

AS A ROYAL ARCH MASON

The Holy Royal Arch is necessary for the completion of the Master Mason's degree. As a Christian Royal Arch Mason, you may wish to complete your York Rite Masonry by becoming a Knight Templar. All those who enter the Symbolic Lodge are entering the Freemasonry of the York Rite Masonry which includes the Craft Lodge, the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Council of Royal & Select Masters, and the Preceptory of Knights Templar.



QUALIFICATIONS

We welcome into our organization any Royal Arch Mason who:

- professes Christian ideals
- believes in the Holy and Undivided Christian Trinity
- seeks the society of men pledged to the practise of:
 - Christian virtues
 - deeds of Charity
 - the promotion of Christ's Kingdom on earth

THE KNIGHT TEMPLAR

The Knight Templar will find opportunity for work and advancement, according to his abilities. The honours and awards of a preceptory are open to all Christian Masons.



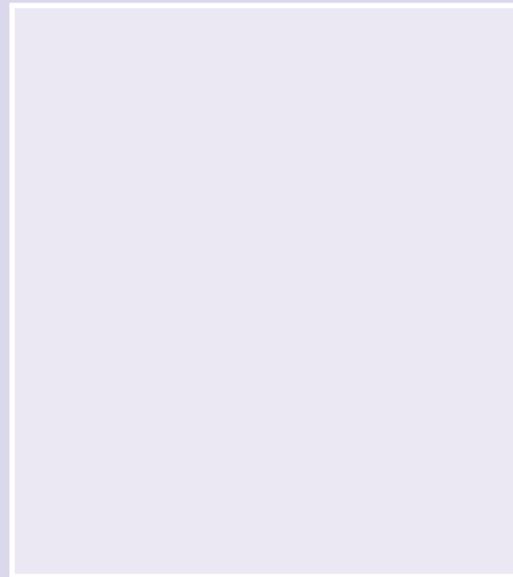
LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

Preceptories of Knights Templar are located across Canada. If you travel abroad, you will find Preceptories located in England, Ireland, Scotland, Asia, Africa, Australia, France, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, South America, Switzerland, in every state in the U.S.A. and many other places. They form a fellowship of three-quarters of a million Christian Freemasons.

YOUR INVITATION

An invitation is extended to you, a Christian Royal Arch Mason, to ask a Knight Templar for a petition.

NEAREST PRECEPTORY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR



The Registrar will be only too pleased to furnish you with any further information... or you can communicate with our Grand Chancellor at:



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Knights TEMPLAR



CHRISTIAN CHIVALRY & FREEMASONRY

Rarely does one connect Chivalry with Freemasonry, yet there is one branch of the fraternity which places great stress on Christian Chivalry and those virtues which go to make up a chivalric character. We refer to that great Order known as Knights of the Temple, or Knights Templar.



THE ORIGINAL KNIGHTS OF THE TEMPLE

The original Knights of the Temple were Christian warriors, men of Faith, inspired with love of God. The object of the Crusades was to wrest the Holy Land and the Sacred places of Christianity from the Moslem

THE CRUSADE PERIOD

The Crusade Period marked a new era in the life of the world, bringing the Eastern and Western cultures together. The greatest thing which emerged through these conflicts of Christian and Saracen was the virtue of Charity. The Knights of the Temple and the Knights Hospitaller were the Red Cross organization of their day. Many deeds of Charity are recounted, not only between those of the Christian faith, but extending from Christian to Moslem. Thus did this era usher in those virtues of Charity, Hospitality and Universal Benevolence.

TODAY

Today the warlike character of the Knights Templar has disappeared. Today, we don't believe in the physical necessity of engaging in useless struggle over holy sites and places; nor fighting men of other nations in order to convert them to our way of thinking.



ADVANCEMENT IN FREEMASONRY

THE TEMPLAR ORDER & FREEMASONRY

The same feelings of Love, and Truth, and Charity, and Hospitality, and Universal Benevolence still remain in the human heart, and the world at large is benefited by any group which encourages such essential needs of mankind.

The modern Knights of Order of the Temple of today claim no direct legal descent from those ancient knights of old, yet they do claim to carry on the virtues for which they fought, bled and died. No longer is it necessary to fight with material weapons, for today "the pen is mightier than the sword", and the weapon of a knight today is the influence of a good life.



And you ask:

"Just what place does the Templar Order hold in respect to other branches of Freemasonry?"

To the Christian Freemason it represents the summit of the teachings of the Craft

SANCTIONED BY GRAND LODGE

The Grand Lodge of York, in 1780, gave its sanction to the working of five degrees of orders:

- The Entered Apprentice
- The Fellowcraft
- The Master Mason
- The Royal Arch
- The Knight Templar

The United Grand Lodge of England, the Mother of regular and legitimate Freemasonry in the world, set forth at the time of the Union the following:

"It is declared and pronounced that pure and Ancient Craft Masonry consists of three degrees and no more, namely, those of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the Holy Royal Arch."

"This article is not intended to prevent any Lodge or Chapter from holding meetings in any of the degrees of Chivalry, according to the Constitution of said Order".

Thus, the Order of the Temple was given an official place and standing in the structure of Masonry.

THE TEMPLAR ORDER & FREEMASONRY

During the early and unwritten history of the Masonic Fraternity, there was a strong tone of Christianity which ran throughout the Symbolic structure.

By the time Anderson published his Constitutions, Christianity was virtually taken out of the ritual because of a great desire to make the fraternity acceptable to men of any religion who subscribe to a belief in a Supreme Being.

This was truly unfortunate for those who interpreted the Lodge symbols as Christian doctrines. To deprive Freemasonry of the Ancient Craft of its Christian symbolism in an attempt to make it more universal, was, to them, unmasonic, and characterized as being compared to "removing a Masterpiece of Art from a gallery, or depriving a Crown of its Most Precious jewel".

The Christian Freemason sought out an Order which interpreted his Freemasonry in the Light of the New Dispensation. He ended his search when he entered a Preceptory of Knights Templar.



KNIGHTS TEMPLAR CHARITABLE FOUNDATION OF CANADA

Knights Templar put precepts into practice through their Charitable organization. By making donations they provide for theological studies, bursaries, widows and orphans in distress and fund other Canadian research programs such as Cancer, Diabetes, etc.



WHAT ARE THE CHIVALRIC ORDERS?

We have referred to the Orders conferred by a preceptory. In Canada the work of the Preceptory is divided into three parts, The Orders of:

- The Red Cross
- The Mediterranean Pass & Malta
- The Temple

THE ORDER OF THE RED CROSS

The Order of the Red Cross is not, strictly speaking, a Christian Order. It bridges the Masonic journey from the Royal Arch degree to the Order of the Temple. It is based upon an important period in Jewish history stressing **Faith in God**, the importance of **Truth**, and the value of **Liberty and Justice**.

THE ORDER OF MALTA

The Order of Malta brings to the novitiate the story of another of the great Chivalric Orders, whose deeds of heroism fill the pages of history, and whose Christian character forms a bright page in religious history.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLE

The Order of the Temple is the "ne plus ultra" of the Masonic system and is especially appreciated by all Christian Freemasons. Being consecrated as a Knight of the Order of the Temple completes the circle of your Masonic education.

To Royal Arch Masonry has been given the WORD.

To Knights Templar is given the INTERPRETATION.

Need we say more?

