government of the Congregation**

- In a message sent to all Legionaries of Christ, the General Director announced that he is temporarily delegating the general governance of the Congregation for health reasons.
- The delegation is set to expire on September 1, 2025, but the final duration will depend on several factors, including Fr. John Connor's doctor's recommendations.
- This decision guarantees the uninterrupted continuity of the ordinary governance of the Legion.

**Rome, April 21, 2025.** In a message addressed to all Legionaries of Christ, the General Director of the Congregation, Fr. John Connor, LC, announced that he has decided to temporarily delegate the general governance of the Legion for health reasons, a position he has held since 2020.

“For fifteen years I have served in various roles in territorial and general government. It has been a grace to be able to dedicate my strength to the service of the Congregation, Regnum Christi, and the Church. However, in recent years I have experienced profound fatigue, exacerbated by some health complications that, while not life-threatening at the moment, do require greater attention and care from me,” he states in his letter.

Fr. John adds that after a thorough medical evaluation he was diagnosed with a neurodegenerative disease called Primary Progressive Apraxia of Speech (*Primary Progressive Apraxia of Speech*) which affects the brain's ability to coordinate the movements necessary for speech. This has significantly contributed to his fatigue, indicating that despite modifying his work habits and delegating some activities to his governing team, “these measures have not been sufficient,” so following the recommendations of his doctors, and after consulting with his general council, he has decided to take a period to dedicate to specialized examinations and rest. “This time will allow me to attend more closely to my health and to prepare adequately to, God willing, participate in the General Chapter scheduled for January 2026”.

For this reason, and in accordance with numbers 157 and 167 of the Constitutions of the Congregation, Fr. John has delegated decision-making authority to the Vicar General, Fr. Hernán Jiménez, LC, “in whom I fully trust to guide the Congregation with the support of the

other general councilors and to collaborate in the organs of Regnum Christi," he indicates in his letter. This delegation includes all powers and ordinary government functions, with the exception of the appointments of territorial directors and councilors, as well as admission to holy orders. In this way, the government of the Congregation will continue to exercise its ordinary functions without interruption.

The stipulated end date for the delegation is September 1, 2025, but it could be shortened or extended depending on several factors, including medical recommendations: "I have given all I could, but now I must humbly heed this call for prudence so that I can continue to serve generously in the future," Fr. John explains in his letter.

Finally, Fr. John indicates that he is making this news public during Easter Week, the days in which we celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. This historic and ever-present event should fill us with confidence, knowing that the cross, when borne with love, always leads to God's glory.

We accompany Fr. John at this moment, praying to God for his health.

### **About Fr. Hernán Jiménez, LC**

Fr. Hernán Jiménez, LC, was born on January 6, 1959, in Monterrey, Nuevo León, Mexico. He joined the Legionaries of Christ in 1976 and completed his novitiate and humanities studies in Salamanca, Spain. In 1978, he moved to Rome to begin his bachelor's degree in philosophy at the Gregorian University. He graduated with a licentiate from that faculty in 1982. In 1990, he completed his theology studies at the Angelicum and was ordained a priest on January 3, 1991. He collaborated in youth ministry in Spain, and in vocational ministry in Italy and Mexico. From 2011 to 2016, he was rector of the Theology Community at the Legionaries of Christ's International College in Rome. In 2016, he moved to Mexico City to collaborate in vocational promotion and serve as rector of the Student Center and territorial councilor. He was elected first councilor and vicar general by the General Chapter of the Congregation in February 2020.

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