

Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Virginia



<https://vatemplars.org>

FEBRUARY 2025

Sir Knight Scott L. Fielding, KCT

gc@vatemplars.org

Right Eminent Grand Commander

Sir Knight Daniel J. Carter, KYCH

editor@vatemplars.org

Editor, Virginia Supplement

BUILDING THE YORK RITE

When talking about building the York Rite, we must build from the bottom up. We are four distinct parts, each with their own stories and lessons to learn. The York Rite is the oldest part of Masonry. We consist of the Blue Lodge, Royal Arch, Council, and Commandery. We are responsible for building all four bodies.

THE BLUE LODGE

We must recruit men who are likeminded and have a willingness to improve themselves for their own sake. The potential pool of people may come from co-workers, fellow Church members, and even friends who may belong to other civic organizations with (or without) you. You can ask them, "How come you aren't a Mason?". When they petition the Lodge and are given the Entered Apprentice Degree, we assume the responsibility to help them learn their catechism. This responsibility extends to all three degrees. Encourage them to be active members by joining a committee and/or eventually start their journey through the chairs. This covers only one third of the history of Masonry.

THE ROYAL ARCH AND COUNCIL

In the Royal Arch and Council, we are taught the rest of the story of Free Masonry. This is our tactic that we use to pique the interest from the Blue Lodge Mason, so that they seek more light in the York Rite. There, they will learn the wages of a Worthey Brother, the work that took place in the quarries, and what is required to pass the inspection of their work. They are taught how a Master is to rule and govern his Lodge. The occurrences during the hours leading up to the death of Grand Master Hiram Abiff. The completion of the construction of the Temple of Solomon, and its eventual destruction. Finally, the rebuilding of the Temple, and discoveries of the Ark, its treasures, and the re-investiture of the True Word.

THE COMMANDERY

In the Commandery, we should encourage every Christian Mason to join our ranks. One way to achieve this goal is simply to be visible. Participate as a member of the Color Guard for non-Asylum functions, such as Parades, Collage or High School Graduations, Blue Lodge, Scottish Rite, and other Masonic functions, and building dedications. This is how we get noticed in our communities and potentially attract members to other Masonic Bodies. Let people know about the Knight Templar Eye Foundation, Holy Land Pilgrimage, and Educational Fund. Working together, we will build a strong York Rite for our future.

SK Scott L. Fielding,

Right Eminent Grand Commander