

A L. G. D. G. A. D. U.



## Gran Logia de España

Grande Oriente Español  
De Masones Antiguos, Libres y Aceptados  
1889

### **For the attention of all Brethren of the Grand Lodge of Spain**

Barcelona, 24th March 2020.

Dear Brethren:

We face difficult, hard and uncertain times. For the first time in history the entire world is stopping its machines and confining millions of people in their homes. It is the only way Humanity can help our health systems, overwhelmed by the challenge, to defeat the Covid-19 virus.

As the pandemic progresses Masonic activity in all Grand Lodges in Harmony has been suspended. Our fraternal embraces, our signs and tokens, our festive boards, our sincere brotherhood, which we express every time we meet, would be part of the problem today. But as Masons, today confident in the peace of our homes with our loved ones, we will always be part of the solution.

I want to express my deep regret for the news that is coming to this Grand Mastership. There are brothers of the Grand Lodge of Spain who are currently fighting heroically, without all the instruments they would like, against this terrible pandemic - in hospitals, in police stations, in military premises, in supermarkets, in transportation and in other essential positions in society. And there are others who also fight the pandemic from a bed, suffering from the most severe symptoms of this disease.

There are no precedents for what we are living through or for what we will have to live through in the coming weeks. The experts, some of them brothers in our Order, say that for Spain the worst is yet to come. For three hundred years Freemasonry has been a personal experience, in which we need to see ourselves, hear ourselves, understand ourselves in a space that we call the Temple. For the first time in the history of our Order that experience is more than likely not possible anywhere on the planet for several weeks, or even months.

Masonry may have been suspended but Freemasonry has never ceased to exist. The responsibility lies within each of us that this time of waiting and confinement is not wasted in our Masonic lives.

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Our Constitution says that our Order is based on two great principles: know yourself and love your neighbor.

We should take advantage of this time to get to know each other better. In the solitude of the home, in the hours that you are inactive, I want to encourage you to reflect, to contemplate yourself as you are, to draw on your best experiences and share your improvement with the Brothers through the social communication groups that were created in the heat of each lodge. I strongly recommend that you continue working in your perfection together with the other Brothers, not face-to-face, but using the different applications that technology offers us (for example: WhatsApp, Zoom, HouseParty, Skype, FaceTime, Discord, Jitsi, Hangouts ...).

Let us also take advantage of this time to love our neighbor. More than ever while this confinement lasts keep virtual contact with all the brothers of your lodges. It is the time to take care of each other, the moment of Charity in the Lodges, in the Provincial Grand Lodges, and in the Grand Lodge of Spain To be attentive to the health and economy of many Brothers, who will be in difficulty in the next weeks and months. If you know of a case of a Brother in need, whatever it may be, please inform the respective Almoners (at the level of the Lodge, Province and Grand Lodge) in order to help him.

I want to convey to you a single certainty: Masonry, in Spain and in the rest of the world, will once again gain strength and vigor. Therefore, more than ever, it is time for the Order's values to shine in our lives.

Let us trust ourselves.

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

M.W.Bro. Oscar De Alfonso Ortega  
Grand Master