

COMMANDERY INSTALLATION

Installing Officer: Before engaging in this important ceremony, let us invoke the blessing of Deity. **Sir Knights, Attention – Un-cover! Excellent Prelate,** Lead our devotions.

Installing Prelate: Heavenly Father, please watch over our ceremonies upon this occasion and give us the wisdom to display the beauties of thy Holiness in the duties we are about to perform. We would ask that you would endow these new officers with the wisdom to lead, guide, and direct us in the coming year. And now, if it be thy will, we would ask that Thee bless each and every person and watch over and protect them throughout the ensuing year. In the name of Thy Blessed Son we pray.

“And now would you please join me in the Lord’s Prayer.”

Amen

Installing Officer: **Sir Knights: Re-cover!** Sir Knights, you behold before you those who have been chosen as officers of the Commandery. We believe them to be tried and true, worth and well qualified, zealous in the service to Templary and the true exemplars of the great tenets of the Order, but if anyone of you knows any reason why they or anyone of them should not be installed, let him now speak out or forever hold his peace. Hearing no objection, we will proceed with the installation. Officers chosen, before investing you with the honors and responsibilities of Your respective stations, it becomes my duty to administer to you the vow of your offices. Do you severally consent to take upon yourselves that vow? <<< THEY ASSENT >>>

Sir Knight Marshal, Place the officers chosen in proper position to take upon themselves the vow of office.

Installing Marshal: Officers chosen, Count, “two’s”, One’s Draw – “Sword”, Put sword blade to the left, Two’s, grasp blade with right hand. Un-Cover!

Eminent Commander, the officers chosen are in proper position.

Installing Officer: Officers chosen, you will say I, pronounce your names in full, and repeat after me: I (NAME), do promise and vow that I will support and maintain the Constitution, Statutes, and Rituals of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar of the United States of America, the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of this jurisdiction, and the By-Laws of this Commandery, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office in which I am about to be installed to the best of my ability. **Sir Knights, Re-cover!**
Sir Knights not in line be seated. Sir Knights in line, Release hand from Blade!, Carry - Sword!, Return - Sword!

Installing Officer: **Sir Knight Marshal,** Present the Commander elect for installation.

Installing Marshal: **Eminent Commander,** I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Commander. I find him well skilled in our sublime mysteries and observant of the noble precepts of our forefathers, and have therefore no doubt that he will discharge the important duties of his office with fidelity.

Installing Officer: **Sir Knight _____,** as you have been elected to the honorable and important station of Commander of this Commandery, it is with genuine pleasure that I enter upon the duty of installing you in that exalted office. As head of a Christian Institution, you are charged with important duties and responsibilities. It is confidently anticipated that your fidelity to these trusts will reflect honor upon yourself and credit upon your Commandery. It now becomes my duty to propound to you certain questions to which your unequivocal answers are required.

- I. Do you solemnly promise, upon your honor as a Knight Templar, that you will endeavor to correct the vices, purify the morals, and promote the happiness of those of your brethren who have attained this Magnanimous Order?
- II. That you will never suffer your Commandery to be opened unless there Be present at least nine (9) regular Knights of the Order?

- III. That you will not confer the Orders upon anyone who has not shown a charitable and humane disposition nor upon anyone who has not attained a reasonable proficiency in Masonry?
- IV. That you will seriously endeavor to promote the general good of the Order and on all proper occasions be ready to give and receive instruction, particularly from the Grand Officers?
- V. That to the utmost of your power, you will preserve the solemnities of our ceremonies and behave in open Commandery with the most profound respect and reverence, as an example to your Brethren?
- VI. That you will not acknowledge or hold communication with any Commandery that does not work under a Constitutional Dispensation or Charter?
- VII. That you will not admit any visitor into your Commandery unless he has been knighted in a lawful Commandery?
- VIII. That you will pay due respect and obedience to the instructions of the Grand Officers, particularly those relating to several lectures and charges, and will resign your station to them when they visit your Commandery?
- IX. That you will support and maintain the Constitution and Statutes of the Grand Encampment, and the Constitution, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery under whose authority you act?
- X. That you will bind your successor in office to the observance of these rules?

Do you confirm all these promises and do you agree to observe them faithfully? (ASSENTS)

Installing Officer:

Sir Knight, I now symbolically invest you with the Jewel of your office, which is a Passion Cross surmounted by rays of light. The rays of light are symbols that suggest to you the humility, love, and pure benevolence that emanate like rays from the religion of the Blessed Emanuel, and which should ever characterize the members of the Christian Order.

I present you the Charter of your Commandery. Receive it as a sacred deposit and never permit it to be used for any other purposes than those expressed in it. It is your duty to safely transmit it to your successor.

I also commit to your keeping, the Holy Bible, the Great Light of Masons of every degree. It confirms our belief in the existence of the Eternal Jehovah, the one and only living and true God, the Creator and Judge of all things in heaven and on earth.

The crossed swords resting upon the Holy Bible remind us that we should be "strong in the Lord and in the power of his might" that we should "put on the whole armor of God", to be able to wrestle successfully with "Principalities, powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places". I also present to you the Constitutions and Statutes of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templars of the United States of America, the Constitutions, Laws, and Regulations of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templars of Minnesota, and the By-Laws of Zion Commandery No. 2. You should familiarize yourself with them, that you may govern your Commandery with justice and moderation.

And now, Sir Knight, I induct you into the Chair of your Commandery. (DONE)
I offer you my sincere congratulations on your accession to this Honorable Station. It will be your special duty to preserve inviolate the laws of the Order, to dispense justice, reward merit, and expound the sublime principles of universal benevolence. You will inculcate the duties of Charity, Hospitality, and Govern your Commandery with justice and moderation. And finally my Frater, may the illustrious lives of the heroes of past ages, whose matchless valor has shed undying luster over the name of Knights Templar, encourage and animate you to the faithful performance of every duty.

Installing Marshal: **Commandery, Attention!**

Installing Officer: **Sir Knights, Behold your Commander.** Bear ever in mind that the prosperity of your Commandery will as much depend on your support and obedience as on the assiduity, fidelity, and wisdom of your Commander. Be ye therefore, diligent and faithful in the performance of your respective duties.

Installing Marshal: **Sir Knights, Be seated!**

Installing Officer: Sir Knight Marshal, Present the officers chosen in order of rank.

(The Marshal then presents each officer, according to rank, introducing him by his title and designating the office, which he is to fill. The Commander will receive him with fitting words, charging him to be faithful to his trust. He will also invest him with the official jewel and direct the Marshal to conduct him to his station. No particular form is prescribed, but the following charges are suggested as appropriate.)

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Generalissimo.

“CHARGE TO THE GENERALISSIMO”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Generalissimo of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Square surmounted by a Paschal Lamb. The Square is to remind you that friendship and love should forever govern Freemasons and particularly Knights Templar. Your station is on the right of your Commander. You are to assist him in the discharge of his various duties and in his absence to preside. I charge you, therefore, to familiarize yourself with the duties of your office that you may adequately discharge them. Be faithful to the Knights with whom you are associated, put them often in remembrance of those things, which tend to their everlasting peace. Finally, “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, Exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine”, ever remembering the promise, “Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of Life”.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Captain General.

“CHARGE TO THE CAPTAIN GENERAL”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Captain General of this Commandery. I now invest you with the jewel of your office, which is the Level surmounted by a Cock. As the undaunted courage and valor of the Cock stimulate him to conquer his enemy and fight to the last extremity, so should you be stimulated in the discharge of every duty. Your Station is on the left of your Commander. Your duty, among other

Installing Officer: things, is to see that due preparation is made for the various conclaves of the Commandery and that the asylum is prepared for the dispatch of business. You are also to receive and communicate to the lines all orders issued by the Commander. You are to assist in council and, in the absence of the Commander and Generalissimo, to preside over the Commandery. I exhort you that with fidelity you perform every duty, and “Whatsoever ye do, do heartily as to the Lord, and not onto men; continue in prayer”, ever bearing in mind the promise, “ Be not weary in well-doing, for in due season ye shall reap if ye faint not”.

Cont.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Senior Warden.

“CHARGE TO THE SENIOR WARDEN”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Senior Warden of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with a mailed arm and hand grasping the Sword of Justice. It is to remind you that as the children of Israel marched in a hollow square in their journey through the wilderness in order to guard and protect the Ark of the Covenant, so should you be vigilant in guarding every avenue from innovation and error. Let the Sword of Justice, therefore, be ever drawn to guard the Constitution of the Order. Your station is at the southwest angle of the Triangle and upon the right of the first Division. You will attend pilgrim warriors, comfort and support pilgrim penitents, and after due trial, introduce them to the asylum. Let it be your constant care that the warrior be not deterred from duty nor the penitent molested in his journey. Finally, “Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify you Father which is in Heaven”.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Junior Warden.

“CHARGE TO THE JUNIOR WARDEN”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Junior Warden Of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of Your office, which is an Eagle with wings spread holding in its talons a Flaming Sword. It suggests to you the performance of your duties with Justice and valor, having an eagle eye on the prosperity of the Order.

Installing Officer: Your station is at the northwest angle of the Triangle, and on the left of the third division. Your duty is to attend wear pilgrims traveling from afar, conduct them on their journey, plead their cause, and in due time, recommend them to the Commander. Impress upon them the motto of our Order; “In Hoc Signo Vinces” and that although the path of life may be thorny, crooked, adverse, and forlorn, yet by faith and fidelity, courage and constancy, patience and perseverance, they may gain admission into the Asylum above, there to carry on the high labors begun here below. Finally, “Be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord”, that you may be a shining light in the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

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Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Prelate.

“CHARGE TO THE PRELATE”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been chosen Prelate of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Triple Triangle with a Red Passion Cross in the center of each triangle. It is also an emblem of Deity. Your station is on the right of the Generalissimo. Your duty is to officiate at the altar and offer up prayers to Deity. Your jewel is to remind you of the importance of the trust reposed in you. May “He who is able, abundantly furnish you for every good work, preserve you from falling into error, improve and strengthen and perfect you”, and finally greet you with “Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord”.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Treasurer.

“CHARGE TO THE TREASURER”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Treasurer of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is Two Crossed Keys. Your station is in front and on the right of the Generalissimo. The qualities which recommend a Treasurer are accuracy and Fidelity accuracy in keeping a fair and minute account of all receipts and disbursements Fidelity in carefully preserving all the property and funds of the Commandery that may be placed in his hands, and rendering a just account of the same whenever called upon for that purpose. I am sure your earnest solicitude for a good name, which is better than riches, will prompt you to the faithful discharge of the duties of you office.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been elected to the office of Recorder.

“CHARGE TO THE RECORDER”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been elected Recorder of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is Two Crossed Quill Pens. Your station is on the left of the Captain General. The essential qualities of a Recorder are promptitude in issuing notifications and orders of his superior officers, punctuality in attending the conclaves of the Commandery, correctness in recording the proceedings, judgment in discriminating between what is proper and what is improper to be committed to writing, integrity in accounting for all moneys that may pass through his hands, and Fidelity in paying the same over to the Treasurer. The possession of these qualities, I presume, has led to your selection for this important office. I doubt not that you will discharge its duties with benefit to the Commandery and honor to yourself.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Standard Bearer.

“CHARGE TO THE STANDARD BEARER”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been appointed to the office of Standard Bearer of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Masonic Plumb surmounted by the Banner of the Order. Your station is in the West and in center of the second division. Your duties are to display, support, and protect the Banner of our Order, which I now confide to your keeping. You will remember that it is our rallying point in time of danger. When unfurled, in a just and virtuous cause, you will defend it as long as life endures. You will see that all the furniture of the Commandery is well kept and presentable. You are to assist the Warder, Sword Bearer, and Sentinel in preparing the Lodge room for all the conclaves.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Sword Bearer.

“CHARGE TO THE SWORD BEARER”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been appointed Sword Bearer of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Triangle with Crossed Swords. Your Station is on the right of the Standard Bearer, and on the right of the second division. Your duty is to assist in protecting the Banner of our Order, to see that all the furniture of the Commandery is well kept and presentable. You are to assist the Warder, Standard Bearer, and Sentinel in preparing the Lodge room for all the conclaves.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Warder.

“CHARGE TO THE WARDER”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been appointed Wader of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with Crossed Swords and a Trumpet thereon. Your station is on the left of the Standard Bearer and upon the left of the second division. Your duties include sounding the Assembly, announcing the approach and departure of the Commander, to see that the asylum is duly guarded, and to oversee and maintain the furniture and wardrobe of of the Commandery. You will assist the Sword Bearer, Standard Bearer, and Sentinel in preparing the Lodge room for all the conclaves. I charge you to be punctual in your attendance and tireless in the charge of your duties. Though yours is among the lower offices in the Commandery, it is by no means the least important.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Sentinel.

“CHARGE TO THE SENTINEL”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight _____, You have been appointed Sentinel of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office, which is a Hollow Square with a Sword thereon. I present you this Sword, the badge of your office. The Sword is placed in the hands of the Sentinel to enable him to effectively guard against the approach of cowans and eavesdroppers and to suffer none to pass of re-pass but such as are qualified. It morally serves as a constant admonition to set a guard at the entrance of our thoughts, to place a watch at the door of our lips, to post

Installing Officer: a Sentinel at the avenue of our actions, thereby excluding every unworthy thought, word, or deed. As applications of visitors for admission into the Commandery are generally made to the Sentinel, your station will often present you to the observation of strangers. It is therefore essential that he who holds this office should be a Frater temperate, affable and discreet, of good morals, steady habits and strict discipline. I am sure that a due regard for the honor and reputation of this institution will ever impel you to perform with fidelity and trust reposed in you. You will also assist the Sword Bearer, Standard Bearer, and Sentinel in preparing the lodge room for all the conclaves.

Installing Marshal: Eminent Commander, I have the honor to present Sir Knight (s) _____, Who has been appointed to the office of Guard.

“CHARGE TO THE GUARD (S)”

Installing Officer: Sir Knight, _____, You have been appointed Guard of this Commandery. I now symbolically invest you with the jewel of your office. As a guard, your duties will be many and various. You will participate in all the Orders, form the lines for Inspection, help set up and break down the meeting room, and generally assist all the officers. You will familiarize yourself with the Constitution, Laws and Regulations of your Commandery in preparation for your advancement into the Line. Regular attendance at all the conclaves and events of your Commandery will help demonstrate your dependability and love for Templary and hasten your advancement into the Line.

“CHARGE TO THE COMMANDERY”

Installing Officer: Sir Knights, to manage and conduct the affairs of a Commandery of Knights Templar with the promptitude, integrity, and skill which the institution demands, requires the exercise of all the abilities of its officers and members. The officers should remember that the moral and religious duties and precepts which they, from time to time, should forcibly impress upon the minds of others, should by no means be neglected by themselves. That the most effectual way to ensure success is to let precept and performance go hand in hand. I urge you to look well to the East, to the West, to the North, and to the South, to see that the entrances are strictly guarded, to the end that you allow none to pass the threshold of your Asylum, save the worthy, and at the same time that you suffer no one to be guilty of disorderly conduct among you without admonition and reproof, to the end that this valiant and magnanimous Order shall ever flourish. And now Sir Knights, “Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces. For my brethren and companion’s sake, I now say, Peace be within thee”!

Sir Knight Marshal. Proclaim the installation of the officers of this Commandery.

Installing Marshal: Commandery, Attention!

“OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION”

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye! Valiant Knights of the Temple!
In the name of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of
Minnesota, I proclaim that the officers of _____,
Knights Templar, both elected and appointed, have been duly
installed in the respective stations. Let all valiant and magnanimous
Knights of the Temple take due notice thereof and govern themselves
accordingly.

(The Marshal Sword salutes each E. then W. then N. then S. separately
as he states: I MAKE THIS PROCLAMATION TO THE EAST - TO THE WEST -
TO THE NORTH – AND TO THE SOUTH)

Installing Marshal: Sir Knights, Be Seated!



PROGRAM



Commandery: _____

No. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

1. Stated meeting – Sir Knights only – Election
2. Prepare Asylum for installation and entrance of visitors and guests
3. **Emcee:** Welcoming remarks
4. **Flag presentation with Pledge**
5. **Bible Presentation with the Lord's Prayer**
6. **Installing Officers will take their stations – Installing Officer:** Sir Knight Marshal, you will retire with the Officers, both elected & appointed and prepare them for installation. When so prepared, you will return to the Asylum and seat them.
7. **Installing Officer:** Opening remarks - Sir Knight Recorder, You will read the names and station of each Officer elected & appointed who will rise and remain standing.
8. **Installing Marshal:** Eminent Commander, I present to you for their installation, the duly chosen Officers of this Commandery

