**Alexander C. Garrett Commandery #103**

**Ritual Guide**



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**KNIGHT TEMPLAR OPENING CEREMONIES**

**FULL FORM**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Promptly at the time of opening, the Captain General, with sword in scabbard, reports to the Commander in the Asylum.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Hand salutes exchanged)*  I REPORT FOR ORDERS.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, SEE THAT THE ASYLUM IS IN SUITABLE ARRAY FOR MY RECEPTION. *(After receiving the Commander's orders, the Captain General marches to the Commander's chair, executes about face [faces West] and takes one [1] step forward to Commander's station and draws sword. Immediately after Captain General leaves position in front of Commander for the Commander's station, Commander says:)* SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO *(Hand salutes exchanged)* AND EXCELLENT PRELATE, *(Prelate will bow, Commander will acknowledge with hand salute)* ACCOMPANY ME TO MY APARTMENT. *(Commander, Generalissimo and Prelate leave Asylum, Commander leads, followed by Generalissimo and Prelate, and retire to Commander's apartment. Upon arriving in the Commander's apartment, the Commander takes position 1 nearest the door of the Asylum, Generalissimo position 2 and the Prelate position 3. Where the Asylum is not suitably provided with a Commander's apartment, the ante-room or preparation room or a hall shall be used.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(After Commander, Generalissimo and Prelate have retired from the Asylum.)* SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(Warder takes his station, draws sword and salutes exchanged)* SOUND THE ASSEMBLY.**

**WARDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION! *(Warder returns sword without command.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**OFFICERS, TAKE YOUR STATIONS. *(When Officers have reached their stations and are facing front, Captain General continues. Officer's stations will be six to ten inches in front of chair assigned to that station. TheCommander's station will be six to ten inches in front of chair assigned to that station, and one [1] step forward.)* SIR KNIGHTS, BE SEATED. *(If any Officer is absent, the Captain General now appoints a Sir Knight to fill the vacancy.)***

**PURGING**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, executes right half face, and salutes exchanged)* ARE ALL PRESENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR? *(The Captain General will remain standing at carry swords, while the Wardens are purging the Commandery.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes left half face, faces Junior Warden.)* SIR KNIGHT JUNIOR WARDEN, *(Junior Warden rises, draws sword, sword salutes exchanged)* ASCERTAIN IF ALL PRESENT ON THE NORTH ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR. *(The Senior Warden executes right half face and Junior Warden executes left half face simultaneously and march to within two [2] paces in front of the stations of the Captain General and Generalissimo, halt facing East, execute right and left face, then move to and along the South and North sides of the Asylum, and halt [facing each other] two [2] paces directly in front of the stations of the Sword Bearer and Warder. Wardens not graded for flanking movements when changing direction.)***

**WARDENS:**

***(If any person is unknown to a Warden, he faces the individual and says:)* ARE YOU A KNIGHT TEMPLAR?  *(If negative answer:)* PLEASE RETIRE. *(If positive answer:)*  CAN ANY KNIGHT PRESENT VOUCH FOR YOU?  *(If a Knight, competent to do so, can vouch for the Knight and is sitting near him, the Warden may accept the voucher and pass on. The voucher being to the effect that the Knight vouches for the visitor as a Knight Templar. Otherwise, the Warden causes the Knight to rise, and facing the East, reports:)*  SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Warden executes sword salute, Captain General returns sword salute)* I FIND ONE WHOM I DO NOT KNOW TO BE A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**CAN ANY KNIGHT PRESENT VOUCH FOR THIS KNIGHT?**

**KNIGHT:**

***(Upon which any Knight present competent to do so, may rise and address the Captain General.)* SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL,  *(Hand salute, which the Captain General acknowledges with sword salute. The Knight then continues:)* I VOUCH FOR THE KNIGHT AS A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR (or JUNIOR) WARDEN, A KNIGHT HAS VOUCHED FOR THE KNIGHT.**

***(If no Knight present vouches for the Knight, the Captain General will say:)*  THE KNIGHT WILL RETIRE TO THE ANTE-ROOM, WHERE AN EXAMINING COMMITTEE WILL WAIT UPON HIM.  *(The Warden will see that the Knight retires, and the Warden will then pursue his examination. The examining committee should be appointed by the Captain General and retire immediately.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden and Junior Warden after completing purging arrive at position in the West, facing each other, and two [2] paces directly in front of Sword Bearer and Warder stations, respectively. The Junior Warden addresses the Senior Warden.)*  SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)* ALL ON THE NORTH OF THE ASYLUM ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.  *(The Wardens right and left face [face East], march directly to their stations and halt, both then face [half face] toward the Captain General.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden addresses the Captain General:)*  SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)* ALL PRESENT ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.  *(The Wardens execute left and right half face [face each other], return swords together and are seated simultaneously.)***

**SECURITY**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(The Warder rises, draws sword, and sword salutes exchanged)* POST THE SENTINEL, INFORM HIM THAT A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IS ABOUT TO BE OPENED, AND DIRECT HIM TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder retires, moving to door by most convenient route without regard to military foot movements or by right angles, and closes the door before addressing the Sentinel.)*  SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sentinel draws sword, and sword salutes exchanged)* A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IS ABOUT TO BE OPENED, YOU WILL TAKE YOUR POST AND GUARD ACCORDINGLY. *(The Warder returns to the Asylum, executes about face, closes the door, and gives battery.)***

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**SENTINEL:**

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

***(After Sentinel gives battery Warder executes about face and returns to his station. The Warder moves to and from door by the most convenient route without regard to any military foot movements. The Warder addresses the Captain General:)* SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Sword salutes exchanged)*  THE SENTINEL IS AT HIS POST, AND THE ASYLUM IS DULY GUARDED.  *(The Warder returns his sword without command and takes his seat.) (Done.)***

**FORM LINES**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, executes right half face, faces Captain General, salutes exchanged)* FORM THE LINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE COMMANDER.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden advances directly to a point approximately three [3] paces in front of and facing the Generalissimo's station, halts, executes about face [facing West] and commands:)* FALL IN. *(The Junior Warden immediately marches to post one [1] pace in front of and facing the Senior Warden, and the Knights promptly fall in according to height in column of files behind him. Standard Guard, at command 'Fall in,' rise at attention in front of chairs at their stations.)* LEFT, FACE, *(Done)*  RIGHT, DRESS.  *(The Knights move up successively in quick time, shortening the last step, so as to be about six inches behind the alignment which must never be passed; each Knight then executes "Eyes Right", and moves on the line taking steps of two or three inches, places his right arm lightly against the left arm of the Knight on his right, so that his eyes and shoulders are in line with those of the Knights on his right, shoulders square to the front. Senior Warden after verifying alignment, executes right face, advances two [2] paces, halts, executes left face [facing West] and commands:)* FRONT. *(The Knights turn their heads and eyes smartly to the front. Senior Warden marches to position three [3] paces in front of the center of the command [Junior Warden excepted], halts, executes left face and commands:)*  DRAW, SWORDS. *(Standard Guard draws sword with the Knights in line.)*  COUNT, TWOS.  *(Knights head and eyes right, and execute front as they count. Junior Warden remains facing front.)* OPEN RANKS. *(The Junior Warden marches straight backward six [6] fifteen inch back steps, and marks the position to be taken by rear rank. Senior Warden marches to a position two [2] paces East and on line with the right flank of the line, halts, facing South and takes three [3] 30-inch paces, halts, executes right face and verifies that Junior Warden is in correct position, which is immediately in front of Senior Warden at that position. If necessary, Junior Warden is directed to move to proper position. Senior Warden then executes right face and takes five [5] paces to a position two [2] paces in front of and two [2] paces to the right of the line, halts, executes left face and commands:)* MARCH.  *(All the Knights who have counted 'ONE' stand fast and, except the Knight on the right, execute eyes right; those who have counted 'TWO' execute eyes right and march backward [fifteen-inch back steps] halt a little in the rear of the line marked by the Junior Warden, and then align***

***themselves on the Junior Warden, maintaining the interval. The Senior Warden executes left face, takes two [2] paces, halts, executes right face, verifies alignment of front rank, executes left face, takes three [3] paces, halts, executes right face, and verifies alignment of rear rank. The Senior Warden having assured himself of the correct alignment of both ranks, executes right face, marches five [5] paces to position as before, two [2] paces in front of and two [2] paces to the right of the front rank, halts, executes left face, and commands:)*  FRONT. *(The Senior Warden executes right face [facing North] and the Junior Warden marches to a position two paces in front of the center of the front rank and on line with the Senior Warden, facing to the front [North]. Both ranks return head and eyes to front. The intervals of twenty-two inches between the Knights which were created when the ranks were opened must be maintained. The Senior Warden must use care to have the ranks, when opened, equidistant from a line which will pass through the center of the Asylum from the Commander's station to the station of the Standard Bearer in the West. Senior Warden marches to a position three [3] paces in front of the center of the front rank, halts facing West, executes left face and commands:)*  FRONT RANK, ABOUT, FACE, *(The Junior Warden executes right face.)* FORM TWO DIVISIONS, OFFICER POST. *(Junior Warden marches to the right flank of the First Division [passing East of the Second Division], halts, executes about face, maintains the interval of one file. The First Division is the Knights who have counted 'TWO.')***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, FILES, COVER. *(All Knights of the First Division will take two [2] right steps to position directly opposite the Knight in Second Division. This Formation places the Divisions three [3] paces, or ninety [90] inches apart, and gives intervals of twenty-two [22] inches between the Knights of each Division. The first Knight of the First Division and the Junior Warden are positioned without interval [arm to arm].)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden will check the files by marching to a position one [1] pace in rear of the Knight on the West flank of the Second Division, halt, execute left face [facing East]. He then marches in rear of the Second Division, to assure himself that the Knights are opposite each other, and then marches by the right flank [Manual Page 8, Paragraph 11] to position in front of Commander's Station, about two [2] paces from the East flanks of the divisions, halts, executes left face and reports:)* SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)*  THE LINES ARE FORMED.**

**RECEPTION**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, WITH YOUR ESCORT REPAIR TO THE APARTMENT OF THE COMMANDER AND REPORT THE LINES ARE FORMED FOR HIS RECEPTION.  *(The Senior Warden executes about face, marches between the divisions, and halts one [1] pace in front of and midway between the Standard Bearer and the Sword Bearer. As the Senior Warden passes the West flank of the divisions, the Warder takes position at the door, passing in front of, or in the rear of, the Standard Guard, according to room or space, taking the most convenient route in moving to the door, opens the door, and stands at carry swords [facing the line of march] as the Escort passes. The Escort is composed of the Senior Warden with the Standard Bearer and the Sword Bearer.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**ESCORT, RIGHT, (or LEFT) FACE,  *(The Senior Warden executes right [or left] face, then places himself at the right [or left] of the first file, without interval.)* FORWARD MARCH.  *(The Senior Warden, with proper commands, conducts the Escort to the apartment of the Commander. When the Senior Warden reaches a position in front of the Commander he halts and as the Escort arrives in front of the staff, the Senior Warden commands:)* ESCORT, HALT. *(The Senior Warden stops the escort so they will be facing the Generalissimo and Prelate when they left or right face.)*  LEFT, (or RIGHT) FACE,  *(done)* SIR KNIGHTS PRESENT, SWORDS. *(The Senior Warden now steps back on the left, [or right] flank of the Escort, facing the Commander and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(The Senior Warden executes salute swords, Commander acknowledges with hand salute. The Senior Warden holds salute swords, and continues with dialogue after the Commander acknowledges salute.)*  THE LINES ARE FORMED FOR YOUR RECEPTION.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, ESCORT US TO THE ASYLUM.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes carry swords, steps one [1] pace forward, executes right [or left] face, [facing toward escort] and commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS, LEFT, (or RIGHT) FACE. *(The Senior Warden then takes one [1] step forward, executes about face, takes position on the right [or left] of the first file without interval.)*  FORWARD, MARCH. *(The Senior Warden using proper commands, conducts the escort into the asylum. Senior Warden marches escort to the West, and stops them in front of the chairs at their stations.)***

**WARDER:**

***(The Warder remains at the door while the Escort is out. When the Escort approaches, Warder executes right [or left] face, [facing East] and announces, without saluting:)*  THE EMINENT COMMANDER APPROACHES. *(The Warder then executes left [or right] face to take position facing the Escort's line of march and executes present swords.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General immediately commands:)*  SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION.**

**ENTRANCE FROM SOUTH SIDE OF ASYLUM**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden and Escort, with the Commander and his staff in column of files, enter the Asylum. If entrance is from the South, the Senior Warden marches the Escort to the West, to their stations and before arriving at his position, the Senior Warden commands:)* ESCORT, HALT. *(The Senior Warden halts them in front of their respective chairs at their stations. The Senior Warden continues to his position on the left of and on line with the Escort one [1] pace left of Warder's station, halts, executes right face and commands:)*  RIGHT, FACE.**

**ENTRANCE FROM NORTH SIDE OF ASYLUM**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden and Escort, with the Commander and his staff in column of files, enter the Asylum. If entrance is from the North, the Senior Warden marches the Escort to the West, to their stations. The Senior Warden halts [1] one pace left of and [1] one interval East of Warder's station, allows escort to pass and commands:)* ESCORT, HALT. *(The Senior Warden halts them in front of their respective chairs at their stations, steps back in line with the Escort, facing East and commands:)*  LEFT, FACE. *(After the Commander and Staff enter, the Warder executes carry swords, closed the door and takes his station. He then executes present swords independently. The Commander and Staff will move slowly until Escort has arrived at proper stations in the West, executed commands, and taken stations. The Commander should never arrive at the foot of the lines before the Escort has completed its movements, and the Captain General has given the command.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***The Captain General [as Commander approaches the lines] marches to the right flank of the First Division, halts without interval, facing West, executes right face, and after Senior Warden has completed his commands, commands.)*  SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS.  *(The Captain General executes salute swords. All others execute present swords except Warder who executes present swords after resuming his station following completion of his duties. The Commander and his staff pass between the lines, the Commander ONLY acknowledges the honors by marching at uncover. [See Manual, Page 19, Paragraph 39.])***

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander halts in front of his chair, executes about face, recovers, takes one [1] step forward to his station, and draws sword. The Generalissimo marches to his station and executes about face simultaneously with the Commander. The Prelate marches through the lines behind the Generalissimo to his station at the lectern.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.**

**REHEARSAL**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Captain General executes right half face [faces Commander] and sword salutes exchanged.)*  FORM THE LINES FOR REHEARSAL.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General executes left half face and commands:)*  SIR KNIGHTS, EXCEPT IN LINE, BE SEATED; OFFICERS POST. *(The Generalissimo draws his sword and marches to position on the left of the Second Division, facing West, opposite the Captain General, halts, and executes left face. The Junior Warden takes one [1] forward step, with RIGHT foot, faces West in marching, passes between the Divisions and halts facing North without interval on the right flank of the Second Division and executes about face. The Senior Warden marches to the left flank of the First Division, halts without interval, facing East, and executes left face. The Generalissimo, Senior Warden and Junior Warden move simultaneously. The Captain General executes right half face and says:)* EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)*  THE LINES ARE FORMED.  *(Captain General executes left half face. Done.)***

**TO COMMUNICATE ACROSS THE LINES**

***(See Manual, Paragraph 29 through 33, for explanation of movements. The Commander must give his orders in regular cadence, so that the parries or cuts can be executed in unison. Special attention should be paid to the crossing of the swords and the planting of the feet.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**FIRST DIVISION, COMMUNICATE TO THE SECOND DIVISION, THE PILGRIM WARRIOR'S WORD. *(The Senior and Junior Wardens return swords, step to the rear of their Divisions in order to caution and assist the Knights during the Rehearsal. Commander will proceed with his orders after the Wardens return swords and step back from lines.)*  GUARD. *(The right foot is moved forward about 18 inches.)* GIVE CUTS. COMMUNICATE. CARRY, *Sword brought to guard position)*  SWORDS. *(The right foot is brought to rear beside and on line with left foot and sword moved to carry.)* SECOND DIVISION, COMMUNICATE TO THE FIRST DIVISION THE PILGRIM PENITENT'S WORD. GUARD. *(The right foot is moved forward about 18 inches.)* GIVE CUTS. ADVANCE.  *(A full step is taken with the left foot, and left feet are placed beside each other, left hand on each other's right shoulder.)* COMMUNICATE. CARRY,  *(The left foot is returned to rear of right foot about 18 inches, sword brought to guard position)* SWORDS.  *(The right foot is brought to rear beside and on line with left foot and sword moved to carry.)* RETURN, SWORDS.  *(Standard Guard also returns swords.)* FIRST DIVISION, COMMUNICATE TO THE SECOND DIVISION, THE IMMACULATE WORD, SIR KNIGHTS, KNEEL. *(Knights step forward with right foot and kneel on left knee.)*  UN-COVER.  *(Knights take the chapeaux by the front piece with the left hand. Raise the chapeaux from the head and place on the right shoulder, slightly to the front, holding it in that position with the left hand.)*  DEPOSIT, CHAPEAUX. *(Knights place chapeaux on floor, to the left of the right foot, feathers to the left, peak pointing toward the body and drop hands to sides. [If used, the Cap is placed with the crown down.])* INTERLACE, FINGERS.  *(The Knights of both Divisions extend arms in front of body, palms forward, fingers open and extended upwards. The Knights of the First Division will cross their arms, right over left, and interlace their fingers with those of the Knights of the Second Division. Only the Knights of the First Division will cross arms.)* SIR KNIGHTS AS YOUR FINGERS ARE THUS STRONGLY INTERLACED, SO SHOULD THE HEARTS OF ALL KNIGHTS TEMPLAR BE FIRMLY UNITED IN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND BROTHERLY LOVE. OVER THIS SYMBOL OF OUR FAITH, COMMUNICATE. E\_\_\_\_\_\_L. G\_\_ W\_\_\_ U\_. SIR KNIGHTS, SECURE,  *(Members of both Division drop hands to sides)*  CHAPEAUX. *(Each Sir Knight grasps chapeaux with left hand and assumes position of uncover.)* RE-COVER. *(After recovering, Knights drop hands to sides.)*  ARISE.  *(Knights stand and bring right foot back in line with and beside the left foot. The Wardens march to the West flank of their respective Divisions, halt, execute right and left face, and step into position without interval.)***

**FORM TRIANGLE**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL,  *(The Captain General draws sword, executes right half face, salutes exchanged)* FORM THE TRIANGLE PREPARATORY TO OUR DEVOTIONS.  *(Commander returns sword and takes two [2] back steps to position in front of his chair. Done.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General executes left half face, marches straight forward to a position midway between the lines, halts, executes left face, and commands:)* PREPARE TO FORM TRIANGLE; OFFICERS, POST.  *(The Generalissimo executes left face, marches to his station, halts, executes about face, and is seated simultaneously with the Commander. The Senior and Junior Wardens take one [1] back step, execute right and left face and march in rear of lines to east flank of their divisions, halt, execute left and right face and step into line without interval. Standard Bearer will take one pace forward. Sword Bearer will take one [1] fifteen-inch right side step. Warder will take one [1] fifteen-inch left side step. All these movements are executed simultaneously.)* FORM, *(The Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Sword Bearer come to first position of draw swords)* TRIANGLE.  *(The Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Sword Bearer complete draw swords together.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT, DRESS.  *(At the command dress, the Knights move up successively in quick time, shortening the last step, so as to be about six inches behind the alignment which must never be passed; each Knight then executes Eyes Right, and moves on the line taking steps of two or three inches, places his right arm lightly against the left arm of the Knight on his right, so that his eyes and shoulders are in line with those of the Knights on his right, shoulders square to the front.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**SECOND DIVISION, LEFT, DRESS.  *(At the command dress, the Knights move up successively in quick time, shortening the last step, so as to be about six inches behind the alignment which must never be passed; each Knight then executes Eyes Left, and moves on the line taking steps of two or three inches, places his left arm lightly against the right arm of the Knight on his left, so that his eyes and shoulders are in line with those of the Knights on his left, shoulders square to the front. Done.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN: FRONT.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: FRONT. *(Done.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes back step to a position on line with the Sword Bearer, and the Junior Warden executes back step to a position on line with the Warder. The movements are executed simultaneously.)* FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT BACKWARD, DRESS.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**SECOND DIVISION, LEFT BACKWARD, DRESS. *(Done.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN: FRONT.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: FRONT. *(Done.)***

***(The divisions are now at right angles to the Standard Guard, the Sword Bearer marking the line of the First Division and the Warder that of the Second Division. The Wardens now step to the front and center of and face their Divisions simultaneously without interval.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, LEFT, FACE.  *(Senior Warden immediately executes right face, then waits for Junior Warden.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**SECOND DIVISION, RIGHT, FACE. *(Junior Warden immediately executes left face. The Wardens then step forward simultaneously and place themselves at the right and left of the first Knight in their Divisions without interval, touching arm to arm.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(The Captain General then marches to the position midway between the Wardens, halts, and commands:)* FORWARD, MARCH.  *(Both Divisions step off promptly, maintaining dress on Captain General, and when they arrive about halfway to the point where the apex of the triangle will rest, the Captain General commands:)*  FORM THREE DIVISIONS.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden immediately commands:)* COLUMN RIGHT.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Junior Warden immediately commands:)* COLUMN LEFT.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General, Senior Warden, and Junior Warden will halt at approximately where the apex of the triangle will rest and as soon as the first files arrive within two [2] paces of the Sword Bearer and Warder, the Captain General commands:)*  MARCH, *(The Wardens halt with the Captain General and stand fast, 'DO NOT MARK TIME.' The First Knight of the Division in charge of Senior Warden executes column right. The First Knight of Division in charge of Junior Warden executes column left.)* MARK TIME, MARCH; *(The Captain General gives the command as soon as the first files arrive within facing distance of the Standard Bearer, and when the files close up to facing distance.)*  DIVISIONS, HALT;  *(If Captain General is not in proper position, he takes position exactly where the apex of the triangle will rest and then commands:)*  INWARD, FACE. *(The Wardens step into position next to Captain General to establish the Northeast and Southeast sides of the triangle when dressed. Their movements are simultaneous.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT DRESS.**

**SWORD BEARER:**

**SECOND DIVISION, ON CENTER, DRESS.  *(The Sword Bearer and Warder step into position on the base [Second Division] of the triangle, all dressing on the Standard Bearer with arms lightly touching.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**THIRD DIVISION, LEFT, DRESS. *(Done.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FRONT.**

**SWORD BEARER:**

**FRONT.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**FRONT.  *(The Wardens take two [2] back steps, halt, execute left and right half face and march to the right and left flanks of the Second Division, halt, and execute about face. Senior Warden, Sword Bearer and Junior Warden return swords together without command. Senior Warden and Junior Warden now step into position in line on the West flank of the First and Third Division respectively.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(The Captain General executes about face, marches to his station, halts, executes left face and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Captain General executes salute swords. Commander returns hand salute.)* THE TRIANGLE IS FORMED. *(Captain General executes left face, returns sword and is seated.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander rises and takes one [1] step forward and commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION. *(Commander does not turn toward Generalissimo or Captain General when addressing them [no salutes exchanged].)* SIR KNIGHTS GENERALISSIMO, CAPTAIN GENERAL AND  *(Commander turns his head toward Prelate for the purpose of addressing him.)*  EXCELLENT PRELATE, *(Prelate bows and this bow is acknowledged in kind by the Commander)*  ACCOMPANY ME TO THE TRIANGLE. *(The Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General advance in the form of a triangle, the Generalissimo and Captain General leading. The Prelate follows in the rear of the Commander. When the Generalissimo and Captain General arrive at the East flanks of the First and Third Divisions, they halt. The Generalissimo executes left half face, and the Captain General executes right half face, aligning themselves on their respective Divisions. The Commander halts at the apex of the triangle, takes one [1] right step, executes left face, allowing the Prelate to pass in front of him between the Generalissimo and Captain General into the center of the triangle. Commander then steps forward to apex of triangle, and executes right face, thereby completing the triangle. The Prelate executes about face, facing East.)***

**DEVOTION**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, TO YOUR DEVOTIONS, KNEEL.  *(Knights at triangle step back with left foot, the right foot maintaining the triangle, kneel on the left knee, the body erect, the arms hanging straight down by the sides.)* UN-COVER. *(All execute uncover and bow heads. All Knights in the Asylum also execute uncover and bow their heads.)*  EXCELLENT PRELATE, LEAD OUR DEVOTIONS.**

**PRELATE:**

**OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME. THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD. AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER. AMEN. *(All Knights bring heads to the position of attention.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, RECOVER. *(Done)* ARISE. *(All Knights at the triangle bring left foot up on line with and beside right foot.)* SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Captain General executes right half face and hand salutes exchanged)*  TAKE COMMAND. *(Commander executes about face, takes one [1] step forward, halts momentarily. Generalissimo executes left face [facing East]. Captain General takes one [1] fifteen-inch step forward, halts, and executes right face. Prelate takes position on right of Captain General. All these movements are executed simultaneously. The Generalissimo, Captain General, and Prelate should be three abreast before the Commander leaves the triangle for his station. Commander, Generalissimo and Prelate then return to their stations in the form of a triangle, Commander leading. After the Commander leaves the triangle, the Captain General draws his sword. As Commander, Generalissimo and Prelate near the East, the Prelate passes behind the Generalissimo, and goes to his station. When the Commander and Generalissimo reach their chairs, they halt, and execute about face together. Commander takes one [1] step forward to his station. All remain standing.)***

**REDUCE TRIANGLE**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(The Captain General faces East until the Commander is in his station, Captain General then executes about face.* REDUCE*, Wardens step back on the right and left flanks of base of triangle [Second Division] and they, together with the Sword Bearer and Warder, come to first position of draw swords.)* TRIANGLE. *(All complete draw swords together, and the Wardens march to position on the East flank of their Divisions one [1] interval twenty-two inches beyond the Captain General and on a line with the Generalissimo's and Captain General's station, halt, execute left and right face [facing each other]. At the same time the Wardens step off to their positions, the Standard Bearer steps forward one [1] pace. These movements are simultaneous.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT BACKWARD, DRESS.**

**SWORD BEARER:**

**SECOND DIVISION, ON CENTER, DRESS.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**THIRD DIVISION, LEFT BACKWARD, DRESS. *(Done.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN: FRONT.**

**SWORD BEARER: FRONT.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**FRONT. *(The Wardens, Sword Bearer and Warder take position in front and center of and facing their commands.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**FIRST DIVISION, RIGHT, FACE. *(Senior Warden executes left face simultaneously with division.)***

**SWORD BEARER:**

**RIGHT WING OF SECOND DIVISION, RIGHT, FACE. *(Sword Bearer does not execute facing movement.)***

**WARDER:**

**LEFT WING OF SECOND DIVISION, LEFT, FACE. *(Warder does not execute facing movement.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**THIRD DIVISION, LEFT, FACE.  *(The Junior Warden executes right face simultaneously with division.)The Senior and Junior Wardens step forward simultaneously and place themselves at the left and right of the first Knight of their Division, without interval.***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General gives the command facing West.)* FORM TWO DIVISIONS.  *(Captain General executes about face.)*  FORWARD, MARCH.  *(The heads of the Divisions will start with three [3] half steps in order that the Knights in the Second Division may get in proper position in column. The Wardens maintain dress on Captain General. After the Knights who formed the base of the triangle have passed, the Sword Bearer and Warder will step one [1] pace forward [West, on line with Standard Bearer] and execute about face simultaneously. They remain in the West, facing East.)***

**DIVISIONS, HALT. *(The command "Halt" is given so that the divisions will halt three [3] paces from the East [base of dais or the stations of the Generalissimo and Captain General if no dais].) Captain General continues forward two [2] paces, halt, executes about face and orders.* INWARD, FACE. *(Wardens take position on East flanks of their Divisions. The Captain General, Wardens, Sword Bearer and Warder return swords together without command. The Captain General then about faces, marches to his station, halts, and executes about face.)***

**SIGNS**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, ATTEND TO GIVING THE SIGNS.  *(The signs are given in the following order: Red Cross Sign, Malta Grand Hailing Sign and Grand Word, Templar Penal Sign. Commander does not call the signs, only leads and sets the cadence, but does say Grand Word of Malta with Knights.)* DIVISIONS ABOUT, FACE; *(Standard Guard executes about face [facing West])* OFFICERS, TAKE YOUR STATIONS; *(The Wardens march to their stations, halt, execute right and left face, facing front, the Standard Guard steps forward two [2] paces to their stations in front of their chairs and execute about face [facing East], all movements are made simultaneously)* SIR KNIGHTS, BE SEATED.  *(Commander takes two [2] back steps and is seated. Knights in lines return to seats.)***

**REHEARSAL OF DUTIES**

***(The Rehearsal of Duties now follows. Each officer, except Prelate [in robes], when addressed by the Commander will rise, stand at attention, draws sword, faces the Commander by executing right face, left face, right half face, or left half face, as his position requires, and execute salute swords. The Commander acknowledges with hand salute. After having given his response, and the Commander has addressed the next officer, each officer will face front of his station at carry swords, except the Generalissimo, who, after his first response, executes right face, returns sword and is seated before the Commander addresses the Warder. The Prelate, when addressed by the Commander, will rise at attention, face the Commander and bow, and Commander acknowledges bow with hand salute. The Prelate when in robes will bow, when in civilian clothes will execute hand salute; and when in uniform will execute sword salute.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO, ARE YOU A KNIGHT TEMPLAR?**

**GENERALISSIMO: THAT IS MY TITLE.**

**COMMANDER: WHERE WERE YOU CREATED A KNIGHT TEMPLAR?**

**GENERALISSIMO: IN A REGULAR AND DULY CONSTITUTED COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**

**COMMANDER: HOW MANY COMPOSE SUCH A COMMANDERY?**

**GENERALISSIMO: THERE IS AN INDISPENSABLE NUMBER, AND A CONSTITUTIONAL NUMBER.**

**COMMANDER: WHAT IS THE INDISPENSABLE NUMBER?**

**GENERALISSIMO: THREE.**

**COMMANDER: UNDER WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES MAY THREE FORM AND OPEN A COMMANDERY?**

**GENERALISSIMO: THREE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, HAILING FROM THREE SEPARATE COMMANDERIES, AND ACTING UNDER A LAWFUL WARRANT, MAY FORM AND OPEN A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR FOR THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS.**

**COMMANDER: WHAT IS THE CONSTITUTIONAL NUMBER?**

**GENERALISSIMO: NINE OR MORE.**

**COMMANDER: WHEN COMPOSED OF ELEVEN, WHO ARE THEY?**

**GENERALISSIMO: THE COMMANDER, GENERALISSIMO, CAPTAIN GENERAL, SENIOR WARDEN, JUNIOR WARDEN, PRELATE, TREASURER, RECORDER, STANDARD BEARER, SWORD BEARER, AND WARDER.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE WARDER?**

**GENERALISSIMO: ON THE LEFT OF THE STANDARD BEARER, AND ON THE LEFT OF THE SECOND DIVISION WHEN SEPARATELY FORMED.  *(The Generalissimo executes right face, returns sword, and is seated. The Commander then continues.)***

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT WARDER, YOUR DUTY?**

**WARDER: TO SOUND THE ASSEMBLY; POST THE SENTINEL; ANNOUNCE THE APPROACH AND DEPARTURE OF THE COMMANDER; AND SEE THAT THE ASYLUM IS DULY GUARDED.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE SWORD BEARER?**

**WARDER: ON THE RIGHT OF THE STANDARD BEARER, AND ON THE RIGHT OF THE SECOND DIVISION WHEN SEPARATELY FORMED.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT SWORD BEARER, YOUR DUTY?**

**SWORD BEARER: TO ASSIST IN PROTECTING THE BANNER OF OUR ORDER.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE STANDARD BEARER?**

**SWORD BEARER: IN THE WEST, AND IN THE CENTER OF THE SECOND DIVISION.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT STANDARD BEARER, YOUR DUTY?**

**STANDARD BEARER:**

**TO DISPLAY, SUPPORT, AND PROTECT THE BANNER OF OUR ORDER.**

**COMMANDER: WHY ARE YOU STATIONED IN THE WEST?**

**STANDARD BEARER: THAT THE BRILLIANT RAYS OF THE RISING SUN, SHEDDING LUSTER UPON THE BANNER OF OUR ORDER, MAY ANIMATE AND ENCOURAGE ALL VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS KNIGHTS, AND DISMAY AND CONFOUND THEIR ENEMIES.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE RECORDER?**

**STANDARD BEARER: ON THE LEFT, AND IN FRONT OF THE CAPTAIN GENERAL.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT RECORDER, YOUR DUTY?**

**RECORDER: FAITHFULLY TO RECORD THE TRANSACTIONS OF THE COMMANDERY, COLLECT THE REVENUE AND PAY IT OVER TO THE TREASURER.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE TREASURER?**

**RECORDER: ON THE RIGHT, AND IN FRONT OF THE GENERALISSIMO.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT TREASURER, YOUR DUTY?**

**TREASURER: TO RECEIVE IN CHARGE ALL THE FUNDS AND PROPERTY OF THE COMMANDERY, PAY ALL ORDERS DRAWN ON THE TREASURY, AND RENDER A TRUE ACCOUNT WHEN REQUIRED.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE PRELATE?**

**TREASURER: ON THE RIGHT OF THE GENERALISSIMO.**

**COMMANDER: EXCELLENT PRELATE, YOUR DUTY?**

**PRELATE: TO MINISTER AT THE ALTAR AND OFFER UP PRAYERS TO DEITY.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN?**

**PRELATE: AT THE NORTH-WEST ANGLE OF THE TRIANGLE; ON THE RIGHT OR IN FRONT OF THE THIRD DIVISION WHEN SEPARATELY FORMED, AND ON THE LEFT OF THE COMMANDERY WHEN IN LINE.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT JUNIOR WARDEN, YOUR DUTY?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: TO ATTEND POOR AND WEARY PILGRIMS TRAVELING FROM AFAR, ACCOMPANY THEM ON THEIR JOURNEY, AND IN DUE TIME RECOMMEND THEM TO THE COMMANDER.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE SENIOR WARDEN?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: AT THE SOUTH-WEST ANGLE OF THE TRIANGLE; ON THE RIGHT OR IN FRONT OF THE FIRST DIVISION WHEN SEPARATELY FORMED, AND ON THE RIGHT OF THE COMMANDERY WHEN IN LINE.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, YOUR DUTY?**

**SENIOR WARDEN: TO ATTEND PILGRIM WARRIORS; COMFORT, AND SUPPORT PILGRIM PENITENTS, AND AFTER DUE TRIAL INTRODUCE THEM INTO THE ASYLUM.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE CAPTAIN GENERAL?**

**SENIOR WARDEN: ON THE LEFT OF THE COMMANDER.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, YOUR DUTY?**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**TO SEE THAT DUE PREPARATION IS MADE FOR THE CONCLAVES OF THE COMMANDERY; THAT THE ASYLUM IS IN SUITABLE ARRAY FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES AND THE DISPATCH OF BUSINESS; TO EXECUTE THE ORDERS OF THE COMMANDER, AND IN HIS ABSENCE AND THAT OF THE GENERALISSIMO TO PRESIDE.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE GENERALISSIMO?**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL: ON THE RIGHT OF THE COMMANDER.**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO, YOUR DUTY?**

**GENERALISSIMO: TO ASSIST THE COMMANDER IN THE DUTIES OF HIS OFFICE, AND IN HIS ABSENCE TO PRESIDE.**

**COMMANDER: THE STATION OF THE COMMANDER?**

**GENERALISSIMO: IN THE EAST OR AT THE HEAD OF THE COMMANDERY.**

**COMMANDER: HIS DUTY?**

**GENERALISSIMO: TO DISTRIBUTE ALMS TO POOR AND WEARY PILGRIMS TRAVELING FROM AFAR; FEED THE HUNGRY; CLOTHE THE NAKED, AND BIND UP THE WOUNDS OF THE AFFLICTED; TO INCULCATE THE DUTIES OF CHARITY AND HOSPITALITY, AND GOVERN THE COMMANDERY WITH JUSTICE AND MODERATION.**

**PROCLAMATION**

**COMMANDER: SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO, IT IS MY ORDER THAT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_, BE NOW OPENED FOR THE DISPATCH OF SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY REGULARLY COME BEFORE IT, REQUIRING ALL KNIGHTS PRESENT TO GOVERN THEMSELVES ACCORDING TO THE SUBLIME PRINCIPLES OF THIS MAGNANIMOUS ORDER. THIS YOU WILL COMMUNICATE TO THE CAPTAIN GENERAL, AND HE TO THE KNIGHTS.**

**GENERALISSIMO:**

**SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Captain General executes right face [faces Generalissimo]; sword salutes exchanged; then Generalissimo continues.)*  IT IS THE ORDER OF THE COMMANDER THAT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_, BE NOW OPENED FOR THE DISPATCH OF SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY REGULARLY COME BEFORE IT, REQUIRING ALL KNIGHTS PRESENT TO GOVERN THEMSELVES ACCORDING TO THE SUBLIME PRINCIPLES OF THIS MAGNANIMOUS ORDER. THIS YOU WILL COMMUNICATE TO THE KNIGHTS.  *(Generalissimo and Captain General both face West by executing right and left face after Generalissimo finishes.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION, DRAW, SWORDS. IT IS THE ORDER OF THE COMMANDER THAT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_ BE NOW OPENED FOR THE DISPATCH OF SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY REGULARLY COME BEFORE IT. TAKE DUE NOTICE, AND GOVERN YOURSELVES ACCORDING TO THE SUBLIME PRINCIPLES OF THIS MAGNANIMOUS ORDER. PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Captain General executes right face [facing North] and says:)* SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO,  *(Generalissimo executes left face [facing South]; sword salutes exchanged)* THE ORDER OF THE COMMANDER HAS BEEN EXECUTED. *(Captain General executes left face [facing West] and presents sword.)***

**GENERALISSIMO:**

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Generalissimo salutes sword and Commander returns hand salute)* YOUR ORDER HAS BEEN OBEYED.  *(Generalissimo executes right face and presents sword.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander rises takes one [1] step forward to his station, draws sword, then takes position of cross swords, and makes declaration.)* I NOW DECLARE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_\_, OPENED IN DUE FORM. *(The Commander resumes carry swords. The Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General remain standing in station in form of triangle, with Commander in front. Commander does not go through present swords.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY SWORDS. *(Done.)* SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(The Warder and Commander exchange sword salutes.)* INFORM THE SENTINEL AND DIRECT HIM TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

***(Prelate goes to altar and opens the Holy Bible and attends to the Lights)* (Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, Constitution an Statutes, 1987 Edition, Page 112)**

**WARDER:**

***(The Warder retires to ante-room, closes door and says:)* SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(When addressed, Sentinel draws sword; sword salutes exchanged)***

**THE COMMANDERY IS NOW OPEN. TAKE DUE NOTICE AND GUARD ACCORDINGLY. *(Warder returns to asylum, executes about face, closes the door and gives the battery.)*\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**SENTINEL:**

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* *(Done.)***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder executes about face, goes to his station and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(salutes exchanged)*  YOUR ORDER HAS BEEN OBEYED.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, YOU WILL FACE THE UNITED STATED FLAG AND JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Commander only will execute officer's salute, Sir Knights with sword will execute present swords all others will execute hand salute.)*  I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATED OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. *(Commander will come to carry swords before issuing any commands.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS. *(The Knights who have done a facing movement to face the flag will face to the front simultaneously without command.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, YOU WILL FACE THE TEXAS FLAG AND JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Commander only will execute officer's salute, Sir Knights with sword will execute present swords and all others execute hand salute.)* HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG. I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.  *(Commander will come to carry swords before issuing any commands.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.  *(The Knights who have done a facing movement to face the flag will face to the front simultaneously without command.)* RETURN, SWORDS. *(Commander returns sword with other Knights.)* COMMANDERY, BE SEATED. *(The Commander then takes two [2] back steps and is seated.)***

**KNIGHT TEMPLAR OPENING CEREMONIES**

**SHORT FORM**

***(The Commandery should always be opened in full form. In an extreme case, the Commander is authorized to omit portions of the Full Form Ceremonies. But under no circumstances shall less than the following be used.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(Promptly at the time of opening, the Commander in his station with sword in scabbard. The Commander's station will be six to ten inches in front of chair assigned to that station, and one [1] step forward.*) SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(When addressed the Warder takes his station, draws sword and comes to carry swords. The Warder executes salute swords. Commander returns hand salute.)* SOUND THE ASSEMBLY.**

**WARDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION. *(Warder returns sword without command.) (Done.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**OFFICERS, TAKE YOUR STATIONS. *(When Officers have reached their stations and are facing front, Commander continues. Officer's stations will be six to ten inches in front of chair assigned to that station.)* SIR KNIGHTS, BE SEATED. *(The Commander takes two [2] back steps and is seated with the Knights. If any Officer is absent, the Commander now appoints a Sir Knight to fill the vacancy.)***

**PURGING**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, executes right half face, and executes salute swords. Commander returns hand salute.)* ARE ALL PRESENT KNIGHTS TEMPLAR?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes left half face, faces Junior Warden.)* SIR KNIGHT JUNIOR WARDEN, *(Junior Warden rises, executes draw swords, sword salutes exchanged)* ASCERTAIN IF ALL PRESENT ON THE NORTH ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR. *(The Senior Warden executes right half face and Junior Warden executes left half face simultaneously and march to within two [2] paces in front of the stations of the Captain General and Generalissimo, halt facing East, execute right and left face, then move to and along the South and North sides of the Asylum, and halt [facing each other] two [2] paces directly in front of the stations of the Sword Bearer and Warder. Wardens not graded for flanking movements when changing direction.)***

**WARDENS:**

***(If any person is unknown to a Warden, he faces the individual and says:)* ARE YOU A KNIGHT TEMPLAR?  *(If negative answer:)* PLEASE RETIRE. *(If positive answer:)*  CAN ANY KNIGHT PRESENT VOUCH FOR YOU?  *(If a Knight, competent to do so, can vouch for the Knight and is sitting near him, the Warden may accept the voucher and pass on. The voucher being to the effect that the Knight vouches for the visitor as a Knight Templar. Otherwise the Warden causes the Knight to rise, and facing the East, reports:)*  EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warden executes sword salute. Commander returns hand salute.)* I FIND ONE WHOM I DO NOT KNOW TO BE A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.**

**COMMANDER:**

**CAN ANY KNIGHT PRESENT VOUCH FOR THIS KNIGHT?**

**KNIGHT:**

***(Upon which any Knight present competent to do so, may rise and address the Commander:)* EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(Hand salutes exchanged, the Knight then continues:)* I VOUCH FOR THE KNIGHT AS A KNIGHT TEMPLAR.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR (or JUNIOR) WARDEN, A KNIGHT HAS VOUCHED FOR THE KNIGHT. *(If no Knight present vouches for the Knight, the Commander will say:)*  THE KNIGHT WILL RETIRE TO THE ANTE-ROOM, WHERE AN EXAMINING COMMITTEE WILL WAIT UPON HIM.  *(The Warden will see that the Knight retires and the Warden will then pursue his examination. The examining committee should be appointed by the Commander and retire immediately.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden and Junior Warden after completing purging arrive at position in the West, facing each other, and two [2] paces directly in front of Sword Bearer and Warder stations, respectively. The Junior Warden addresses the Senior Warden:)*  SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)* ALL ON THE NORTH OF THE ASYLUM ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.  *(The Wardens right and left face [face East], march directly to their stations and halt, both then face [half face] toward the Commander.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The Senior Warden addresses the Commander.)*  EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(Senior Warden executes sword salutes. Commander returns hand salute.)* ALL PRESENT ARE KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.  *(The Wardens execute left and right half face [face each other], return swords together and are seated simultaneously.)***

**SECURITY**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(The Warder will rise, execute draw swords, comes to carry swords, and executes salute swords. Commander returns hand salute.)* POST THE SENTINEL, INFORM HIM THAT A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IS ABOUT TO BE OPENED, AND DIRECT HIM TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder retires, moving to door by most convenient route without regard to military foot movements or by right angles, and closes the door before addressing the Sentinel.)*  SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sentinel will execute draw swords, sword salutes exchanged)***

**A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR IS ABOUT TO BE OPENED; YOU WILL TAKE YOUR POST AND GUARD ACCORDINGLY. *(The Warder then returns to asylum, executes about face, closes the door, and give battery.)***

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**SENTINEL: \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* (Done)**

**WARDER:**

***(After Sentinel gives battery Warder executes about face and returns to his station. The Warder moves to and from door by the most convenient route without regard to any military foot movements. The Warder addresses the Commander:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder executes salute swords, Commander returns hand salute)*  THE SENTINEL IS AT HIS POST, AND THE ASYLUM IS DULY GUARDED.  *(The Warder returns his sword without command and takes his seat.) (Done.)***

**DEVOTION**

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander rises, takes one [1] full step forward to his station before giving command.)* SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION. *(Done.)* UNCOVER. *(All execute uncover and bow heads.) (Done.) (Commander turns head toward Prelate for the purpose of addressing him.)* EXCELLENT PRELATE *(When addressed Prelate bows, and this bow is returned in kind by the Commander.) (Done.)***  **LEAD OUR DEVOTIONS.**

**PRELATE:**

**OUR FATHER WHICH ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME. THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE IN EARTH, AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD. AND FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS, AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS. AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER. AMEN. *(All Knights bring heads to the position of attention.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, RECOVER*. (Commander recovers with Knights, executes draw swords, then takes position of cross swords [Commander does not go through present swords], and makes declaration:)* WAIVING FURTHER CEREMONY I NOW DECLARE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_\_, OPENED FOR THE DISPATCH OF SUCH BUSINESS AS MAY REGULARLY COME BEFORE IT; REQUIRING ALL KNIGHTS PRESENT TO GOVERN THEMSELVES ACCORDING TO THE SUBLIME PRINCIPLES OF THIS MAGNAMIMOUS ORDER. *(The Commander resumes carry swords but does not go through present swords. The Commander, Generalissimo and Captain General remain standing in station in form of triangle, with Commander in front.)*  SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(The Warder and Commander exchange sword salutes.)* INFORM THE SENTINEL AND DIRECT HIM TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

***(Prelate goes to altar and opens the Holy Bible and attends to the Lights)* (Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, Constitution and Statutes, 1987 Edition, Page 112)**

**WARDER:**

***(The Warder retires to ante-room, closes door and says:)* SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(When Sentinel is addressed, he draws sword, comes to carry swords, sword salutes exchanged)* THE COMMANDERY IS NOW OPEN. TAKE DUE NOTICE AND GUARD ACCORDINGLY. *(Warder returns to Asylum, executes about face, closes the door and gives the battery.)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* (Done)**

**SENTINEL: \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* *(Done.)***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder executes about face, goes to his station and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(salutes exchanged)*  YOUR ORDER HAS BEEN OBEYED.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, DRAW, SWORDS. *(Done.)* YOU WILL FACE THE UNITED STATES FLAG AND JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Commander will execute officer's salute, Knights with sword will execute present swords all others will executer hand salute.) (Done.)***

**ALL KNIGHTS:**

**I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS, ONE NATION UNDER GOD, INDIVISIBLE, WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.**

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander will come to carry swords before issuing any commands.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS. *(The Knights who have done a facing movement to face the flag will face to the front simultaneously without command.)***

**SIR KNIGHTS YOU WILL FACE THE TEXAS FLAG AND JOIN ME IN THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Commander will execute officer's salute, Knights with sword will execute salute swords all others will execute hand salute.) (Done.)***

**ALL KNIGHTS:**

**HONOR THE TEXAS FLAG. I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THEE, TEXAS, ONE AND INDIVISIBLE.**

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander will come to carry swords before issuing any commands.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.  *(The Knights who have done a facing movement to face the flag will face to the front simultaneously without command.)* RETURN, SWORDS. *(Commander returns swords with other Knights.)* COMMANDERY, BE SEATED. *(The Commander then takes two [2] back steps and is seated.)***

**KNIGHT TEMPLAR CLOSING CEREMONIES**

***(The business of the Commandery having been completed, the Commandery will be closed as follows:)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Captain General rises, draws sword, executes right face and salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)*  I AM ABOUT TO CLOSE THIS COMMANDERY. SEE THAT THE SENTINEL IS INFORMED, AND THAT HE GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General executes left face, and says:)* SIR KNIGHT WARDER,  *(Warder rises, executes draw swords, and salutes exchanged)*  INFORM THE SENTINEL THAT THE COMMANDER IS ABOUT TO CLOSE THIS COMMANDERY, AND DIRECT HIM TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY.**

**WARDER:**

***(The Warder retires to ante-room, closes door and says:)* SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sword salutes exchanged)* THE COMMANDER IS ABOUT TO CLOSE THIS COMMANDERY AND YOU ARE DIRECTED TO GUARD ACCORDINGLY. *(Warder returns to asylum, executes about face, closes the door and gives the battery:)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* (Done)**

**SENTINEL:**

**\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* *(Done.)***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder executes about face, returns to his station and reports:)* SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Salutes exchanged)*  THE SENTINEL IS INFORMED. *(Warder returns sword, and is seated without command.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General executes right face and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Captain General executes salute swords, Commander returns hand salute)*  YOUR ORDER HAS BEEN OBEYED. *(Captain General executes left face, returns sword, and is seated.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander rises and takes one [1] full step forward, and orders:)*  COMMANDERY, ATTENTION. *(Done.)* UNCOVER. *(Commander turns head toward Prelate for the purpose of addressing him.)* EXCELLENT PRELATE, *(Prelate bows and this bow is returned in kind by the Commander.)*  LEAD OUR DEVOTIONS.**

**PRELATE:**

***(Offers prayer.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, RECOVER. *(Commander recovers with Knights. Commander executes draw swords then takes position of cross swords and makes declaration:)* I NOW DECLARE *(Giving name of Commandery:)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ COMMANDERY, NO. \_\_\_\_\_, DULY CLOSED. *(Commander resumes carry swords and orders:)* SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(The Warder executes draw swords, salutes exchanged)* INFORM THE SENTINEL.**

***(Prelate goes to altar and closes the Holy Bible and attends to the Lights)* (Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States, Constitution and Statutes, 1987 Edition, Page 112)**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder marches to door and opens door. Warder does not retire from the Asylum.)*  SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sentinel draws sword, salutes exchanged)*  THE COMMANDERY IS CLOSED. *(Warder leaves door open, executes about face and returns to his station.)* EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(Sword salutes exchanged)* THE SENTINEL IS INFORMED.  *(The Commander, Warder and Sentinel return swords together without command.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, YOU ARE DISMISSED.**

**RECEPTION OF GRAND OFFICERS**

***The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, his Representatives, Past Grand Masters, the Grand Commander, his Representatives and Past Grand Commanders are the only Sir Knights to be received under an Arch of Steel.***

***In all constituent Commanderies, when there is only one Representative of the Grand Commander, and if it is so desired, the Commander may direct the Generalissimo to attend and conduct the Grand Visitor to the foot of the lines. (Primarily for Grand Officers on Annual Visitation.)***

***Sir Knights who have traveled hundreds of miles, sacrificing valuable personal time, and probably working on various committees are not interested in the pomp, ceremonies and showmanship formerly accorded notables, therefore:***

***The Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Annual Grand Conclave may utilize the lines for receiving only notables or other Sir Knights whom he desires to honor, accompanied by a Sir Knight whom he appoints to escort each of them to the foot of the lines for introduction.***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, faces and salutes Commander who returns hand salute)* FORM THE LINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE GRAND COMMANDER.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The forming of the lines for reception of the Right Eminent Grand Commander will be the same as forming lines for the reception of the Commander in the opening of the Commandery. When lines are formed, Senior Warden faces Commander and reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Senior Warden salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THE LINES ARE FORMED. *(Sentinel is informed the Asylum is in order.)***

**SENTINEL: \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THERE IS AN ALARM.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, ATTEND TO THE ALARM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder retires, moving to door by most convenient route without regard to military foot movements or by right angles, and closes the door before addressing the Sentinel.)* SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sword salutes exchanged)* WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF THE ALARM?**

**SENTINEL:**

***(When the Grand Commander is visiting the Commandery.)***

**SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Commander)* RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITATION.**

***(When Grand Officer is Representing Grand Commander for Annual Inspection.)***

**SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Officer Representing the Grand Commander and his title)* OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL INSPECTION.**

**WARDER:**

***(When Grand Commander is visiting Commandery.)***

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Commander)* RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITATION. *(Warder remains standing in station.)***

***(When Grand Officer is Representing Grand Commander for Annual Inspection.)***

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Officer Representing the Grand Commander and his title),* OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ANNUAL INSPECTION. *(Warder remains standing in station.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO, *(Generalissimo rises, draws sword and salutes Commander who returns hand salute)* RETIRE AND CONDUCT THE GRAND OFFICER TO THE FOOT OF THE LINES. *(Warder moves to and opens door for Generalissimo to exit.)***

**WARDER:**

***(When Grand Commander is visiting Commandery.)***

***(When the Generalissimo has retired, the Warder will leave the door open for the Grand Commander to enter, and as the Grand Commander approaches the entrance to the Asylum, the Warder will face the East and without saluting, report:)* THE RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER APPROACHES. *(The Warder then faces the line of march at present swords.)***

***(When Grand Officer is Representing Grand Commander for Annual Inspection.)***

***(When the Generalissimo has retired, the Warder will leave the door open for the Grand Officer to enter, and as the Grand Officer approaches the entrance to the Asylum, the Warder will face the East and without saluting, report:)* THE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *(Giving Title of Grand Officer representing the Grand Commander)* APPROACHES. *(The Warder then faces the line of march at present swords.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander immediately rises, takes [1} one step forward, and commands:)* COMMANDERY, ATTENTION.**

**GENERALISSIMO:**

***(When Grand Commander is visiting Commandery.)***

***(The Grand Commander and Generalissimo halt at the foot of the lines where the Generalissimo reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(hand salutes exchanged)* I HAVE THE HONOR OF PRESENTING SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *(Giving name of Grand Commander)* RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF.)**

**GENERALISSIMO:**

***(When Grand Officer is Representing Grand Commander at Annual Visitation.)***

***(The Grand Commander and Generalissimo halt at the foot of the lines where the Generalissimo reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(hand salutes exchanged)* I HAVE THE HONOR OF PRESENTING SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *(Giving name of Grand Officer Representing the Grand Commander and his title),* OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF TEXAS (AND HIS STAFF).**

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander descends down through the lines and greets the Grand Commander or his representative. The Commander then invites the Grand Commander or his representative to the East.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, FORM ARCH OF STEEL, CROSS, SWORDS. *(The Captain General executes Officer's salute, the Wardens remain at present swords. The Captain General remains in his station during entire ceremony. The Commander then conducts the Grand Commander under the Arch of Steel to the East. The Grand Commander or his Representative ONLY will acknowledge salutes by marching at UNCOVER. The Generalissimo returns to his station by passing around North side of lines. The Captain General then commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.**

***(Notables of rank junior to the Right Eminent Grand Commander are received through the lines at PRESENT SWORDS. This does not apply to a Grand Officer Representing the Grand Commander at the Annual Inspection.)***

***(The Grand Commander takes command in person, or he may return the command to the Commander with such instructions as he sees fit. Upon direction to dismiss the lines, the Captain General commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, RETURN, SWORDS; DISMISSED.**

**GRAND COMMANDER OR REPRESENTATIVE:**

**COMMANDERY, BE SEATED.**

**RECEPTION OF GRAND OFFICERS**

***The Grand Master of the Grand Encampment, his Representatives, Past Grand Masters, the Grand Commander, his Representatives and Past Grand Commanders are the only Sir Knights to be received under an Arch of Steel.***

***In all constituent Commanderies, when there is only one Representative of the Grand Commander, and if it is so desired, the Commander may direct the Generalissimo to attend and conduct the Grand Visitor to the foot of the lines. (Primarily for Grand Officers on Annual Visitation.)***

***Sir Knights who have traveled hundreds of miles, sacrificing valuable personal time, and probably working on various committees are not interested in the pomp, ceremonies and showmanship formerly accorded notables, therefore:***

***The Right Eminent Grand Commander at the Annual Grand Conclave may utilize the lines for receiving only notables or other Sir Knights whom he desires to honor, accompanied by a Sir Knight whom he appoints to escort each of them to the foot of the lines for introduction.***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, faces and salutes Commander who returns hand salute)* FORM THE LINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE GRAND COMMANDER.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(The forming of the lines for reception of the Right Eminent Grand Commander will be the same as forming lines for the reception of the Commander in the opening of the Commandery. When lines are formed, Senior Warden reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Senior Warden salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THE LINES ARE FORMED.**

**WARDER:**

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THERE IS AN ALARM.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, ATTEND TO THE ALARM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder opens door, leaves Asylum and closes door.)* SIR KNIGHT SENTINEL, *(Sword salutes exchanged)* WHAT IS THE CAUSE OF THE ALARM?**

**SENTINEL:**

**SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Encampment Officer)* MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITATION.**

**WARDER:**

**EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Giving name of Grand Encampment Officer)* MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (AND HIS STAFF) DESIRES ADMISSION TO THIS COMMANDERY FOR THE PURPOSE OF VISITATION. *(Warder remains standing in station.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT GENERALISSIMO, *(Generalissimo rises, draws sword and salutes Commander who returns hand salute)* RETIRE AND CONDUCT THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OFFICER TO THE FOOT OF THE LINES. *(Warder moves to and opens door for Generalissimo to exit.)***

**WARDER:**

***(When the Generalissimo has retired, the Warder will leave the door open for the Grand Commander to enter, and as the Grand Commander approaches the entrance to the Asylum, the Warder will face the East and without saluting, report:)* THE MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER APPROACHES. *(The Warder then faces the line of march at present swords.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander immediately rises and commands:)* COMMANDERY, ATTENTION.**

**GENERALISSIMO:**

***(The Grand Commander and Generalissimo halt at the foot of the lines where the Generalissimo reports:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(hand salutes exchanged)* I HAVE THE HONOR OF PRESENTING SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *(Giving name of Grand Encampment Officer)* MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (AND HIS STAFF.)**

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander descends down through the lines and greets the Grand Commander or his representative. The Commander then invites the Grand Commander or his representative to the East.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, FORM ARCH OF STEEL, CROSS, SWORDS. *(The Captain General executes Officer's salute, the Wardens remain at present swords. The Captain General remains in his station during entire ceremony. The Commander then conducts the Grand Commander under the Arch of Steel to the East. The Grand Commander or his Representative ONLY will acknowledge salutes by marching at UNCOVER. The Generalissimo returns to his station by passing around North side of lines. The Captain General then commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.**

***(Notables of rank junior to the Right Eminent Grand Commander are received through the lines at PRESENT SWORDS. This does not apply to a Grand Officer Representing the Grand Commander at the Annual Inspection.)***

***(The Grand Commander takes command in person, or he may return the command to the Commander with such instructions as he sees fit. Upon direction to dismiss the lines, the Captain General commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, RETURN, SWORDS; DISMISSED.**

**GRAND COMMANDER OR REPRESENTATIVE:**

**COMMANDERY, BE SEATED.**

**THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE**

***Throughout the Order of the Temple the Warder will open and close the appropriate doors of the Asylum for passage of the Officers, Escorts, and Candidates into and out of the Asylum.***

***Except where otherwise expressly set out in these Tactics, the Warder will rise from his chair at his station and go quietly and quickly by the most direct route to the door through which the Officers, Escort or Candidate are to pass out of the Asylum, open the door and stand beside it to one side of and facing across the path of movement of that Officer, Escort or Candidate. After they have moved through the door, the Warder will close the door, return to his station and be seated in his chair. All this is without orders.***

***For the Prelate's Escort, the Warder will open the door on the West of the Asylum, permit the Escort to pass out, and immediately close that door behind the Prelate, then go quickly to door at the other side of West of the Asylum and open it to permit the Escort, Prelate and Candidate to enter the Asylum and proceed to the altar, then close that door, return to his station and be seated.***

***In addition to opening and closing the doors, the Warder will be responsible, as indicted in these Tactics, for delivering robes, paraphernalia, etc., to the Wardens at the appropriate times and places throughout the ceremonies of the Order, and for receiving robes, etc., removed from the Candidate by the Wardens during the ceremonies. These robes, etc., are suitably placed out of the way of the ceremonies.***

***On all occasions when the Warder reports an alarm, or is addressed by a superior officer, he will rise at his station, draw sword and come to carry. If reporting an alarm, he will address the superior officer and exchange salutes with him and then report. If addressed by a superior officer, he will salute the superior officer and receive the orders from that officer. Upon execution of the orders, the Warder will return to his station, address the officer, exchange salutes, then report, and if no further orders are given, will return his sword and be seated.***

**THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, *(Warder rises, draws sword and salutes Commander who returns hand salute)* ASCERTAIN IF ANY CANDIDATE IS IN WAITING FOR THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder exits from Asylum, ascertains if there are Candidates and returns to his station.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute) (Giving full name of Candidate:)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, A KNIGHT OF MALTA, IS IN WAITING TO RECEIVE THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE. *(Warder returns sword and is seated at his station.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, *(Giving full name of Candidate:)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, A KNIGHT OF MALTA, IS IN WAITING. IF THERE BE NO OBJECTION, WE WILL PROCEED TO CONFER THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE UPON HIM. SIR KNIGHT JUNIOR WARDEN, *(Junior Warden, when addressed, will rise, face and exchange hand salutes with the Commander and stand at his station to receive orders)* RETIRE AND CONDUCT THE KNIGHT TO THE CHAMBER OF REFLECTION, WHERE AFTER AN ADMONITION, YOU WILL PLACE BEFORE HIM THESE QUESTIONS, *(Commander will rise and take one [1] full step forward. Junior Warden will march to a position in front of the station of the Commander and receive the questions)* TO WHICH YOU WILL REQUIRE HIS ANSWERS IN WRITING, AFTER HE HAS REFLECTED UPON THEM IN SILENCE AND SOLITUDE; AND WHEN HE HAS TESTIFIED TO THE PURITY OF HIS INTENTIONS, BY PERFORMING THE REQUIRED ABLUTION, RETURN WITH HIS ANSWERS.  *(Junior Warden will hand salute and Commander will return hand salute. Junior Warden will about face and retire from Asylum as instructed. Commander will take two [2] fifteen-inch back steps and be seated.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(Junior Warden hoodwinks Candidate and conducts him to the Chamber of Reflection, where he seats the Candidate and then proceeds with the Junior Warden's address.)* KNIGHT, YOU ARE NOW SEATED IN THE CHAMBER OF REFLECTION, WHERE, IN SILENCE AND SOLITUDE, YOU WILL HAVE OPPORTUNITY FOR MEDITATION.**

**THE FIRST THREE DEGREES OF MASONRY INCULCATE THE CARDINAL VIRTUES, TEMPERANCE, FORTITUDE, PRUDENCE, AND JUSTICE. CHARITY WAS TAUGHT YOU AS A MARK MASTER, MODERATION AS A PAST MASTER, YOUR INDUSTRY WAS REWARDED AS A MOST EXCELLENT MASTER, AND WHEN YOU PASSED UNDER THE LIVING ARCH YOU RECEIVED A LESSON IN HUMILITY. WHEN YOU WERE CREATED A COMPANION OF THE RED CROSS YOU WERE IMPRESSED WITH THE ALMIGHTY FORCE AND THE IMPORTANCE OF TRUTH. WHEN YOU WERE ADMITTED A KNIGHT OF MALTA, YOU WERE INSTRUCTED TO BE ZEALOUS AND VIGILANT FOR THE HONOR OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

**WHILE THE WORLD IS SHUT OUT, MEDITATE UPON THESE THINGS, AND PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR THE SOLEMN CEREMONIES THROUGH WHICH YOU WILL BE CALLED TO PASS. THERE LIES ON THE TABLE BEFORE YOU A MELANCHOLY MEMENTO OF MORTALITY. BESIDE IT IS AN HOUR GLASS, WHICH I NOW REVERSE. *(Done.)* AS YOU BEHOLD ITS SLOWLY-FALLING SANDS, LEARN THAT SO SURELY ARE THE WASTING SANDS OF YOUR MORTAL LIFE RUNNING OUT TO DEATH.**

**THERE IS ALSO ON THIS TABLE THE HOLY BIBLE, WHICH IS OPENED AT THE FIFTH CHAPTER OF THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW. I ENJOIN UPON YOU AT THIS TIME THE READING OF THE THIRTEENTH TO THE SIXTEENTH VERSES INCLUSIVE OF THAT**

**CHAPTER. WHEN YOU SHALL HAVE CONCLUDED THE READING YOU WILL DISCOVER THREE QUESTIONS, TO WHICH YOUR EXPLICIT ANSWERS ARE REQUIRED IN WRITING. REFLECT ON THEM, AND THEN ANSWER EACH WITH A SIMPLE "YES" OR "NO," ACCORDING TO THE DICTATES OF YOUR CONSCIENCE. THEN SIGN YOUR NAME, IN FULL, TO EACH OF THEM.**

**I AM NOW ABOUT TO LEAVE YOU ALONE, AND WILL SIGNAL MY DEPARTURE BY THREE KNOCKS UPON THE DOOR, HEARING THEM, YOU WILL REMOVE THE HOODWINK AND PROCEED AS I HAVE DIRECTED. WHEN YOU SHALL HAVE CONCLUDED, GIVE THREE KNOCKS AND I WILL ATTEND YOU.  *(Junior Warden leaves Candidate in Chamber of Reflection and gives three knocks upon the outside of the door. Junior Warden remains outside of Chamber of Reflection until Candidate knocks. After Candidate knocks, Junior Warden opens door, enters chamber and asks:)* KNIGHT HAVE YOU ANSWERED THE QUESTIONS? *(Candidate replies.)***

**PRESENT THEM. *(Junior Warden receives questions from Candidate and checks answers. [1] Yes. [2] Yes. [3] No. If answers are not correct or Candidate has not signed full name and date to each question, the Junior Warden will call attention of the Candidate thereto and ask him to make corrections.)***

**ARE YOU ABLE AND WILLING TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION? "I NOW DECLARE IN TRUTH AND SOBERNESS THAT I ENTERTAIN NO ENMITY NOR ILL WILL AGAINST A SOUL ON EARTH, WHICH I WOULD NOT FREELY RECONCILE, SHOULD I FIND IN HIM A CORRESPONDING DISPOSITION." *(Candidate must respond affirmatively.)***

**KNIGHT, THERE IS PURE WATER. IN TOKEN OF YOUR SINCERITY, AND THE PURITY OF YOUR INTENTIONS, WASH YOUR HANDS. *(Candidate washes hands.)* NOW BE SEATED AND AWAIT THE PLEASURE OF THE COMMANDER. *(Junior Warden closes door.)***

***(At door of Asylum, Junior Warden gives battery with Sword:)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder rises, draws sword and addresses Eminent Commander:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THERE IS AN ALARM.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, ATTEND TO THE ALARM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder goes outside Asylum and addresses Junior Warden:)* WHO COMES HERE?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**THE JUNIOR WARDEN WITH A REPORT.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder returns to Asylum and to his station and addresses Commander:)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THE ALARM WAS CAUSED BY SIR KNIGHT THE JUNIOR WARDEN WHO COMES WITH A REPORT.**

**COMMANDER:**

**ADMIT HIM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder opens door and says:)* ENTER.**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(Junior Warden returns sword and then enters. Warder closes door, returns to station, returns sword and is seated. Junior Warden marches to approximate center of Asylum and halts. Triangle or Altar are not required.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Hand salutes exchanged)* *(Giving full name of candidate:)* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, A KNIGHT OF MALTA, IS IN THE CHAMBER OF REFLECTION, AND SOLICITS THE HONOR OF BEING DUBBED AND CREATED A KNIGHT OF THE VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS ORDER OF THE TEMPLE.**

**COMMANDER:**

**HAS HE ANSWERED THE NECESSARY QUESTIONS?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**HE HAS, IN WRITING, AND IN TESTIMONY OF THE PURITY OF HIS INTENTIONS, HAS PERFORMED THE REQUIRED ABLUTION.**

**COMMANDER:**

**PRESENT THE ANSWERS. *(Commander rises, takes one [1] full step forward. Junior Warden marches forward to Commander's station, and after receiving answers, hand salutes are exchanged. Junior Warden returns to his station and is seated. Commander reads questions and answers. Commander reads question in full and answer, then reads the Candidate's signature in full and the date of signature. Omit saying the numbers [1], [2], and [3].)***

**[1.] DO YOU SOLEMNLY DECLARE UPON YOUR HONOR, THAT IN SEEKING ADMISSION TO THIS VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS ORDER OF CHRISTIAN KNIGHTHOOD YOU ARE ACTUATED BY NO MERCENARY OR OTHER UNWORTHY MOTIVE?**

**ANSWER, YES. SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**[2.] IF CALLED UPON TO DRAW YOUR SWORD IN A RELIGIOUS CAUSE, WILL YOU GIVE PREFERENCE TO THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION?**

**ANSWER, YES. SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**[3.] DOES YOUR CONSCIENCE ACCUSE YOU OF ANY CRIME, UNREPENTED OF, WHICH WOULD RENDER YOU UNWORTHY OF BECOMING A MEMBER OF AN INSTITUTION FOUNDED UPON THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION, AND THE PRACTICE OF THE CHRISTIAN VIRTUES?**

**ANSWER, NO. SIGNED \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. DATE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

***(Commander takes two [2] fifteen-inch back steps and is seated.)* SIR KNIGHTS, ARE THERE ANY OBJECTIONS?  *(Commander pauses and if no objections continues.)***

**SIR KNIGHT JUNIOR WARDEN, *(Junior Warden rises, faces Commander, hand salutes exchanged)*  THUS FAR THE KNIGHT HAS PROCEEDED TO OUR ENTIRE SATISFACTION; BUT AS A TRIAL OF HIS PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE I NOW ENJOIN UPON HIM SEVEN YEARS OF PILGRIMAGE, CLAD IN PILGRIM'S GARB, WITH SANDALS, STAFF AND SCRIP, AND UNDER YOUR DIRECTION. *(Hand salutes exchanged. Junior Warden retires from Asylum and goes to Chamber of Reflection, opens door and addresses Candidate.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**KNIGHT, THUS FAR YOU HAVE PROCEEDED TO THE ENTIRE SATISFACTION OF THE COMMANDER, BUT AS A TRIAL OF YOUR PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE HE NOW ENJOINS UPON YOU SEVEN YEARS OF PILGRIMAGE, CLAD IN PILGRIM'S GARB, WITH SANDALS, STAFF AND SCRIP, AND UNDER MY DIRECTION. PUT ON THIS PILGRIM'S CLOAK AND THESE SANDALS.  *(Junior Warden assists Candidate to robe as Pilgrim.)* TAKE THIS STAFF AND SCRIP. *(Junior Warden places staff in Candidate's left hand.)* THESE ARE TO BE THE HABIT AND SUPPORT OF YOUR PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, WHITHER WE MUST JOURNEY. AND NOW LET US DEPART.**

**FIRST HERMIT:**

***(Junior Warden on Pilgrim's left, conducts him into the Asylum and as they approach the Hermit's tent, Hermit challenges.)*  WHO APPROACHES?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: *(Junior Warden halts Pilgrim before entrance of tent and replies.)***

**A POOR AND WEARY PILGRIM TRAVELING FROM AFAR, TO JOIN WITH THOSE WHO OFT HAVE GONE BEFORE IN OFFERING HIS DEVOTIONS AT THE HOLY SHRINE.**

**FIRST HERMIT:**

***(Hermit rises and takes Pilgrim by the hand.)* PILGRIM, I GREET THEE. SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE GIVE I UNTO THEE. *(Junior Warden removes Pilgrim's hat and takes staff.)* WALK INTO MY HUMBLE ABODE, *(Hermit conducts Pilgrim into abode)* SIT THEE DOWN,  *(Hermit seats Pilgrim)*  REST AND REFRESH THYSELF. *(Hermit offers bread and water to Pilgrim as Hermit says the following phrase.)* HERE ARE BREAD AND PURE WATER - PLAIN FARE, BUT SUCH AS PILGRIMS NEED. I WILL NOW EXAMINE THY SCRIP.  *(Hermit examines scrip.)* THY BREAD AND THY WATER ARE WELL NIGH EXHAUSTED. I WILL REPLENISH THEM. *(Hermit simulates replenishment.)* HEARKEN TO A LESSON TO CHEER THEE ON THY WAY, AND ASSURE THEE OF SUCCESS. *(Hermit stands near Pilgrim and reads scriptural reading to him.)***

**"DO NOT LABOR FOR THE FOOD WHICH PERISHES, BUT FOR THE FOOD WHICH ENDURES TO ETERNAL LIFE, WHICH THE SON OF MAN WILL GIVE TO YOU; FOR ON HIM HAS GOD THE FATHER SET HIS SEAL." *(John 6:27, RSV)***

***(Hermit takes Pilgrim by hand, raises him, while saying:)* PILGRIM, FAREWELL,  *(Hermit takes Pilgrim outside abode, faces him toward abode and proceeds)* GOD SPEED THEE. *(Junior Warden replaces Pilgrim's hat and staff. Hermit is then seated, and Junior Warden and Pilgrim leave from the abode.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(After leaving Hermit's abode, Junior Warden proceeds:)* PILGRIM, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE FIRST YEAR OF YOUR PILGRIMAGE. LET US PROCEED.**

**SECOND HERMIT:**

***(Junior Warden on Pilgrim's left and as they approach the Hermit's tent, Hermit challenges.)* WHO APPROACHES?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: *(Junior Warden halts Pilgrim before entrance of tent and replies.)***

**A POOR AND WEARY PILGRIM TRAVELING FROM AFAR, TO JOIN WITH THOSE WHO OFT HAVE GONE BEFORE IN OFFERING HIS DEVOTIONS AT THE HOLY SHRINE.**

**SECOND HERMIT:**

***(Hermit rises and takes Pilgrim by the hand.)* PILGRIM, I GREET THEE. SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE GIVE I UNTO THEE. *(Junior Warden removes Pilgrim's hat and takes staff.)* WALK INTO MY HUMBLE ABODE, *(Hermit conducts Pilgrim into abode)* SIT THEE DOWN, *(Hermit seats Pilgrim)*  REST AND REFRESH THYSELF.  *(Hermit offers bread and water to Pilgrim as Hermit says the following phrase.)* HERE ARE BREAD AND PURE WATER - PLAIN FARE, BUT SUCH AS PILGRIMS NEED. I WILL NOW EXAMINE THY SCRIP.  *(Hermit examines scrip.)* THY BREAD AND THY WATER ARE WELL NIGH EXHAUSTED. I WILL REPLENISH THEM. *(Hermit simulates replenishment.)* HEARKEN TO A LESSON TO CHEER THEE ON THY WAY, AND ASSURE THEE OF SUCCESS. *(Hermit stands near Pilgrim and reads scriptural reading to him.)***

**"LET BROTHERLY LOVE CONTINUE. DO NOT NEGLECT TO SHOW HOSPITALITY TO STRANGERS, FOR THEREBY SOME HAVE ENTERTAINED ANGELS UNAWARES. KEEP YOUR LIFE FREE FROM LOVE OF MONEY, AND BE CONTENT WITH WHAT YOU HAVE; FOR HE HAS SAID 'I WILL NEVER FAIL YOU NOR FORSAKE YOU.' " *(Hebrews 13:1, 2, 5. RSV)***

***(Hermit takes Pilgrim by hand, raises him, while saying:)*  PILGRIM, FAREWELL,  *(Hermit takes Pilgrim outside abode, faces him toward abode and proceeds)* GOD SPEED THEE. *(Junior Warden replaces Pilgrim's hat and staff. Hermit is then seated, and Junior Warden and Pilgrim leave from the abode.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(After leaving Hermit's abode, Junior Warden proceeds:)* PILGRIM, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE SECOND YEAR OF YOUR PILGRIMAGE. LET US PROCEED.**

**THIRD HERMIT:**

***(Junior Warden on Pilgrim's left and as they approach the Hermit's tent, Hermit challenges.)* WHO APPROACHES?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN: *(Junior Warden halts Pilgrim before entrance of tent and replies.)***

**A POOR AND WEARY PILGRIM TRAVELING FROM AFAR, TO JOIN WITH THOSE WHO OFT HAVE GONE BEFORE IN OFFERING HIS DEVOTIONS AT THE HOLY SHRINE.**

**THIRD HERMIT:**

***(Hermit rises and takes Pilgrim by the hand.)* PILGRIM, I GREET THEE. SILVER AND GOLD HAVE I NONE, BUT SUCH AS I HAVE GIVE I UNTO THEE. *(Junior Warden removes Pilgrim's hat and takes staff)* WALK INTO MY HUMBLE ABODE, *(Hermit conducts Pilgrim into abode)* SIT THEE DOWN,  *(Hermit seats Pilgrim)*  REST AND REFRESH THYSELF.  *(Hermit offers bread and water to Pilgrim as Hermit says the following phrase.)* HERE ARE BREAD AND PURE WATER - PLAIN FARE, BUT SUCH AS PILGRIMS NEED. I WILL NOW EXAMINE THY SCRIP.  *(Hermit examines scrip)* THY BREAD AND THY WATER ARE WELL NIGH EXHAUSTED. I WILL REPLENISH THEM. *(Hermit simulates replenishment)* HEARKEN TO A LESSON TO CHEER THEE ON THY WAY, AND ASSURE THEE OF SUCCESS. *(Hermit stands near Pilgrim and reads scriptural reading to him.)***

**"CHARITY SHALL COVER THE MULTITUDE OF SINS. IF A BROTHER OR SISTER BE NAKED, AND DESTITUTE OF DAILY FOOD, AND ONE OF YOU SAY UNTO THEM, DEPART IN PEACE, BE YE WARMED AND FILLED; NOTWITHSTANDING YE GIVE THEM NOT THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE NEEDFUL TO THE BODY; WHAT DOTH IT PROFIT? *“ (James 2:15, 16. KJV)***

**“BE THOU FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH, AND I WILL GIVE THEE A CROWN OF LIFE." *(Rev. 2:10. KJV)***

***(Hermit takes Pilgrim by hand, raises him, while saying:)*  PILGRIM, FAREWELL,  *(Hermit takes Pilgrim outside abode, faces him toward abode and proceeds)* GOD SPEED THEE. *(Junior Warden replaces Pilgrim's hat and staff. Hermit is then seated, and Junior Warden and Pilgrim leave from the abode.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(After leaving Hermit's abode, Junior Warden proceeds:)* PILGRIM, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE THIRD YEAR OF YOUR PILGRIMAGE.  *(On North of Asylum, Junior Warden addresses Pilgrim.)* LET US NOW APPROACH THE ASYLUM, AND CRAVE PERMISSION TO DEVOTE THE FOUR REMAINING YEARS TO DEEDS OF MORE EXALTED USEFULNESS. *(Junior Warden conducts Pilgrim outside of Asylum, where he draws sword and then gives the battery:)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder rises, draws sword and addresses Commander:)*  EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)*  THERE IS AN ALARM.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, ATTEND TO THE ALARM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder leaves Asylum and addresses Junior Warden outside:)* WHO COMES HERE?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**A POOR AND WEARY PILGRIM TRAVELING FROM AFAR, WHO HAVING PERFORMED FULL THREE LONG YEARS OF PILGRIMAGE, NOW CRAVES, IF IT SO PLEASE THE COMMANDER, TO DEVOTE THE FOUR REMAINING YEARS TO DEEDS OF MORE EXALTED USEFULNESS; AND IF FOUND WORTHY, HIS STRONG DESIRE IS TO BE ADMITTED AMONG THOSE VALIANT KNIGHTS WHOSE DEEDS OF CHARITY AND PURE BENEFICENCE HAVE SPREAD THEIR FAME BOTH FAR AND WIDE.**

**WARDER:**

**WHAT SURETY DOES HE OFFER THAT HE IS NOT AN IMPOSTOR?**

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

**THE COMMENDATION OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN, WHO RECOMMENDS THAT HIS REQUEST BE GRANTED.**

**WARDER:**

**LET HIM AWAIT THE ORDER OF THE COMMANDER. *(Warder enters Asylum, returns to station and addresses Commander. Junior Warden returns sword.)* EMINENT COMMANDER,  *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)*  THERE STANDS WITHOUT, A POOR AND WEARY PILGRIM TRAVELING FROM AFAR, WHO HAVING PERFORMED FULL THREE LONG YEARS OF PILGRIMAGE, NOW CRAVES, IF IT SO PLEASE THE COMMANDER, TO DEVOTE THE FOUR REMAINING YEARS TO DEEDS OF MORE EXALTED USEFULNESS; AND IF FOUND WORTHY, HIS STRONG DESIRE IS TO BE ADMITTED AMONG THOSE VALIANT KNIGHTS WHOSE DEEDS OF CHARITY AND PURE BENEFICENCE HAVE SPREAD THEIR FAME BOTH FAR AND WIDE.**

**COMMANDER:**

**WHAT SURETY DOES HE OFFER THAT HE IS NOT AN IMPOSTOR?**

**WARDER:**

**THE COMMENDATION OF THE JUNIOR WARDEN, WHO RECOMMENDS THAT HIS REQUEST BE GRANTED. *(Warder returns sword and is seated.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**THIS BEING TRUE, EXCELLENT PRELATE, *(Prelate rises, faces Commander and bows, Commander returns hand salute, Prelate remains standing)* YOU WILL CONDUCT THIS WEARY PILGRIM TO THE HOLY ALTAR, WHERE HAVING BOUND HIM BY THE SOLEMN VOWS OF THIS ORDER YOU WILL FORTHWITH INVEST HIM WITH SWORD AND BUCKLER, THAT AS A PILGRIM WARRIOR HE MAY, UNDER DIRECTION OF THAT VALIANT KNIGHT, OUR SENIOR WARDEN, PERFORM FOUR YEARS OF WARFARE, WHICH I NOW ENJOIN UPON HIM AS A TRIAL OF HIS COURAGE AND CONSTANCY. SIR KNIGHT CAPTAIN GENERAL, *(Captain General rises, draws sword, faces Commander and salutes with sword. Commander returns hand salute)*  FORM AN ESCORT FOR THE PRELATE.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General faces west.)*  SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN, *(Senior Warden rises, draws sword, faces Captain General and salutes with sword, Captain General returns sword salute)* FORM AN ESCORT AND CONDUCT THE PRELATE TO HIS APARTMENT. *(Captain General returns sword and is seated.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden takes position three [3] paces in front of Captain General's station, about faces [now facing west], and commands:)*  ESCORT, ATTENTION, FALL IN. *(The Escort is formed in column in front of Senior Warden facing East.)* LEFT, FACE. RIGHT, DRESS. *(Senior Warden then right faces, takes two [2] steps forward, halts, left faces, and commands:)* FRONT. *(Senior Warden then marches to a position three [3] paces in front of the center of the Escort, halts [facing West], executes left face, and commands:)* DRAW, SWORDS, *(Done)* COUNT, TWOS, *(Done)* PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Senior Warden about faces, looks at Prelate but does not face Prelate.)***

**EXCELLENT PRELATE,  *(Senior Warden looks at but does not face Prelate executes and holds Officer's salute, Prelate bows)* THE ESCORT AWAITS YOUR PLEASURE.**

**PRELATE:**

**LEAD ON, SIR KNIGHT SENIOR WARDEN.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes carry swords, about faces and commands:)*  CARRY, SWORDS; *(Done)*  RIGHT BY TWOS, COMMON TIME,  *(90 steps per minute, see Manual Page 10, Paragraph 16 for Right by twos, Senior Warden marches to position on right of East flank Knight and executes about face)* MARCH, *(When near the North side of the Asylum Senior Warden commands)*  COLUMN LEFT, MARCH. *(Prelate falls in at rear of Escort and is conducted to his apartment. Warder opens doors for Escort and Prelate. The Junior Warden and Pilgrim are still in ante-room.)***

**PRELATE:**

***(As the Prelate approaches Pilgrim he takes Pilgrim's right arm.)*  ACCOMPANY ME. *(Junior Warden remains on Pilgrim's left until Senior Warden takes charge of Pilgrim Warrior.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden conducts Escort into Asylum, giving necessary commands. As they approach the Altar, Senior Warden commands:)*  OPEN ORDER, MARCH; ESCORT, HALT; INWARD, FACE.  *(Senior Warden steps into line next to first Knight without interval. Senior Warden should halt lines about two paces before reaching Altar in order to give Prelate room to pass between Senior Warden and Altar, and also room to give cuts, etc. The Altar should be equidistant between North and South and may be moved toward the East to allow room for Escort. Prelate, Pilgrim and Junior Warden halt at foot of the lines [West].)***

**PRELATE:**

**PILGRIM, BEFORE YOU CAN BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH SERVICE AS YOU DESIRE, IT IS NECESSARY THAT YOU BE BOUND UNTO US BY THE SOLEMN VOWS OF THIS ORDER. IF, THEREFORE, YOU STILL DESIRE TO PROCEED, ACCOMPANY ME TO THE HOLY ALTAR.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Senior Warden executes salute swords. Prelate, Pilgrim and Junior Warden pass between the lines to West side of Altar and halt. Prelate leaves Pilgrim on West side of Altar in charge of the Junior Warden. Prelate passes around Altar on the South to position on the East side facing West. Senior Warden comes to carry swords and commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.**

**PRELATE:**

***(The crossed swords will be upon the Bible on the Altar. Also crossed swords may be upon or under the kneeling pad before the Altar in front of the Candidate.)* PILGRIM, THE VOW YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE WILL IN NO WISE CONFLICT WITH YOUR DUTY TO GOD, YOUR COUNTRY, YOUR NEIGHBOR OR YOURSELF. IF YOU WILL ASSUME SUCH A VOW, KNEEL WITH BOTH KNEES UPON THE CROSSED SWORDS, *(Junior Warden takes Pilgrim's hat and staff and then assists him to kneel.)* YOUR HANDS RESTING UPON THE HOLY BIBLE, SQUARE AND COMPASSES, AND THE CROSSED SWORDS. *(Done)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden executes movements with Knights.)* SIR KNIGHTS, ORDER, SWORDS. UN-COVER. *(Junior Warden executes "un-cover" with Knights.)***

**PRELATE:**

**SAY "I", PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME IN FULL AND REPEAT AFTER ME:**

**I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, OF MY OWN FREE WILL AND ACCORD, IN THE PRESENCE OF ALMIGHTY GOD AND THESE WITNESSES, DO HEREBY AND HEREON SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL FOREVER KEEP AND CONCEAL THE SECRETS BELONGING TO THE VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS ORDER OF THE TEMPLE; THAT I WILL NOT COMMUNICATE THEM TO ANY ONE EXCEPT TO A TRUE AND LAWFUL KNIGHT OF THIS ORDER;**

**AND NOT UNTO HIM UNTIL AFTER DUE TRIAL, STRICT EXAMINATION, OR LAWFUL INFORMATION, I SHALL HAVE FOUND HIM LAWFULLY ENTITLED TO THE SAME; OR WITHIN THE ASYLUM OF A REGULAR AND DULY CONSTITUTED COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL STAND TO AND ABIDE BY THE BY-LAWS OF THIS OR OF ANY OTHER COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF WHICH I MAY HEREAFTER BECOME A MEMBER; THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE GRAND COMMANDERY UNDER WHOSE AUTHORITY THE SAME IS HOLDEN, TOGETHER WITH THE CONSTITUTION, LAWS AND EDICTS OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, SO FAR AS THE SAME MAY COME TO MY KNOWLEDGE, AND WHILE WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL ANSWER AND OBEY ALL DUE SIGNS AND REGULAR SUMMONSES SENT TO ME FROM A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, OR GIVEN ME BY THE HAND OF A TRUE AND LAWFUL KNIGHT OF THIS ORDER, IF WITHIN THE DISTANCE OF FORTY MILES, NATURAL INFIRMITIES OR UNAVOIDABLE ACCIDENTS ALONE EXCUSING ME.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL GO TO THE DISTANCE OF FORTY MILES, EVEN BAREFOOT AND ON FROZEN GROUND, TO RELIEVE THE DISTRESS OF A WORTHY KNIGHT OF THIS ORDER, SHOULD HIS NECESSITIES REQUIRE AND MY ABILITY PERMIT.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL HELP, AID AND ASSIST WITH MY COUNSEL, MY PURSE, AND MY SWORD IF NECESSARY, ALL WORTHY DISTRESSED KNIGHTS OF THIS ORDER, THEIR WIVES, WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, WHEREVER I MAY FIND THEM; SO FAR AS THEIR NECESSITIES MAY REQUIRE AND MY ABILITY PERMIT.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL WIELD MY SWORD IN DEFENSE OF INNOCENT MAIDENS, DESTITUTE WIDOWS, HELPLESS ORPHANS, AND THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT I WILL NOT ASSIST AT THE FORMING OR OPENING OF A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, UNLESS THERE SHALL BE PRESENT AT LEAST NINE REGULAR KNIGHTS OF THIS ORDER, OR THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THREE SEPARATE COMMANDERIES, ACTING UNDER A LAWFUL WARRANT.**

**I FURTHER PROMISE AND VOW, THAT WHILE WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE GRAND ENCAMPMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, I WILL NOT ASSIST, OR BE PRESENT AT, THE CONFERRING OF THIS ORDER OF KNIGHTHOOD UPON ANY PERSON WHO SHALL NOT HAVE REGULARLY RECEIVED THE DEGREES OF MASTER MASON, AND ROYAL ARCH MASON, TOGETHER WITH THE ILLUSTRIOUS ORDER OF THE RED CROSS AND THE ORDER OF MALTA, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.**

**TO ALL THIS I SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY PROMISE AND VOW, WITH A FIRM AND STEADFAST RESOLUTION TO OBSERVE AND PERFORM THE SAME, WITHOUT ANY EQUIVOCATION, MENTAL RESERVATION OR SECRET EVASION OF MIND IN ME WHATEVER; BINDING MYSELF UNDER NO LESS A PENALTY THAN THAT OF HAVING MY HEAD STRUCK OFF AND PLACED UPON THE HIGHEST SPIRE OF CHRISTENDOM, SHOULD I EVER KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY VIOLATE THIS MY SOLEMN VOW AS A KNIGHT TEMPLAR. SO HELP ME GOD, AND KEEP ME STEADFAST. *(Senior and Junior Wardens "Re-Cover" together.)***

**PILGRIM, ARISE AND RESUME YOUR STAFF. *(Junior Warden assists Pilgrim to rise and returns Pilgrim's hat and staff to him.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden comes to carry swords before giving commands.)* SIR KNIGHTS, RE-COVER, CARRY, SWORDS.**

**PRELATE:**

**PILGRIM, THOU HAST CRAVED PERMISSION TO PASS THROUGH OUR SOLEMN CEREMONIES, AND ENTER THE ASYLUM OF OUR COMMANDERY. BY THY SANDALS, STAFF AND SCRIP, I JUDGE THEE TO BE A CHILD OF HUMILITY. CHARITY AND HOSPITALITY ARE THE GRAND CHARACTERISTICS OF THIS VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS ORDER. AS KNIGHTS TEMPLAR WE ARE BOUND TO GIVE ALMS TO POOR AND WEARY PILGRIMS TRAVELING FROM AFAR, TO FEED THE HUNGRY, CLOTHE THE NAKED, AND BIND UP THE WOUNDS OF THE AFFLICTED. WE HERE WAGE WAR AGAINST THE ENEMIES OF INNOCENT MAIDENS, DESTITUTE WIDOWS, HELPLESS ORPHANS AND THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION. IF THOU ART DESIROUS OF ENLISTING IN THIS NOBLE AND GLORIOUS WARFARE, LAY ASIDE THY STAFF, AND THAT PILGRIM'S**

**GARB,**

***(Pilgrim is assisted by Junior Warden, who then hands staff and garb to Warder for removal from Asylum. Junior Warden dresses Pilgrim as Pilgrim Warrior.)*  TAKE UP THAT SWORD, *(Pilgrim takes up sword from Altar)* AND THAT BUCKLER;  *(Junior Warden hands buckler to Pilgrim)*  MANFULLY FIGHT THY WAY, AND WITH VALOR RUN THY COURSE. AND MAY THE ALMIGHTY, WHO IS A STRONG TOWER TO ALL WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM, BE NOW AND EVERMORE THY DEFENSE AND CONSOLATION.**

**PILGRIM, HAVING LAID ASIDE THE STAFF AND TAKEN UP THE SWORD, WE REQUIRE YOU TO MAKE A PUBLIC DECLARATION OF THE CAUSE IN WHICH YOU WILL WIELD IT. THIS YOU WILL DO UNDER DIRECTION OF OUR SENIOR WARDEN.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Junior Warden faces Pilgrim toward Senior Warden. Neither the Senior Warden nor the Pilgrim will turn back upon the Prelate.)* (In wielding sword it should be held at arm’s length, and a full circle made over the head from right to left, at every pause in declaration.) YOU WILL RAISE YOUR SWORD, *(Done)* DO AS I DO, AND REPEAT AFTER ME: "I WILL WIELD MY SWORD *(Wield)* IN DEFENSE OF INNOCENT MAIDENS, *(Wield)* DESTITUTE WIDOWS, *(Wield)* HELPLESS ORPHANS, *(Wield)* AND THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION. *(Junior Warden faces Pilgrim toward Prelate.)***

**PRELATE:**

**PILGRIM, HAVING CONFIDENCE IN YOUR DECLARATION, I NOW, BY ORDER OF THE COMMANDER, WHO HAS BEEN PLEASED TO GRANT YOUR REQUEST, ENJOIN UPON YOU FOUR YEARS OF WARFARE AS A TRIAL OF YOUR COURAGE AND CONSTANCY, WHICH YOU WILL PERFORM UNDER THE DIRECTION OF OUR SENIOR WARDEN, WHO WILL NOW INVEST YOU WITH THE PILGRIM WARRIOR'S WORD. *(Junior Warden faces Pilgrim toward Senior Warden.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**THE PILGRIM WARRIOR'S WORD IS GIVEN WITH FOUR CUTS OF THE SWORD, AND UNDER AN ARCH OF STEEL.**

***(Junior Warden assists Pilgrim in giving cuts. Giving word is optional.)* THE WORD IS M-S-H-B. CARRY, SWORDS. *(Junior Warden faces Pilgrim toward Prelate.)***

**PRELATE:**

**PILGRIM WARRIOR, FAREWELL. MAY SUCCESS AND VICTORY ATTEND YOU.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**PILGRIM WARRIOR, FOLLOW ME, DO AS I DO, AND REPEAT AFTER ME. *(Senior Warden faces East and followed by Pilgrim marches to East, then to the North, then to the West. As Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior leave Altar, Junior Warden steps back into line and draws sword to take command of Escort. When Senior Warden turns to march West he raises his sword to arms length, as does Pilgrim.)* I WILL WIELD MY SWORD *(Wield)* IN DEFENSE OF INNOCENT MAIDENS, *(Wield)* DESTITUTE WIDOWS, *(Wield)* HELPLESS ORPHANS, *(Wield)* AND THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION. *(Declaration is completed before reaching the West. Following completion of declaration, Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior will come to carry swords and leave Asylum through door at the West. Warder rises, moves to and opens the door before the Senior Warden and Pilgrim reach door, then closes door, returns to station and is seated.)***

**JUNIOR WARDEN:**

***(When Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior have passed from the Asylum, the Junior Warden escorts Prelate to his Station. Junior Warden takes one [1] back step, executes right face, marches to rear of first Knight on the West flank and halts. He then commands:)* ESCORT, TO THE WEST, RIGHT AND LEFT FACE; FORWARD, CLOSE ORDER, COMMON TIME, MARCH. *(Junior Warden gives necessary commands to conduct Escort to position before Prelate's station, [lectern] and as they approach the Prelate's station he commands:)* OPEN ORDER, MARCH; ESCORT HALT; INWARD FACE. *(Junior Warden steps into line and commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS. *(Junior Warden executes salute swords. Prelate passes between lines to his station. Junior Warden will then come to carry swords and commands:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS; RETURN, SWORDS; DISMISSED. *(Junior Warden returns sword with escort, then goes to his station and is seated.)* *(When Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior reach the ante-room, the Senior Warden will explain that they are about to begin the four [4] years of warfare. Meanwhile, the Guards in Templar uniform with swords drawn are posted at stations in the South, East, and North of Asylum. Senior Warden, sword in scabbard, marches on right of Pilgrim Warrior, who has sword drawn and at carry.)***

**FIRST GUARD:**

**HALT, *(At command HALT, Guard takes position of On Guard)* WHO COMES THERE?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM WARRIOR.**

**FIRST GUARD:**

**ADVANCE, PILGRIM WARRIOR, AND GIVE THE WORD. *(Pilgrim Warrior gives cuts and words, assisted by the Senior Warden.)* RIGHT. *(Guard comes to On Guard then carry swords, takes one [1] right side step sufficient to allow Pilgrim Warrior to pass and says:)* PASS ON.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**PILGRIM WARRIOR, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE FIRST YEAR OF YOUR WARFARE.**

**SECOND GUARD:**

**HALT, *(At command HALT, Guard takes position of On Guard)* WHO COMES THERE?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM WARRIOR.**

**SECOND GUARD:**

**ADVANCE, PILGRIM WARRIOR, AND GIVE THE WORD. *(Pilgrim Warrior gives cuts and words, assisted by the Senior Warden.)* RIGHT. *(Guard comes to On Guard then carry swords, takes one [1] right side step sufficient to allow Pilgrim Warrior to pass and says:)* PASS ON.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**PILGRIM WARRIOR, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE SECOND YEAR OF YOUR WARFARE.**

**THIRD GUARD:**

**HALT, *(At command HALT, Guard takes position of On Guard)* WHO COMES THERE?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM WARRIOR.**

**THIRD GUARD:**

**ADVANCE, PILGRIM WARRIOR, AND GIVE THE WORD. *(Pilgrim Warrior gives cuts and words, assisted by the Senior Warden.)* RIGHT. *(Guard comes to On Guard then carry swords, takes one [1] right side step sufficient to allow Pilgrim Warrior to pass and says:)* PASS ON.**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**PILGRIM WARRIOR, THIS IS INTENDED TO REPRESENT THE THIRD YEAR OF YOUR WARFARE. *(Senior Warden halts the Pilgrim Warrior and says:)* NOW LET US REPAIR TO THE ASYLUM AND ASK FOR THE REMISSION OF THE REMAINING YEAR OF WARFARE, AND CRAVE TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HONORS AND REWARDS THAT AWAIT THE VALIANT TEMPLAR. *(Warder rises, moves to and opens door before Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior reach door. Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior leave Asylum through door at the West. Senior Warden gives alarm with sword.)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder rises and draws sword.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, *(Warder salutes Commander with sword who returns hand salute)* THERE IS AN ALARM.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHT WARDER, ATTEND TO THE ALARM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder leaves Asylum and addresses Senior Warden outside.)* WHO COMES HERE?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM WARRIOR, WHO HAVING PERFORMED FULL THREE LONG YEARS OF WARFARE NOW SOLICITS THE REMISSION OF THE REMAINING YEAR, AND CRAVES TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HONORS AND REWARDS THAT AWAIT THE VALIANT TEMPLAR.**

**WARDER:**

**WHAT SURETY DOES HE OFFER THAT HE IS NOT AN IMPOSTOR?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**THE COMMENDATION OF THE SENIOR WARDEN WHO RECOMMENDS THE REMISSION OF THE REMAINING YEAR OF WARFARE.**

**WARDER:**

**HOW DOES HE EXPECT TO GAIN ADMISSION?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**BY THE PILGRIM WARRIOR'S WORD.**

**WARDER:**

**ADVANCE AND COMMUNICATE IT. *(Pilgrim Warrior gives cuts and words outside Asylum.)* THE WORD IS RIGHT. AWAIT THE ORDER OF THE COMMANDER. *(Warder enters Asylum and goes to station.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, THERE STANDS WITHOUT A PILGRIM WARRIOR, WHO HAVING PERFORMED FULL THREE LONG YEARS OF WARFARE NOW SOLICITS THE REMISSION OF THE REMAINING YEAR, AND CRAVES TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HONORS AND REWARDS THAT AWAIT THE VALIANT TEMPLAR.**

**COMMANDER:**

**WHAT SURETY DOES HE OFFER THAT HE IS NOT AN IMPOSTOR?**

**WARDER:**

**THE COMMENDATION OF THE SENIOR WARDEN WHO RECOMMENDS THE REMISSION OF THE REMAINING YEAR OF WARFARE.**

**COMMANDER:**

**HOW DOES HE EXPECT TO GAIN ADMISSION?**

**WARDER:**

**BY THE PILGRIM WARRIOR'S WORD WHICH HE HAS COMMUNICATED TO ME.**

**COMMANDER:**

**ADMIT HIM.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder goes to and opens door.)* THE COMMANDER PERMITS HIM TO ENTER. *(Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior return swords, then enter Asylum and stand West of and about two paces from base of Triangle. Warder closes door, returns to station, returns sword and is seated.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**PILGRIM, HAVING GAINED ADMISSION INTO OUR ASYLUM, WHAT DECLARATION HAVE YOU TO MAKE IN TESTIMONY OF YOUR FITNESS TO BECOME A KNIGHT AMONG US?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

***(Senior Warden raising right hand, as in taking judicial oath, no higher than head.)* PILGRIM, DO AS I DO,  *(Pilgrim Warrior raises right hand.)* AND REPEAT AFTER ME:**

**"EMINENT COMMANDER, I NOW DECLARE IN TRUTH AND SOBERNESS THAT I ENTERTAIN NO ENMITY NOR ILL WILL AGAINST A SOUL ON EARTH, WHICH I WOULD NOT FREELY RECONCILE, SHOULD I FIND IN HIM A CORRESPONDING DISPOSITION. *(Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior lower hands after finishing declaration.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**THE SENTIMENTS YOU UTTER ARE COMMENDABLE, AND WORTHY OF THE CAUSE IN WHICH YOU ARE ENGAGED, BUT WE REQUIRE PROOF OF YOUR FIDELITY TO US. THE RULES OF THIS ORDER DEMAND THAT YOU PARTICIPATE IN FIVE LIBATIONS, WHICH BEING ACCOMPLISHED YOU SHALL BE ADMITTED A KNIGHT AMONG US. THE ELEMENTS OF THE FIRST FOUR ARE WINE AND WATER; THE FIFTH IS PURE WINE. ARE YOU WILLING TO PARTICIPATE? *(Candidate replies.)* ADVANCE TO THE TRIANGLE. *(Senior Warden and Pilgrim Warrior advance to base of Triangle. Junior Warden rises and takes position on left of Pilgrim Warrior at base of Triangle. Commander moves to apex of Triangle and remains there during Libations. All these movements are simultaneous.)***

**WE WILL NOW PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST LIBATION. *(Junior Warden removes Pilgrim Warrior's helmet and hands to Warder for removal from Asylum. Commander takes cup from Triangle in right hand.)* TAKE A CUP IN YOUR RIGHT HAND, *(Pilgrim Warrior takes cup from Triangle.)*  REPEAT AFTER ME: "TO THE MEMORY OF OUR MOST EXCELLENT GRAND MASTER, SOLOMON, KING OF ISRAEL." PARTICIPATE. *(After partaking of Libation, Commander and Pilgrim Warrior replace cups on Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER**

**WHILE WE COMMEMORATE THE VIRTUES OF THE ILLUSTRIOUS FOUNDER OF ANCIENT CRAFT MASONRY LET US ALSO REMEMBER THE LESSONS OF WISDOM HE HAS LEFT UPON THE SACRED PAGE FOR OUR INSTRUCTION, THE SUM OF WHICH IS, FEAR GOD AND KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS.**

**WE WILL NOW PARTICIPATE IN THE SECOND LIBATION.**

***(Commander and Pilgrim Warrior take cups from Triangle.)* "TO THE MEMORY OF OUR MUNIFICENT GRAND MASTER, HIRAM, KING OF TYRE." PARTICIPATE. *(After partaking of Libation, Commander and Pilgrim Warrior replace cups on Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER**

**TO BE GREAT IS TO BE GOOD, AND HE WHO WOULD PERPETUATE HIS NAME TO POSTERITY, MUST ENNOBLE IT BY ACTS OF CHARITY AND DEEDS OF PURE BENEFICENCE.**

**WE WILL NOW PARTICIPATE IN THE THIRD LIBATION. *(Commander and Pilgrim Warrior take cups from Triangle.)***

**"TO THE MEMORY OF OUR ANCIENT AND OPERATIVE GRAND MASTER, HIRAM ABIFF, THE WIDOW'S SON, WHO LOST HIS LIFE IN DEFENSE OF HIS INTEGRITY." PARTICIPATE. *(After partaking of Libation, Commander and Pilgrim Warrior replace cups on Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER**

**WHILE WE PERPETUATE THE MEMORY OF THIS ILLUSTRIOUS MARTYR, LET US EMULATE HIS EXAMPLE, AND YIELD UP OUR LIVES RATHER THAN FORFEIT OUR INTEGRITY.**

**PILGRIM, THESE LIBATIONS IN HONOR OF THESE ILLUSTRIOUS GRAND MASTERS OF ANCIENT CRAFT MASONRY ARE TAKEN IN ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF OUR CONNECTION WITH, VENERATION FOR, AND FIDELITY TO THAT HONORABLE INSTITUTION.**

**THE ORDER WITH WHICH YOU NOW SEEK TO UNITE IS FOUNDED UPON THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION AND THE PRACTICE OF THE CHRISTIAN VIRTUES. LET US THEREFORE, ATTEND TO A LESSON FROM THE HOLY EVANGELISTS. *(Commander turns toward Prelate and addresses him:)* EXCELLENT PRELATE,  *(Prelate rises and bows, and Commander returns bow)* YOU WILL READ THE FIRST LESSON.**

**PRELATE:**

***(Commander and Knights will uncover when Prelate begins the reading. Knights on side lines will remain seated and will uncover for reading.)* "THEN ONE OF THE TWELVE, CALLED JUDAS ISCARIOT, WENT UNTO THE CHIEF PRIESTS, AND SAID UNTO THEM, WHAT WILL YE GIVE ME, AND I WILL DELIVER HIM UNTO YOU? AND THEY COVENANTED WITH HIM FOR THIRTY PIECES OF SILVER. AND FROM THAT TIME HE SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY TO BETRAY HIM. NOW THE FIRST DAY OF THE FEAST OF UNLEAVENED BREAD THE DISCIPLES CAME TO JESUS, SAYING UNTO HIM, WHERE WILT THOU THAT WE PREPARE FOR THEE TO EAT THE PASSOVER?**

**AND HE SAID, GO INTO THE CITY TO SUCH A MAN, AND SAY UNTO HIM, THE MASTER SAITH, MY TIME IS AT HAND; I WILL KEEP THE PASSOVER AT THY HOUSE WITH MY DISCIPLES. AND THE DISCIPLES DID AS JESUS HAD APPOINTED THEM; AND THEY MADE READY THE PASSOVER.**

**NOW WHEN THE EVEN WAS COME, HE SAT DOWN WITH THE TWELVE. AND AS THEY DID EAT HE SAID, VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, THAT ONE OF YOU SHALL BETRAY ME. AND THEY WERE EXCEEDING SORROWFUL, AND BEGAN EVERY ONE OF THEM TO SAY UNTO HIM, LORD, IS IT I?**

**AND HE ANSWERED AND SAID, HE THAT DIPPETH HIS HAND WITH ME IN THE DISH, THE SAME SHALL BETRAY ME.**

**THE SON OF MAN GOETH AS IT IS WRITTEN OF HIM; BUT WOE UNTO THAT MAN BY WHOM THE SON OF MAN IS BETRAYED! IT HAD BEEN GOOD FOR THAT MAN IF HE HAD NOT BEEN BORN.**

**THEN JUDAS, WHICH BETRAYED HIM, ANSWERED AND SAID, MASTER IS IT I? HE SAID UNTO HIM, THOU HAST SAID. (Matt. 26: 14-25. KJV) *(Prelate bows, Commander returns bow, then recovers and faces toward Triangle. Knights will recover with the Commander.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**PILGRIM, THE TWELVE BURNING TAPERS ON THE TRIANGLE BEFORE YOU CORRESPOND IN NUMBER WITH THE APOSTLES OF OUR SAVIOR WHILE ON EARTH, ONE OF WHOM BY TRANSGRESSION FELL, AND BETRAYED HIS LORD AND MASTER. AS A CONSTANT ADMONITION TO YOU EVER TO PERSEVERE IN THE PATHS OF HONOR, INTEGRITY AND TRUTH, AND AS A MEMORIAL OF THE APOSTASY OF JUDAS ISCARIOT, YOU ARE REQUIRED BY THE RULES OF THIS ORDER TO EXTINGUISH ONE OF THOSE BURNING TAPERS. *(Senior Warden may assist Pilgrim Warrior to extinguish taper. The Asylum lights are dimmed and remain so until after the Pilgrim re-lights the taper.)***

**LET THIS TEACH YOU THAT HE WHO BASELY VIOLATES HIS VOW, OR BETRAYS HIS TRUST, IS WORTHY OF NO BETTER FATE THAN THAT WHICH JUDAS SUFFERED.**

**LET US ATTEND TO ANOTHER LESSON FROM THE HOLY EVANGELISTS. *(Commander turns toward Prelate and addresses him:)* EXCELLENT PRELATE,  *(Prelate rises and bows, Commander returns bow)* YOU WILL READ THE SECOND LESSON.**

**PRELATE:**

***(Commander and Knights will uncover when Prelate begins the reading. Knights on side lines will remain seated and will uncover for reading.)* "THEN COMETH JESUS WITH THEM UNTO A PLACE CALLED GETHSEMANE, AND SAITH UNTO THE DISCIPLES, SIT YE HERE, WHILE I GO AND PRAY YONDER. AND HE TOOK WITH HIM PETER AND THE TWO SONS OF ZEBEDEE, AND BEGAN TO BE SORROWFUL AND VERY HEAVY.**

**THEN SAITH HE UNTO THEM, MY SOUL IS EXCEEDING SORROWFUL, EVEN UNTO DEATH: TARRY YE HERE, AND WATCH WITH ME.**

**AND HE WENT A LITTLE FARTHER, AND FELL ON HIS FACE, AND PRAYED, SAYING, O MY FATHER, IF IT BE POSSIBLE, LET THIS CUP PASS FROM ME: NEVERTHELESS, NOT AS I WILL, BUT AS THOU WILT.**

**AND HE COMETH UNTO THE DISCIPLES, AND FINDETH THEM ASLEEP, AND SAITH UNTO PETER, WHAT, COULD YE NOT WATCH WITH ME ONE HOUR?**

**WATCH AND PRAY, THAT YE ENTER NOT INTO TEMPTATION: THE SPIRIT INDEED IS WILLING, BUT THE FLESH IS WEAK.**

**HE WENT AWAY AGAIN THE SECOND TIME, AND PRAYED, SAYING, O MY FATHER, IF THIS CUP MAY NOT PASS AWAY FROM ME, EXCEPT I DRINK IT, THY WILL BE DONE.**

**AND HE CAME AND FOUND THEM ASLEEP AGAIN; FOR THEIR EYES WERE HEAVY.**

**AND HE LEFT THEM, AND WENT AWAY AGAIN, AND PRAYED THE THIRD TIME, SAYING THE SAME WORDS.**

**THEN COMETH HE TO HIS DISCIPLES, AND SAITH UNTO THEM, SLEEP ON NOW, AND TAKE YOUR REST: BEHOLD, THE HOUR IS AT HAND, AND THE SON OF MAN IS BETRAYED INTO THE HANDS OF**

**SINNERS.**

**RISE, LET US BE GOING: BEHOLD, HE IS AT HAND THAT DOTH BETRAY ME.**

**AND WHILE HE YET SPAKE, LO, JUDAS, ONE OF THE TWELVE, CAME, AND WITH HIM A GREAT MULTITUDE WITH SWORDS AND STAVES, FROM THE CHIEF PRIESTS AND ELDERS OF THE PEOPLE.**

**NOW HE THAT BETRAYED HIM GAVE THEM A SIGN, SAYING, WHOMSOEVER I SHALL KISS, THAT SAME IS HE: HOLD HIM FAST.**

**AND FORTHWITH HE CAME TO JESUS, AND SAID, HAIL, MASTER; AND KISSED HIM." (Matt 26: 36-49. KJV) *(Prelate bows, Commander returns bow, then recovers and faces toward Triangle. Knights will recover with Commander. Generalissimo and Captain General rise, draw swords and come to carry swords, then march slowly together to position on right and left of Triangle opposite Relics. Prelate moves to position on right of and beside Commander to receive cover. Generalissimo and Captain General inward face, remove cover with swords, pass cover to Prelate. The Prelate receives cover, takes two or three back steps, turns about, returns slowly to lectern, hangs cover on front of lectern and resumes his station. Generalissimo and Captain General left and right face, [facing East], march slowly to their stations, execute about face, return swords together and are seated. All movements done quietly.)***

**(The following paragraph is Optional)**

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander will point to skull.)* PILGRIM, YOU HERE BEHOLD AN EMBLEM OF MORTALITY SUPPORTED BY DIVINITY, A HUMAN SKULL RESTING ON THE HOLY BIBLE; WHICH IS TO TEACH YOU THAT AMID ALL THE TRIALS AND VICISSITUDES INCIDENT TO HUMAN LIFE, A FIRM RELIANCE UPON THE DIVINE TRUTH CONTAINED IN THIS SACRED VOLUME CAN ALONE AFFORD THAT CONSOLATION AND PEACE OF MIND, WHICH THE WORLD CAN NEITHER GIVE NOR TAKE AWAY.**

**(Or the following may be substituted for the preceding paragraph.)**

**COMMANDER:**

***(The Commander will point to skull.)* PILGRIM, YOU HERE BEHOLD AN EMBLEM OF MORTALITY RESTING ON DIVINITY, A HUMAN SKULL UPON THE WORD OF GOD. LEARN FROM THIS THAT ALL THE HOPES OF YOUR POOR PERISHING BODY REST UPON THE TRUTHS REVEALED IN THAT SACRED VOLUME. THEREIN ARE WE TAUGHT THAT OUR REDEEMER LIVETH, AND THOUGH WORMS DESTROY THIS BODY YET IN OUR FLESH SHALL WE SEE GOD. LEARN ALSO THAT AMID ALL THE VICISSITUDES OF LIFE A STEADFAST BELIEF IN THE TRUTHS THEREIN REVEALED, COUPLED WITH AN UNSWERVING FAITH IN THE MERITS OF OUR ONCE CRUCIFIED BUT NOW RISEN AND EXALTED REDEEMER, CAN ALONE AFFORD YOU THAT STRONG CONSOLATION WHICH THE WORLD CAN NEITHER GIVE NOR TAKE AWAY.**

**COMMANDER:**

**LET US ATTEND TO ANOTHER LESSON FROM THE HOLY EVANGELISTS. *(Commander turns toward Prelate and addresses him:)* EXCELLENT PRELATE,  *(Prelate rises and bows, Commander returns bow)* YOU WILL READ THE THIRD LESSON.**

**PRELATE:**

***(Commander and Knights will uncover when Prelate begins the reading. Knights on side lines will remain seated and will uncover for reading.)* "WHEN PILATE SAW THAT HE COULD PREVAIL NOTHING, BUT THAT RATHER A TUMULT WAS MADE, HE TOOK WATER, AND WASHED HIS HANDS BEFORE THE MULTITUDE, SAYING, I AM INNOCENT OF THE BLOOD OF THIS JUST PERSON: SEE YE TO IT. THEN ANSWERED ALL THE PEOPLE, AND SAID, HIS BLOOD BE ON US, AND ON OUR CHILDREN.**

**THEN RELEASED HE BARABBAS UNTO THEM: AND WHEN HE HAD SCOURGED JESUS, HE DELIVERED HIM TO BE CRUCIFIED. THEN THE SOLDIERS OF THE GOVERNOR TOOK JESUS INTO THE COMMON HALL, AND GATHERED UNTO HIM THE WHOLE BAND OF SOLDIERS. AND THEY STRIPPED HIM, AND PUT ON HIM A SCARLET ROBE. AND WHEN THEY HAD PLATTED A CROWN OF THORNS, THEY PUT IT UPON HIS HEAD, AND A REED IN HIS RIGHT HAND: AND THEY BOWED THE KNEE BEFORE HIM, AND MOCKED HIM, SAYING, HAIL, KING OF THE JEWS! AND THEY SPIT UPON HIM, AND TOOK THE REED, AND SMOTE HIM ON THE HEAD.**

**AND AFTER THAT THEY HAD MOCKED HIM, THEY TOOK THE ROBE OFF FROM HIM, AND PUT HIS OWN RAIMENT ON HIM, AND LED HIM AWAY TO CRUCIFY HIM. AND AS THEY CAME OUT, THEY FOUND A MAN OF CYRENE, SIMON BY NAME: HIM THEY COMPELLED TO BEAR HIS CROSS.**

**AND WHEN THEY WERE COME UNTO A PLACE CALLED GOLGOTHA, THAT IS TO SAY, A PLACE OF A SKULL., THEY GAVE HIM VINEGAR TO DRINK MINGLED WITH GALL: AND WHEN HE HAD TASTED THEREOF, HE WOULD NOT DRINK.**

**AND THEY CRUCIFIED HIM, AND PARTED HIS GARMENTS, CASTING LOTS: THAT IT MIGHT BE FULFILLED WHICH WAS SPOKEN BY THE PROPHET. THEY PARTED MY GARMENTS AMONG THEM, AND UPON MY VESTURE DID THEY CAST LOTS.**

**AND SITTING DOWN THEY WATCHED HIM THERE; AND SET UP OVER HIS HEAD HIS ACCUSATION WRITTEN, *'THIS IS JESUS THE KING OF THE JEWS." (Matt 27: 24-37. KJV) (Prelate bows, Commander returns bow, then recovers and faces toward Triangle. Knights will recover with Commander.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**WE WILL NOW PARTICIPATE IN THE FOURTH LIBATION. *(Commander and Pilgrim Warrior take cups from Triangle.)***

**"TO THE MEMORY OF SIMON OF CYRENE, WHO WAS COMPELLED TO BEAR OUR SAVIOR'S CROSS."**

**PARTICIPATE. *(After partaking of Libation, Commander and Pilgrim Warrior replace cups on Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER**

**PILGRIM, WE ALL HAVE A CROSS TO BEAR; LET EACH OF US SO BEAR THAT CROSS THAT WE MAY BE DEEMED WORTHY TO WEAR THE CROWN. *(Commander goes to his left along South side of Triangle, takes up Skull and returns to apex of Triangle.)***

**BEHOLD THIS RUIN! 'TIS A SKULL,**

**ONCE OF ETHEREAL SPIRIT FULL;**

**THIS NARROW CELL WAS LIFE'S RETREAT,**

**THIS SPACE WAS THOUGHT'S MYSTERIOUS SEAT;**

**WHAT BEAUTEOUS VISIONS FILLED THIS SPOT,**

**WHAT DREAM OF PLEASURE LONG FORGOT,**

**NOR JOY, NOR GRIEF, NOR HOPE, NOR FEAR,**

**HAS LEFT ONE TRACE ON RECORD HERE.**

**BENEATH THIS MOULDERING CANOPY**

**ONCE SHONE THE BRIGHT AND BUSY EYE;**

**YET START NOT AT THE DISMAL VOID!**

**IF HOLY LOVE THAT EYE EMPLOYED,**

**IF WITH NO LAWLESS FIRE IT GLEAMED,**

**BUT THROUGH THE DEWS OF KINDNESS BEAMED,**

**THAT EYE SHALL BE FOREVER BRIGHT,**

**WHEN STARS AND SUN ARE SUNK IN NIGHT.**

**WITHIN THIS HOLLOW CAVERN HUNG**

**THE READY, SWIFT AND TUNEFUL TONGUE;**

**IF FALSEHOOD'S HONEY IT DISDAINED,**

**AND WHEN IT COULD NOT PRAISE, WAS CHAINED;**

**IF BOLD IN VIRTUE'S CAUSE IT SPOKE,**

**YET GENTLE CONCORD NEVER BROKE,**

**THAT SILENT TONGUE MAY PLEAD FOR THEE,**

**WHEN TIME UNVEILS ETERNITY.**

**HOW STRIKING THIS EMBLEM OF MORTALITY! ONCE ANIMATED LIKE OURSELVES, BUT NOW, BEHOLD, IT HAS CEASED TO ACT OR THINK: ITS VITAL ENERGIES ARE EXTINCT, AND ALL THE POWERS OF LIFE HAVE CEASED THEIR OPERATION!**

**TO SUCH A STATE, PILGRIM AND SIR KNIGHTS, ARE WE ALL HASTENING. LET US THEN SO IMPROVE THE REMAINING SPAN OF LIFE, THAT WHEN OUR FRAIL BODIES SHALL BECOME, LIKE THIS MEMENTO, COLD AND INANIMATE, OUR DISEMBODIED SPIRITS MAY SOAR ALOFT, AND DWELL FOREVER IN REALMS OF LIFE AND LIGHT ETERNAL. *(Commander goes to his left along South side of Triangle, replaces Skull, and returns to apex of Triangle facing Pilgrim Warrior.)***

**PILGRIM, THE WARFARE OF THE REMAINING YEAR IS NOW REMITTED; BUT, BEFORE YOU CAN BE PERMITTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIFTH LIBATION, I MUST, AS A TRIAL OF YOUR FAITH AND HUMILITY, ENJOIN UPON YOU ONE YEAR OF PENANCE, WHICH YOU WILL PERFORM UNDER THE DIRECTION OF OUR SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS.  *(Junior Warden removes robe, sword and buckler from Pilgrim and gives them to Warder. The Warder gives the Junior Warden the white robe and burning taper. Junior Warden gives robe and taper to Senior Warden at appropriate times.)* YOU WILL GO FORTH UPON YOUR YEAR OF PENANCE, CLOTHED IN THAT *(The Senior Warden displays the white robe to the Candidate.)* WHITE ROBE AS AN EMBLEM OF INNOCENCE, *(Senior Warden places the white robe on the Pilgrim. Commander takes Skull from Triangle)* WITH THIS HUMAN SKULL IN ONE HAND *(Commander places Skull in Pilgrim's left hand)* AS A SYMBOL OF YOUR HUMILITY, *(Commander takes taper from Senior Warden)* AND THIS BURNING TAPER IN THE OTHER,  *(Commander places taper in Pilgrim's right hand)* AS AN EMBLEM OF YOUR FAITH; *(Commander returns to apex of Triangle)* WHICH IS TO TEACH YOU THAT, WITH FAITH AND HUMILITY, YOU SHOULD LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER *(Commander uncovers)* WHICH IS IN HEAVEN.  *(Commander remains standing with head bowed and uncovered until Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Pilgrim make their exit. In leaving Triangle, Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Pilgrim move slowly three abreast to the right of the Triangle, then to the East and behind the Commander to the North, then to the West to exit. Warder rises, moves to and opens door before Senior Warden, Junior Warden and Pilgrim reach door. After retiring from the Asylum, Senior Warden draws sword. The Commander recovers and returns to his seat.)***

**SEPULCHRE GUARD:**

***(Sepulchre Guard with sword drawn at station, takes position of "On Guard" and says:)* WHO WOULD HERE INTRUDE?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM PENITENT, WHO CRAVES PERMISSION TO OFFER UP HIS DEVOTIONS AT THE HOLY SHRINE.**

**SEPULCHRE GUARD:**

**ADVANCE AND COMMUNICATE THE PILGRIM PENITENT'S WORD. *(Senior Warden and Sepulcher Guard give cuts and Word then come to carry swords.)* YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO ENTER. *(Senior Warden and Sepulcher Guard return swords. Wardens and Pilgrim enter Asylum and kneel about three paces inside door. Wardens uncover after kneeling.)***

**PRELATE:**

***(Prelate at lectern reads Scripture.)* "IN THE END OF THE SABBATH, AS IT BEGAN TO DAWN TOWARD THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK, CAME MARY MAGDALENE AND THE OTHER MARY TO SEE THE SEPULCHRE. AND, BEHOLD, THERE WAS A GREAT EARTHQUAKE: FOR THE ANGEL OF THE LORD DESCENDED FROM HEAVEN, AND CAME AND ROLLED BACK THE STONE FROM THE DOOR, AND SAT UPON IT. HIS COUNTENANCE WAS LIKE LIGHTNING, AND HIS RAIMENT WHITE AS SNOW; AND FOR FEAR OF HIM THE KEEPERS DID SHAKE, AND BECAME AS DEAD MEN. AND THE ANGEL ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THE WOMEN, FEAR NOT YE: FOR I KNOW THAT YE SEEK JESUS, WHICH WAS CRUCIFIED. HE IS NOT HERE: FOR HE IS RISEN, AS HE SAID. COME, SEE THE PLACE WHERE THE LORD LAY. (Matt 28: 1-6, KJV) *(Wardens recover, and they and Pilgrim arise and move to position nearer Sepulcher Scene, then kneel and Wardens again uncover.)***

***(Prelate at lectern reads Scripture.)* "AND AS IT IS APPOINTED UNTO MEN ONCE TO DIE, BUT AFTER THIS THE JUDGEMENT: SO CHRIST WAS ONCE OFFERED TO BEAR THE SINS OF MANY; AND UNTO THEM THAT LOOK FOR HIM SHALL HE APPEAR THE SECOND TIME WITHOUT SIN UNTO SALVATION." (Hebrews 9: 27, 28. KJV) *(Wardens recover, and they and Pilgrim arise and move toward Ascension Scene as Prelate continues with reading of Scripture.)***

**"AND GO QUICKLY, AND TELL HIS DISCIPLES THAT HE IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD; AND, BEHOLD, HE GOETH BEFORE YOU INTO GALILEE; THERE SHALL YE SEE HIM: LO, I HAVE TOLD YOU. AND THEY DEPARTED QUICKLY FROM THE SEPULCHRE WITH FEAR AND GREAT JOY; AND DID RUN TO BRING HIS DISCIPLES WORD. AND AS THEY WENT TO TELL HIS DISCIPLES, BEHOLD, JESUS MET THEM, SAYING, ALL HAIL. AND THEY CAME AND HELD HIM BY THE FEET, AND WORSHIPPED HIM.**

**THEN SAID JESUS UNTO THEM, BE NOT AFRAID: GO TELL MY BRETHREN THAT THEY GO INTO GALILEE, AND THERE SHALL THEY SEE ME." (Matt 28: 7-10. KJV) *(Wardens and Pilgrim arrive at Ascension Scene and face scene. Wardens step back and uncover before Prelate continues. Prelate moves from lectern to Pilgrim while repeating the Scripture reading:)* "I AM THE RESURRECTION, AND THE LIFE," SAITH THE LORD: "HE THAT BELIEVETH IN ME, THOUGH HE WERE DEAD, YET SHALL HE LIVE; AND WHOSOEVER LIVETH AND BELIEVETH IN ME SHALL NEVER DIE.” (John 11: 25, 26. KJV) *(Prelate takes position near and in front of and facing Pilgrim.)* “ AND HE LED THEM OUT AS FAR AS TO BETHANY, AND HE LIFTED UP HIS HANDS, AND BLESSED THEM. AND IT CAME TO PASS, WHILE HE BLESSED THEM, HE WAS PARTED FROM THEM, AND CARRIED UP INTO HEAVEN." (Luke 24: 50, 51. KJV) *(Ascension Scene according to the abilities of the Asylum.)***

**PILGRIM, THE SCENE YOU HAVE JUST WITNESSED IS INTENDED TO REMIND YOU OF THE GLORIOUS CONCLUSION OF THAT HALLOWED SACRIFICE OFFERED BY THE REDEEMER OF THE WORLD TO PROVIDE A WAY OF SALVATION TO FALLEN MAN. THIS SACRED BOOK *(Prelate shows Bible to Pilgrim Penitent)* INFORMS US THAT OUR BLESSED SAVIOUR, AFTER SUFFERING THE PAINS OF DEATH, DESCENDED INTO THE PLACE OF DEPARTED SPIRITS; THAT ON THE THIRD DAY HE BURST THE BANDS OF DEATH, TRIUMPHED OVER THE GRAVE, AND IN DUE TIME ASCENDED WITH TRANSCENDENT MAJESTY INTO HEAVEN, WHERE HE NOW SITS AT THE RIGHT HAND OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, A MEDIATOR AND INTERCESSOR FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE FAITH IN HIM. I NOW INVEST YOU WITH AN EMBLEM OF THAT FAITH; *(Prelate places Cross around neck of Pilgrim Penitent)*  IT IS ALSO A BADGE OF OUR ORDER, WHICH YOU WILL WEAR AS A CONSTANT MEMORIAL TO STIMULATE YOU TO IMITATE THE VIRTUES OF THE IMMACULATE JESUS, WHO DIED THAT YOU MIGHT LIVE.**

**PILGRIM, THE CEREMONIES IN WHICH YOU ARE NOW ENGAGED ARE INTENDED TO DEEPLY IMPRESS YOUR MIND, AND I TRUST THEY WILL HAVE A HAPPY AND LASTING EFFECT UPON YOUR LIFE AND CHARACTER.**

**YOU WERE FIRST, AS A TRIAL OF YOUR PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE, REQUIRED TO PERFORM SEVEN YEARS OF PILGRIMAGE. IT REPRESENTED THE GREAT PILGRIMAGE OF LIFE THROUGH WHICH YOU ARE NOW PASSING. WE ARE ALL WEARY PILGRIMS, ANXIOUSLY LOOKING FORWARD TO THAT ASYLUM ABOVE, WHERE WE SHALL REST FROM OUR LABORS, AND BE AT PEACE FOREVER.**

**YOU WERE NEXT, AS A TRIAL OF YOUR COURAGE AND CONSTANCY, REQUIRED TO PERFORM FOUR YEARS OF WARFARE. IT WAS TO REMIND YOU OF THAT CONTINUAL WARFARE WITH THE LYING DECEITS AND VANITIES OF THE WORLD, IN WHICH IT IS NECESSARY FOR YOU ALWAYS TO BE ENGAGED.**

**YOU ARE NOW PERFORMING ONE YEAR OF PENANCE, AS A TRIAL OF YOUR HUMILITY. OF THIS OUR BLESSED SAVIOUR HAS LEFT US THE ONLY PERFECT EXAMPLE; WHO, THOUGH HE WAS THE ETERNAL SON OF GOD, HUMBLED HIMSELF TO BE BORN OF A WOMAN, TO ENDURE THE PAINS AND SORROWS INCIDENT TO HUMAN LIFE, AND FINALLY TO SUFFER THE CRUEL AND IGNOMINIOUS DEATH OF THE CROSS. THIS PENANCE IS ALSO A TRIAL OF THAT FAITH WHICH WILL CONDUCT YOU SAFELY THROUGH THE DARK VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH, AND LAND YOUR ENFRANCHISED SPIRIT IN THE PEACEFUL ABODES OF THE BLESSED.**

**PILGRIM, EVER KEEP IN MIND THIS SOLEMN TRUTH; YOU KNOW NOT HOW SOON YOU MAY BE CALLED UPON TO RENDER AN ACCOUNT UNTO THE SUPREME JUDGE, FROM WHOM THE MINUTEST ACT OF YOUR LIFE IS NOT HIDDEN. ALTHOUGH YOU NOW STAND ERECT IN ALL THE PRIDE AND STRENGTH OF MANHOOD, YET IN A FEW BRIEF MOMENTS YOU MAY BE COLD IN DEATH.**

**THIS MOMENT, EVEN WHILE I SPEAK, THE ANGEL OF DEATH MAY RECEIVE THE DREAD MANDATE TO STRIKE YOU FROM THE ROLL OF THE LIVING; AND THE FRIENDS WHO NOW SURROUND YOU BE CALLED UPON TO PERFORM THE LAST SAD DUTY OF LAYING YOU IN THE EARTH, A BANQUET FOR WORMS, AND THIS FRAIL BODY BECOME AS THE RELIC YOU HOLD IN YOUR HAND.**

**"MAN THAT IS BORN OF A WOMAN IS OF FEW DAYS, AND FULL OF TROUBLE. HE COMETH FORTH LIKE A FLOWER, AND IS CUT DOWN: HE FLEETH ALSO AS A SHADOW, AND CONTINUETH NOT. IN THE MIDST OF LIFE WE ARE IN DEATH; OF WHOM MAY WE SEEK FOR SUCCOR BUT OF THEE, O LORD, WHO FOR OUR SINS ART JUSTLY DISPLEASED? YET, O LORD GOD MOST HOLY, O LORD MOST MIGHTY, O HOLY AND MOST MERCIFUL SAVIOUR, DELIVER US NOT INTO THE BITTER PAINS OF ETERNAL DEATH."**

**"AND I HEARD A VOICE FROM HEAVEN SAYING UNTO ME, WRITE, BLESSED ARE THE DEAD WHICH DIE IN THE LORD FROM HENCEFORTH: YEA, SAITH THE SPIRIT, THAT THEY MAY REST FROM THEIR LABOURS; AND THEIR WORKS DO FOLLOW THEM."**

**PILGRIM, BE YOU ALWAYS READY, AND REST ASSURED THAT A FIRM FAITH IN THE TRUTH HEREIN REVEALED, AND A CHILDLIKE TRUST IN OUR CRUCIFIED AND ASCENDED SAVIOUR,**

**WILL NOT ONLY AFFORD YOU CONSOLATION IN THE GLOOMY HOUR OF DISSOLUTION, BUT WILL ALSO SECURE YOU INEFFABLE AND ETERNAL HAPPINESS IN THE WORLD TO COME.**

**FAREWELL! EVER REMEMBER THE HALLOWED SACRIFICE ON CALVARY. *(Wardens recover and step beside Pilgrim Penitent. Prelate returns to Lectern.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**(*Wardens and Pilgrim move slowly along the South to East then along East to the North and along North where Senior Warden says:)* PILGRIM, YOUR YEAR OF PENANCE ENDED, LET US REPAIR TO THE ASYLUM AND HUMBLY CRAVE ADMISSION. *(Warder rises, moves to and opens the door before the Wardens and Pilgrim Penitent reach door, then closes door. After retiring from Asylum, Wardens draw swords, then lead Pilgrim Penitent to door of Asylum. The Asylum door is open, and in it hangs a white lace curtain. Warder takes position about three [3] paces inside of and facing curtain. Warder is kneeling with chin resting on hands on hilt of sword. In Asylum all should be somber, the lights dim. Officers and Knights at the Triangle are kneeling on left knee with chins resting on hands on hilt of swords. Senior Warden will give battery with his heel.)* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \***

**WARDER:**

***(Warder rises, comes to carry swords and goes to curtain, where he stands approximately in the center while facing Pilgrim Penitent.)*  WHO DARES APPROACH OUR ASYLUM AT THIS SOLEMN HOUR OF PRAYER AND MEDITATION?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM PENITENT, WHO, HAVING PERFORMED HIS YEAR OF PENANCE, NOW CRAVES PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIFTH LIBATION, THEREBY TO SEAL HIS FAITH.**

**WARDER:**

**HOW DOES HE EXPECT TO GAIN ADMISSION?**

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**BY THE PILGRIM PENITENT'S WORD.**

**WARDER:**

***(Warder lifts curtain with sword.)* ADVANCE AND COMMUNICATE IT. *(Senior Warden enters, halts, and left faces in front of Warder, taking care to be proper distance away to give cuts. Warder drops curtain, takes one [1] right step and executes left face, facing Senior Warden. After giving cuts and Word, Warder lifts curtain with sword. Senior Warden steps back through curtain to side of Pilgrim Penitent.)* LET THE PILGRIM PENITENT REVERENTLY ENTER, AND APPROACH THE TRIANGLE. *(Wardens and Pilgrim Penitent enter in such a manner as the entrance will permit, three abreast if possible, otherwise in single file then immediately get three abreast, Senior Warden on the right and Junior Warden on the left of Pilgrim Penitent, approaching the Triangle with circling and not wheeling movements. After they enter, Warder drops curtain, returns to his station, returns sword and is seated. Wardens and Pilgrim Penitent should halt about two [2] paces from the base of the Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander kneeling looks up and says:)* SIR KNIGHTS, WHOM HAVE YOU THERE IN CHARGE? *(Commander and knights at Triangle rise and come to carry swords.)***

**SENIOR WARDEN:**

**A PILGRIM PENITENT, WHO, HAVING PERFORMED HIS YEAR OF PENANCE, NOW CRAVES PERMISSION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIFTH LIBATION, THEREBY TO SEAL HIS FAITH. *(Commander returns sword.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**PILGRIM, YOUR YEAR OF PENANCE HAS INDEED ENDED, BUT YOUR NEED OF PENITENCE HAS NOT, NOR CAN IT END UNTIL THIS MORTAL SHALL HAVE PUT ON IMMORTALITY, FOR ALL MEN ERR, AND ERRING NEED REPENTANCE.  *(Wardens return swords.)* PILGRIM, IN GRANTING YOUR REQUEST AND ADMITTING YOU A KNIGHT AMONG US, I CAN OFFER YOU ONLY A ROUGH HABIT, COARSE DIET, AND SEVERE DUTY. IF ON THESE CONDITIONS YOU STILL DESIRE TO ENLIST UNDER OUR BANNER, ADVANCE AND KNEEL AT THE BASE OF THE TRIANGLE.**

***(Wardens remove Skull and Taper from Pilgrim Penitent's hands and give them to the Warder. Wardens assist Pilgrim Penitent to kneel, then stand about one [1] interval to sides of Pilgrim Penitent and one [1] pace from Triangle. Prelate moves from lectern along North to position standing slightly in the rear and North of the Pilgrim Penitent.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General orders quietly.)* SIR KNIGHTS, ORDER, SWORDS, UN-COVER.**

**PRELATE:**

***(Prelate places right hand on left shoulder of Pilgrim Penitent.)* ALMIGHTY, GLORIOUS AND BLESSED GOD: VOUCHSAFE THINE AID TO THIS PILGRIM WHO, KNEELING, IS ABOUT TO ASSUME THE DUTIES OF A TRUE AND FAITHFUL FOLLOWER OF THE CROSS, SANCTIFIED BY THE DEATH OF THY SON. LET THY GRACE DESCEND UPON HIM IN ABUNDANCE. OPEN HIS HEART, THAT THE APPEAL OF THE WIDOW AND ORPHAN MAY NEVER COME TO HIM IN VAIN; MAY HE HOLD HIS SWORD EVER READY TO REDRESS THEIR WRONGS, HIS PURSE TO RELIEVE THEIR WANTS, AND HIS HANDS TO GUIDE THEM OVER THE RUGGED PATHS OF LIFE. AND WHEN HIS ALLOTTED COURSE ON EARTH IS RUN, RECEIVE HIM, OH LORD, INTO THOSE HEAVENLY MANSIONS PREPARED FOR THY FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS FROM THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD. AMEN.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General gives in low tone.)* SIR KNIGHTS, RE-COVER; CARRY, SWORDS. *(Prelate returns to lectern by the same route he approached the Triangle, stepping back and around Junior Warden, he does not pass between Junior Warden and Triangle.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**PILGRIM, WE CANNOT BE TOO OFTEN REMINDED THAT WE ARE BORN TO DIE. THE FIFTH LIBATION IS, THEREFORE, TAKEN IN THE MOST SOLEMN AND IMPRESSIVE MANNER, OF PURE WINE, *(Commander goes along South side of Triangle [between Captain General and Triangle] and touches pitcher or urn of wine)* AND FROM THIS CUP, *(Commander takes up Cup from Relics on Triangle and displays it, [Cup from Relics on Triangle must be used], Commander remains on South side of Triangle)* EMBLEMATIC OF THE BITTER CUP OF DEATH, OF WHICH WE MUST ALL SOONER OR LATER PARTAKE, AND FROM WHICH EVEN THE *(Commander uncovers)* SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD  *(Commander recovers)* WAS NOT EXEMPT. FROM THIS, OR A SIMILAR CUP, HAS EACH KNIGHT TEMPLAR PARTAKEN. *(Using Cup from Relics, Commander pours from pitcher or urn into Cup. After pouring and replacing pitcher, Commander then proceeds to partake. After partaking, Commander may drain Cup into one of goblets on Triangle, cleans cup, then repours into Cup.)* TAKE THIS CUP IN YOUR RIGHT HAND, AND REPEAT AFTER ME. *(Commander returns to apex of Triangle.) (Done.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General softly orders:)* SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS.**

**COMMANDER:**

**THIS PURE WINE I NOW TAKE FROM THIS CUP, TO REMIND ME OF THE MORTALITY OF THE BODY, AND IN TESTIMONY OF MY BELIEF IN THE IMMORTALITY OF THE SOUL; AND MAY THIS LIBATION APPEAR AGAINST ME IN JUDGEMENT, TO CONDEMN ME, SHOULD I EVER KNOWINGLY OR WILFULLY VIOLATE MY VOWS OF KNIGHTHOOD. PARTAKE.**

***(Commander goes along South side of Triangle, takes Cup from Pilgrim Penitent, cleans Cup, replaces it, and returns to apex of Triangle.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

***(Captain General softly orders:)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.**

**COMMANDER:**

**PILGRIM, YOU HAVE SEALED YOUR FAITH, AND BOUND YOURSELF BY A MOST SOLEMN PLEDGE TO BE TRUE TO ALL THE VOWS OF THIS ORDER. YOU HAVE INVOKED A PENALTY UPON YOU AT THE JUDGEMENT, SHOULD YOU BASELY BETRAY THEM.**

**LET THE MEMORY OF THIS SCENE REMAIN WITH YOU AS VIVID AS IT IS THIS MOMENT. AND SHOULD TEMPTATION ASSAIL YOU, SHOULD MISFORTUNE BEFALL YOU, SHOULD ALL THE WORLD SEEM TO FORSAKE YOU, STILL REMAIN FAITHFUL TO YOUR VOWS OF KNIGHTHOOD. BRING NO DISGRACE UPON YOURSELF OR UPON THIS ORDER, NOR REPROACH UPON THE *(Commander uncovers)* NAME OF HIM *(Commander recovers)* UNDER WHOSE BANNER YOU ARE NOW ENLISTED. REMEMBER, MAKE NO PROMISE OR PLEDGE UNDER THE FAITH OF THIS, THE SEALED LIBATION, THAT YOU DO NOT PUNCTUALLY AND SCRUPULOUSLY PERFORM; FOR ANY PROMISE MADE, SECRET REPOSED, OR ENGAGEMENT ENTERED INTO, HAVING REFERENCE TO THIS LIBATION, IS CONSIDERED BY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR MORE SACRED AND BINDING, IF POSSIBLE, THAN ANY OTHER. “*CHARGE.*”**

***(All Knights at Triangle, except Commander, and Wardens execute Charge Swords. Knights turn on left heel, placing the toe square to the left; at the same time plant the right foot forward with a slight shock about eighteen inches, the feet being at right angles, the weight of the body resting on the right foot. At the time of planting the feet extend the arm to its full length, at the height of the shoulder, back of the hand down, the blade in prolongation of the arm, and pointed at the breast of the Pilgrim Penitent who is kneeling.)***

**BEHOLD THE SWORDS OF THESE KNIGHTS POINTED AT YOUR UNPROTECTED BREAST, AS IF READY TO AVENGE ANY WILFUL VIOLATION OF THE VOWS YOU HAVE VOLUNTARILY ASSUMED. *(Commander extends right hand and lifts it upward, and the Knights elevate the points of their swords and form an Arch of Steel above and in front of the head of the Pilgrim Penitent.)* BUT WHILE YOU REMAIN FAITHFUL TO THOSE VOWS WE GIVE YOU THE MYSTIC ASSURANCE OF THIS GLITTERING ARCH OF STEEL, THAT THESE SWORDS WITH THOUSANDS OF OTHERS WILL LEAP *(Commander, Senior Warden and Junior Warden draw swords simultaneously and place points in contact with the other swords)* FROM THEIR SCABBARDS TO DEFEND AND PROTECT YOU. SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS.  *(Commander, Senior and Junior Wardens come to carry swords, then return swords together.)***

**LET US ATTEND TO ANOTHER LESSON FROM THE HOLY EVANGELISTS. SIR KNIGHTS, ORDER, SWORDS, *(Done)* UNCOVER. *(Commander uncovers with Knights and then turns, faces Prelate and says:)*  EXCELLENT PRELATE,  *(Prelate rises and bows, Commander returns bow)* YOU WILL READ THE FOURTH LESSON.**

**PRELATE:**

**AND IN THOSE DAYS PETER STOOD UP IN THE MIDST OF THE DISCIPLES, AND SAID: (THE NUMBER OF THE NAMES TOGETHER WERE ABOUT AN HUNDRED AND TWENTY) MEN AND BRETHREN, THIS SCRIPTURE MUST NEEDS HAVE BEEN FULFILLED, WHICH THE HOLY GHOST BY THE MOUTH OF DAVID SPAKE BEFORE CONCERNING JUDAS, WHICH WAS GUIDE TO THEM THAT TOOK JESUS. FOR HE WAS NUMBERED WITH US, AND HAD OBTAINED PART OF THIS MINISTRY. NOW THIS MAN PURCHASED A FIELD WITH THE REWARD OF INIQUITY; AND FALLING HEADLONG, HE BURST ASUNDER IN THE MIDST, AND ALL HIS BOWELS GUSHED OUT. AND IT WAS KNOWN UNTO ALL THE DWELLERS AT JERUSALEM; INSOMUCH AS THAT FIELD IS CALLED IN THEIR PROPER TONGUE, ACELDAMA, THAT IS TO SAY, THE FIELD OF BLOOD. FOR IT IS WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF PSALMS, LET HIS HABITATION BE DESOLATE, AND LET NO MAN DWELL THEREIN: AND HIS BISHOPRIC LET ANOTHER TAKE. WHEREFORE OF THESE MEN WHICH HAVE COMPANIED WITH US ALL THIS TIME THAT THE LORD JESUS WENT IN AND OUT AMONG US. BEGINNING FROM THE BAPTISM OF JOHN, UNTO THAT SAME DAY THAT HE WAS TAKEN UP FROM US, MUST ONE BE ORDAINED TO BE A WITNESS WITH US OF HIS RESURRECTION. AND THEY APPOINTED TWO, JOSEPH CALLED BARSABAS, WHO WAS SURNAMED JUSTUS, AND MATTHIAS. AND THEY PRAYED, AND SAID, THOU, LORD, WHICH KNOWEST THE HEARTS OF ALL MEN, SHEW WHETHER OF THESE TWO THOU HAST CHOSEN, THAT HE MAY TAKE PART OF THIS MINISTRY AND APOSTLESHIP, FROM WHICH JUDAS BY TRANSGRESSION FELL, THAT HE MIGHT GO TO HIS OWN PLACE. AND THEY GAVE FORTH THEIR LOTS; AND THE LOT FELL UPON MATTHIAS; AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH THE ELEVEN APOSTLES.” (Acts 1: 15-26. KJV) *(Prelate bows to Commander, who returns bow, and then faces West while still uncovered.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, RE-COVER, *(Commander recovers with Knights)* CARRY, SWORDS.**

**GENERALISSIMO:**

***(No salutes exchanged between Generalissimo and Commander. Generalissimo does NOT point at the Pilgrim Penitent with sword or anything else.)* EMINENT COMMANDER, THE EXTINGUISHED TAPER ON THE TRIANGLE REMINDS US OF THE APOSTASY OF JUDAS ISCARIOT, WHEREBY A VACANCY WAS CREATED IN THE NUMBER OF THE APOSTLES. AND NOW, IN IMITATION OF THE ACT OF THE APOSTLES, WHICH HAS BEEN READ, I PROPOSE THAT THE HONOR OF RELIGHTING THAT TAPER BE CONFERRED UPON ONE WHO HAS ENDURED THE TRIALS AND PASSED THROUGH THE CEREMONIES OF THIS ORDER. I RECOMMEND THE PILGRIM AT THE BASE OF THE TRIANGLE.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, YOU HAVE HEARD THE RECOMMENDATION; ALL WHO FAVOR IT WILL PRESENT SWORDS.  *("Present Swords" is not an Order here)* PILGRIM, YOU HAVE BEEN UNANIMOUSLY CHOSEN TO THIS HIGH HONOR. YOU WILL SIGNIFY YOUR ACCEPTANCE BY RELIGHTING THAT TAPER. *(Pilgrim Penitent re-lights taper, Asylum lights are raised.)***

**PRELATE or COMMANDER:**

***(The Prelate shall have previously moved from lectern along North to position standing slightly in the rear and North of the Pilgrim Penitent with right hand on Pilgrim Penitent's left shoulder.)***

***(Commander uncovers, lifts right hand and so remains until Prelate has concluded.)* SO MAY THE LORD LIFT UP THE LIGHT OF HIS COUNTENANCE UPON THEE, GIVE THEE PEACE, AND EVER KEEP THEE FROM FALLING. *(Commander lowers right hand, recovers, executes about face, leaves Triangle and on arriving at his chair in the East, about faces, and takes one [1] step forward to his station as in Opening. Prelate also returns to lectern at the same time.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS, PILGRIM ARISE. *(Wardens assist Pilgrim Penitent to arise.)***

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**COMMANDERY, ATTENTION, SIR KNIGHTS AT THE TRIANGLE, RIGHT AND LEFT FACE, FORWARD, MARCH. *(Generalissimo and Captain General lead line to position three [3] paces apart in lines extending West from in front of their respective stations in the East.)*  SIR KNIGHTS, HALT, *(Captain General halts lines about two [2] paces from stations of Generalissimo and Captain General)* INWARD, FACE.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS SENIOR AND JUNIOR WARDENS, REMOVE THE PILGRIM'S ROBE AND CONDUCT HIM TO THE FOOT OF THE LINES.**

***(Wardens remove Pilgrim Penitent's robe and cross and hand them to the Warder. Wardens and Pilgrim Penitent [Senior Warden on the Right, Junior Warden on the Left, three abreast] circle around right [South side] of Triangle to a position one [1] interval West of foot of lines [not wheeling movements]. Senior and Junior Wardens remain standing beside Pilgrim Penitent.)* PILGRIM, I AM NOW ABOUT TO CONFER UPON YOU THE HIGHEST HONOR IN MY POWER TO BESTOW, SIR KNIGHTS, FORM ARCH OF STEEL, CROSS, SWORDS.  *(All Knights in lines execute Form Arch of Steel. See Manual Page 18, Paragraph 36.)* PILGRIM, KNEEL ON YOUR LEFT KNEE.  *(Done.)* *(Senior and Junior Wardens assist Pilgrim Penitent to kneel, and after he kneels, the Senior and Junior Wardens step into line on each side of Pilgrim Penitent and inward face. The Commander, Senior Warden and Junior Warden draw swords simultaneously without command, then Senior and Junior Wardens execute Form Arch of Steel. Commander with sword drawn and at carry swords, then moves between the lines to halt at a position in front of kneeling Pilgrim Penitent.)* BY VIRTUE OF THE POWER AND AUTHORITY IN ME VESTED AS COMMANDER OF THIS COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, I DUB THEE KNIGHT, *(Commander gives one blow of sword on Pilgrim Penitent's left shoulder, back)* AND CREATE THEE A MEMBER OF THE VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS ORDER OF THE TEMPLE. *(Commander comes to carry sword, returns sword and extends hand to Knight.)* ARISE, SIR KNIGHT \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, *(Christian name only*) *(Knight is raised by Commander and remains standing at place where he was dubbed)* AND WITH THIS HAND RECEIVE A HEARTY WELCOME INTO THE BOSOM OF AN ORDER WHOSE GRAND CHARACTERISTICS ARE UNSULLIED HONOR, UNWEARIED ZEAL IN A BROTHER'S CAUSE, AND UNIVERSAL BENEVOLENCE.**

**CAPTAIN GENERAL:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS; *(Done)* RETURN, SWORDS; *(Done)* TO YOUR POSTS, MARCH. *(Guards move to their seats on side lines, and Captain General and Generalissimo move to their stations, about face, and the Captain General then continues with the order:)*  COMMANDERY, BE SEATED.**

**COMMANDER:**

**WEAR THIS BALDRIC, INSIGNIA OF OUR ORDER. IT BEARS A STAR *(Pointing to it)* IN THE CENTRE OF WHICH IS THE PASSION CROSS, EMBLEM OF THE REWARD WHICH THE GREAT CAPTAIN OF OUR SALVATION HAS PROMISED TO THOSE WHO CONQUER IN HIS NAME; EVEN THE EMBLEM OF HIMSELF, HE BEING THE BRIGHT MORNING STAR, WHOSE RISING BROUGHT HEALTH AND SALVATION TO MANKIND, AND LIGHT TO THOSE WHO SAT IN DARKNESS AND IN THE VALLEY OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH. BEAR THIS EVER IN MIND; AND CONTINUE HIS FAITHFUL SOLDIER UNTO DEATH.**

**I NOW PRESENT YOU THIS SWORD. IN THE HAND OF A VALIANT AND MAGNANIMOUS KNIGHT OF THE TEMPLE, IT IS ENDOWED WITH THREE EXCELLENT QUALITIES; ITS HILT WITH JUSTICE IMPARTIAL, ITS BLADE WITH FORTITUDE UNDAUNTED, AND ITS POINT WITH MERCY UNRESTRAINED. LEARN FROM THESE THIS IMPORTANT LESSON, THAT WHEN YOU DRAW YOUR SWORD, YOU SHOULD BE WELL ASSURED OF THE JUSTICE OF THE CAUSE IN WHICH YOU ARE ENGAGED; BEING THUS ASSURED, PRESS FORWARD WITH FORTITUDE UNDAUNTED TO VICTORY; AND HAVING SUBDUED YOUR ENEMY, REGARD HIM NO LONGER AS YOUR FOE, BUT EXTEND TO HIM THAT GLORIOUS ATTRIBUTE OF DEITY, - MERCY. AS A KNIGHT TEMPLAR, LET YOUR HONOR EVER REMAIN AS UNSULLIED AS THIS GLITTERING BLADE, AND HOLD YOUR SWORD READY TO BE DRAWN IN THE CAUSE TO WHICH YOU HAVE SO SOLEMNLY CONSECRATED IT; HOPING EVER, AND PRAYING ALWAYS FOR THE ADVENT OF THAT GLORIOUS DAY WHEN "THE MOUNTAIN OF THE LORD'S HOUSE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAINS;" WHEN "SWORDS SHALL BE BEATEN INTO PLOWSHARES AND SPEARS INTO PRUNING HOOKS;" WHEN "NATION SHALL NOT LIFT UP SWORD AGAINST NATION, NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANY MORE;" WHEN THE REIGN OF THE BLESSED EMMANUEL, THE PRINCE OF PEACE, THE GREAT CAPTAIN OF OUR SALVATION, SHALL BECOME UNIVERSAL AND ETERNAL.  *(Commander hands sword to the new Knight.)*  CARRY, SWORDS. *(Commander assists the new Knight to come to carry swords. Commander draws sword and comes to carry.)* YOU WILL NOW BE INVESTED WITH THE REMAINING ATTRIBUTES OF THIS ORDER.**

**THE PILGRIM PENITENT'S WORD IS GIVEN WITH FOUR CUTS OF THE SWORD, GUARD, GIVE CUTS - AND UNDER AN ARCH OF STEEL, WHICH OUR SWORDS NOW FORM. ADVANCE YOUR LEFT FOOT AND PLACE IT BESIDE MINE; PLACE YOUR LEFT HAND ON MY RIGHT SHOULDER, AS I PLACE MINE ON YOURS. THE WORD IS G-------, AND THE RESPONSE IS a.p.o.a.s. THE KNIGHT CHALLENGED WILL ALWAYS GIVE THE WORD, AND, IF CORRECT, THE KNIGHT CHALLENGING WILL GIVE THE RESPONSE. GIVE ME THE WORD. *(Done)* I GIVE YOU THE RESPONSE. *(Done.)* CARRY, SWORDS, RETURN, SWORDS. *(Commander returns sword with new Knight.)***

***(Commander and new Knight execute movements as Commander directs. Senior Warden will assist new Knight if needed.)* THE PENAL SIGN IS GIVEN BY EXTENDING THE RIGHT HAND, PALM UP, THEN BRING THE HAND OVER THE RIGHT SHOULDER, PALM DOWN, AND WITH THE EDGE CUT ACROSS THE NECK. NOW RAISE THE HAND, EDGE OUT, FINGERS UP, AND THUMB UNDER THE CHIN. NOW ELEVATE THE HAND TO THE LEVEL OF THE HEAD. DROP HAND TO THE SIDE. THIS REFERS TO THE PENALTY OF YOUR VOW, AND IS THE PROPER SALUTATION TO BE GIVEN ON ENTERING OR LEAVING THE ASYLUM OF A COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR.**

**THE GRAND SIGN IS GIVEN BY CROSSING THE RIGHT FOOT OVER THE LEFT, THE RIGHT ARM EXTENDED TO THE RIGHT, AND SLIGHTLY ELEVATED, THE LEFT ARM EXTENDED TO THE LEFT, AND SLIGHTLY DEPRESSED, HEAD SLIGHTLY INCLINED TO THE RIGHT. IN THIS POSITION SAY "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES," - IN THIS SIGN YOU WILL CONQUER. THIS SIGN REFERS TO THE POSITION OF OUR SAVIOUR ON THE CROSS.**

**THE GRIP AND IMMACULATE WORD ARE GIVEN WHILE KNEELING, *(Commander and new Knight kneel facing each other)* AND UNCOVERED, *(Commander un-covers and places his Chapeau parallel with his right foot)* FINGERS INTERLACED AND ARMS CROSSED. *(Commander crosses his arms.)***

**AS OUR FINGERS ARE THUS STRONGLY INTERLACED, SO SHOULD THE HEARTS OF ALL KNIGHTS TEMPLAR BE FIRMLY UNITED IN THE BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND BROTHERLY LOVE. WHEN MY ARMS ARE CROSSED I WILL BE IN POSITION TO GIVE YOU THE IMMACULATE WORD. WHEN YOURS ARE CROSSED  *(Commander crosses new Knight's arms)*  YOU WILL BE IN POSITION TO GIVE IT TO ME, AND ON YOUR DOING SO  *(Commander crosses his own arms)*  I WILL GIVE YOU THE RESPONSE.**

**OVER THIS SYMBOL OF OUR FAITH I COMMUNICATE THE WORD, WHICH IS E-----L. *(Commander crosses new Knight's arms)* REPEAT IT. *(Done.)***

***(Commander crosses his own arms.)* THE RESPONSE IS G.W.U. *(Commander and new Knight drop arms to side. Commander recovers.)* ARISE. *(Commander takes one [1] step to right, draws sword and comes to carry sword.)***

**SIR KNIGHT STANDARD BEARER, *(Standard Bearer rises, draws sword, comes to carry swords and salutes Commander with sword. Commander returns salute with sword.)* DISPLAY THE STANDARD. *(Standard Bearer will go by the most convenient route to North of Standard, face South [facing Standard], and hold Standard with left hand while remaining at carry swords.)***

**SIR KNIGHT, FACE ABOUT AND BEHOLD THE STANDARD OF THIS ORDER.  *(When the new Knight faces West, the Commander takes a position on the right of the new Knight.)***

**THE GRAND STANDARD IS WHITE. IN THE CENTER OF THE FIELD IS A BLOOD RED PASSION CROSS, OVER WHICH IS THE MOTTO OF THIS ORDER, IN HOC SIGNO VINCES. UNDER IT IS NON NOBIS, DOMINE, NON NOBIS: SED NOMINI TUO DA GLORIUM. MAY WE SO FAITHFULLY SERVE THE MASTER, THAT HAVING PASSED THROUGH THE PORTALS OF THE GRAVE WE MAY RECEIVE FROM HIS HAND THE CROWN OF VICTORY, WHILE WE EXCLAIM: -"NOT UNTO US, O LORD, NOT UNTO US, BUT UNTO THY NAME GIVE GLORY." *(The Standard Bearer goes by the most convenient route to position on North of the Beauceant, facing South [facing Beauceant].)* THE BEAUCEANT *(Standard Bearer displays the Beauceant by lifting it without removing staff from stand)* WAS THE BATTLE FLAG OF THE ANCIENT TEMPLARS. IT IS HALF WHITE AND HALF BLACK; SIGNIFYING THAT THOSE CHRISTIAN WARRIORS WERE FAIR AND FAVORABLE TO THE FRIENDS OF CHRIST, BUT DARK AND TERRIBLE TO HIS ENEMIES. WE BEAR THIS BANNER IN MEMORY OF OUR ANCIENT COMPANIONS, AND AS AN INCENTIVE TO EMULATE THEIR SELF-SACRIFICE AND DEVOTION. *(Standard Bearer goes directly to his station, returns sword and is seated without command.)***

**SIR KNIGHTS, ATTENTION. *(Done.)* DRAW, SWORDS. *(Done)*  STANDARD GUARD, DISPLAY THE UNITED STATES FLAG.**

**SWORD BEARER:**

**STANDARD GUARD, ON CENTER, DRESS, FRONT; LEFT WHEEL, MARCH; RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; STANDARD GUARD, HALT.  *(The Sword Bearer halts Standard Guard three [3] paces from the Flag.)* SALUTE SWORDS. *(All three execute salute.)*  CARRY SWORDS. *(Standard Bearer returns his sword, advances three [3] paces to Flag, lifts Flag from standard and takes six [6] fifteen-inch back steps, backing into a position between and in line with the Sword Bearer and Warder. When Flag is on dais, the Standard Bearer may take additional steps on dais necessary to lift or return Flag.)***

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT SWORDS. *(Commander executes salute swords and also quietly directs the new Knight to present swords. Standard Guard does not execute present swords.)***

**SWORD BEARER:**

**STANDARD GUARD, RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; *(Standard Guard marches along East of Asylum toward the South)* RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; *(Marches along South toward West to a point at which they can execute two [2] right wheels to halt at a position three [3] paces West of Triangle facing East)* RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; STANDARD GUARD, HALT.**

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander then comes to carry swords.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS. *(Commander quietly directs new Knight to come to carry swords.)***

**SIR KNIGHT, IN CONCLUDING THE CEREMONY OF YOUR KNIGHTING, WE DIRECT YOUR ATTENTION TO THE FLAG OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY. IT IS ALWAYS DISPLAYED IN THE EAST OF EVERY TEMPLAR ASYLUM WHERE IT IS ACCORDED THE POSITION OF HIGHEST HONOR. IT IS A CONSTANT INSPIRATION TO EVERY LOVER OF HIS COUNTRY, TO EVERY TRUE KNIGHT OF THE CROSS. IT DEMANDS UNSWERVING LOYALTY AND WHOLE HEARTED DEVOTION TO THE PRINCIPLES OF WHICH IT IS THE GLORIOUS REPRESENTATIVE. IT IS THE MAJESTIC SYMBOL OF FREEDOM UNDER CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT. BENEATH ITS PROTECTING FOLDS LIBERTY, EQUALITY, AND FRATERNITY HAVE BECOME THE HERITAGE OF EVERY CITIZEN, WHILE THE OPPRESSED OF MANY NATIONS HAVE FOUND PEACE AND HAPPINESS IN THE LAND OVER WHICH IT FLOATS. THE FLAGS OF MIGHTY EMPIRES HAVE COME AND GONE, BUT THE STARS AND STRIPES REMAIN. ALONE OF ALL FLAGS IT EXPRESSES THE SOVEREIGNTY OF THE PEOPLE WHICH ENDURES WHEN ALL ELSE PASSES AWAY. SPEAKING WITH THEIR VOICE IT HAS THE SANCTITY OF REVELATION. HE WHO LIVES UNDER IT AND IS LOYAL TO IT, IS LOYAL TO TRUTH AND JUSTICE EVERYWHERE. SO LONG AS IT FLIES, GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE SHALL NOT PERISH FROM THE EARTH.**

**COMMANDER**

**STANDARD GUARD, RETURN THE FLAG TO ITS STATION IN THE EAST. SIR KNIGHTS, PRESENT, SWORDS.  *(Commander executes salute swords and quietly directs new Knight to present swords.)***

**SWORD BEARER:**

**STANDARD GUARD, LEFT WHEEL, MARCH; RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; *(Standard Guard leaves the Triangle by wheeling and marching North, then wheeling and marching to the East)*  STANDARD GUARD, HALT. *(Standard Guard halts at a point three [3] paces from the position of the Flag in the East or dais. Standard Bearer takes three [3] steps forward, replaces Flag, then takes six [6] fifteen-inch back steps, backing into position between and in line with the Sword Bearer and Warder, and draws his sword.)* STANDARD GUARD, PRESENT, SWORDS.**

**COMMANDER:**

***(Commander comes to carry swords.)* SIR KNIGHTS, CARRY, SWORDS. *(All Sir Knights come to carry swords including Standard Guard.)***

**SWORD BEARER:**

***(Standard Guard returns to West.)* STANDARD GUARD, RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; *(Standard Guard moves along East of Asylum to South)*  RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; *(Then along South to West to point at which they can execute two [2] right wheels to halt about two [2] paces in front of the line of their stations)* RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; RIGHT WHEEL, MARCH; STANDARD GUARD, HALT.**

**COMMANDER:**

**SIR KNIGHTS, RETURN, SWORDS; *(Commander returns sword with other Knights)* COMMANDERY, BE SEATED. *(Standard Guard about faces [facing West], marches two [2] paces to their stations, about faces [facing East], and are seated. Commander escorts new Knight to seat on side lines; then goes to his chair, about faces and is seated.)***

***GENERAL RULES***

***1. Where the size, shape and/or formation of the asylum does not permit proper length of step, movements and distances, they should conform as nearly as possible to the specifications in this manual.***

***2. The UNITED STATES FLAG will always be displayed in the East, on the right of the Commander, and the base of the flag staff on a level with the Commander's station.***

***3. The STANDARD and the BEAUCEANT will always be displayed in the West, the STANDARD immediately in rear of the Sword Bearer and the BEAUCEANT in rear of the Warder.***

***4. Officers' stations are six to ten inches in front of the chair assigned to that station; except that the Commander's station is six to ten inches in front of the chair assigned to that station and one (1) step forward toward the West.***

***5. The station of the Commander is in the center, at the East end of the asylum, facing West. The stations of the Generalissimo and Captain General are three paces apart, equidistant on the right and left of the Commander, facing West.***

***6. The stations of the Standard Guard are in the West, directly opposite the three stations in the East and facing West.***

***7. An officer, when seated at his station, on being addressed by a superior or senior officer, rises, comes to attention facing to the front of his station, draws his sword, and at carry swords faces the officer who addressed him. He then executes salute swords. The Prelate when addressed rises in his station, faces the superior officer and bows. The superior officer answers with a hand salute if his sword is not drawn; when superior officer's sword is drawn, he executes salute swords, and both immediately resume carry swords together.***

***8. A superior officer always acknowledges the salute of a junior officer with sword salute when drawn, otherwise by hand.***

***9 If seated, an officer does not arise when addressed by a junior in rank.***

***10. When salutes are exchanged, the junior officer salutes first, but both officers execute the last movements of salute together.***

***11. The salute should follow the address.***

***12. After the salutes are exchanged, no further salute should be made until new work or business demands it.***

***13. When two or more officers give similar commands or execute like movements, they should do so in chronological order of rank (senior first).***

***14. When an officer addresses another, sufficient time should be allowed for the proper exchange of salutes before a command is given or a report made.***

***15. Officers are cautioned, when giving commands, to allow sufficient interval between the preparatory command and the command of execution. An officer with sword drawn will give all commands from the position of "Carry Swords" unless otherwise provided.***

***16. In all movements, unless otherwise provided, an officer or Sir Knight steps off on the left foot (Page 7, Paragraph 6) and marches to the point designated by the shortest and most direct line and not by right angles.***

***17. Sir Knights in the lines when kneeling will always advance the right foot, the left foot maintaining the position of the lines. Rise by bringing the right foot back on line with left foot.***

***18. Sir Knights at the Triangle and the Triangle Guard when kneeling will always step back with the left foot, the right foot maintaining the position of the Triangle. Rise by bringing left foot up on line with right foot.***

***19. During the Opening and Closing ceremonies, each officer will maintain a position of readiness (do not slouch down in chair, cross legs, converse with members, smoke and . . . etc.). When called up, he will place his left foot 6 to 10 inches in advance of his right foot, rise, and bring the right foot up on line with and beside the left foot, standing at attention.***

***20. Distances from Generalissimo and Captain General stations, and from the U.S. Flag in the Opening ceremony and the Order of the Temple, are measured from bottom edge of lower step of dais, when there is a dais. If no dais, then from stations of Generalissimo and Captain General and position of U.S. Flag.***

***21. Officers, in exchanging salutes, whether with sword or hand, will always complete the last movements together.***

***22. In rendering honors to our National Flag, either in preparation for the Pledge of Allegiance or during the Flag Ceremony following the remaining attributes, Sir Knights will respond to the orders of the Commander as follows:***

***1. At the command, "DRAW SWORDS": All Knights armed with sword will comply.***

***(Page 11, Paragraph 19)***

***2. At the command, "PRESENT SWORDS":***

***a. Knights with swords drawn will Present Swords. (Page 13, Paragraph 20)***

***b. Knights in Templar uniform without swords will Hand Salute. (Page 7, Paragraph 5)***

***c. Knights in fatigue uniform or in civilian clothes will also Hand Salute. (Page 7, Paragraph 5)***

***d. The Prelate, if in robe, will place his hand over his heart.***

***3. At the command, "CARRY SWORDS":***

***a. Knights standing at Present will execute Carry Swords. (Page 13, Paragraph 21)***

***b. Knights standing at Hand Salute will drop the arm smartly to the side. (Page 7, Paragraph 5)***

***c. The Prelate, if in robe, will drop hand to the side.***

**DISPLAY OF HOLY BIBLE**

***(From "Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America" as enacted in 1934, with subsequent amendments through 1985, 1987 edition, Page 112. The voters approved an amendment to the first paragraph of the Standing Resolution passed on this subject in 1967. It reads as follows:)***

***The* HOLY BIBLE *shall be displayed at all conclaves of the grand encampment, the grand commanderies and all constituent and subordinate commanderies, on a stand, pedestal, or small altar in front of the prelate's station on the floor of the asylum, to the left (south) of the UNITED STATES FLAG; it shall be placed with the top to the east, opened to the Gospel of St. Matthew, Chapter XXVIII, with a small wooden passion cross displayed on the right and square and compasses displayed on the left thereon. Two crossed swords may also be displayed thereon.***

***It is to be opened by the grand prelate or prelate, immediately after the conclave is declared convened or opened; and closed by the grand prelate or prelate when the conclave is declared adjourned or closed.***

***The altar shall be covered with a black or white cloth cover; on the front of which a red passion cross may be embroidered.***