



Dear Hospitallers

*It has been a great year for the Institute. We have met with so many new and not so new Hospitallers here in Ireland and in Malawi, New Jersey, Zambia and in Korea. Many different cultures all united in this great St. John of God Family Movement. Everywhere we went and each group we met in the various countries and here in Stillorgan brought great news to us that the spirit of John of God, despite all the difficulties and all the austerity around the world, was vibrant and looking for new challenges.*

*There is such a depth of spirituality amongst you all that bodes well for the continual growth of the family of St. John of God in our Province and throughout the world.*

*I would like to thank our Provincial Bro. Laurence, our Group CEO John Pepper and his Management Team at Hospitaller Ministries Headquarters and all the CEO's and Directors of the various Services for all their support and help throughout the year.*

*On behalf of all involved with the Institute I wish you all a very happy and Holy Christmas and God's Blessings in the New Year!*

Bro. Gregory

Happy Christmas!

## Christmas Present

It was the day after Christmas at a church in San Francisco. Fr. Mike was looking at the nativity scene outside when he noticed the baby Jesus was missing from the figures. Immediately, Fr. Mike turned towards the church to call the police. But as he was about to do so, he saw little Jimmy with a red wagon, and in the wagon was the figure of the little infant, Jesus. Fr. Mike walked up to Jimmy and said, "Well, Jimmy, where did you get the little infant?" Jimmy replied, "I got him from the church." "And why did you take him?" With a sheepish smile, Jimmy said, "Well, about a week before Christmas I prayed to little Lord Jesus. I told him if he would bring me a red wagon for Christmas, I would give him a ride around the block in it."





## HERE'S MY ROOM

This is a story about a young boy called Adrian. Adrian wanted to be in the annual Christmas play, which was always a big production in his town. But Adrian had a learning disability and to a lot of people seemed to have a lot of problems. The directors of the children's play did not want to hurt Adrian's feelings, but they were worried about whether he could handle a part. They finally decided to give him the part of the Inn Keeper. All he had to say was, "I'm sorry, there is no room in the Inn."

Well, the night of the big play came and the church was packed. At the precise moment Mary and Joseph came and knocked on the Inn door. The whole village of Bethlehem shook as Adrian tried to open the cardboard door to the Inn, which was stuck. At last he got the door open, and the pitiful young couple was standing there looking all too real to Adrian, but with a little coaching he blurted out the words: "I'm sorry, all the rooms are full, and there's no room for you here."

The couple turned sorrowfully away and began to walk off stage when all of a sudden the door of the Inn swung open again, and Adrian ran up to the couple and said in a loud voice so that everyone could hear, "Wait a minute. Come back. You can have my room." It was a great addition to the play, even though it was not in the script.

The world was not interested enough to provide a room for the Savior, but you don't have to follow the script either. You can give Him room — your room. *The room of your heart!* Give Him room to live in you. Jesus says to us, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me" (*Revelation 3:20*).



# Hospitaller Groups 2012 in 4 Continents



## Foundation Programme Dates 2013

- January 14-15(Mon-Tue)
- February 11-12(Mon-Tue)
- March 4-5 (Mon-Tue)
- April 15-16(Mon-Tue) (Kerry)  
18-19(Thr-Fri)
- May 20-21(Mon-Tue)
- June 20-21(Thr-Fri)
- July 15-16(Mon-Tue)
- September 19-20(Thr-Fri)
- October 14-15(Mon-Tue)
- November 18-19(Mon-Tue)
- December 9 -10 (Mon-Tue)

May the birth of Jesus  
Dispel all darkness

May the Compassion of Jesus  
Embrace all hearts

May the peace of Jesus  
Inspire all minds

May the presence of Jesus  
Fill the earth

And may the promise of God  
Be fulfilled:

