

Order of Saint Lazarus: Primary sources

Innocent III, Pope of Rome. Papal Bull dilectis filiis, magistro et fratribus domus leprosariae Sancti Lazari a cruce Caenensis dated 8th June 1216. WSC/A: Ms. Call No.3089:1160-61-1216

- Pictured, transcribed & translated in: Charles Savona-Ventura. The Order of Saint Lazarus in the Holy Land. Grand Priory of the Maltese Islands - MHOSLI, Malta, 2011.

8.vi.1216 Perugia, Italy	Pope Innocent III	Papal Bull confirming the rights and property of the leprosarium of St. Lazarus in Caen, France.
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Innocentius, episcopus, servus servorum Dei, dilectis filiis, magistro et fratribus domus leprosariae Sancti Lazari a cruce Caenensis, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Cum a nobis petitur quod iustum est et honestum tam rigor aequitatis quam ordo exigit rationis, ut id per sollicitudinem officii nostri ad debitum perducatur effectum. Eapropter, dilecti in Domino filii, vestris iustis precibus inclinati, personas et domum vestram cum omnibus bonis quae impraesentiarum rationabiliter possidetis aut infuturum iustis modis praestante Domino poteritis adipisci sub beati Petri et nostra protectione suscipimus. Specialiter autem possessiones et alia bona vestra sicut ea omnia iuste ac pacifice possidetis, vobis et per vos eidem domui vestrae auctoritate apostolica confirmamus, et praesentis scripti patrocinio communimus. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostrae protectionis et confirmationis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare praesumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis Dei et beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum eius, se noverit incursurum. Datum Perusii vi idus Junii pontificatus nostri Anno Nonodecimo

English Translation:

INNOCENT, bishop, servant of servants of God, [sends] greetings and the apostolic blessing to the beloved sons, the abbot and brothers of the leper house of St. Lazarus of the Cross at Caen [?]. Since a thing just and honorable is asked of us, not only the power of justice but also the order of reason demands that it be led to its proper conclusion through the care of our office. Wherefore, beloved sons in the Lord, being swayed by your just prayers, we take under the protection of St. Peter and ourselves your persons and your house with all the goods which you reasonably possess or in the future will be able to possess in a just manner in the presence of God. And especially the possessions and all your other goods such as you possess justly and peacefully we confirm to you and through you to your house by our apostolic authority, and we fortify this confirmation with the protection of the present document. Let it be permitted to no man to violate or, in rash daring, to act contrary to this page of our protection. If anyone, however, will presume to attempt this, he will know that he will incur the wrath of Almighty God and of Blessed Peter and Paul, His apostles. Given at Perugia on the 8th day of June in the 19th year of our pontificate [1216].