

# Book of Ceremonies



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**Grand Lodge Free & Accepted Masons of Wisconsin**

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# INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF GRAND LODGE OFFICERS

*(Adaptation by Craig S. Campbell, 07-08-2006)*

**NOTE:** *Public Opening should begin on time. All Installing Officers should be in their stations, all to be installed should be in the chairs as pictured in figure 1. All officers will wear aprons -- collars are received during ceremony. Nametags worn only after installation. Officer ladies will occupy officer stations until placing collar, then go to place on sideline. AA's, DL's, and DC's should sit together on sideline. 3-4 people should be designated to remove chairs as officers are installed.*

**WM** – “Brethren and guests, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the (#) Installation Ceremony of the Officers of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin.

I am <NAME> , Worshipful Master of <NAME> Lodge in <CITY/TOWN> Wisconsin and I have the privilege of presiding over the public opening of this wonderful ceremony. Joining me in this opening are:  
<NAME> as Senior Warden *(rise, pause, and sit)*  
<NAME> as Junior Warden *(rise, pause, and sit)*  
<NAME> as Chaplain” *(rise, pause, and sit)*

**== OPTIONAL: ==**

**WM** – I am pleased to introduce the State of Wisconsin Officers of the International Order of DeMolay who will present the Holy Bible, School Books, and Flag.

**SMC** – “Friends, the Order of DeMolay was founded by Freemason Frank Land and bands together young men between the ages of 12 and 21 for mutual improvement, to help each other live clean, manly, upright, patriotic lives which will be a credit to our parents and friends, and which will merit the commendation of all good men.

In our meetings we inculcate principles which are in harmony with this exalted purpose and in our daily lives we seek to carry them into effect. We are pleased to take part in this Installation Ceremony to give you this brief look at our noble order.”

I am <NAME> as State Master Councilor, and I am joined by <NAME>, as Deputy Master Councilor, <NAME> as State Senior Deacon, and <NAME> as State Marshall.

**SMC** – “Brother Deputy Master Councilor, you will place the Holy Bible on the Altar.”

**SDMC** – *(Proceeds to Altar, places Bible in center)*

**SMC** – “We place the Holy Bible, the foundation of our faith in everlasting days, upon the Altar as a symbol of the Religious Liberty that is the birthright of all people. Upon that Altar it is not the emblem of any creed or the repository of any system of theology, but the word of the one living and true God, whose universal Fatherhood teaches the inescapable lesson of the brotherhood of all His sons. Without the opportunity to worship God

according to the dictates of our own consciences, our freedom would be a mockery. Therefore, as the foundation of all our liberties, we place the word of God upon our Altar.”

**SMC** – “Brother Marshall, you will place the Schoolbooks on the Altar.”

**SM** – *(Proceeds to Altar, places Schoolbooks on Northeast corner.)*

**SMC** – “We place the Schoolbooks on the Altar as a symbol of Intellectual Liberty without which there could be neither civil nor religious freedom.

They are particularly emblematic of the great public school system of our country, the foundation of that universal enlightenment that is the crowning glory of our institutions. Devoted championship of our public schools is a cardinal teaching of the Order of DeMolay. We are unalterably opposed to the same building housing a school, a church and a seat of civil government. Civil, religious and intellectual liberty are the three sources of our country’s greatness, but they must stand alone, upon separate foundations and under separate roofs. ‘These books, representative of those being carried to and from the public schools by millions of boys and girls each day, are just as vital symbols of our liberties as the Holy Bible, which is the rule and guide of our faith, or the flag which protects the church, the school and the seat of civil power. We, therefore, place these books upon the Altar and I solemnly enjoin you ever to stand unswervingly for the protection and perpetuity of the free public schools, the citadel of our safety and the source of the only real freedom possible in a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

**SMC** – Brother Senior Deacon, you will present the Flag of the United States of America. ( \* \* \* )

**SSD** – *(Proceeds to Altar, halting at Altar, facing east.)*

**SMC** - “We present the flag at the Altar as a symbol of civil liberty, without which there could be no religious freedom. It is especially appropriate that this flag should be committed to the custody of these young men, so soon to become the citizens by whose patriotism its honor must be defended, whether on the fields of battle or on the perpetual battlefields where good citizenship wages war with bad.

In all the crises of the nation’s history, we have called upon our young manhood and thank God they have never failed to respond. Young men have fought every war our country has ever waged and the red upon that glorious banner is dyed a richer hue with the precious blood the nation’s youth has shed. We, therefore, present it at our Altar as a sentinel to guard us while we worship and study, and I solemnly enjoin you ever to live worthy of the sacrifices made to maintain the liberties it represents.”

“Please join us in singing our National Anthem.” *(Done.)*

**SSD** – *(Proceeds to east, placing flag at the dais.)*

**SMC** – “Please join me in Pledging Allegiance to our Flag.” *(Done.)* ( \* )

State DeMolay Officers take seats on sidelines.

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*(If NOT done by DeMolay:)* **WM** – “The Bible will be presented by <NAME>”

*(Done.)*

*(If NOT done by DeMolay:)* ( \* \* \* ) **WM** – “Please join me in Pledging Allegiance to our Flag”

**WM** – “Masons have long held that knowledge is attained by degrees and that wisdom results from contemplation. Let us take a moment, then, and

reflect on what Masonry teaches and expects: temperate behavior, circumspect speech, just reasoning, soothing words, comforting assistance, honorable actions, equitable justice, fidelity, honesty, and honor. No institution was ever raised on better principles or a more solid foundation; nor were ever more excellent tenets and useful maxims laid down than are inculcated in the Masonic degrees. For these and many other reasons, one can generally always tell a Mason by his character. Let us then apply ourselves with zeal to the practice of the excellent principles inculcated in Masonry and cultivate the great moral virtues that are laid down on our Masonic trestleboard, the Holy Writings, and strive to improve in everything that is good, amiable, and useful.

**WM** – Brother Junior Warden, you will display the three burning tapers.

**JW** – *(Proceeds to light candles in normal manner, saying...)*

“Every lodge has three lights, situated in the East, West and South; none in the North. Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity...”

**WM** – Brother Senior Warden, you will display the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses.

**SW** – *(Proceeds to altar, kneels and as he slowly opens the Bible, says...)*

“The Bible is dedicated to God, it being the inestimable gift of God to Man.

*(Placing the Square, says...)*

“The Square is dedicated to the Master, it being the proper emblem of his office and should continually remind him of the duty he owes to the Lodge over which he is elected to preside.

*(Placing the Compasses, says...)*

“The Compasses is dedicated to the Craft, for by a due attention to its use, we are taught to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds with all mankind.”

**WM** – “As is taught in the first degree of Masonry, upon embarking on any important undertaking, we invoke the blessing of Deity. Brother Chaplain, please lead us in prayer.” (\* \* \*)

**Chaplain:** *(Does NOT go to altar)* –

“Supreme Architect of the Universe, in Thy name we have assembled and in Thy name we desire to proceed in all our doings. Grant that the sublime principles of Freemasonry may so subdue every discordant passion within us; so harmonize and enrich our hearts with Thine own love and goodness that the Lodge at this time may humbly reflect that beauty and order which reign forever before Thy throne. Amen.”

**WM** – ( \* )

“Brethren and guests, it is my privilege to introduce you to the men who will conduct the Installation of officers for this evening: *(rise when introduced)*

Installing Grand Master, P.G.M. <NAME>

Installing Grand Marshal, P.G.M <NAME>

Installing Grand Chaplain, P.G.M. <NAME>

Brother Installing Grand Master, it is a pleasure to have you preside over this installation and I have the honor of presenting you the gavel.”

**IGM** – “Thank you WM. Let’s give the officers *(if used: and the DeMolay)* a round of applause for such a fine job opening the Lodge for this Installation.”



**IGM** – “The officers *(AA’s through GM)* who now declare themselves ready for installation will rise.” ( \*\* )

**IGM** – “Each officer will place his right hand over his heart, and all speaking in unison, say ‘I’, pronounce your name, and repeat after me.”

**“Promise upon my honor as a Mason /  
that I will to the best of my ability /  
conform to and abide by the ancient landmarks, /  
regulations and usages of Freemasonry, /  
the constitution and edicts /  
of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, /  
and will faithfully perform the duties of the office /  
for which I have been selected.”**

**IGM** – “My brethren, I congratulate each of you on having been elected or appointed to the exalted station which you are about to occupy.

Each station involves great responsibility and requires that you be installed with solemn sanction.

You are now on the threshold of a great and important undertaking, so let us conform to our Masonic teachings and bow our heads while our Installing Grand Chaplain invokes the blessing of Deity.”

( \* \* \* )

*(Installing Grand Chaplain proceeds to Altar, kneels, and offers prayer ...)*

**IGC** – “Oh Thou most holy all-wise Grand Architect of the Universe, our Heavenly Father, we, Thy children, rejoice that Thou hast made it our privilege to address Thee. As we were taught in the days of our apprenticeship to seek Thy guidance in all our undertakings, so now we come to Thee for wisdom and direction. We beseech Thee, Oh Father, let Thy blessing be upon us in those services, and upon the craft everywhere. Let Thy divine favor be upon him who will lead, and grant unto him the wisdom and strength which he needs to enable him properly to discharge the important duties which will devolve upon him as the head of our institution in this jurisdiction; enable him to so govern as to promote the best interest of the craft, and to honor and glorify Thy holy name. Bless those who are to be associated with him in office, and help them to so order their lives that they also may bring honor to the Fraternity. As when we first stood upon the threshold of the Lodge, we declared our trust in Thee, so now, do we continue to trust and look to Thee for divine guidance. Be our friend and helper in every hour of need, and when our earthly pilgrimage is ended, take us to that haven of rest where we shall be enabled to behold Thy glory and be with Thee forever. AMEN.”

**All** – “So Mote It Be.”

**IGM** - ( \* ) (*IGC returns to place and is seated.*)

### **AREA ADMINISTRATORS**

**IGM** – “Would the Area Administrators please rise.”

“My Brothers, you have been appointed to serve the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin as Area Administrator of your respective areas within your

districts. Your appointment is for the current Grand Lodge year only and does not necessarily imply automatic re-appointment by succeeding Grand Masters.

You are to officially visit each lodge in your area at least once during the year and report each visit in a prompt manner to your District Deputy.

Become conversant in the Masonic Code and the proceedings of the Grand Lodge. Remember, however, it is not your place or duty to make official decisions in or for lodges. Your answers should be in an advisory capacity only.

Serve as an ambassador of goodwill between the lodges in your area and within your district.

Assist and advise the District Deputy in the performance of his duties. Finally, promote the programs and events of the Grand Lodge within your lodges.”

“You may be seated.”

### **DISTRICT LECTURERS**

**IGM** – “Would the District Lecturers please rise.”

“My Brothers, you will be responsible for the proficiency of the esoteric work in all lodges of your District. For this purpose you shall conduct a School of Instruction in every lodge in your District at least once, providing a report of each to the Grand Lecturer.

Promote a desire among your lodges to attain proficiency in our ritual and encourage all to strive to earn a ritualist or proficiency card. It is your responsibility to annually certify all proficiency men and degree teams in your district.

You shall be responsive to the Grand Lecturer and give additional instructions to any lodges under such terms as the Grand Master may direct.”

“You may be seated.”

### **DISTRICT CHAPLAINS**

**IGM** – “Would the District Chaplains please rise.”

“My Brothers, Freemasonry is a practice of religious concepts, and your responsibility is to see that the membership and the practicing clergy in your district understand this. You are to meet with clergy members throughout the District, dispensing knowledge and promoting a favorable opinion toward the craft.

You are to strive to place a practicing clergy member as the Chaplain in each of your respective lodges, and to assist them in executing those solemn services in paying tribute to our departed brethren.

You shall be responsive to the Grand Chaplain, providing him prompt reports of your activities.”

“You may be seated.”

### **TRUSTEES**

**IGM** – “Will the Grand Trustee(s) to be installed please approach the Altar.”

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Grand Trustee(s) for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of GT)* – “I have the pleasure to present brother(s) <NAME/S>, who has (have) been elected Grand Trustee(s) for the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin.”

**IGM** – “My brother(s), you have been elected by the brothers of this Grand Lodge to serve in the important capacity of Grand Trustee. The specific duties which govern and control your responsibilities and activities are clearly spelled out in the Masonic Code and Statutes of the State of Wisconsin. Become familiar with these regulations.

Accurate and regular reports reflecting your meetings, decisions and recommendations are to be submitted to the Grand Lodge for distribution. The status and financial growth of the Grand Lodge, in many ways, is directly influenced by your dedicated efforts and cooperative relationship with your fellow trustees.”

“You may take your seat(s).”

### **DISTRICT DEPUTIES**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the District Deputies for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of DD1)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each)*, *(each rises as name is announced)* who have been appointed as Deputies for Districts one through twelve, respectively.”

**IGM** – “My brothers, you have been appointed to serve the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin as Deputies of your respective Districts.

As a District Deputy it shall be your duty to perform such services and duties as may be assigned to you by the Grand Master. You shall coordinate the activities of the Area Administrators in your district, work with the lodges to enhance their communications and to continue to improve their value to their communities.

You are the Grand Lodge liaison with your district, and whatever takes place in your district should take place with your knowledge.

As District Deputy, you shall meet with each lodge in your district during the course of the year and forward a report of those visits to the Deputy Grand Master.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their places.”  
*(Done)*

### **GRAND TILER, GRAND ORATOR, GRAND MARSHAL**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Grand Tiler, Grand Orator, and Grand Marshal for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of GTI)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers <NAMES> who have been appointed Grand Tiler, Grand Orator, and Grand Marshal, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Grand Tiler, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)*: Care and watchfulness are indispensably requisite in the duties of your office. In all cases, unless thoroughly satisfied with the character and identity of those seeking admission, let your doubts prevail. Ours is a sanctuary entrusted to you to faithfully and vigilantly guard. Irreparable injury might result from a negligent or careless discharge of your duty.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Grand Orator, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)*: Your reputation as a wise and discreet individual has qualified you for this position of distinction. Your duties, under the direction of the Grand Master, include but are not limited to, providing a positive voice for Freemasonry throughout our state. The message you put forth will directly reflect upon the character of our Fraternity. You enter upon the discharge of those duties with the assurance of the confidence and respect of your brethren.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Grand Marshal, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)*: Your duties require energy, activity, and quickness of perception. It is your province to arrange for all processions of the Grand Lodge, both public and private; to present the working tools of the craft during Cornerstone Ceremonies; to introduce and escort visitors and guests, and to execute the orders of your superiors.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their places.”  
*(Done)*

### **JUNIOR AND SENIOR GRAND STEWARDS**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Junior and Senior Grand Stewards for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of JGS)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each), (each rises as name is announced)* who have been appointed Junior and Senior Grand Stewards, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Junior Grand Steward, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* and Worshipful Senior Grand Steward, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)*, it is your duty to superintend the tables during the hours of refreshment. It is therefore indispensably necessary that you yourselves be temperate and discreet in the indulgence of your own inclinations, carefully observing that none of the craft transgress the due bounds of moderation in the enjoyment of their pleasures.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*



“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their stations.”

*(Done)*

### **JUNIOR AND SENIOR GRAND DEACONS**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Junior and Senior Grand Deacons for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of JGD)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each)*, *(each rises as name is announced)* who have been appointed Junior and Senior Grand Deacons, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Junior Grand Deacon, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* and Worshipful Senior Grand Deacon, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* your duties are to serve as messengers for the Grand Officers and to be useful assistants in the operations of our craft and to the Grand Master, taking part in our ceremonies, and to introduce and escort visitors and guests. Precision in your work is mandatory.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their stations.”

*(Done)*

### **GRAND LECTURER AND GRAND CHAPLAIN**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Grand Lecturer and Grand Chaplain for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of GL)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each)*, *(each rises as name is announced)* who have been appointed Grand Lecturer and Grand Chaplain, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Grand Lecturer, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* yours is an important office in the Fraternity. You are the preceptor of the ritual and your own deportment should be such as to give dignity and understanding to our work.

You should be proficient in the esoteric ritual as it is the language you are called upon to teach.

Your work with and through the District Lecturers will provide uniformity, perpetuity, character and impressiveness in our ceremonies.

The Pure Work we trust to your care.”

**IGM** – “Worshipful Grand Chaplain, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* you will be required to lead the worship services at Grand Lodge staff meetings and our devotions at our Annual Communication, public functions, and other special ceremonies when called upon.

You are to provide the spiritual leadership for the Districts across the state, constantly striving to educate the craft and the clergy regarding the nobility

and high ideals inculcated in our craft, establishing the understanding that it is a faith-based organization based on religious concepts, and is consistent and complimentary with all faiths who hold the Supreme Architect of the Universe as the Father of us all.

The services you perform will vitally influence the spirit of universal tolerance that distinguishes our institution. The Holy Writings we trust to your care.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their stations.”  
*(Done)*

### **GRAND SECRETARY AND GRAND TREASURER**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of GSec)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each), (each rises as name is announced)* who have been elected Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Right Worshipful Grand Secretary, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* the duties devolving upon your station are more onerous and varied than those of any other office of this Grand Body.

Your position brings you immediately in connection with the whole body of the Fraternity in this State and in constant correspondence with your Masonic brethren throughout the world.

You should possess ability, skill and industry to meet the demands upon you. On you devolve, in a large degree, the good name and credit of the Masons of Wisconsin.

Your capability for the prompt and faithful execution of this trust has no doubt induced your brethren to elect you to this important office. Let your carriage and behavior be marked by the promptitude and discretion that will at once reflect credit on yourself and honor of the body you represent.”

**IGM** – “Right Worshipful Grand Treasurer, (*says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name*) the jewel of your office is the crossed keys. The keys have a two-fold significance; they are instruments to bind, as well as to loose; to make fast as well as to open. Use them as the constitution, laws, rules and regulations of the Grand Lodge direct, and demonstrate to the brethren that their confidence in you is warranted.

Accurate recording of all receipts and disbursements is your responsibility, and you are to make a monthly report on the financial condition of the Grand Lodge and assist the executive officers in producing the annual budget.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their stations.”  
*(Done)*

### **JUNIOR AND SENIOR GRAND WARDENS**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Junior and Senior Grand Wardens for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of JGW)* – “I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names each), (each rises as name is announced)* who have been elected Junior Grand Warden and Senior Grand Warden, respectively.”

**IGM** – “Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* having confidence in your zeal and fidelity, your brethren have elected you to the important position of Junior Grand Warden. Your jewel is the Plumb, and it is a most valuable tool.

The Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, to hold the scale of justice in equal balance, to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty.

In this position, you stand at the precipice of stepping into the governance of the craft. To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment.

Also, you shall act as liaison between the Grand Lodge and any related youth groups and shall make a report to the delegates at the Annual Communication regarding your activities.”

**IGM** – “Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* your fitness for the discharge of your brother’s trust undoubtedly led to your election, and it will be your duty so to act in such a manner as to justify their confidence.

Your jewel is the Level, which reminds us that we are to seek the common ground, and is used to illustrate the compromises necessary to work together and to agree; and, though distinctions among men are necessary, yet no high station should make us forget that we are brethren.

The responsible duties devolving upon you require circumspection, vigilance and caution. In the presence of the Grand Master and his Deputy you are to strengthen and support their efforts, but pay close attention to the charges delivered to them because in their absence, you will be summoned to lead the Fraternity.”

“Having already received your aprons, your ladies will now come forward and invest you with your jewels and collars.” *(Done) (After placing collars, ladies go to place on sideline.)*

“Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct these officers to their stations.”

*(Done)*

### **DEPUTY GRAND MASTER**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Deputy Grand Master for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of DGM)* – “I have the pleasure to present brother *(names him)*, *(rises as name is announced)* who has been elected Deputy Grand Master.”

**IGM** – “Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* the station to which you have been elected by the suffrages of your brethren is one of great dignity and importance.

The honor that has been conferred upon you demands a corresponding fidelity and attachment to the interest of those to whose kindness and confidence you are indebted for this elevation.

Be an attentive observer of the charges levied on the Grand Master, for you understand that in case of his incapacity to act, you succeed to his duties and prerogatives.

Treasure up, therefore, the suggestions made to him, as they may have a personal application to you.”

“Having already received your apron, your lady will now come forward and invest you with your collar.” *(Done) (After placing collar, lady goes to place on sideline.)*

Installing Grand Marshal, please conduct the Deputy Grand Master to his station.” *(Done)*

### **GRAND MASTER**

**IGM** – “Installing Grand Marshal, please introduce the Grand Master for Installation.”

**IGMar** – *(moves to side of GM)* – “I have the pleasure to present brother *(names him)*, *(rises as name is announced)* who has been elected Grand Master of Masons in Wisconsin.”

**IGM** – “Most Worshipful Grand Master, *(says name – First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name)* I sincerely congratulate you on having been elected by the free choice of your brethren to the exalted station in the East which you will henceforth occupy.

You will kneel at the altar and place your hands on the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses.

Prior to your investiture, it is customary for you to be informed of the qualifications which the craft expects of their Most Worshipful Grand Master. I will now enumerate:

The Grand Master is invested with powers and prerogatives well nigh absolute. However, the very consciousness of such power will ever make the generous mind cautious and gentle in its exercise.



To rule well has been the fortune of few, yet it is an honorable ambition and I believe attainable; for it is not by iron will or strong arm that obedience and order are attained, but rather by holding the key to the hearts of men.

As a man, the Grand Master should be of approved integrity, irreproachable morals, freed from the dominion of hasty temper and ill-governed passions, of good repute in the world, and practicing as an example for the craft the cardinal virtues of Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence, and Justice.

He should be loyal to the government of his country and a pattern of fidelity in all social and domestic affairs.

He should be familiar with the landmarks of Freemasonry and insist on a strict adherence to them.

He should be well versed in the laws, language and literature of the Craft.

He should be ever mindful that though elevated for the time being above his fellows, that he was elevated by them and to them he will shortly return.

He should cultivate everywhere and at all times the golden tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth.

Such are some of the qualifications which the Grand Master should possess.

Do you agree?”

**GM** – “I do.”

*(Musical Selection or Lord’s Prayer may be offered by guest or IGC).*

**IGM** – “Most Worshipful Grand Master, your jewel is the Square which is used in Masonry to teach us to regulate our actions and to harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue. Never forget these important lessons.

As the primary spokesman for Masonry in this state, you will forever be judged with greater scrutiny than others.

Be certain that the square of Virtue is the rule and guide of your conduct in all future transactions with mankind.”

“Having already received your apron, your lady will now come forward and invest you with your jewel and collar.” *(Done) (After placing collar, lady goes to place on sideline.)*

**== OPTIONAL: ==**

**IGM** – “The Honor Guard will assemble and form the processional lines.”

*(Commandery members or others form lines between Altar and East)*

=====

“Installing Grand Marshal, please escort the Grand Master to the East.”

( \* \* \* ) (Done)

**IGM** – “Brethren, behold your Grand Master. Join me in welcoming him to our Masonic East. *(Applause)* Most Worshipful Grand Master, as your first official act, will you kindly seat your lodge.” *(Done)( \* ) (Honor Guard returns to place)*

**IGM** – “Most Worshipful Grand Master, your officers are installed and I now turn the gavel of authority over to you to preside.”

*(The GM.'s agenda completes the program, and may include an Installation Address by himself or a guest speaker, presentations to the GM, musical selections, and any other elements as desired by the GM.)*

## **Remarks from the Grand Master**

### **Introductions**

### **Presentations**

## **PUBLIC CLOSING**

### **Public Closing Ceremony**

**GM** – “Brethren and guests, we are now to close this assembly of friendship and virtue, and return to the concerns of the world. Amidst its responsibilities and employments, forget NOT the duties you have heard so frequently taught and forcibly recommended in this installation. Be diligent, prudent, temperate and discreet. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. Finally, brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.”

**GM** – “So we end our labors, brethren and guests, in the same manner in which we began them. Brother Installing Grand Chaplain, please lead us in prayer.” (\* \* \*).

**GCh** – *(may go to kneel at altar)* “Supreme Grand Master, ruler of heaven and earth; now that we are about to separate and each go to our own concerns, wilt Thou be pleased so to influence our hearts and minds that we may each one of us practice out of the Lodge those great moral duties which are taught in it, and with reverence study and obey the laws which Thou hast given us in Thy Holy Word. Amen.”

Response: “So mote it be.”

**GM** – ( \* )

### **BENEDICTION**

**== OPTIONAL ==**

**GM** – “I am extremely pleased to offer as our benediction, the young ladies of our organization who are members of the International Order of Jobs Daughters who will perform their extremely impressive and moving ceremony, The Living Cross.”

*(Done)*

=====

**GM** – “Brother SW, you will secure the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses.”

**GM** – “Brother JW, you will extinguish the three Burning Tapers.”

**GM** – “Brethren and friends, thank you so much for coming, it means a great deal to all of us. Please remain seated until the Grand Lodge Officers have retired.”

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## **RECESSIONAL**

*(The Grand Master leads, followed by the Deputy Grand Master, Grand Secretary and Grand Chaplain cross immediately and fall in behind Deputy Grand Master. Grand Treasurer and Senior Grand Deacon fall in immediately. All Grand Officers will join line in their respective place as they are passed, including the Deputies who join the line immediately as they are passed. The Grand Master will proceed along the North sideline, cross behind Senior Warden’s chair, then East along South sideline, joined by Ladies in Southeast corner. He will move along East to center, turn to West, and exit down center of room. Men and ladies will separate at Altar and rejoin after Senior Warden’s chair in the West. Elected officers and their ladies will form reception line outside lodge room)*

## **SPECIAL INSTALLATION CEREMONIES AREA ADMINISTRATOR**

**SENIOR DEACON:** District Deputy, I have the honor and pleasure to present Brother <NAME> who has been appointed Area Administrator for Area (#) of District (#) for the Grand Lodge year ending June <Year> and now declares himself ready for installation.

**DISTRICT DEPUTY:** *(few words of greetings, then)* Brethren, the first lesson taught in our fraternity is that we should never engage in any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessing of deity. You will therefore give your reverent attention to our Chaplain. (\* \* \*)

**CHAPLAIN:** Thou oh God, whose days are without end, and whose mercies cannot be numbered, we humbly seek Thy blessing upon the purposes of our present assembly. Grant that the Brother now about to be installed as Area Administrator may be endowed with wisdom to perceive, fidelity to pursue, and strength to discharge the duties of his office with kindness and understanding, that the craft may never suffer for want of capable leadership and assistance. Let this man, as well as the brethren of his area, be ever mindful of their duty to God, the love merited by their fellow men, and the good he can do for all mankind, by exemplifying on the highways and byways of life those spiritual and moral values which make for finer manhood. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

**DISTRICT DEPUTY:** (\*) My Brother, you have been appointed to serve the

Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin as administrator of your respective area and are now invested with the apron of an Area Administrator.

Your appointment is for the current Grand Lodge year only, and does not necessarily imply automatic reappointment by succeeding Grand Masters as permitted by our regulations. Such appointment is the prerogative of each Grand Master. You will hold office, however, until your successor is installed.

Yours is an office of high honor and responsibility. You are to be the friendly tie between the lodges in your area and the Grand Lodge. Your skill and tact in always maintaining a most cordial decorum and friendly relationship with the officers and brethren is most vital to strengthen the bonds of fellowship and understanding between our constituent Lodges and the Grand Lodge.

You are to officially visit each Lodge in your area at least once during the year, bearing in mind the fact that you should avoid making any official decisions of any kind other than to indicate what your decision would be if you were an officer of the related Lodge. Remember always to refer matters requiring specific decisions to the District Deputy or his assigned representative in charge of the administrative system.

As an ambassador of good will, you are to hold yourself ready at all times to serve the Grand Lodge on any specific assignments which the District Deputy or his representative may request, attempting to promote at all times the programs of the Grand Lodge and wisely counseling against deviations from our laws, edicts and mandates.

The Wisconsin Masonic Code and annual proceedings of the Grand Lodge should be two of the most important books in your library. It is essential that you possess a working knowledge of their provisions and of the entire

contents of these most important volumes.

Being fully mindful of these charges, are you now willing to assume your oath of office?

**AREA ADMINISTRATOR:** I am.

**DISTRICT DEPUTY:** You will place your right hand over your heart, say I, pronounce your name in full and repeat after me: do solemnly promise that I will to the best of my ability, faithfully and impartially perform all the duties incumbent on the office of Area Administrator that I will maintain and support the laws, rules and regulations of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin; and that I will encourage adherence to the same so far as it is within my power and comes within my jurisdiction. So help me God.

You have already been invested with the apron of your office and are now entitled to receive the warrant of your office which empowers you to work.

Bro. Senior Deacon, you will conduct the Area Administrator to the east.



# **REGULATIONS FOR LODGES RELATING TO LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONES**

## **ARTICLE II**

### **MASONIC TEMPLES**

#### **SECTION 12. LAYING OF THE CORNER OR FOUNDATION STONE.**

The corner or foundation stone of all Masonic temples or edifices hereafter constructed shall be laid with due and proper ceremonies. The laying of the corner or foundation stone in accordance with Masonic rites can be performed only by the Grand Lodge, presided over by the Grand Master, in person, or by some Master Mason appointed by him for that purpose.

#### **SECTION 13. WHEN CEREMONIES SHALL BE PERFORMED.**

These ceremonies shall be performed as soon as practicable in the progress of the construction. They shall not be performed if the walls of the edifice are erected or practically so, and an open space therein cannot be left for the laying of a corner or foundation stone after the building has been completed.

#### **SECTION 14. TIME OF CEREMONIES.**

Before definitely setting the date and hour for the ceremonies, the Lodge or other organization must obtain the consent and approval of the Grand Master.

#### **SECTION 15. INSCRIPTION ON CORNER OR FOUNDATION STONE.**

The corner or foundation stone is usually placed in the northeast corner. It should be engraved with the date of laying of the cornerstone and the year of Masonry, the Grand Master's name, and such other inscription as the Grand Master shall have approved.

## **PREPARATION FOR THE CEREMONIES OF LAYING FOUNDATION STONES**

- Operative masons have always considered the foundation or corner stone the most important stone in the edifice. It is the stone upon which the entire structure is supposed to rest.
  
- The symbolism of the stone when duly laid with Masonic rites is full of significance, referring to its form, its situation, its permanence and its consecration.
  
- The date and hour appointed having arrived, the Grand Lodge is opened in proper form in some suitable and secure place, by the Grand Master, or by the brother duly appointed by him to officiate.
  
- The procession is then formed and moves to the building site.
  
- Civil officers of the city or state when joining in the procession will be formed in the rear of the Grand Lodge.
  
- Arriving at the site of the new building, the Grand Lodge will pass the escort and take their position upon the platform provided. The Grand Master will command silence and the ceremony will begin with the singing of some appropriate anthem.
  
- The Grand Chaplain at the request of the Grand Master will offer a suitable prayer.
  
- The Grand Secretary, by order of the Grand Master, then reads a list of

the various articles to be deposited in the stone.

- The Grand Treasurer, by order of the Grand Master, then deposits the box containing the several articles in the cavity prepared for that purpose.
  
- The cornerstone, upon which is engraved the year of Masonry, the name of the Grand Master, and such other particulars as may be deemed necessary, is now lowered into place. During the ceremony of setting the stone, soft music would be most appropriate.
  
- The Principal Architect then presents the working tools to the Grand Master, who hands the square to the Deputy Grand Master, the level to the Senior Grand Warden, and the plumb to the Junior Grand Warden; and addresses the Grand Officers as follows:

**G.M.:** Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, what is the proper jewel of your office?

**D.G.M.:** The Square.

**G.M.:** What are its moral and Masonic uses?

**D.G.M.:** To square our actions by the square of virtue, and prove our work.

**G.M.:** Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the foundation stone that needs to be proved, and make report.

*(The Deputy Grand Master applies the square to the four corners of the stone and reports.)*

**D.G.M.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: I find the stone to be square. The craftsmen have performed their duty.

**G.M.:** Right Worshipful Senior Grand Warden: What is the proper jewel of your office?

**S.G.W.:** The level.

**G.M.:** What are its moral and Masonic uses?

**S.G.W.:** Morally, it reminds us of equality, and its use is to lay horizontals.

**G.M.:** Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the foundation

stone that needs to be proved, and make report.

*(The Senior Grand Warden applies the level to the four corners of the stone and reports.)*

**S.G.W.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: I find the stone to be level. The craftsmen have performed their duty.

**G.M.:** Right Worshipful Junior Grand Warden: What is the proper jewel of your office?

**J.G.W.:** The plumb.

**G.M.:** What are its moral and Masonic uses?

**J.G.W.:** Morally, it teaches rectitude of conduct, and we use it to try perpendiculars.

**G.M.:** Apply the implement of your office to that portion of the foundation stone that needs to be proved, and make report.

*(The junior grand warden applies the plumb to the four cornerstone and reports.)*

**J.G.W.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: I find the stone to be plumb. The craftsmen have performed their duty.

**G.M.:** this cornerstone has been tested by the proper implements of masonry. I find that the craftsmen have skillfully and faithfully performed

their duty, and I do declare the stone to be well formed, true and trusty, and correctly laid, according to the rules of our ancient craft. Let the elements of consecration now be presented.

*(The Deputy Grand Master comes forward with the vessel of corn, scattering it on the stone, says:)*

**D.G.M.:** I scatter this corn as an emblem of plenty. May the blessing of bounteous heaven be showered upon us and upon all like patriotic and benevolent undertakings, and inspire the hearts of the people with virtue, wisdom and gratitude, Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*(The Senior Grand Warden then comes forward with the vessel of wine, and pouring it upon the stone, says:)*

**S.G.W.:** I pour this wine as an emblem of joy and gladness. May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless and prosper our national, state and city governments, preserve the union of the states, and may it be a bond of friendship and brotherly love that shall endure through all time, Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*(The Junior Grand Warden then comes forward with the vessel of oil, and pouring it upon the stone, says:)*

**J.G.W.:** I pour this oil as an emblem of peace. May its blessing abide with

us continually, and may the Grand Architect of the Universe shelter and protect the widow and orphan, shield and defend them from the trials and vicissitudes of the world, and so bestow his mercy upon the bereaved, the afflicted, and the sorrowing, that they may know sorrow and trouble no more, Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*(The Grand Master, standing in front of all, and extending his hands, gives the following:)*

## **INVOCATION**

**G.M.:** May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless the inhabitants of this place with an abundance of the necessities, conveniences and comforts of life; assist in the erection and completion of this building; protect the workmen against every accident; long preserve the structure from decay, and grant to us all a supply of the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment, and the oil of joy, Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*(The Grand Master strikes the stone slowly, three times with the gavel.)*

*(The public grand honors are given at this time. The Grand Master will deliver the square, plumb and level to the Architect and say:)*

**G.M.:** Worthy sir (or brother): having thus, as Grand Master of Masons, laid

the foundation stone of this structure, I now deliver these implements of your profession into your hands entrusting you with the superintendence and direction of the work, having full confidence in your skill and capacity to conduct the same.

*An appropriate anthem may be sung, or suitable music rendered.*

*The Grand Master, or any other Master Mason, may then address the assembly, or a program may be given.*

*After which the procession is again formed and returns to the place whence it set out, and the Grand Lodge closed with the usual formalities*



**REGULATIONS FOR LODGES RELATING TO CONSECRATION AND  
CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES CONSTITUTION OF THE GRAND  
LODGE**

**ARTICLE IX**

**CONSTITUENT LODGES**

**SECTION 1. FORMATION.** Every constituent Lodge in the jurisdiction must be held by virtue of a charter from this Grand Lodge, or a dispensation issued by authority of law, and a chartered Lodge shall not proceed to work until it shall have been regularly constituted and its officers installed.

**REGULATIONS FOR LODGES**

**ARTICLE II**

**LODGES**

**SECTION 1. CHARTER.** Each Lodge excepting those under dispensation shall be held by virtue of a charter from the Grand Lodge, and shall not proceed to work until it shall have been regularly constituted and its officers installed.

## **PREPARATION FOR THE CEREMONIES OF CONSECRATING AND CONSTITUTING NEW LODGES**

- Before Grand Lodge convenes for the purpose of consecrating and constituting a new Lodge the Grand Tiler or the Master of the new Lodge, when directed to do so, shall attend to all the details of preparing the Symbolic Lodge as follows:
  
- A small table or stand about 30 inches high with a top measuring about 3 x 3 feet should be provided and placed at an equal distance between the altar and the east.
  
- The table or stand should be covered with a clean white (linen) table-cloth large enough to overhang the sides of the table or stand at least 6 to 8 inches.
  
- A light weight wooden box approximately 8 inches long, 6 inches wide and 1 inch high, without a bottom should be made available and placed in the center of the table or stand. The box should be covered with a clean white (linen) napkin neatly draped to conceal the box on all sides.
  
- A small (silver) tray as nearly equal to 4 to 6 inches in size as can be obtained should be placed upon the small covered box to receive the elements of consecration.
  
- The Symbolic Lodge should now be completely covered with another white (linen) table-cloth reaching nearly to the floor.
  
- The Grand Tiler shall see to it that the elements of consecration, corn, wine and oil, are on hand in ample supply and that the three silver vessels which will be carried in the ceremonies by the Deputy Grand Master and the senior and grand wardens are properly prepared beforehand.

*(all the above articles except the table or stand are generally provided by the Grand Lodge and should be in the custody of the Grand Tiler.)*

- When all is ready for the ceremonies of consecration the three lesser lights should be placed in triangular form around the Symbolic Lodge which has been prepared, and the Grand Master informed that the new Lodge is ready to receive him.

## **SINGLE FILE ORDER OF MARCH FOR ENTERING THE LODGE**

District Deputies  
Grand Marshal  
Grand Steward \*  
Grand Orator  
Grand Chaplain  
Grand Secretary  
Senior Grand Deacon \*  
Senior Grand Warden  
Grand Master (Covered)  
Deputy Grand Master  
Junior Grand Warden  
Junior Grand Deacon \*  
Grand Treasurer  
Grand Lecturer  
Grand Steward \*  
District Deputies

*In marching during the music, the Marshal orders "left face" and the Grand Lodge marches around the Symbolic Lodge, maintaining the same positions as above. The above order of march is also used for dedication of Masonic halls.*

*\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.*

## **POSITION OF OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE WHEN SEATED AROUND THE SYMBOLIC LODGE**

### **EAST**

Deputy Grand Master	Grand Master
Junior Grand Warden	Senior Grand Warden
* Junior Grand Deacon	Senior Grand Deacon *
Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
Grand Lecturer	Grand Chaplain
	Grand Orator

### **S.L.**

* Grand Steward	Grand Steward *
Grand Tiler	Grand Marshal
District Deputy	District Deputy
(Architect) - Altar - Master	

*Goblets are carried by the Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens. The above are*

also the positions of the officers of the Grand Lodge for dedication of Masonic halls. Architect presents working tools to the Marshal who carries them to the Grand Master.

\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.

## CONSECRATING

On the day and hour appointed, the Grand Master (*or the Master Mason duly authorized by him to perform the service*) and the Grand Officers meet in a convenient room near the Lodge to be constituted, and open the Grand Lodge. After the officers of the new Lodges are examined by the Deputy Grand Master, he conveys the following message to the Grand Master:

**D.G.M.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: the officers and brethren of (*Name Lodge*) Lodge, who are now assembled in their Lodge room, have instructed me to inform you that the most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the state of Wisconsin was pleased to grant them a charter, authorizing them to form and open a Lodge of free and accepted Masons in the town of (*Name Town*), they are now desirous that their Lodge should be consecrated, and their officers installed in due and ancient form, for which purpose they are now met, and await the pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master.

*The Grand Master will then proceed to the hail of the new lodge, and enter. When the Grand Lodge enters the Lodge room, the new Lodge is called up and a suitable hymn is sung while the officers and members of the Grand Lodge take their positions in parallel lines on each side of the altar, facing inward. The brethren composing the Grand Lodge enter in single file, and are arranged in such a manner that the grand stewards stand on opposite sides immediately in front of the emblematic Lodge. When the Grand Lodge is in position, the Worshipful Master of the new Lodge introduces the Grand Lodge. The Deputy Grand Master then addresses the Grand Master as follows:*

**D.G.M.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: a number of brethren, duly instructed in the mysteries of Freemasonry, having assembled together at

stated periods by virtue of a dispensation granted them for that purpose, do now desire to be constituted into a regular Lodge, agreeably to the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity.

**G.M.:** Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master: the records, having been examined by a committee, were found to be correct, and were approved and the action of the committee affirmed by the Grand Lodge.

Upon due deliberation, the Grand Lodge has granted the brethren of this new Lodge a charter, establishing and confirming them in the rights and privileges of a regularly constituted Lodge, which the Grand Secretary will now read.

**G. SEC.:** *(Reads the charter.)*

**G.M.:** We shall now proceed, according to ancient usage, to constitute these brethren into a regular Lodge.

## **CONSECRATION**

The Grand Master and the Grand Officers all devoutly kneel. The Lodge is uncovered by the Grand Stewards, solemn music being performed during the ceremony, and the first clause of the consecration prayer is given by the Grand Master or the Grand Chaplain, as follows:

## **CONSECRATION PRAYER**

**G. CHAPLAIN:** Supreme Architect of the Universe, maker and ruler of all worlds, design from Thy Celestial Temple, from realms of light and glory, to bless us in all the purposes of our present assembly. We humbly invoke Thee to give us at this time and at all times wisdom in all our doings, strength of mind in all our difficulties and the beauty of harmony in all our communications. Permit us, thou author of light and life, great source of love and happiness, to erect this Lodge, and now solemnly to consecrate it to the honor of Thy glory, Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*The brethren arise and the Deputy Grand Master presents the vessel of corn, the Senior Grand Warden the vessel of wine, and the Junior Grand Warden the vessel of oil to the Grand Master, who pours the elements of consecration upon the. The Grand Master or Grand Chaplain then continues:*

**G.M. OR G. CHAPLAIN:** Grant, O Lord, our God, that those who are now about to be invested with the government of this Lodge may be imbued with wisdom to instruct their brethren in all their duties. May brotherly love, relief and truth always prevail among the members of this Lodge; and may this bond of union continue to strengthen the lodges throughout the world.

Bless all the brethren, wherever dispersed, and grant speedy relief to all who are either oppressed or distressed.

We affectionately commend to thee all the members' of Thy whole family. May they increase in grace, in the knowledge of Thee, and in the love of each other.

Finally, may we finish all our work here below with Thy approbation, and then have our transition from this earthly abode to Thy heavenly temple above, there to enjoy light, glory and bliss ineffable and eternal! Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*A selection of solemn music is rendered while the Lodge is covered. The Grand Master then dedicates the Lodge in the following words:*

**G.M.:** To the memory of the Holy Saints John we dedicate this Lodge. May every brother revere their character and imitate their virtues. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*(Appropriate music should be rendered.)*

## **CONSTITUTION**

*The Grand Master then constitutes the new Lodge in the form following, all the brethren standing.*

**G.M.:** In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the state of Wisconsin, I now constitute and form you, my beloved brethren, into a regular Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. From henceforth I empower you to meet as a regular Lodge, constituted in conformity to the rites of the craft and the charges of our ancient and honorable fraternity. And may the Supreme Architect of the Universe prosper, direct and counsel you in all your doings. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

**G.M.:** This new Lodge having been solemnly consecrated and dedicated, we will proceed to constitute the Lodge by installing its officers.

*The officers of the new Lodge then vacate their respective stations and places, and divest themselves of the jewels of office, which are given to the Grand Marshal and placed by him near the altar. Continue as in the installation ceremony, except say "this new Lodge" in all cases where "this Lodge" occurs.*



## **CEREMONY FOR RECONSECRATING AND RECONSTITUTING LODGES**

The Lodge for which the reconsecrating ceremony is provided should be opened, either in the Master Mason degree if a closed ceremony, or in public opening for an open ceremony. After the Lodge is opened, and before any other business or announcements, the Worshipful Master (or designated brother presiding in the East) shall announce to the Lodge that the Grand Lodge Officers are about to enter. The Lodge is called up by three raps (public ceremony by three raps and asking the audience to rise).

Grand Lodge Officers enter in two columns, one north and one south of the altar, and go directly to their seats. When they are at their seats, the Worshipful Master will seat the Lodge with one rap of the gavel and by asking the audience to be seated.

**Worshipful Master:** Most Worshipful Grand Master, the officers and brethren of (Name Lodge) Lodge No (#) who are now assembled in their Lodge room, have instructed me to inform you that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin, was pleased to grant them a charter on (Date) authorizing them to form and open a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in the (City) (Village) (Town) of (Name City). Such a Lodge was duly consecrated and opened, and the officers properly installed in due and ancient form on (Date) (# of Years) years ago.

The Brethren of (Name Lodge) Lodge No.(#) are now desirous that their Lodge should be reconsecrated and the current officers ceremoniously reinstated for the purpose of this (Name Year) year anniversary celebration, and await the pleasure of the Most Worshipful Grand Master. (Worshipful Master hands the gavel to the Deputy Grand Master.)

**R.W. Deputy Grand Master:** Most Worshipful Grand Master, a number of

brethren, duly instructed in the mysteries of Freemasonry, having been operating as (Name Lodge) Lodge No. (#) for the past (Name Year) years, do now desire to be reconstituted in celebration of those (Name Year) years, agreeably to the ancient usage's and customs of the fraternity.

**M.W. Grand Master:** Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, the records of the Lodge having been examined and found to be correct, the charter which was issued (Name Date) establishing and confirming for the brethren of (Name Lodge) Lodge No. (#) the rights and privileges of a regularly constituted Lodge, remains in effect today, without blemish or limitation. We shall now proceed, according to ancient usage, to reconstitute the brethren of (Name Lodge) Lodge No. (#)

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Senior and Junior Grand Stewards  
*(Stewards rise and nod acknowledgment to the MWGM), you will uncover the Lodge. (A selection of music may be played during the uncovering of the Lodge.)*

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Grand Chaplain, let us invoke the blessing of Deity. *(\*\*\* - three raps of gavel and ask audience to rise)*

**W. Grand Chaplain:** Supreme Architect of the Universe, Graciously enable us now to reconsecrate this Lodge, which has been chartered and preserved, to the honor and glory of Thy name and mercifully be pleased to accept this service at our hands. May all who shall be lawfully selected to rule herein, according to our constitutions, be under Thy special guidance and protection and faithfully observe and fulfill all their obligations to Thee and to the Lodge over which they may be called to preside. May all who

come within these consecrated walls have but one heart and one mind: to love, to honor, to fear and to obey Thee, as Thy majesty and unbounded goodness claim; and to love one another, as Thou hast loved us. May every discordant passion be here banished from our bosoms? May we here meet in Thy presence as a band of brethren who, created by the same beneficent hand, and who are traveling the same road to the gates of heaven. May Thy Holy Word lie always before us in our Lodges, and virtue, love, harmony and peaceful joy reign triumphant in our hearts. Amen

**Response:** So Mote It Be. (*\* one rap of gavel, ask audience to be seated.*)

**M.W. Grand Master (or designated officer):** When in history men chose to build an edifice, there are always certain basics which must be met. The site, the foundation and the materials, must be sound and long lasting. They same is true of the men who will operate a Lodge. These men must be properly trained and trustworthy in their tasks. This is essential if the Lodge is to flourish and last.

The very fabric of Masonry is a series of lessons which illustrate by symbols the way for living a more virtuous life. These lessons are based on the builders trade and on the tools in both their actual and symbolic uses.

*(Ask the Worshipful Master to stand.)*

The **square**, of course, tests the squareness of a stone in operative masonry, and the squareness of a man in speculative masonry. The square is the emblem of the Master of a Lodge and should continually remind him

of the duty he owes to the Lodge over which he is elected to preside. The square symbolizes for each of us a life to be filled with deeds that are right, deeds that are honest and deeds that are fair.

*(Seat the Worshipful Master and ask the Senior Warden to stand.)*

The **level** in operative' masonry makes certain that a surface is truly flat. In speculative masonry it denotes that we are traveling upon the "Level of Time" to that undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns. It is the emblem of the Senior Warden, and demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same hopes. It symbolizes the fact that before God we are all equal and that all men are brothers.

*(Seat the Senior Warden and ask the Junior Warden to stand.)*

The **plumb** in operative masonry is an instrument to measure the perpendicular of an object to the plane of the horizon, In speculative masonry it admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, to hold the scale of justice in equal balance, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty. It is the emblem of the Junior Warden and symbolizes right and rectitude, uprightness and equality, justice and truth.

*(Seat the Junior Warden.)*

**M.W. Grand Master:** We also use **corn**, **wine** and **oil** in our ceremonies.

Humans need nourishment, and corn represents both the fundamental need for life, and the blessings of plenty. Wine is not only refreshment for parched throats, but denotes joy and gladness when friends and relatives gather together. In ancient times oil was not only used for cooking and as a foundation for balms and lotions, but it was the source of light in the darkness. Symbolically it represents peace and the concern and the protection of those afflicted or in need. Expression through symbols has always been one of the ways we learn and remember something dear and important to us. So today, we come to this Masonic Lodge to express once more our link with the past, our responsibility to the present and our hope for the future.

**R.W. Junior Grand Warden:** *(Junior Grand Warden rises and moves to the Lodge table, selects the goblet with the corn and holds the goblet as if using it for a toast, then he says, and does the following:)*

I scatter this corn as an emblem of plenty. (JGW scatters corn and holds goblet up again as in a toast.) May the blessing of all bounteous heaven be bestowed upon us and upon all like patriotic and benevolent undertakings and inspire the hearts of people with virtue, wisdom and gratitude.

*(Junior Grand Warden replaces goblet on Lodge table and returns to seat and is seated.)*

**M.W Grand Master:** In the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe, to whom be all honor and glory, I do solemnly reconsecrate this Lodge to Freemasonry.

**R.W. Senior Grand Warden:** *(Senior Grand Warden does the same as the Junior Grand*

*Warden, but selects the goblet with the wine.)* I pour this wine as an emblem of joy and gladness. *(SGW pours wine)* May the Grand Architect of the Universe bless and bring prosperity to our national, state and local governments, preserve the union of the states, and may it be a bond of friendship and brotherly love that shall endure through all of time.

*(Senior Grand Warden replaces the goblet on the Lodge table and returns to seat and is seated.)*

**M.W. Grand Master:** In the name of the Holy Saints John, I do solemnly reconsecrate this Lodge to virtue.

**R.W. Deputy Grand Master:** *(Deputy Grand Master does the same as the wardens but selects the goblet of oil.)* I pour this oil as an emblem of peace. *(DGM pours oil)* May its blessings abide with us continually and may the Grand Architect of the Universe shelter and protect the widow and orphan, shield and defend them from the trials and vicissitudes of the world and so bestow His mercy upon the bereaved, the afflicted and the sorrowing that they may know trouble and sorrow no more.

*(Deputy Grand Master replaces the goblet on the Lodge table and returns to seat and is seated.)*

**M.W. Grand Master:** In the name of the whole fraternity, I do solemnly reconsecrate this Lodge to universal benevolence.

The officers of <NAME> Lodge No. (#) will please rise. Each officer (or proxy) will place his right hand over his heart, and all speaking in unison, say I, pronounce his name, and repeat after me:

Promise upon my honor as a Mason I that I will, to the best of my ability, I conform to and abide by the ancient landmarks, / regulations and usage's of Freemasonry, / the constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge / and the By-Laws of this Lodge, / and faithfully perform the duties of the office / for which I have been selected. *(The officers may lower their hands.)*

Worshipful Master, Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, officers of <NAME> Lodge No. (#), your Lodge, designed and built by wisdom, supported by strength and adorned by beauty, we have reconstituted in the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe; which teaches us in all our works, begun and finished, to acknowledge, adore and magnify Him, It reminds us also in His fear to enter the door of the Lodge, to put our trust in Him while passing the trials, and hope in Him for the rewards of our labors.

Let then the altar of your Lodge be devoted to His service and its lofty arch resound with His praise. May the All Seeing Eye, witness here the sincere and unaffected piety which withdraws from the engagements of the world to silence and privacy, that it may be exercised with less interruption and less ostentation.

Following our ancient constitution and usage's with mystic rites, we have reconstituted this Lodge and its officers to the honor of Freemasonry. Our best attachments are due to the craft. In its prosperity we find our joy, and in paying it honor, we honor ourselves. But its worth, the worth of Freemasonry, transcends our tribute, its glory will outsound our praise. Our hope is that Freemasonry will continue forever.

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Grand Chaplain, let us invoke the blessing of Deity. (*\*\*\* - three raps of the gavel, ask the audience to please rise.*)

**W. Grand Chaplain:** (*May use an alternative prayer*) May the Lord, the giver of every good and perfect gift, bless the officers and brethren of this Lodge. Bless each of them and their friends in all their lawful undertakings, and grant to each of them in need, a full supply of the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment and the oil of joy. Amen

**Response:** So Mote it Be. (*\* one rap of gavel, ask the audience to be seated.*)

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Senior and Junior Grand Stewards (Stewards rise and nod acknowledgment to the GM), you will cover the Lodge.

**M.W. Grand Master (or designated officer):** Brethren and friends, it is our pride that we have our names on the records of Freemasonry for the purpose of this reconsecrating ceremony. May it be our high ambition that we should shed a luster on the immortal pages of time?

This Lodge has been reconstituted to three things, Freemasonry, Virtue and Universal Benevolence. The Grand Master closed the ceremony on the thoughts of Freemasonry.

Let me speak a moment on the other two.



**Virtue** - the moral duties which our sublime lectures inculcate with affecting and impressive pertinency are cherished in our hearts and illustrated by the ways we live our lives.

Freemasonry aims to enliven the spirit of philanthropy and promote the cause of charity, so we have reconsecrated this Lodge to universal benevolence in the assurance that every brother will rededicate his affections and his abilities to the same generous purpose; that while he displays a warm and cordial affection for those who are of the fraternity, he will extend benevolent regards and good wishes to the whole family of humankind.

Such my brethren and friends, is the significant meaning of the solemn rites we have just performed. I need not enlarge upon them now nor show how they diverge as rays from the center to enlighten, to improve and to cheer the whole circle of life. Their import and their application is familiar to you all. In their knowledge and their exercise, may you fulfill the high purposes of <NAME> Lodge No. (#) the high purposes of the Masonic institution. Thank you.

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Master, Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, officers, brethren and friends, we the officers of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin offer each of you our hearty and sincere congratulations. We commend your zeal, enthusiasm and dedication, and hope it will amply meet the future needs and aspirations of <NAME> Lodge No. (#). May this Lodge and its members be the happy resort of piety, virtue and benevolence. May you be protected from accident

and long remain a monument to the zeal, commitment and energy of this Lodge. Thank you and may God Bless.

**M.W. Grand Master:** Worshipful Master, we now return the gavel to your authority for the remainder of this ceremony.

**REGULATIONS FOR LODGES RELATING TO DEDICATION  
OF MASONIC HALLS #1**

**ARTICLE II**

**SECTION 16. DEDICATION OF MASONIC TEMPLES.**

All Masonic temples or edifices hereafter constructed, or building acquired for that purpose, shall be dedicated with due and proper ceremonies. The ceremonies of dedication in accordance with Masonic rites can be performed only by the Grand Lodge, presided over by the Grand Master, or by some other Master Mason, to whom he has delegated his authority.

1956 PROC. 90

**SECTION 17. TIME OF CEREMONIES.**

Before definitely setting the date and hour for the ceremonies, the Lodge or other organization must obtain the consent and approval of the Grand Master.

1956 PROC. 91

## **PREPARATION FOR THE CEREMONIES OF DEDICATION MASONIC HALLS**

The preparations for dedicating a Masonic hall are the same as those required for consecrating and constituting new lodges and the same procedure should be followed. When all is ready for the ceremony of dedication the Grand Master should be informed that the Lodge is in waiting and ready to receive him. The Grand Lodge should be open in some secure room adjacent to the Lodge by the Grand Master, or other Master Mason appointed by him to preside, and a procession formed which moves to the Lodge. For the entrance of the Grand Lodge music appropriate to the occasion should be played with all the brethren standing. The Master of the Lodge shall then address the Grand Master as follows:

### **SINGLE FILE ORDER OF MARCH FOR ENTERING THE LODGE**

District Deputies  
Grand Marshal  
Grand Steward \*  
Grand Orator  
Grand Chaplain  
Grand Secretary  
Senior Grand Deacon \*  
Senior Grand Warden  
Grand Master (Covered)  
Deputy Grand Master  
Junior Grand Warden  
Junior Grand Deacon \*  
Grand Treasurer  
Grand Lecturer  
Grand Steward \*  
District Deputies

*In marching during the music, the Marshal orders "left face" and the Grand Lodge marches around the Symbolic Lodge, maintaining the same positions as above. The above order of march is also used for dedication of Masonic halls.*

*\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.*

### **POSITION OF OFFICERS OF GRAND LODGE WHEN SEATED AROUND THE SYMBOLIC LODGE**

## EAST

Deputy Grand Master	Grand Master
Junior Grand Warden	Senior Grand Warden
Junior Grand Deacon	Senior Grand Deacon *
Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
Grand Lecturer	Grand Chaplain
	Grand Orator

## S.L.

* Grand Steward	Grand Steward *
Grand Tiler	Grand Marshal
District Deputy	District Deputy
(Architect) - Altar – Master	

*Goblets are carried by the Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens. The above are also the positions of the officers of the Grand Lodge for dedication of Masonic halls. Architect presents working tools to the Marshal who carries them to the Grand Master.*

*\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.*

**W.M.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: the brethren of this Lodge, being animated by a desire to promote the honor and interests of the craft, have prepared a Masonic hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are desirous that the same should be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and should it meet its approbation, that it be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeably to ancient form and usage.

*The Architect or brother who has had the management or supervision of the structure or lodge hall, then addresses the Grand Master as follows:*

**ARCHITECT:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen employed in the erection of this edifice, and having according to the best of my ability accomplished the task assigned me, I now return my thanks for the honor of this appointment, and beg leave to surrender the implements which were committed to my care when the foundation of this fabric was laid (*presenting to*

*the Grand Master the square, level and plumb), humbly hoping that the exertions which have been made on this occasion will be crowned with your approbation, and that of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.*

**G.M.:** Brother Architect: the skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in you at the commencement of this undertaking, have secured the approbation of the Grand Lodge, and they sincerely pray that this edifice may continue a lasting monument of the taste, spirit and liberality of its founders.

*A suitable ode or hymn in honor of Masonry may now be sung. The Deputy Grand Master rises and says:*

**D.G.M.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: the hall in which we are now assembled, and the plan upon which it has been constructed, having met with your approbation, it is the desire of the fraternity that it should now be dedicated according to ancient form and usage.

The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge having examined the several apartments, and the same having met with its approbation, it now desires that they should be dedicated to Masonic purposes agreeably to ancient form and usage.

**G.M.:** Right Worshipful Brother: the Grand Lodge will comply with your wishes and proceed to dedicate these apartments according to the forms and usages of ancient craft masonry. Brother Grand Stewards: you will uncover the lodge.

*(A selection of music may be rendered during this ceremony.)*

**G.M.:** Worshipful Grand Chaplain: Let us invoke the blessing of deity.

**GRAND CHAPLAIN:** O thou preserver of men! Graciously enable us now to dedicate this house, which we have erected, to the honor and glory of Thy name, and mercifully be pleased to accept this service at our hands. May all who shall be lawfully selected to rule herein, according to our constitutions, be under Thy special guidance and protection, and faithfully observe and fulfill all their obligations to Thee and to the Lodge over which they may be called to preside.

May all who come within these consecrated walls have but one heart and one mind, to love, to honor, to fear and to obey Thee, as Thy majesty and unbounded goodness claim; and to love one another, as Thou hast loved us. May every discordant passion be here banished from our bosoms? May we here meet in Thy presence as a band of brethren, who, created by the same almighty parent, are daily sustained by the same beneficent hand, and are traveling the same road to the gates of death. May Thy holy word lie always before us in our lodges, and virtue, love, harmony and peaceful joy reign triumphant in our hearts. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

*The Grand Lodge will now march once around the Lodge until the Grand Master has reached his original position at the head of the Lodge during which appropriate music should be played. Position of officers (etc) copy same as dedication. All the other brethren keep their places during the procession.*

## **MUSIC**

*The procession being around the Symbolic Lodge, the Grand Master having reached the east, the Junior Grand Warden steps forward and presenting the vessel of corn to the Grand Master, says:*

**J.G.W.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: in the dedication of Masonic halls, it has been the custom from time immemorial to pour corn upon the Lodge, as an emblem of nourishment. I therefore, present you this vessel of corn, to be employed by you according to ancient usage.

*(The Grand Master, then striking once with his gavel, pours the corn upon the Lodge, saying:)*

**G.M.:** In the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe, to whom be all honor and glory. I do solemnly dedicate this hall to Freemasonry.

*(The public Grand Honors are given once.)*

*The Grand Lodge will march twice around the Lodge, until the Grand Master has reached his original position at the head of the Lodge, during which appropriate music should be played. The procession being twice around the Lodge, the Senior Grand Warden steps forward and presenting the vessel of wine to the Grand Master, says:*

**S.G.W.:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: wine, the emblem of refreshment, having been used by our ancient brethren in the dedication and consecration of their Lodges, I present you this vessel of wine, to be used on the present occasion according to ancient Masonic form.

*(The Grand Master, striking twice with his gavel, pours the wine upon the Lodge, saying:)*

**G.M.:** In the name of the Holy Saints John, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to virtue.



*(The public Grand Honors are given twice.)*

*The Grand Lodge will march thrice around the Lodge, until the Grand Master has reached his original position at the head of the Lodge, during which appropriate music should be played. The procession being thrice around the Lodge, the Deputy Grand Master steps forward and presenting the vessel of oil to the Grand Master, says:*

**D.G.M.:** Most Worshipful Master: I present you, to be used according to ancient custom, this vessel of oil, an emblem of that joy which should animate every bosom on the completion of every important undertaking.

*(The Grand Master, striking thrice with his gavel, pours the oil upon the Lodge, saying:)*

**G.M.:** In the name of the whole fraternity, I do solemnly dedicate this hall to universal benevolence.

*(The public Grand Honors are given thrice.)*

*The Grand Chaplain, standing before the Lodge, offers the following:*

## **INVOCATION**

**G. CHAPLAIN:** And may the Lord, the giver of every good and perfect gift, bless the brethren here assembled in all their lawful undertakings, and grant to each of them, in need, full supply of the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment and the oil of joy. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

**G.M.:** Brother Grand Stewards: you will cover the Lodge. (Done)

*An appropriate address may be delivered at this time by the Grand Master or some brother appointed for that purpose, or the following may be used:*

## **ADDRESS**

Brethren, the ceremonies we have performed are not unmeaning rites, nor the amusing pageants of an idle hour, but have a solemn and instructive import. Suffer me to point it out to you, and to impress upon your minds the ennobling sentiments they are so well adapted to convey.

This hall, designed and built by wisdom, supported by strength, and adorned in beauty, we have consecrated in the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe; which teaches us, in all our work, begun and finished, to acknowledge, adore, and magnify him. It reminds us, also, in his fear to enter the door of the lodge, to put our trust in him while passing its trials, and hope in him for the reward of its labors.

Let then its altar be devoted to his service, and its lofty arch resound with his praise! May the All Seeing Eye, witness here the sincere and unaffected piety which withdraws from the engagements of the world to silence and privacy, that it may be exercised with less interruption and less ostentation.

Our march around the Lodge reminds us of the travel of human life, in which Masonry is an enlightened, a safe, and a pleasant path. Its tessellated pavement of mosaic work intimates to us the checkered diversity and uncertainty of human affairs. Our step is time; our progression, eternity.

Following our ancient constitutions, with mystic rites we have dedicated this hall to the honor of freemasonry.

Our best attachments are due to the craft. In its prosperity we find our joy,

and in paying it honor, we honor ourselves. But its worth transcends our encomiums. And its glory will out sound our praise.

Brethren, it is our pride that we have our names on the records of freemasonry. May it be our high ambition that they should shed lustre on the immortal page!

The hall is also dedicated to virtue. This worthy appropriation will always be duly regarded while the moral duties which our sublime lectures inculcate with affecting and impressive pertinency, are cherished in our hearts and illustrated in our lives.

Freemasonry aims to enliven the spirit of philanthropy, and promote the cause of charity, so we have dedicated this hall to universal benevolence, in the assurance that every brother will dedicate his affections and his abilities to the same generous purpose; that while he displays a warm and cordial affection for those who are of the fraternity, he will extend' his benevolent regards and good wishes to the whole family of mankind.

Such, my brethren, is the significant meaning of the solemn rites we have just performed, because such are the peculiar duties of every Lodge. I need not enlarge upon them now, nor show how they diverge, as rays from a center, to enlighten, to improve and to cheer the whole circle of life. Their import and their application is familiar to you all. In their knowledge and their exercise, may you fulfill the high purposes of the Masonic institution.

How many pleasing considerations, my brethren, attend the present occasion! While in almost every other association of men, political animosities, tensions and wars interrupt the progress of humanity and the cause of benevolence, it is our distinguished privilege to dwell together in peace, and engage in plans to perfect individual and social happiness.

While in many other nations our fraternity is viewed by politicians with

suspicion, and by the ignorant with apprehension, in this country its members are too much respected, and its principles too well known, to make it the object of jealousy or mistrust. Our private assemblies are unmolested, and our public celebrations attract the general approbation of the fraternity. Indeed, its importance, its credit, and we trust, its usefulness, are advancing to a height unknown in any former age. The present occasion gives fresh evidence of the increasing affection of its friends; and these apartments, fitted up in a style of such elegance and convenience, do honor to Freemasonry, as well as reflect the highest credit on the Lodge for whose accommodation and at whose expense it is erected.

We offer our best congratulations to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, officers and members of <NAME> Lodge no.(#), we commend their zeal, and hope it will meet with the most ample recompense. May this hall be the happy resort of piety, virtue and benevolence. May it be protected from accident, and long remain a monument to the zeal and energy of the brethren of this Lodge, and an honor to Freemasonry. And when they, and we all, shall be removed from the labors of this earthly Lodge, may we be admitted to the brotherhood of the just, in the building of God, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

*A selection of music may be rendered, or other addresses made. The Grand Lodge is again formed in procession as at first, returns to the room where it was opened, and is closed in full form.*

## **PREPARATION FOR THE CEREMONIES OF DEDICATION, MASONIC HALLS #2**

The preparations for dedicating a Masonic Hall are the same as those required for consecrating and constituting new Lodges and the same procedure should be followed. When all is ready for the Ceremony of Dedication, the Grand Master should be informed that the Lodge is in waiting and ready to receive him. The Grand Lodge should be opened in some secure room adjacent to the Lodge by the Grand Master, or other Master Mason appointed by him to preside, and procession formed which moves to the Lodge. For the entrance of the Grand Lodge, music appropriate to the occasion played, with all the Brethren standing.

### **Single File Order of March for Entering the Lodge**

District Deputies  
Grand Marshal  
Grand Steward \*  
Grand Orator  
Grand Chaplain  
Grand Secretary  
Senior Grand Deacon \*  
Senior Grand Warden  
Grand Master (Covered)  
Deputy Grand Master  
Junior Grand Warden  
Junior Grand Deacon \*  
Grand Treasurer  
Grand Lecturer  
Grand Steward \*  
District Deputies

*In marching during the music, the Marshal orders "left face" and the Grand Lodge marches around the Symbolic Lodge, maintaining the same positions as above. The above order of march is also used for dedication of Masonic halls.*

*\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.*

## **Position of Officers of Grand Lodge when Seated Around the Symbolic Lodge**

### **EAST**

Deputy Grand Master	Grand Master
Junior Grand Warden	Senior Grand Warden
* Junior Grand Deacon	Senior Grand Deacon *
Grand Treasurer	Grand Secretary
Grand Lecturer	Grand Chaplain
	Grand Orator

### **S.L.**

* Grand Steward	Grand Steward *
Grand Tiler	Grand Marshal
District Deputy	District Deputy
(Architect) - Altar – Master	

*Goblets are carried by the Deputy Grand Master, Senior and Junior Grand Wardens. The above are also the positions of the officers of the Grand Lodge for dedication of Masonic halls. Architect presents working tools to the Marshal who carries them to the Grand Master.*

*\* Deacons and Stewards with rods.*

*The Master of the Lodge shall then address the Grand Master as follows:*

*(The wording in this ceremony may be appropriately changed for the dedication of other Masonic buildings.)*

**WORSHIPFUL MASTER:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: the brethren of this Lodge, being desirous of promoting the honor and interests of the craft, have prepared a Masonic hall for their convenience and accommodation. They are desirous that it be examined by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, and should it meet its approval, that it be solemnly dedicated to Masonic purposes, agreeably to ancient form and usage.

*The Architect or Brother who has had the management or supervision of the structure or Lodge Hall, then addresses the Grand Master as follows:*

**ARCHITECT:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: having been entrusted with the superintendence and management of the workmen employed in the erection of this edifice, and having, according to the best of my ability, accomplished the task assigned me, I now return my thanks for the honor of this appointment and request permission to surrender the implements which were committed to my care when the foundation of this edifice was laid. *(Presents to the Grand Master the Square, Level and Plumb)*

I humbly hope that the efforts that have been made on this occasion will be crowned with your approval and that of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge.

**GRAND MASTER:** Brother Architect: the skill and fidelity displayed in the execution of the trust reposed in you at the commencement of this undertaking have secured the approval of the Grand Lodge and they sincerely pray that this edifice may continue as a last monument of the taste, spirit and liberality of its' founders.

*(A suitable ode or hymn in honor of Masonry may now be sung. The Deputy Grand Master rises and says:)*

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: the hall in which we are now assembled and the plan upon which it has been constructed has met with your approval. It is now the desire of the fraternity that it should now be dedicated according to ancient form and usage. The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge has examined the several apartments and has found them to meet with its approval. It now desires that they should be

dedicated to Masonic purposes agreeable to ancient form and usage.

**GRAND MASTER:** Right Worshipful Brother: the Grand Lodge will comply with your wishes and proceed to rededicate these apartments according to the forms and usages of ancient craft masonry. Brother Grand Stewards: you will uncover the lodge.

*(A selection of music may be rendered during this ceremony)*

**GRAND MASTER:** Worshipful Grand Chaplain: let us invoke the blessing of deity. (\* \* \*)

**GRAND CHAPLAIN:** O thou preserver of men! Graciously enable us now to dedicate this house, which we have erected, to the honor and glory of Thy name and mercifully be pleased to accept this service at our hands. May all who shall be lawfully selected to rule herein, according to our constitutions, be under thy special guidance and protection and faithfully observe and fulfill all their obligations to thee and to the Lodge over which they may be called to preside.

May all who come within these consecrated walls have but one heart and one mind: to love, to honor, to fear and to obey Thee, as Thy majesty and unbounded goodness claim; and to love one another, as Thou hast loved us. May every discordant passion be here banished from our bosoms. May we here meet in Thy presence as a band of brethren who, created by the same almighty parent, are daily sustained by the same beneficent and, and are traveling the same road to the gates of Heaven. May Thy holy word lie always before us in our Lodges, and virtue, love, harmony and peaceful joy



reign triumphant in our hearts. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be. \*

*(Music) (The Junior Grand Warden steps forward and presenting the vessel of corn to the Grand Master, says:)*

**JUNIOR GRAND WARDEN:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: in the dedication of Masonic halls, it has been the custom from time immemorial to pour corn upon the Lodge, as an emblem of nourishment. I, therefore, present you this vessel of corn to be employed by you according to ancient usage.

*(The Grand Master, then striking once with his gavel, pours the corn upon the Lodge, saying:)*

**GRAND MASTER:** In the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe, to whom be all honor and glory, I do solemnly rededicate this hall to Freemasonry.

*(The Public Grand Honors are given once.)*

*(The Senior Grand Warden steps forward and presenting the vessel of wine to the Grand Master, says:)*

**SENIOR GRAND WARDEN:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: wine, the emblem of refreshment, having been used by our ancient brethren in the dedication and consecration of their Lodges. I present you this vessel of wine to be used on the present occasion according to ancient Masonic form.

*(The Grand Master, striking twice with his gavel, pours the wine upon the Lodge, saying:)*

**GRAND MASTER:** In the name of the Holy Saints John, I do solemnly rededicate this hall to virtue.

*(The Public Grand Honors are given twice.)*

*The Deputy Grand Master steps forward and presenting the vessel of oil to the Grand Master, says:*

**DEPUTY GRAND MASTER:** Most Worshipful Grand Master: I present you to be used according to ancient custom, this vessel of oil, an emblem of that joy which should liven every bosom on the completion of every important undertaking.

*(The Grand Master striking thrice with his gavel, pours the oil upon the Lodge saying:)*

**GRAND MASTER:** In the name of the whole fraternity, I do solemnly rededicate this hall to universal benevolence. (\* \* \*)

*(The public Grand Honors are given thrice.)*

## **INVOCATION**

**GRAND CHAPLAIN:** May the Lord, the giver of every good and perfect gift, bless the brethren here assembled in all their lawful undertakings and grant to each of them in need, full supply of the corn of nourishment, the wine of refreshment and the oil of joy. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be.

**GRAND MASTER:** Brother Grand Stewards: you will cover the Lodge.

(Done)

*(An appropriate address may be delivered at this time by the Grand Master or some other Brother appointed for that purpose, or the following may be used:)*

### **ADDRESS**

Brethren, the ceremonies we have performed are not unmeaning rites or the amusing pageants of an idle hour, but have a solemn and instructive import. Let me point out to you and impress upon your minds the ennobling sentiments that these ceremonies convey. This hall, designed and built by wisdom, supported by strength and adorned in beauty, was just consecrated in the name of the Grand Architect of the Universe. It teaches us, in all our work, begun and finished, to acknowledge, adore and magnify Him. Also, it reminds us when entering the door of the Lodge, to put our trust in Him and put our hope in Him for the reward of our labors.

Let then its altar be devoted to his service and its lofty arch resound with his praise! May the All Seeing Eye, witness here the sincere and unaffected piety that withdraws from the engagements of the world to silence and privacy, that it may be exercised with less interruption and less pretentious display.

Following our ancient constitutions, with mystic rites, we have rededicated this hall to the honor of Freemasonry.

Our best attachments are due to the craft. In its prosperity we find our joy and in paying it honor we honor ourselves. But its worth transcends our tribute and its glory will out sound our praise.

Brethren, it is with pride that we have our names on the records of

freemasonry. May it be our high ambition that they shed a lustre on the immortal page!

The hall is also dedicated to virtue. The moral duties which our sublime lectures inculcate with affection and impressive pertinency are cherished in our hearts and illustrated in our lives.

Freemasonry aims to enliven the spirit of philanthropy and promote the cause of charity. Therefore, we have dedicated this hall to universal benevolence in the assurance that every brother will dedicate his affections and his abilities to the same generous purpose; that while he displays a warm and cordial affection for those who are of the fraternity, he will extend benevolent regards and good wishes to the whole family of humankind. Such, my brethren, is the significant meaning of the solemn rites we have just performed. I need not enlarge upon them now nor show how they diverge as rays from a center to enlighten, to improve and to cheer the whole circle of life. Their import and their application is familiar to you all. In their knowledge and their exercise, may you fulfill the high purposes of the Masonic institution.

How many pleasing considerations, my brethren, attend the present occasion! While in almost every other association of men, political animosities, contentions and wars interrupt the progress of humanity and the cause of benevolence, it is our distinguished privilege to dwell together in peace and to engage in plans to perfect individual and social happiness. In many other nations our fraternity is viewed by politicians with suspicion and by the uneducated with apprehension. Freemasons in this country are too much respected and principles of our fraternity too well known, to make it the object of jealousy or mistrust. Our private assemblies are unmolested and our public celebrations attract the general approval of the fraternity.

Indeed, its importance, its credit, and we trust, its usefulness, are advancing to a height unknown in any former age. This present occasion gives fresh evidence of the increasing affection of its friends. These apartments fitted up in a style of such elegance and convenience do honor to freemasonry, as well as reflect the highest credit on the Lodge for whose accommodation and at whose expense it is erected.

We offer our best congratulations to the Worshipful Master, Wardens, officers and members of <NAME> Lodge no. (#). We commend their zeal and hope it will amply meet their future needs. May this hall be the happy resort of piety, virtue and benevolence. May it be protected from accident, long remain a monument to the zeal and energy of the brethren of this Lodge and be an honor to Freemasonry. And when they, and we all are removed from the labors of this earthly Lodge, may all of us be admitted to the brotherhood of the just, in the building of God, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

*(A selection of music may be rendered, or other addresses made.)*

*(The Grand Lodge is again formed in procession as at first, returns to the room where it was opened, and is closed in full form.)*

*Note: (\* \* \*) indicates number of raps of the gavel to order standing, sitting, etc.*

*There are a number of ceremonies in which the Masons of Wisconsin engage which are to be included in the multiple letter cipher. This may be for a number of reasons. It may be caused by a change in the code or an edict such as the balloting procedure. It may be that no official ceremony has been adopted or it may be a public ceremony which was previously in the Wisconsin Monitor. Or it may be a new or revitalized ceremony being recommended to be used.*

*A number of such ceremonies are included in this section and may be added to from time to time either by the individual or from the Grand Lodge Office. These ceremonies replace all previously printed ceremonies of the same type.*

## **Public Opening and Closing of a Lodge (Official)**

*(For use only on special occasions when the public is invited to a Masonic function, such as: Presentation of 50 Year Certificates, Friends Night, etc.)*

**Special Note:** *No signs are to be given when addressed by the W.M. for this reason, and to minimize the chance of someone forgetting this important point, no one will address the W.M. directly. When they are called upon to perform their duty, they will simply rise and do so.*

*If the flag is to be presented, it is done in the manner set forth in the cipher beginning with Line 2, Page 182. At the conclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance, the three brethren who have acted as the color guard will simply retire to the sidelines. (If the flag is presented by one of the patriotic organizations, they may retire through the outer door if they prefer.)*

**W.M.:** Brethren and Guests, the ways of virtue are beautiful. Knowledge is attained by degrees. Wisdom dwells with contemplation: there we must seek her. Let us then, apply ourselves with zeal to the practice of the excellent principles inculcated by the Craft. Let us ever remember that the great objects of our Fraternity are the restraint of improper desires and passions, the cultivation of an active benevolence, and promotion of a correct knowledge of the duties we owe to God, our neighbor, and ourselves. Let us cultivate the great moral virtues which are laid down on our Masonic trestle board and improve in everything that is good, amiable, and useful. As with every important undertaking, we invoke the blessing of deity. Brother Chaplain. (\* \* \*)

**Chaplain:** *(Kneeling at Altar)* Supreme Architect of the Universe, in Thy name we have assembled, and in Thy name we desire to proceed in all our doings. Grant that the sublime principles of Freemasonry may so subdue every discordant passion within us; so harmonize and enrich our hearts with Thine own love and goodness, that the Lodge at this time may humbly reflect that beauty and order which reign forever before Thy throne. Amen.

**Response:** So mote it be.

*Or this:*

**Chaplain:** *(Kneeling at Altar)* Almighty God, grant us grace to so conduct the affairs of this Lodge that all we do, and all we think, and all we say, may be inspired by Thy wisdom, to the end that we may do Thy will, and to Thee shall be all honor and glory. Amen.

**Response:** So mote it be.

**W.M.:** Brother J.W., you will display the Three Lesser Lights.

*(J.W. proceeds directly to the 3 lesser lights.*

*As he lights the candles in the regular manner, he says:)*

**J.W.:** Every Lodge has three lights situated east (lights candle) west (lights candle) and south (lights candle), none in the north.

*(J.W. returns to his station.)*

**W.M.:** Brother S.W., you will display the Holy Bible, Square and

Compasses.

*(S.W. proceeds directly to the altar and says:)*

**S.W.:** *(As he slowly opens the Bible)* The Bible is dedicated to God, it being the gift of God to man.

*(As he carefully places the square on the Bible)* The Square is dedicated to the Master, it being the proper emblem of his office, and should continually remind him of the duty he owes to the Lodge over which he is elected to preside.

*(As he carefully places the compasses over the square)* The Compasses is dedicated to the Craft, for by a due attention to their use we are taught to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds with all mankind.

*(S.W. returns to his station.)*

(Optional)

**J.W.:** Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard, that went down to the skirts of his garment. As the dew of Hermon. and as the dew that descended upon the mountains of Zion; for there the Lord commanded the blessing, even life for evermore.

*(If the flag is to be formally presented, it would be done at this time, otherwise the W.M. would say:)*

**W.M.:** Brethren and Guests, will you join me in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag. (\* \* \*)



*(Done)*

**W.M.:** (\*)

### **Public Closing Ceremonies**

**W.M.:** Brethren, we are now to quit this retreat of friendship and virtue, to mix again with the world. Amidst its concerns and employments, forget not the duties you have heard so frequently taught and forcibly recommended in this Lodge. Be diligent, temperate and discreet. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. Recommend it more especially to the household of the faithful. Finally, Brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.

So we end our labors, Brethren and Guests, in the same manner in which we began our labors. Brother Chaplain. (\* \* \*)

**Chaplain:** *(From Altar)* Grand Architect of the Universe, ruler of heaven and earth; now that we are about to separate and return to our respective places of abode, wilt Thou be pleased so to influence our hearts and minds that we may each one of us practice out of the Lodge those great moral duties which are taught in it, and with reverence study and obey the laws which Thou hast given us in Thy holy word. Amen.

**Response:** So mote it be.

**W.M.:** Brother S.W., you will secure the Holy Bible, Square and  
Compasses. (Done)

**W.M.:** Brother J.W., you will extinguish the Three Lesser Lights. (Done)

**W.M.:** Brethren and Guests, you are dismissed. (\*)

# INSTALLATION CEREMONY OF BLUE LODGE OFFICERS

*(Adaptation by Craig S. Campbell, 12-08-2006)*

**NOTE:** Public Opening should begin on time. All Installing Officers should be in their places, all to be installed should be in the chairs prior to beginning. All officers will wear aprons of the office to which they will be installed. 1-2 people should be designated to remove chairs as officers are installed.

**WM** – “Brethren and guests, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Installation Ceremony of the Officers of *<Name of Lodge>* Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin.

I am *<NAME AND TITLE>*, of *<NAME>*, Lodge in *<Name of city,town>* Wisconsin and I have the privilege of presiding over the public opening of this wonderful ceremony. Joining me in this opening are:

*<Name>* as Senior Warden *(rise, pause, and sit)*

*<Name>* as Junior Warden *(rise, pause, and sit)*

*<Name>* as Chaplain.” *(rise, pause, and sit)*

**== OPTIONAL: ==**

**WM** – I am pleased to introduce the State of Wisconsin Officers of the International Order of DeMolay who will present the Holy Bible, School Books, and Flag.

**SMC** – “Friends, the Order of DeMolay was founded by Freemason Frank Land and bands together young men between the ages of 12 and 21 for mutual improvement, to help each other live clean, manly, upright, patriotic lives which will be a credit to our parents and friends, and which will merit the commendation of all good men.

In our meetings we inculcate principles which are in harmony with this exalted purpose and in our daily lives we seek to carry them into effect. We are pleased to take part in this Installation Ceremony to give you this brief look at our noble order.”

I am <NAME> as State Master Councilor, and I am joined by <NAME>, as Deputy Master Councilor, <NAME> as State Senior Deacon, and <NAME> as State Marshall.

**SMC** – “Brother Deputy Master Councilor, you will place the Holy Bible on the Altar.”

**SDMC** – *(Proceeds to Altar, places Bible in center)*

**SMC** – “We place the Holy Bible, the foundation of our faith in everlasting days, upon the Altar as a symbol of the Religious Liberty that is the birthright of all people. Upon that Altar it is not the emblem of any creed or the repository of any system of theology, but the word of the one living and true God, whose universal Fatherhood teaches the inescapable lesson of the brotherhood of all His sons. Without the opportunity to worship God

according to the dictates of our own consciences, our freedom would be a mockery. Therefore, as the foundation of all our liberties, we place the word of God upon our Altar.”

**SMC** – “Brother Marshall, you will place the Schoolbooks on the Altar.”

**SM** – *(Proceeds to Altar, places Schoolbooks on Northeast corner.)*

**SMC** – “We place the Schoolbooks on the Altar as a symbol of Intellectual Liberty without which there could be neither civil nor religious freedom.

They are particularly emblematic of the great public school system of our country, the foundation of that universal enlightenment that is the crowning glory of our institutions. Devoted championship of our public schools is a cardinal teaching of the Order of DeMolay. We are unalterably opposed to the same building housing a school, a church and a seat of civil government. Civil, religious and intellectual liberty are the three sources of our country’s greatness, but they must stand alone, upon separate foundations and under separate roofs. ‘These books, representative of those being carried to and from the public schools by millions of boys and girls each day, are just as vital symbols of our liberties as the Holy Bible, which is the rule and guide of our faith, or the flag which protects the church, the school and the seat of civil power. We, therefore, place these books upon the Altar and I solemnly enjoin you ever to stand unswervingly for the protection and perpetuity of the free public schools, the citadel of our safety and the source of the only real freedom possible in a government of the people, by the people and for the people.

**SMC** – Brother Senior Deacon, you will present the Flag of the United States of America. ( \* \* \* )

**SSD** – *(Proceeds to Altar, halting at Altar, facing east.)*

**SMC** - “We present the flag at the Altar as a symbol of civil liberty, without which there could be no religious freedom. It is especially appropriate that this flag should be committed to the custody of these young men, so soon to become the citizens by whose patriotism its honor must be defended, whether on the fields of battle or on the perpetual battlefields where good citizenship wages war with bad.

In all the crises of the nation’s history, we have called upon our young manhood and thank God they have never failed to respond. Young men have fought every war our country has ever waged and the red upon that glorious banner is dyed a richer hue with the precious blood the nation’s youth has shed. We, therefore, present it at our Altar as a sentinel to guard us while we worship and study, and I solemnly enjoin you ever to live worthy of the sacrifices made to maintain the liberties it represents.”

“Please join us in singing our National Anthem.” *(Done.)*

**SSD** – *(Proceeds to east, placing flag at the dais.)*

**SMC** – “Please join me in Pledging Allegiance to our Flag.” *(Done.)* ( \* )

State DeMolay Officers take seats on sidelines.

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*(If NOT done by DeMolay above:)*

**WM** – “The Bible will be presented by .....

*(Done)*

*(If NOT done by DeMolay above:)*

**WM** - ( \* \* \* ) “Please join me in Pledging Allegiance to our Flag” ( \* ).

**WM** – “Masons have long held that knowledge is attained by degrees and that wisdom results from contemplation. Let us take a moment, then, and reflect on what Masonry teaches and expects: temperate behavior,

circumspect speech, just reasoning, soothing words, comforting assistance, honorable actions, equitable justice, fidelity, honesty, and honor. No institution was ever raised on better principles or a more solid foundation; nor were ever more excellent tenets and useful maxims laid down than are inculcated in the Masonic degrees. For these and many other reasons, one can generally always tell a Mason by his character. Let us then apply ourselves with zeal to the practice of the excellent principles inculcated in Masonry and cultivate the great moral virtues that are laid down on our Masonic trestleboard, the Holy Writings, and strive to improve in everything that is good, amiable, and useful.”

**WM** – “Brother Junior Warden, you will display the three burning tapers.”

**JW** – *(Proceeds to light candles in normal manner, saying...)* “Every lodge has three lights, situated in the East, West and South; none in the North. Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity...”

**WM** – “Brother Senior Warden, you will display the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses.”

**SW** – *(Proceeds to altar, kneels and as he slowly opens the Bible, says...)*

“The Bible is dedicated to God, it being the inestimable gift of God to Man.”

*(Placing the Square, says...)*

“The Square is dedicated to the Master, it being the proper emblem of his office and should continually remind him of the duty he owes to the Lodge over which he is elected to preside.”

*(Placing the Compasses, says...)*

“The Compasses is dedicated to the Craft, for by a due attention to its use, we are taught to circumscribe our desires and keep our passions within due bounds with all mankind.”

**WM** – “As is taught in the first degree of Masonry, upon embarking on any important undertaking, we invoke the blessing of Deity. Brother Chaplain, please lead us in prayer.”

(\* \* \*)

**Chaplain:** (Does NOT go to altar) –

“Supreme Architect of the Universe, in Thy name we have assembled and in Thy name we desire to proceed in all our doings. Grant that the sublime principles of Freemasonry may so subdue every discordant passion within us; so harmonize and enrich our hearts with Thine own love and goodness that the Lodge at this time may humbly reflect that beauty and order which reign forever before Thy throne. Amen.”

**WM** - ( \* ) “Brethren and guests, it is my privilege to introduce you to the men who will conduct this installation of officers: *(rise when introduced)*

Installing Master, <TITLE AND NAME> ,

Installing Marshal, <TITLE AND NAME> ,

Installing Chaplain, <TITLE AND NAME> ,

Brother Installing Master, it is a pleasure to have you preside over this installation and I have the honor of presenting you the gavel.”

**I.Mas.** – “Thank you WM. Let’s give the officers a round of applause for such a fine job opening the lodge.



**I.Mas.** – “The officers who now declare themselves ready for installation will rise.” ( \*\* )

**I.Mas.** – “Each officer will place his right hand over his heart and all speaking in unison, say ‘I’, pronounce your name, and repeat after me.”

**“Promise upon my honor as a Mason /  
that I will to the best of my ability /  
conform to and abide by the ancient landmarks, /  
regulations and usages of Freemasonry, /  
the constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge, / and the By-Laws of  
my Lodge /  
and will faithfully perform the duties of the office /  
for which I have been selected.”**

**I.Mas.** – “My brethren, I congratulate each of you on having been elected or appointed to the exalted station which you are about to occupy. Each station involves great responsibility and requires that you be installed with solemn sanction. You are now on the threshold of a great and important undertaking, so let us conform to our Masonic teachings and bow our heads while our Installing Grand Chaplain invokes the blessing of Deity.” ( \* \* \* )

*(Installing Chaplain proceeds to Altar, kneels, and offers prayer ...)*

**I.Ch.** – “Grand Architect of the Universe, Thou art our God and the God of our fathers before us: in thee we live, move, and have our being. Make us conscious of Thy presence. Shed the light of Thy wisdom into our hearts,

that the spiritual world may become more real to us. We thank Thee for all the opportunities of life. Bless the brethren who now stand before Thee and are about to be charged with the responsibility of conducting the affairs of this Lodge; give them grace to see Thy way, and to dispense thy light. Bless all our brethren and all people. To Thy holy name shall be glory evermore. Amen.”

All – “So Mote It Be.”

**I.Mas.** - ( \* ) (*I.Ch. returns to place and is seated.*)

## **Trustees**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Trustees for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – (*invites trustees to approach the altar*) – “I have the pleasure to present brother(s) <NAMES>, who has/have been elected Trustee(s) of this lodge for their respective terms.”

**I.Mas.** “Brother(s) <NAMES>, you have been elected by the members of your lodge to serve in the important capacity as Trustee. The specific duties which govern and control your responsibilities and activities are clearly spelled out in the Masonic Code of Wisconsin. Each of you is charged to be familiar with and to comply with these regulations. You are to work under the direction of your Master in a cooperative and productive manner, and in line with the By-Laws of your lodge and the statutes of the State of Wisconsin. You are charged to supervise the property, investments, legal activities and certain funds of your lodge unless

otherwise specified in your lodge By-Laws, and always with the approval of the lodge.”

“Accurate and regular reports reflecting your meetings, decisions and recommendations are to be given in open lodge and recorded in the lodge’s minutes. The status and financial growth of your lodge in many ways is directly influenced by your dedicated efforts and cooperative relationship with your lodge officers.”

“You may take a seat on the sideline or return to your places.”

## Tiler

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Tiler for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Tiler – has him rise and approach the altar) –*

“I have the pleasure to present brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Tiler for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, the sword is placed in the hand of the Tiler to enable him to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and allow none to pass or re-pass except such as are duly qualified. Your duty is purely traditional and largely symbolic; dating back to a time when Masons met in secrecy out of necessity to avoid death or persecution. Masonic principles teach men to be square with each other, and thus we despise deceit and eavesdropping. Since the business conducted in a Masonic meeting today carries no such grave consequences, you are charged with the responsibility of simply preventing those who are

unqualified from entering or observing. Your early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the institution and its heralded traditions.”

“Having already received your apron, you will now be invested with the jewel and implement of your office.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Tiler to his place.” *(Done)*

### **Organist and Soloist**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Organist and Soloist for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Organist and Soloist – has them rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brother(s) *(names him or them)*, who has (have) been appointed Organist and Soloist for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Bros. <NAME> and <NAME>, as Organist and Soloist, your duties are to furnish the lodge with suitable music for the embellishment of the ritual work as well as any other occasion as may be required. As harmony is the strength and support of all institutions, more especially of ours, the exemplification of harmony in music will enhance all of our work, and contribute to the well being of the lodge.”

“Having already received your aprons, you will now be invested with the jewels of your respective offices.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Organist and Soloist to their places.” *(Done)*

## Counselor

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Counselor for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Counselor – has him rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Counselor for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, as Counselor, your responsibilities include working with the candidates of the lodge who have been elected for or received degrees. Your goals are to increase the knowledge and understanding of the younger craftsmen in Masonry by teaching the Posting Examinations, Wisconsin Program, and other materials. You are further charged to take a leadership role in the general Masonic educational activities of the lodge. Your diligence and dedication to your expected tasks will be measured through the growth of the lodge and the increased Masonic understanding of its members.”

“Having already received your apron, you will now be invested with the jewel of your office.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Counselor to his place.” *(Done)*

## Stewards

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Stewards for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Stewards – has them rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brothers <NAMES>, who have been appointed Stewards for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Brothers <NAME> and <NAME>, as Stewards your duties are to see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment, and that every brother is suitably provided for; and generally to assist the Deacons and other Officers in performing their duties. Your regular and early attendance will afford the best proof of your devotion and attachment to the lodge. Your eagerness and steady progress advancing to the Deacons chairs will confirm to the brethren that you are qualified and committed to becoming the next officers.”

“Having already received your aprons, you will now be invested with the jewels and implements of your respective offices.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Stewards to their stations.” *(Done)*

## **Deacons**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Deacons for installation.

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Deacons – has them rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brothers <NAMES>, who have been appointed Deacons for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Bros. <NAME> and <NAME>, as Deacons it is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the lodge, such as in the reception of candidates into the degrees

of Freemasonry, the introduction and accommodation of visitors, and in the immediate practice of our ritual. Few stations within the lodge have as strong an impact upon its success as the Deacons. New candidates will frame their impressions about your lodge based on the quality of your execution. Your faithful attendance at each meeting is necessary to prepare you for the responsibilities of directing the lodge in the future, as well as to refine and perfect the ritual that is so much a part of your stations and so vital to the future of the lodge.”

“Having already received your aprons, you will now be invested with the jewels and implements of your respective offices.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Deacons to their stations.” *(Done)*

## **Chaplain**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Chaplain for installation.

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Chaplain – has him rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Chaplain for the ensuing Masonic year”

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, as Chaplain it is your duty to perform those solemn services which remind us of our creator whose spirit is refining our souls, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, that we might fulfill our lives in service to him, as we serve others in Freemasonry and all people throughout the world. Yours is a most-important office. Since this fraternity shapes and creates the bonds of brotherhood; those lasting friendships which are more family-like than casual, it is your responsibility

to console those family members upon the passing of a departed brother, and to lead the Lodge as we pay our respects in honoring him with a Masonic Memorial Service. You also bear the responsibility of keeping all the brethren focused on the Sacred Law which is our Masonic Trestle board; steering and counseling them when their actions, prejudices, and desires infringe upon others; reminding them of their higher duty to the peaceful and harmonious service of God and man.”

“Having already received your apron, you will now be invested with the jewels of your office.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Chaplain to his place.” *(Done)*

### **Secretary – Treasurer**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Secretary and Treasurer for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Secretary and Treasurer – has them rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brothers <NAMES> who have been elected Secretary and Treasurer for the ensuing Masonic year”

### **Secretary**

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME> it is the Secretary’s duty to observe the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in recording the proceedings of the lodge; transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge when requested; to receive all monies paid into the lodge and pay them over to the Treasurer,



taking his receipt thereof. Your good inclination to Freemasonry and this lodge will induce you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity, and by so doing you will merit the esteem of your brethren.”

### **Treasurer**

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, it is the Treasurer’s, duty to receive money paid into the lodge from the hands of the Secretary, keep a just and true account thereof, and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and consent of the Lodge. I trust your regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office.”

“Having already received your aprons, you will now be invested with the jewels of your respective offices.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Secretary and Treasurer to their places.” *(Done)*

### **(If Secretary-Treasurer)**

**I.Mas.:** “Brother <NAME>, as Secretary-Treasurer it is your duty to observe the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in recording the proceedings of the lodge; transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge when requested; to receive all monies paid into the lodge, keep a just and true account thereof, and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and consent of the lodge. I trust your regard for the Fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your offices. Your good inclination to

Freemasonry and this lodge will induce you to discharge those duties with fidelity, and by so doing, you will merit the esteem of your brethren.”

“Having already received your apron, you will now be invested with the jewel of your office.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Secretary - Treasurer to his place.”  
*(Done)*

## **Wardens**

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Wardens for installation.”

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Wardens – has them rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brothers *(names them)*, who have been elected Junior and Senior Wardens for the ensuing Masonic year”

## **Junior Warden**

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, as Junior Warden, your jewel is the Plumb, and it is a most valuable tool. The Plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations before God and man, to hold the scale of justice in equal balance, to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty. To you is committed the superintendence of the Craft during the hours of refreshment. You shall act as liaison between the lodge and any related youth groups and shall make periodic reports to the Junior Grand Warden and to your Worshipful Master. Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested and I have no doubt you will faithfully perform the duties, which pertain to your

## Senior Warden

**I.Mas.** - “Brother <NAME>, as Senior Warden, your jewel is the Level. In Masonry, the Level demonstrates that we are to seek the common ground. We use the level to illustrate the compromises necessary to work together and to agree; and, though distinctions among men are necessary, yet no high station should make us forget that we are brethren. Your regular attendance at our stated communications is essential. In the absence of the Master you are to govern the lodge; in his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely on your knowledge of Masonry, and attachment to the lodge, for the faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust. Look well to the West.”

“Having already received your aprons, you will now be invested with the jewel of your office.” *(Done)*

“Installing Marshal, please conduct the Wardens to their stations.” *(Done)*

**I.Mas.** – “Installing Marshal, please introduce the Worshipful Master for installation.”

## Worshipful Master

**I.Mar.** – *(moves to side of Worshipful Master – has him rise and approach the altar)*

“I have the pleasure to present brother <NAME>, who has been elected Worshipful Master of this lodge. I find him to be of good morals and great skill, true and trusty - and as he is a lover of the fraternity wheresoever

dispersed over the face of the earth, I am sure he will discharge his duty with fidelity.”

**I.Mas.** - “My brother, previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient regulations which point out the duty of the Master of a Lodge. You will kneel at the altar.”

*(The I.Mas. then reads, or causes to be read, a summary of the ancient charges to the W.M.-elect. He may approach the altar, leaving his hat in the east for these charges, if desired.)*

**I.Mas.** - “Do you agree to be a good man and true and to strictly obey the moral law - to cheerfully conform to the laws of the nation and to submit to constituted authorities, promoting the general good of society, and propagating the knowledge of our mystic art according to its statutes?”

</ do>

“Do you agree to be courteous to your brethren and faithful to your lodge, to respect genuine brethren, and to reject impostors and all dissenters from the original plan of Freemasonry? Further, do you admit that no person can be regularly made a Mason in, or admitted a member of any regular Lodge without previous notice of due inquiry into his character; and do you also agree that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge without producing proper credentials and satisfying you as to his privilege to do so?”

</ do>

“Do you agree to submit to the actions and resolutions of your brethren in Lodge convened, in every case consistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Fraternity; and to pay homage to the Grand Master, and to strictly conform to every edict of the Grand Master?”

</ do>

“Do you promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge; and that the landmarks are to be observed; and that no new lodge can be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge; and that no recognition ought to be given to an irregular lodge or Mason?”

</ do>

“Brother <NAME>, in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the Craft, you are hereby duly installed Worshipful Master of this Lodge in full confidence of your care, skill, and capacity to govern the same. You will now arise and be invested with the jewel of your office.” *(Done)*

**I.Mas.** - “Installing Marshal, you will conduct Brother <NAME> to the East.”

*(Done, I.Mas. receives WM by extending right hand to ascend dais)*

**I.Mas.** - “Tools and implements of architecture and of Stone Masonry are used in this fraternity to teach a specific conduct of life, and upon this occasion I will enumerate them.”

“**The Holy Writings** - that great light in all of life, Freemasonry urges you to study diligently. We believe they will guide you to all truth; they will direct your paths to the temple of happiness, and point out to you the whole duty of man.

In Freemasonry we use the **Square** to teach us to regulate our actions and to harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

The **Compasses** to teach us to draw boundaries on our behavior and our thoughts, to always remain within ourselves, and to limit our desires in every station, that rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

We use the **Rule** to direct all Freemasons to divide their time; giving equal time to the service of those around us who are less fortunate than ourselves, as well as to the service of God, and that we should punctually observe our duty, press forward in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right, nor to the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

Freemasonry uses the **Line** to teach the criterion on moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path, which leads to immortality.

**The Book of Constitutions** you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that all may be aware of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

You now receive the **Charter**; the authority by which this Lodge is held. You are carefully to preserve it, and in no case should it ever be out of your immediate control. At the expiration of your term of office you will deliver it to your successor.

Lastly, you will receive in charge the **By-Laws** of your Lodge, which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.”

**I.Mas.:** “Worshipful Master, The Grand Lodge, having committed to your care the superintendence and government of the brethren who constitute your lodge, you cannot be insensitive to the obligations which devolve upon you as their head, nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties pertaining to your station.

The honor, reputation and usefulness of your lodge will materially depend on the skill and care with which you manage its concerns. The happiness of its members will be generally increased in proportion to the zeal and ability with which you promote the genuine principles of our institution.

*(Pause slightly)* You may be seated.”

**I.Mas.:** “Brother Senior and Junior Wardens, please stand. *(Done)* You are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry to warrant any apprehension that you will be found wanting in the discharge of your respective duties. You are carefully to assist the Master in the discharge of his trust, diffusing light and imparting knowledge to all whom he shall place under your care. In the absence of the Master, you will succeed to higher duties. Your commitment must, therefore, be such that the craft may never suffer for want of proper instruction. *(Pause Slightly.)* You may be seated.”

**I.Mas.:** “Brethren of <NAME> Lodge number (#); such is the nature of our constitution that, as some must necessarily govern and teach, so too must others learn to comply. Humility in both is essential. The officers who have been selected to govern your lodge are sufficiently familiar with the customs of society and the laws of Freemasonry to avoid exceeding the powers with which they are entrusted; and you are of too generous a disposition to envy their position. I, therefore, trust that you will have but

one aim; to please each other and unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness: that you will strengthen and grow your lodge from within by attracting your sons and their sons to becoming members and its next leaders. They will gain inspiration from your direction and you will both relish the bond of brotherhood forever. May the tenets of Freemasonry be transmitted through your family and your lodge, pure and unimpaired, from generation to generation.”

**I.Mas.:** “Installing Marshal, make the proclamation.”

*(I.Mar.places his right hand on the Holy Writings and says)...*

**I. Mar.:** “In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin, I proclaim the officers of <NAME> Lodge number (#) duly installed.”

*(I.Mar. remains at altar, and raises right hand, and turning in each direction says)...*

“I proclaim it in the South, I proclaim it in the West, and I proclaim it in the East.”

( \* \* \* )

**I.Mas.** “Brethren and guests, salute your officers with applause.”

<to WM> “Worshipful Master, your officers are now installed and I am pleased to present you the gavel; a symbol of your authority. One rap calls up anyone whom you may address, two raps call up the officers of the lodge, three raps call up your entire lodge, and one rap seats the lodge. Worshipful Master, seat your lodge.” *(Done - \*.)*



*(The WM's agenda completes the program, and may include an Installation Address by himself or a guest speaker, presentations to the WM, musical selections, and any other elements as desired by the WM.)*

## **Remarks from the Worshipful Master**

### **Introductions**

### **Presentations**

## **PUBLIC CLOSING**

**WM** – “Brethren and guests, we are now to close this assembly of friendship and virtue, and return to the concerns of the world. Amidst its responsibilities and employments, forget NOT the duties you have heard so frequently taught and forcibly recommended in this installation. Be diligent, prudent, temperate and discreet. Every human being has a claim upon your kind offices. Do good unto all. Finally, brethren, be ye all of one mind; live in peace, and may the God of love and peace delight to dwell with and bless you.”

**WM** – “So we end our labors, brethren and guests, in the same manner in which we began them. Brother Installing Chaplain, please lead us in prayer.” (\* \* \*).

**I.Ch.** – *(may go to kneel at altar)* “Supreme Architect of the Universe, ruler of heaven and earth; now that we are about to separate and each go to our own concerns, wilt Thou be pleased so to influence our hearts and minds that we may each one of us practice out of the Lodge those great moral

duties which are taught in it, and with reverence study and obey the laws which Thou hast given us in Thy Holy Word. Amen.”

Response - “So mote it be.”

**WM** – ( \* )

### **BENEDICTION**

**== OPTIONAL ==**

**WM** – “I am extremely pleased to offer as our benediction, the young ladies of our organization who are members of the International Order of Jobs Daughters who will perform their extremely impressive and moving ceremony, The Living Cross.”

*(Done)*

=====

**WM** – “Brother SW, you will secure the Holy Bible, Square, and Compasses.”

**WM** – “Brother JW, you will extinguish the three Burning Tapers.”

**WM** – “Brethren and friends, thank you so much for coming, it means a great deal to all of us. This concludes our Installation Ceremony.” ( \* ).



## CEREMONY OF INSTALLATION #2

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Installing Grand Marshal, you will conduct the newly elected and appointed officers of <NAME> Lodge No. (#) to the East facing West.

*(The newly elected and appointed officers, wearing the aprons of the office to which they are to be installed, are all arranged according to rank and conducted to the east by the Marshal. See diagram on last page.)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brethren, you now behold before you the officers who have been duly elected and appointed to serve this lodge for the ensuing Masonic year and now declare themselves ready for installation. If any of you have any reason to urge why they should not be installed, you will now make them known or else forever hereafter hold your peace. Hearing no objections, I shall proceed to install them.

Installing Grand Marshal, you will conduct these brethren to the altar, facing East.

*(The Marshal then conducts the officers west of the altar facing east. See diagram on preceding page)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** As no man should ever engage in any great or important undertaking without invoking the blessing of deity, Brother Chaplain (or I) will now lead us in prayer. (\* \* \*)

*(If there is a Chaplain, he proceeds to and kneels at the altar. If not, the Installing Officer offers a prayer from the east.)*

## PRAYER

Grand Architect of the Universe, thou art our God and the God of our fathers before us: in Thee we live, and move, and have our being. Make us conscious of Thy presence. Shed the light of Thy wisdom into our hearts, that the spiritual world may become more real to us. We thank Thee for all the opportunities of life. Bless the brethren who now stand before Thee and are about to be entrusted with the responsibility of conducting the affairs of this Lodge; give them grace to see Thy way, and to dispense Thy light. Bless all our brethren and all people and to Thy holy name shall be glory evermore. Amen.

**RESPONSE:** So Mote It Be. ( \* )

*(At this point it is appropriate for the installing officer to offer any remarks he may have prepared, after which he will request the officers to be installed to rise.)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Each officer will place his right hand over his heart, and all speaking in unison, say I, pronounce his name, and repeat after me,

**Promise upon my honor as a mason /  
That I will, to the best of my ability, /  
Conform to and abide by the ancient landmarks, /  
Regulations and usages of Masonry, /  
The constitution and edicts of the Grand Lodge /  
And the by-laws of this Lodge, /  
And faithfully perform the duties of the office /  
For which I have been selected.**

## **WORSHIPFUL MASTER**

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Installing Grand Marshal, you will present the Worshipful Master at the altar for installation. The other officers may be seated. *(done)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present my worthy Brother <NAME>, to be installed Worshipful Master of this (new) Lodge, I find him to be of good morals; and of great skill, true and trusty: and as he is a lover of the fraternity wheresoever dispersed over the face of the earth, I am sure he will discharge his duty with fidelity. *(Use only for W.M.)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** My Brother, previous to your investiture, it is necessary that you should signify your assent to those ancient charges and regulations which point out the duty of a Master of a Lodge. You will kneel at the altar.

*(The installing officer then reads, or causes to be read, a summary of the ancient charges to the Worshipful Master-elect. He may approach the altar, leaving his hat in the east for these charges, if desired. )*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Do you agree to be a good man and true and strictly to obey the moral law; cheerfully to conform to the laws of the nation and submit to constituted authorities; promote the general good of society; and propagate the knowledge of our mystic art, according to its statutes?

**ANSWER:** I do.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Do you agree to be courteous to your brethren, faithful to your lodge, to respect genuine brethren, and to discountenance imposters, and all dissenters from the original plan of Freemasonry? Further, do you admit that no person can be regularly made a Freemason in, or admitted a member of any regular Lodge, without previous notice of due inquiry into his character; and do you also agree that no visitors shall be received into your Lodge without producing proper credentials and satisfying you as to his privilege to do so?

**ANSWER:** I do.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Do you agree to submit to the action and resolutions of your brethren in Lodge convened, in every case consistent with the constitutions of the fraternity; and to pay homage to the Grand Master, and strictly to conform to every edict of the Grand Lodge?

**ANSWER:** I do.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Do you promise a regular attendance on the committees and communications of the Grand Lodge; and that the landmarks are to be observed; and that no new Lodge can be formed without permission of the Grand Lodge; and that no recognition ought to be given to an irregular Lodge or Mason? .

**ANSWER:** I do.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brother <NAME>, in consequence of your cheerful conformity to the charges and regulations of the craft, you are now duly installed Master of this Lodge, in full confidence of your care, skill and capacity to govern the same. You will now arise and be invested with the jewel of your office.

*(The Installing Officer returns to the east if he has moved to the altar for the charges. The new Master is then regularly invested with the jewel of his office, by the Marshal)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Installing Grand Marshal, you will conduct Brother <NAME> to the east. *(The Marshal conducts the Master to the east to the left hand side of the Installing Officer)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** The various implements of Masonry are emblematic of our conduct in life, and upon this occasion are carefully enumerated.

**The Holy Writings**, that great light in Masonry, will guide you to all truth: it will direct your paths to the temple of happiness and point out to you the whole duty of man.

**The Square** teaches us to regulate our actions by rule and line, and to harmonize our conduct by the principles of morality and virtue.

**The Compasses** teach us to limit our desires in every station, that rising to eminence by merit, we may live respected and die regretted.

**The Rule** directs that we should punctually observe our duty, press forward

in the path of virtue, and, neither inclining to the right, nor to the left, in all our actions have eternity in view.

**The Line** teaches the criterion on moral rectitude, to avoid dissimulation in conversation and action, and to direct our steps to the path which leads to immortality.

**The Book of Constitutions** you are to search at all times. Cause it to be read in your Lodge, that none may pretend ignorance of the excellent precepts it enjoins.

You now receive **the Charter**, by the authority of which this lodge is held. You are carefully to preserve it, and in no case should it ever be out of your immediate control. At the expiration of your term of office you will deliver it to your successor.

Lastly, you receive in charge **the By-Laws** of your lodge, which you are to see carefully and punctually executed.

*(Hat may be presented at this time - see optional ceremony)*

*(A Lodge gavel or a gift gavel may be presented at this time)*

*(The new Master then stands to the left of the Installing Officer, who, calling up the brethren will say:) ( \*  
\* \*)*

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** I now present you the gavel: a symbol of your authority. One rap calls up anyone whom you may address, two raps call up the officers of the Lodge, three raps call up your entire Lodge, and one rap seats the Lodge.



Master, behold your brethren. Brethren and friends behold your Master; salute him with a hearty round of applause.

*(Note: Closed installation - salute with grand honors)*

Worshipful Master, seat your Lodge. (\*) *(The master is then seated in the east on the left hand of the installing officer.)*

*(The other officers are then respectively presented to the Installing Officer by the Marshal, and a charge delivered. To each of them, after which the Marshal conducts them to their respective station and places, as follows)*

## **WARDENS**

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Installing Grand Marshal, present the Wardens for installation.

## **WARDENS**

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brother <NAME>, and Brother <NAME>, who have been elected Senior and Junior Wardens for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>,, you have been elected Senior and Junior Wardens of this Lodge and are now invested with the jewels of your offices.

Brother Senior Warden, the level demonstrates that we are descended from the same stock, partake of the same nature, and share the same

hope; and, though distinctions among men are necessary, yet no eminence of station should make us forget that we are brethren. Your regular attendance at our stated communications is essential. In the absence of the Master you are to govern this Lodge; in his presence, you are to assist him in the government of it. I firmly rely on your knowledge of Masonry, and attachment to the Lodge, for the faithful discharge of the duties of this important trust. Look well to the west.

Brother Junior Warden, the plumb admonishes us to walk uprightly in our several stations, to hold the scale of justice in equal poise, to observe the just medium between intemperance and pleasure, and to make our passions and prejudices coincide with the line of our duty, to you is committed the superintendence of the craft during the hours of refreshment. You shall act as liaison between your Lodge and any related youth groups and shall make periodic reports to the Junior Grand Warden and to your Worshipful Master. Your regular and punctual attendance is particularly requested and I have no doubt you will faithfully perform the duties which pertain to your station. Look well to the south.

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the wardens to their respective stations and present the Treasurer and Secretary for installation. *(Done)*

## **TREASURER AND SECRETARY**

*(If offices are combined, see "Secretary/Treasurer" combined)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present

Brother <NAME>, who has been elected Treasurer and Brother <NAME>,, who has been elected Secretary for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>,, you have been elected Treasurer and Secretary respectively of this Lodge and are now invested with the jewels of your office. Brother Treasurer, it is your duty to receive money paid into the lodge from the hands of the secretary, keep a just and true account thereof, and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and consent of the Lodge. I trust your regard for the fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of your office. Brother Secretary, it is your duty to observe the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in recording the proceedings of this Lodge; transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge when requested; to receive all monies paid into the lodge and pay them over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefore. Your good inclination to Masonry and this Lodge will induce you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity, and by so doing you will merit the esteem of your brethren.

*(Alternate when the offices are combined - Secretary/Treasurer)*

Brother <NAME>,, you have been elected Secretary/Treasurer of this Lodge and are now invested with the jewel of your office. As Treasurer, it is your duty to receive money paid into the Lodge, keep a just and true account thereof, and pay them out by order of the Worshipful Master and consent of the Lodge. I trust your regard for the fraternity will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of this office. As Secretary, it is your duty to observe the will and pleasure of the Worshipful Master in recording the

proceedings of this Lodge and transmit a copy thereof to the Grand Lodge when requested. Your good inclination to Masonry and this Lodge will induce you to discharge the duties of your office with fidelity, and by so doing you will merit the esteem of your brethren.

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the Treasurer and Secretary to their respective stations and present the Chaplain for installation. *(done)*

## **CHAPLAIN**

*(To be used when a Lodge has a Chaplain)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Chaplain for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brother <NAME>, you have been appointed Chaplain of this Lodge, and are now invested with the jewel of your office.

It is your duty to perform those solemn services which remind us of our creator whose spirit is refining our souls, strengthening our virtues, and purifying our minds, that we might fulfill our lives in service to Him, as we serve others in Masonry and all people throughout the world.

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the Chaplain to his place and present the Deacons for installation. *(done)*

## DEACONS

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Senior Deacon and Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Junior Deacon for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>, you have been appointed Deacons of this Lodge, and are now invested with the jewels and implements of your respective offices.

It is your province to attend on the Master and Wardens, and to act as their proxies in the active duties of the Lodge, such as in the reception of candidates into the degrees of Masonry; the introduction and accommodation of visitors, and in the immediate practice of our rites.

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the deacons to their places and present the Stewards for installation. *(done)*

## STEWARDS

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>, who have been appointed Stewards for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>, you have been

appointed Stewards of this Lodge, and are now invested with the jewels and implements of your respective offices.

Your duties are to see that the tables are properly furnished at refreshment, and that every brother is suitably provided for, and generally to assist the Deacons and other officers in performing their duties. Your regular and early attendance will afford the best proof of your devotion and attachment to the Lodge.

*(If the lodge has an organist or soloist, they should be installed at this time, otherwise proceed as below this section to the Tiler.)*

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the Stewards to their places and present the Organist and Soloist (or Tiler) for installation. *(done)*

## **ORGANIST AND SOLOIST**

*(to be used when a lodge has either officer)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Organist and Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Soloist for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brothers <NAME>, and <NAME>, you have been appointed Organist and Soloist of this Lodge and are now invested with the jewels of your respective offices.

Your duties are to furnish the Lodge with suitable music for the embellishment of the ritualistic portion of the work as well as any other

occasion as may be required. As harmony is the strength and support of all institutions, more especially of ours, the exemplification of harmony in music will enhance all of our work, and contribute to the well being of the Lodge.

Installing Grand Marshal, conduct the Organist and Soloist to their places and present the Tiler for installation. *(done)*

## **TILER**

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** Most Worshipful Installing Master, I present Brother <NAME>, who has been appointed Tiler for the ensuing Masonic year.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brother <NAME>, you have been appointed Tiler of this Lodge and are now invested with jewel and implement of your office.

The sword is placed in the hand of the Tiler to enable him effectually to guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers, and allow none to pass or repass except such as are duly qualified. Your early and punctual attendance will afford the best proof of your zeal for the institution.

Installing Marshal, conduct the Tiler to his place. *(done)*

*(Marshal then returns to his place southwest of the altar. The installing officer then charges the officers and members as follows:)*

**Worshipful Master**, please stand (*W.M. stands*), the Grand Lodge having committed to your care the superintendence and government of the brethren who constitute this Lodge, you cannot be insensible of the obligations which devolve upon you as their head, nor of your responsibility for the faithful discharge of the important duties pertaining to your station.

The honor, reputation and usefulness of your Lodge will materially depend on the skill and care with which you manage its concerns; while the happiness of its members will be generally promoted in proportion to the zeal and ability with which you propagate the genuine principles of our institution. You may be seated. (*W.M. is seated*)

Brother **Senior and Junior Wardens**, please stand. (*Wardens stand*), you are too well acquainted with the principles of Masonry to warrant any apprehension that you will be found wanting in the discharge of your respective duties. You are carefully to assist the Master in the discharge of his trust, diffusing light and imparting knowledge to all whom he shall place under your care. In the absence of the Master you will succeed to higher duties; your commitment must therefore be such that the craft may never suffer for want of proper instruction. You may be seated. (*Wardens are seated*)

Brethren of <LODGE NAME>, Lodge no. (#), such is the nature of our constitution that, as some must necessarily govern and teach so others must, of course, learn to comply. Humility in both is an essential duty. The officers who have been selected to govern your lodge are sufficiently conversant with the rules of propriety and the laws of the institution, to



avoid exceeding the powers with which they are entrusted; and you are of too generous dispositions to envy their preferment, I therefore trust that you will have but one aim; to please each other and unite in the grand design of being happy and communicating happiness. May the tenets of Masonry be transmitted through your Lodge, pure, and unimpaired, from generation to generation.

Installing Grand Marshal, make the proclamation.

*(The Marshal then places his right hand upon the Holy Writings and says:)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** In the name of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of the State of Wisconsin, I proclaim the officers of <NAME>, Lodge no. (#) duly installed.

*(Marshal remains at altar and raises right hand, facing each direction successively)*

**INSTALLING MARSHAL:** I proclaim it in the south,  
I proclaim it in the west,  
I proclaim it in the east.

**INSTALLING OFFICER:** Brethren and guests, salute your officers with applause. *(done)* Worshipful Master, it is with pleasure I return the gavel of authority to you. May you wield it with wisdom and brotherly love.

## **HAT PRESENTATION**

*(optional)*

In ancient times, kings wore a crown as the insignia of royal dignity and power, but in Masonic lodges agreeably with ancient custom, the Worshipful Master wears a hat as a mark of distinction and as an emblem of his official authority over the brethren. While the Lodge is at work, you, as Worshipful Master will wear a hat of your choice which I now present to you. It shall be removed during prayer or any reference to deity, in the presence of the Grand Master and in church.

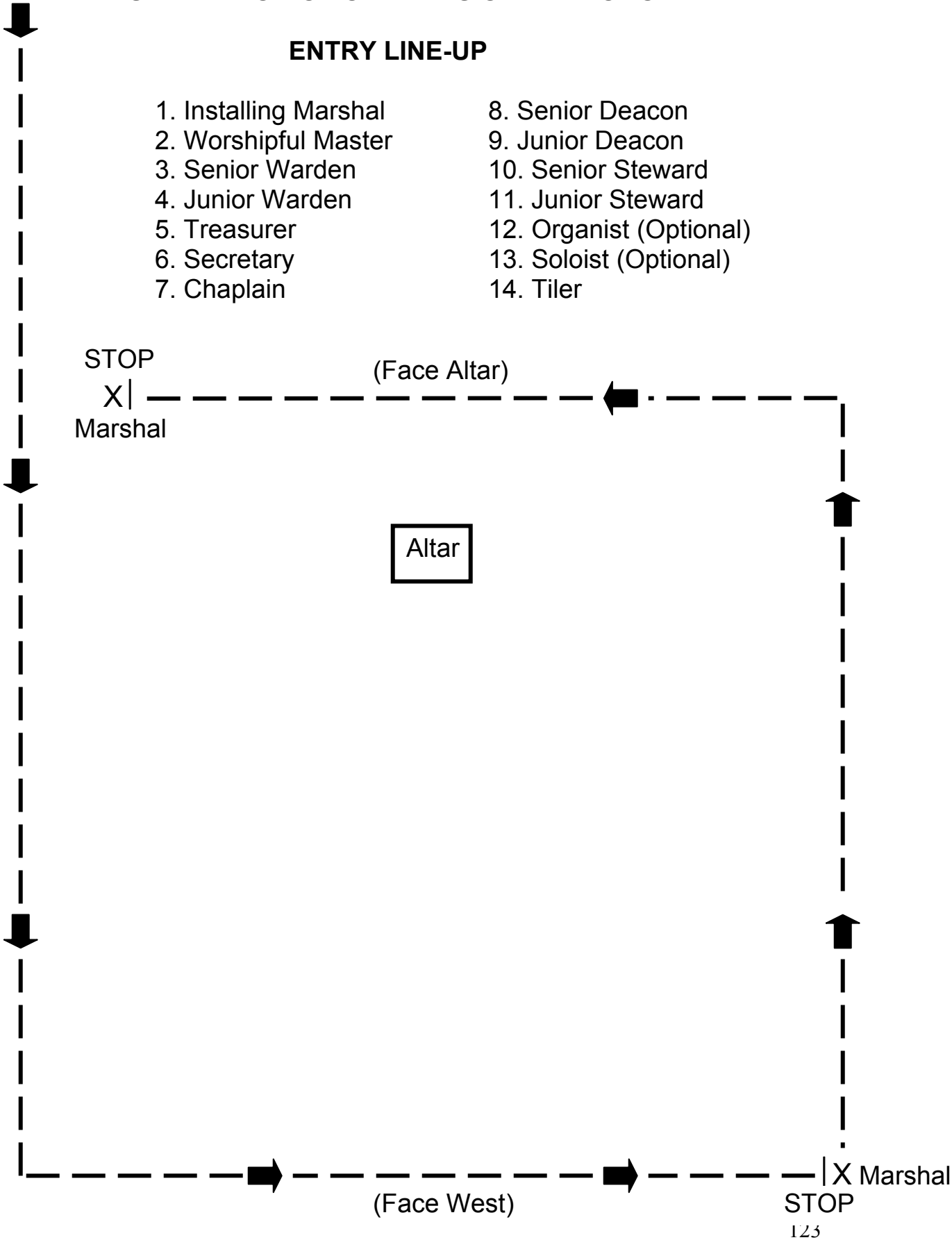
It may also be removed on occasion for your own comfort and convenience.

*Revised June 1984*

# INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS OF THE LODGE

## ENTRY LINE-UP

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Installing Marshal | 8. Senior Deacon        |
| 2. Worshipful Master  | 9. Junior Deacon        |
| 3. Senior Warden      | 10. Senior Steward      |
| 4. Junior Warden      | 11. Junior Steward      |
| 5. Treasurer          | 12. Organist (Optional) |
| 6. Secretary          | 13. Soloist (Optional)  |
| 7. Chaplain           | 14. Tiler               |



## Re-Obligation Ceremony

**W.M.:** The lodge has been convened for the purpose of observing Re-Obligation Night in accordance with the proclamation of the Grand Master made to all Wisconsin lodges. In re-obligating ourselves, mere repetition of the words and phrases, in order to comply with the order or wish of the Grand Master, is useless unless we are conscious of the deep meaning involved, and the personal involvement of each.

For one Mason to interpret to another the meaning of Masonry, its tenets, principles, possibilities, and opportunities is impossible.

Because of background, training, education, native talents, and personal interests, Masonry holds a different appeal and avenue for participation for each individual.

We must always remember that Masonry teaches by symbol and allegory. A very small portion of our lectures and rituals are to be taken literally. This is particularly true of the penalties of the obligations. Also, in a very real sense, the whole of each degree must be considered when endeavoring to fathom the meaning or sense of the obligation.

Consequently, we must each interpret the allegories and symbols embodied in our lessons as they apply to us as individuals and we are assembled this evening to join with all of our brothers in this ceremony

which is to remind us of the duties we as Masons owe to ourselves, to each other and to the world outside.

"Brother Junior Warden: *(J.W rises and salutes.)* You will proceed to the Altar and place yourself in due form to receive the obligation of a Fellowcraft. "

*(When the J.W has obeyed the order, the Master will call up the lodge and say:)*

"Brethren, assume the due guard of a Fellowcraft and under the due guard join with the Senior Warden in re-obligating ourselves as Fellowcrafts."

*(The S.W administers the obligation of a Fellowcraft with the brethren and J.W repeating it phrase by phrase. The lodge is then seated and the junior and Senior Wardens return to their stations and are seated.)*

**W.M.:** "Brethren, please follow me and heed the charge to a Fellowcraft."

*(The Master then reads or recites the F.C. charge.)*

It is well, therefore, that we should keep alive in our minds and hearts the obligations of Freemasonry.

"Brother Senior Warden: *(S.W rises and salutes.)* You will proceed to the Altar and place yourself in due form to receive the obligation of a Master Mason.  
*(When the S.W has obeyed the order, the Master will call up the Lodge and say:)*

"Brethren, let us form in concentric circles about the Altar *(assistance from Senior Deacon)*, and joining hands may we be doubly conscious of the fraternal ties that bind us and of those duties we owe to all brothers of a common almighty parent as we re-obligate ourselves as Master Masons."

*(The Worshipful Master goes through the circle and standing in front of the Altar administers the obligation of a Master Mason with the Senior Warden and brethren responding phrase by phrase. The Lodge is then seated and the Senior Warden and Master return to their stations and are seated.)*

W.M.: "Brethren, please follow with me and heed the charge to a Master Mason. *(The Master then reads or recites the M.M. charge):*

"Brethren, it is well that in concluding these ceremonies we should call upon Almighty God to aid us in fulfilling the obligations which we once more have assumed. Brother Chaplain, please lead us in prayer.

*(The Master will call up the lodge and the Chaplain will give a suitable prayer, after which the Master will seat the lodge and say):*

**W.M.:** "Brethren, this concludes our ceremony of re-obligation and so that we may retain the significance of our participation we will immediately close this lodge of Master Masons."

*(Lodge is then closed in due form)*

## **MASONIC MEMORIAL SERVICES**

Every Mason has the right to a Masonic Memorial Service when requested by his survivors. Upon receiving notice of the passing of a brother, the Master should arrange for an immediate personal visitation with the widow or family. Bear in mind that the widow or family of the deceased brother may be totally unfamiliar with such proceedings, therefore the following guidelines should be carefully observed:

### **Guidelines**

1. When a Mason dies, the Master of the lodge and one or more of the members should call upon the widow and family, express sympathy and extend Masonic courtesies, which include:

- Offering to provide a Masonic memorial service.
- Offering to provide a Masonic apron, if the deceased brother's apron is not available.
- Offering to provide personal services such as pallbearers (active or honorary), drivers or notification of friends and relatives.

2. The Masonic Memorial Service is conducted at the request of the deceased brother's family. The Service is to be in the memory of the deceased brother. When asked to perform the Masonic Memorial Service, it is an honor and privilege to serve the family and friends of the deceased brother.

3. The Masonic Memorial Service should not be confused with a funeral service, which should be conducted by the clergy chosen by the family. The Masonic Memorial Service should not be longer than 30 minutes and should be conducted in advance of the religious service. It is imperative to consult with the clergy involved to avoid duplication or embarrassment. Remember that the purpose of the service is to supplement the brother's personal religion, and not upstage it.

4. The deceased brother's clergy should be invited to the Masonic Memorial Service. Brethren from the lodge and from neighboring Lodges shall be

invited to the service. The Master shall take steps to assure appropriate attendance. Many Lodges organize a telephone committee to invite members to attend the service.

5. The Masonic Memorial Service must be executed with proficiency, sensitivity, dignity and in a worshipful attitude and atmosphere. The format of the service should be well-prepared, large type and double-spaced for easy reading. It need not be memorized. The Brother leading the service, who may be the Master or a Master Mason designated by him, should be practiced and familiar with the material so he is able to present it in a manner which will convey the feeling and meaning of the words and, at the same time, maintain rapport with those who are listening in a fluent and smooth manner.

6. A Masonic Memorial Service is public. For many persons, the only exposure they have to Freemasonry is a Memorial Service. A positive impression must be left with those in attendance.

7. In the rare situation where no funeral service is to be conducted by the clergy, the Lodge may do so when requested by the family.

8. The clergy should perform the committal. if no clergy is available for that purpose, the Lodge may do so, when requested by the family.

9. In every case, the wishes of the family shall be respected.

10. Any of the following Memorial Services are appropriate to be used. It is also acceptable and may even be desirable to combine, edit, or otherwise amend these recommended services to make them fitting and right for the individual brother or situation. Personal touches are welcome and to be desired.



## **Memorial Service # 1**

Friends and Brethren:

In accordance with an honored custom of our ancient fraternity, we have assembled in the character of Masons to pay tribute to the memory of our Brother, whom death has elevated to the Lodge eternal. We trust that the declaration of our faith here expressed, may give comfort and courage to those who have sustained a loss in the death of their loved one.

God has inspired in man a sense of that which time cannot diminish: man is made in the spiritual image of God. This eternal and creative spirit of God, which under girds our universe, has found its fair expression in the hearts of men who with holy fire have cried: "Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee." Let us take comfort from the words of the Psalmist:

*(Any of the following Psalms may be used when deemed appropriate)*

### **Psalm 27**

1. The Lord is my light and my salvation; who shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

4. One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple.

5. For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent, He will set me high upon a rock.

6. And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies round about me; and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

7. Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me;

8. Thou hast said, "Seek ye my face," my heart says to thee, "Thy face, Lord, do I seek."

13. I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

14. Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yea, wait for the Lord.

### Psalm 46

1. God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2. Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea.

3. Though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

4. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the most high

5. God is in the midst of her, she shall not be moved; God will help her right early.

6. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

7. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge

8. Come, behold the works of the Lord, how he has wrought desolation in the earth.

9. He makes wars to cease to the ends of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, he burns the chariots with fire.

10. "Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.

11. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Psalm 23 *(Can invite those present to recite this with the speaker)*

1. The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;

2. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters;

3. He restores my soul. He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His namesake.

4. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

5. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of my enemies; thou anointest my head with oil, my cup overflows.

6. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Finally hear the words of the holy St. John.

And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things have passed away.

And He that sat upon the throne said, behold, I make all things new. He that overcometh shall inherit all things and I will be his God and he shall be my son.

"Is death the last sleep?" Freemasonry believes it is the final awakening!

Freemasonry believes that a rational God, who could create the wonder, which is man, would not do so only to destroy him. God's reasonableness is balanced by His love for His creature. And man's faith has been so inspired by this conviction, that he has dared persecution, and even death, rather than deny this sustaining trust. Freemasonry, therefore, refuses to believe that extinction is the ultimate fate of such worth. It insists that to believe in God is to believe in His ability to bring to completion that which He has begun. Hence, the assurance of immortality brings to every Mason the hope once expressed by the Psalmist who said, "The Lord will fulfill His purpose for me."

In the time of sorrow, when men need comfort and consolation, let us turn reverently to God, who, in the midst of the trials and tribulations that are a

part of life can alone endue us with that quietness of spirit, that peace of mind and heart, which the world can neither give nor take away.

Let us pray:

O thou Supreme Architect of the Universe, we thank Thee for the life of our Brother. We thank Thee that he was one of our Fraternity and fellowship and that we were privileged to labor with him in the mystic tie of brotherhood. We are grateful to Thee for the precious memories of him, which we shall always carry in our hearts. We thank Thee for all that he has meant to those who were near and dear to him through the ties of family and friends.

Most of all, we are grateful to Thee for teaching us that although the body is mortal, the soul is immortal; though the outward form we knew and loved be removed from our sight, we have the assurance that Thou has taken to Thyself his soul, which is the enduring essence of life. This conviction Thou has implanted in us through thy holy word, which is the light of Masonry. We earnestly beseech Thee let thy peace abide with us now and lead us ever in the paths of righteousness. In, Thy name we make this prayer. Amen.

**Response:** "So mote it be."

From time immemorial it has been the custom of Masons to assemble with the family of a departed Brother to honor his memory and to voice sympathy to those whom he loved and who loved him. The last offices we

pay the dead are useless except as they contribute lessons for the living. The lessons we bring is the message of the triumph of life over death ... the victory of hope over despair. Masonry has come down from the far past. It used the tools of the builder as emblems and symbols to teach Masons how to build the temple of the soul and thus fit us for that house not made with hands, eternal in heavens.

The term "builder" is not lightly felt nor lightly used by Masons. The Mason is taught, first to build his own temple ... the temple of his own existence. He is taught, also, to build with others, pledging his time and energy to a common life and welfare and, in all the building to seek the will of God.

The Mason is a worker in the quarries of life where he cuts and shapes stones for the foundation of the great buildings: the buildings of freedom, understanding, peace and brotherhood.

Masons believe sincerely that when life on earth comes to a close, the soul is translated from the imperfections of this mortal sphere to that all-perfect and glorious home where God, the Grand Architect of the Universe, presides. With these truths and Eternal and everlasting God, we look to Thee in faith and confidence knowing that Thy love has power to bring comfort and consolation, even in this time of bereavement, to those near and dear to our Brother. Fill their hearts more and more with the blessed assurance of immortality and of thy abiding love. Bless each one of us in the comforting and the strengthening of our souls, the thoughts and experiences of this hour. May we go from this place with deeper sympathy, warmer love, stronger faith, and more earnest purpose.

Now may the peace of God which passes all knowledge and understanding abide with thy spirit and with us all now and forevermore. Amen.



## **Memorial Service # 2**

Brethren - This lodge has been especially convened to pay our last tribute of love and esteem to our late brother <NAME>.

I now declare <NAME> Lodge (#) duly opened.

### **Funeral Home**

#### ***Brethren and Friends:***

As Freemasons we are taught that when clouds gather darkly, when sorrow and affliction come nearest our hearts, to look with humble supplication to the Grand Architect of the Universe for that comfort and support which He alone can give.

Let us unite our hearts in prayer.

Almighty God our creator and preserver, unto Thee we would lift up our hearts. We thank Thee for Thy great light shining in our world with everlasting brightness. We thank Thee for all who have walked therein, and especially for those near and dear, in whose lives we have seen excellence and beauty. May we know that in the constant reflection of Thy love they are with Thee; that when these earthly days shall come to an end, it is not that our service to Thee and one another will cease, but that it may

begin anew. Lift us into life and love, purity and blessedness, and give us at last our portion with those who have trusted in thee, and sought, in things temporal and spiritual, to do Thy will. Amen.

Brethren and Friends, another brother has come at last, as come we all must, to where the old worn road dips down into the valley of the shadow.

There are some outside our Craft who seem to think Freemasonry is a religion. It is not. It has neither dogma nor creed. And yet, it is religious. It is religious because its entire structure is erected on the foundation of a belief in, and a reliance on, the one true God, the almighty and loving father of us all. The lessons we teach are as old as the words in the Holy Scriptures that lie open on our altar whenever we meet. In fact, our lessons can all be found between the covers of that beautiful old book. Particularly, the lesson of friendship, morality and brotherly love, and it is in brotherly love that we are gathered together on this occasion.

Once more the roll of the workmen has been called and Brother <NAME> answers not.

He was born in <Birthplace> on <Date>.

He was initiated an Entered Apprentice in <NAME> Lodge No. (#) on <Date>.

Passed to the degree of Fellowcraft on <Date> and raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason on <Date>.

He passed on to the Grand Lodge above at the age of <AGE>years, (#) months, (#) days and has now knocked on the door of the lodge eternal and it has been opened unto him.

Brother < NAME> was a member of <LODGE NAME>

Remarks:

He is survived by: (Obituary could be read)

There is one subject upon which Freemasonry sounds a sure and certain note: the immortality of the soul. This common faith in immortality has created and sustained a great historic, heroic fellowship, in which are united, the brave and true of every age, who set among dangers and difficulties, struggled, endured, and triumphed. When through long ages, men of every station in life, the strong and the tender; the wise and the simple; the doer and the dreamer; arrive at the same conclusion, the verdict is overwhelming - if a man dies, his soul shall live.

On occasions like this, the Holy Scriptures, the great light in every degree of Masonry, brings us its most hopeful message. it imbues us with a sense of the dignity of the human personality, its sacredness, its august destiny. It teaches us that our mortal lives, brief, broken and frail as they may be, have a meaning for God; that death is not the end; that beyond its shadows awaits a more beautiful and nobler life. Harken then to the inspired words of consolation, of hope, of victory: "I know that my redeemer liveth and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though this body be

destroyed, yet shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold and not as a stranger.

Let us seek the comfort of the 23<sup>rd</sup> / 121<sup>st</sup> Psalm - *(Choose one)*

### **23rd Psalm**

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures.

He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.

Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

### **121<sup>st</sup> Psalm**

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord which made heaven and earth.

He will not suffer thy foot to be moved, He that keepeth thee will not slumber.

Behold, He that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is thy keeper the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand.  
The sun shall not smite thee by day nor the moon by night.  
The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil. He shall preserve thy soul.  
The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

How beautiful and comforting the stately music of the Psalm, singing its stirring message of love, faith and triumph. As upon the petal of the lily God imprints his symbol of purity and truth; as upon the drifting cloud He stamps His bow of promise, so upon the soul of man, whose life is as a vapor, whose day is as a span, He imprints His image, the glow of His eternal beauty.

Our passing from the mortal to the eternal presents the deepest paradox of life. Out of the shadow of death, which seems to destroy hope, comes faith in immortality. At the moment when nature seems to destroy, when man seems forsaken of God, there rises in his soul courage, confidence, spiritual aspiration which all the tragedies of time have been impotent to extinguish, affirming the living truth that "Life is ever Lord of death and love can never lose its own."

"Let these flowers be to us a symbol of remembrance of the virtues of those departed brothers who have preceded us to that hallowed land, a token of that fraternal alliance which binds us together while here on earth and which we are sure will re-unite us in heaven."

*W.M.: (Taking the apron and displaying it to the assembled mourners:)*

The lambskin, or white apron, is an emblem of innocence, and the badge of a Mason. It is more ancient than the Golden Fleece or Roman Eagle, more honorable than the Star and Garter when worthily worn.

This emblem I now deposit on the casket' of our departed brother. Here we are reminded of the universal dominion of death. The arm of friendship cannot interpose to prevent his coming; the wealth of the world cannot purchase our release, nor will the innocence of youth or the charms of beauty propitiate his purpose.

*(The Master, holding evergreen in his hand continues:)*

**W.M.:** This evergreen is an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul. By this we are reminded of our high and glorious destiny, beyond the “world of shadows,” and that there dwells within our tabernacle of clay an imperishable, immortal spirit, over which the grave has no dominion, and death no power.

**W.M.:** We consign the body of our beloved brother to its kindred dust.

In case of cremation, one of the following terms may be used: urn, table, altar.

*(Places sprig of evergreen upon the casket.)*

We commend his spirit to God who gave it.

*(Raises right hand.)*

And cherish his memory here.

*(Places right hand over the heart.)*

*(Have the Brothers who attended now place their acacia on the casket)*

We will again assemble among the habitations of the "silent city," to behold the "narrow house" appointed for all living. Around us; there in that peace which the world cannot give, sleep the unnumbered dead. The gentle breeze fans their verdant covering - they heed it not.

The sunshine and the storm pass over them - they are not disturbed. Stones and lettered monuments symbolize the affection of surviving relatives and friends, yet no sound proceeds from them save that silent but thrilling admonition, "Seek ye the narrow path and the straight gate that lead unto eternal life." We are again admonished of the uncertainty of life, the immutable certainty of death, and the vanity of all human pursuits.

Of what value then are all the externals of human vanity; the power of wealth; the dreams of ambition; the pride of intellect or the charms of beauty when the sands have run out of the hour-glass of life.

The monarch at whose bidding nations pay obedience, and the poor beggar at His gate are equals in the hour of death. The one must part with

his sceptre and crown, the other has no further use for his wallet and rags; and each is indebted to Mother Earth for a common sepulchre. In the grave all ranks are leveled, all distinctions are done away.

To the immediate family who are most heart-stricken at the loss we have all sustained, we deeply, sincerely and most affectionately sympathize with you in your bereavement and would remind you that he who "tempers the wind to the shorn lamb" looks down with infinite compassion upon the bereaved in the hour of their desolation, and will fold the arms of His love and protection around those who put their trust in Him.

The darkness of the blackest night is mitigated by the star of an assured hope. "Tis night alone that shows how star surpasseth star." "The greatest gulf is not beyond the reach of everlasting arms. And earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal."

Then let us each in our respective spheres so improve this admonition that when at last the record of our lives is finished, we may also receive the thrilling invitation, "Come, ye blessed, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

### **Closing Prayer**

Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, in whom we live and move and have our being, and before whom all must appear to render an account of the deeds



done in the body, sustain and comfort every mourning heart and help us to do Thy will and walk Thy way, that we may be worthy of being called Thy children. And, O Gracious Father, vouchsafe us, we pray thee, Thy divine assistance, to redeem our misspent time; and in the discharge of the duties Thou hast assigned us in the erection of our moral edifice, may we have wisdom from on high to direct us, strength commensurate with our tasks to support us, and the beauty of holiness to render all our performance acceptable in thy sight. And at last, when our labors on earth are ended, may we awaken in that spiritual home, that house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Amen.

## Fifty-Year Presentation

**WM:** Brethren, it is our privilege today *to* pay a tribute of respect and esteem *to* an honored member of < Name> Lodge No (#) Freemasonry has always taught a proper reverence and veneration for those whose years have brought them to positions of eminence in our Craft. Happy indeed is the occasion when years of age stand united with years of service, and when an honor may be conferred upon a Brother who is both worthy and esteemed.

Masons have learned that we progress through life in three principal stages - Youth, Manhood and Age. In Youth, we may occupy our minds in the attainment of useful knowledge; in Manhood, we apply that knowledge *to* the discharge of our duties *to* God, our neighbors, and ourselves; so that in Age, we may enjoy happy memories of a life well spent.

Our present gathering affords an opportunity *to* reflect upon the past; from experiences of the past. The present receives that useful counsel and guidance which enable us *to* erect a more glorious future. *To* those of mature years we look for wisdom, and upon wisdom Freemasonry builds each laudable enterprise.

With great pride and pleasure, therefore <NAME> Lodge No. (#) welcomes our honored Brother on an occasion, which, we trust, will be a crowning moment of his Masonic life. Let us give our attention to the Secretary as he reads the full Masonic record of Brother <NAME>

*(Secretary reads full Masonic record)*

Brother Senior Deacon, you will conduct Brother < NAME> to the altar.

My Brother, with pleasure we behold you before the altar of Freemasonry - that altar which you were taught to approach fifty years ago. There you assumed obligations designed to make a lasting impression upon your mind and to serve as an uplifting and ennobling influence upon your life and character. Again you have approached the Altar of Freemasonry, this time to receive a recognition that comes only to those fortunate Brethren who have labored upon the Temple faithfully for over half a century.

Early in your Masonic career you were taught never to enter upon any great or important undertaking without first invoking the blessing of Deity. It therefore behooves us, with the utmost reverence and humility, to offer our supplications to the God and Father of us all, that our labors may in all things meet with His approval.

*(WM calls up the Lodge)*

## **Prayer**

**Chaplain:** Vouchsafe Thine aid, Almighty Father of the Universe, to this our present convention. In Thee, O Lord, did we put our trust in days long past; Thou art still our refuge and our fortress. For a thousand years in Thy sight are as but yesterday when it is past and as a watch in the night. Grant especially unto this Thy servant the blessings of life, health, strength and

the daily provisions of Thy good and all-wise providence. Give to him and all of us, we beseech Thee, Wisdom from on high to direct our steps, Strength commensurate with our tasks to support us, and the Beauty of holiness to render all our performances acceptable in Thy sight. Let goodness and mercy follow us all the days of our life that we may dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

**Response:** So mote it be.

*(WM seats the Lodge)*

**Worshipful Master:** Brother Senior Deacon, you will conduct our Brother to the East.

Within the radiant pages of the Great Light, which rests upon Freemasonry's altar, we read again and again of the blessings bestowed upon that man who is privileged to walk humbly with his God through a long and honorable life.

In the Proverbs of Solomon it is written;  
The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. For by me thy days shall be multiplied, and the years of thy life shall be increased.

Fifty years ago you remembered your Creator in the days of your youth. Today we commemorate the completion of your Fifty years of Masonic fellowship. In a span of Fifty years each Mason gives of his substance;

many give also of their time; others add loyalty and steadfast devotion. But to all of us, our gentle Craft gives far more than we could give to it in a lifetime of service. Thus when we pay tribute to you on your golden anniversary, we pay tribute also to the Fraternity which opened its portals to you, and which made it possible for you to build your life on the sublime principles it inculcates.

*(WM calls up the Lodge)*

And now, my Brother, by virtue of the authority in me vested as Worshipful Master, it is my privilege, for and on behalf of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Wisconsin, to present to you the Grand Lodge 50 year Certificate and pin as a visible token of its fraternal love and grateful appreciation.

May you wear this emblem in health, happiness and prosperity, and may your days be long upon the land which the Lord our God hath given us. On a memorable occasion fifty years ago when the badge of a Mason was placed in your hands, you were admonished to wear that spotless apron with pleasure to yourself and honor to the Fraternity. Thus, I trust, will you wear this pin. May the joy of this moment abide with you always, and may you ever stand as once you stood in the northeast corner - a just and upright Mason, worthy to be known as a son of God.

## **FLAG PRESENTATION**

1. The proper salute to our flag for all civilians in the lodge room is: place the right hand (fingers and thumb joined) flat on the left breast over the heart; right elbow close to the right side of the body. Out-of-doors: remove the hat or head dress with the right hand and hold it on the left breast, hand over the heart; right elbow close to the body.  
If without a hat, the civilian salute is the same either indoors or out.
2. Bugle call, when used in or out of the lodge rooms, is the U.S. military bugle call "To the Colors." during this call, all face toward the flag and stand at salute, until the last note.
3. No additional officer should be appointed in subordinate Lodges.
4. The United States flag must be presented at the opening session of every annual meeting of the Grand Lodge: the color guard to consist of three Master Masons - preferably three of the junior officers of the Grand Lodge - under command of the Grand Marshal; said officers to be designated by the Grand Master. The flag may be presented by members of a patriotic organization who are Master Masons.
5. Presentation of the flag at each meeting of subordinate Lodges is recommended but is not mandatory.
6. The flag should always be carried with the staff as near vertical as possible. The flag is never dipped in salute to any living person. Never allow staff to incline backward.
7. The following ceremony of presentation, which has been made very simple so that it may be carried out without difficulty in the smallest Lodge room, is recommended.

## **PRESENTATION IN LODGE ROOM**

*Immediately following the Junior Deacon's last report to the Master that the Tiler is informed, at the end of the opening; or if there are distinguished guests to be introduced, immediately following their introduction:*

**W.M.:** (\*) Brother Senior Deacon, retire with the Guard of Honor and present the United States colors.

**S.D.:** Guard of Honor, retire with me.

*Senior Deacon and the Stewards, or two others appointed for the duty, form a line just west of the altar, salute and retire through preparation room door, in column of files; in the same manner the Junior Deacon and Stewards retire to prepare and present a candidate; the Senior Deacon acting as leader and commander of the three. They secure the colors and approach the Tiler who gives the usual alarm. (\*\*\*)*

**J.D.:** Worshipful Master, there is an alarm at the outer door.

**W.M.:** Brother Junior Deacon, you will attend to the alarm and report the cause.

*(Junior Deacon goes to the door, ascertains the cause of the alarm, closes the door, faces the east and reports, without returning to his station, by addressing the Worshipful Master in the usual manner and saying:)*

**J.D.:** The United States colors with its Guard of Honor.

**W.M.:** (\*\*\*) Brother Junior Deacon, admit the colors.

*All arise and stand at salute until the color bearer places flag on dais and salutes. All drop hand to side with the color bearer. Junior Deacon opens door wide at the same time saying "enter," steps aside and stands at salute.*

*Guard of Honor enters in file: S.D., color bearer, guard. Column left in front of Senior Warden's station until color bearer is between the Senior Warden and the altar; halt, right face, forward march, to a position three (3) paces west of the altar, halt. Senior Deacon immediately addresses the Worshipful Master in the usual manner and says:*

**JS.D.:** Worshipful Master. I have the honor to present to you the United States colors, flag of our country; its place is on the dais on your right.

**W.M.:** Place the United States colors.

**S.D.:** Brother Color Bearer, place the colors.

*Color Bearer steps forward two paces, then by the left flank, to clear the altar, then by the right flank to the dais, places the colors in its stand, steps backward two steps, salutes the flag and returns to his place*

*in line west of the altar entering the line from the rear.*

*When the Color Bearer steps forward with the flag, the Senior Deacon and the other guard come to salute and drop hand to the side with the Color Bearer when he salutes the flag.*

**W.M.:** Brethren join with me in the pledge of allegiance to our flag.

**ALL:** 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.

**W.M.:** (\*) (Guard of Honor return to seats.)

*In giving the pledge of allegiance, all bring the right hand to the left breast, over the heart, with the first word. After the word "allegiance," with the start of the phrase "to the flag" bring the hand forward, palm up, by extending the arm in the direction of the flag. Drop hand to side at end of pledge.*



## **PAST MASTER'S INSTALLATION**

(Suggested for use during a Past-Master's Night ceremony)

*Revised and submitted by the Esoteric Committee, Jan. 1996*

*(It is intended that the current Worshipful Master perform this ceremony; however, a Father, Sibling, close relative, or close friend who is a Master Mason may also. If ladies are to be present, especially the Past Master's lady, it is essential that the Lodge close or go informal first, or simply open publicly. It is also hoped that the lodge would exercise diligent effort to attract all its Past Masters and their ladies to this event and honor their attendance and past contributions with a special ceremony, program, or dinner.)*

**WM:** Brother Senior Deacon, please escort Brother < NAME >, Past-Master (and his lady) to the East.

You, along with all the other Past Masters of this lodge, have been a great source of inspiration in preparing me to carry out the work of Freemasonry as Master of this Lodge.

No Master is chosen by his seniority, but is elected by his merit. As in all earthly endeavors, there is a phrase that most uniquely applies to those who have earned a position of leadership. "From the ranks you arose, and to the ranks you shall return."

Brother <NAME>, you will now be returning to join the elite company of those brethren who have distinguished themselves by serving their respective Lodges as its Master, and now proudly wear the title **PAST - MASTER**.

You have suffered the trials and tribulations of leading a Lodge, and as in all endeavors, at each point you learned something that would prepare you for the future; be it in Masonry, or in life itself.

As you progressed through the line of officers, it prepared you for many things, and often one is not fully prepared to be the Master of a Lodge until he has served as Master of a Lodge. Though your year as Master may have been short compared to the calendar of time, the designs, which you laid down on the trestleboard during your term will inspire and bear fruit for many years to come.

Your experiences of having served as the Master of a Lodge has prepared you for a greater service to mankind and to Masonry. You may, and will, be called upon by any of the future Masters of this Lodge to aid and assist in perpetuating the ideals and traditions of Freemasonry; practicing and teaching in all stations in life those excellent tenets of our institution: Friendship, Morality, and Brotherly Love.

I now have the pleasure of presenting you with your Past Master's certificate and card. <Done. >

The Past Master's jewel is commonly recognized as a square and compasses extended sixty degrees on the fourth part of a circle, or quadrant, with a sun in the center. This is a very fitting jewel, as its components speak volumes to all who truly understand Freemasonry, and are certainly worth reiterating on this occasion.

The square is dedicated to the Master, and is the proper emblem of his office. By the square, Freemasonry instills in its members the quality of virtue. We continually attempt to square our actions by the square of virtue, which is exactly what is meant when we hear "Square up with him," or "A square deal." It is the type of behavior we expect from a man who has demonstrated his skills as a Master, and will now practice them forever as a Past-Master.

Freemasonry uses the compasses to impress the ideal of circumspection. As the compasses draws a complete circle, we continually use this tool to remind us that our behavior, desires, and passions should be equally circumspect and always kept within due bounds. If done successfully, this tool aids us to be referred to by all as "well-rounded individuals." As before, this type of levelheaded, controlled behavior is expected of a Past Master, and should serve to remind him to set an example for all whom for now him. The significance of the compasses open to an angle of sixty degrees is that it cannot help but form a square when bisected with the arc.

Since the Past Master is equipped with the knowledge and tools to form a square, this jewel represents that ideal to all who are still striving to attain it. The sun in the center can take on a myriad of meanings. To Freemasons, it has two primary meanings. First, it is a symbol of light; a term used by Masons and the world to mean knowledge. It is believed that you have now acquired sufficient knowledge in Masonry to be considered a "Master" of

the craft. It is now your responsibility as a Past Master to impart it to others.

Second, and undoubtedly most important, it is an emblem of Divine Providence; God's power, His goodness, omnipresence, and eternity that Masonry teaches should live in the heart of every human being. In that respect, let it mean to you as a Past-Master that which is stated in the Bible, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven."

*(You may use the Optional below for the wife to invest jewel.)*

I now have the pleasure of presenting you with the Jewel of your Office.

*(Optional)* (Lady <NAME> ) We recognize and appreciate the many sacrifices you have made these last several years while our brother was preparing himself to be Master of this lodge. It is a way of life. And though the administration of this lodge has occupied a great deal of his and your time, the virtues inculcated by this fraternity have no doubt had an impact on his character, demeanor, and behavior which I am sure you can attest have indeed positively changed him and improved the quality of life for your family. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to give you the honor of investing our new Past Master with the Jewel of his Office. *<WM hands the jewel to the lady, who invests the PM.>*

It is also my pleasure to present you with your Past Master's apron, adorned with the jewel so important to your station. You are free to wear it at any communication of this lodge. Wear it with equal pleasure to yourself, and honor to the fraternity. *<Given. >*

*(Optional: Past Master's Apron Presentation)*

## Past Master's Apron Presentation

Brother, at your initiation into this fraternity you were presented a lambskin or white leathern apron and were taught that it is an emblem of innocence and the badge of a Mason. As you progressed through the various stages of the craft, you were instructed how to wear your apron as our ancient brethren wore theirs. Finally, when you were raised to the Sublime Degree

of Master Mason, you were presented with your own lambskin and were admonished to live so that no act of yours might stain its spotless purity.

After years of toil in the quarries of Masonry, wherein you did preserve its spotless purity, you have advanced through the chairs and, because our lodge held you in high esteem, were duly elected Worshipful Master of this lodge. No one but a Past Master has a full conception of the hours spent and the sacrifices made on behalf of the interest of the craft.

It is therefore fitting, and with sincere appreciation and gratitude of those sacrifices made and in recognition of a job well done, that I have the pleasure of presenting you with another apron, your Past Master 's apron, adorned with the jewel so important to your new station. Congratulations.

*<Given. >*

Finally, may you wear and display these symbols with the honor and dignity they represent. The station of a Past Master cannot be honored by the brethren if it is not equally honored by its possessor. It is your ultimate responsibility for maintaining the respect and dignity of that title and station.

It is an enviable title so long as you make it so by your zeal, interest, devoted labors, and continued attendance.

Brethren, please join me in thanking our brother (and his lady) with a fine round of applause.

*(Optional)* Brother (Past Master) <NAME> , it is my pleasure to give you the floor, and we would be pleased for you to share a few words with us.

*<WM turns the gavel over to the Past Master. >*

**WM:** Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort our Brother (and his lady) to his (their) seat(s).