

*Want to continue your  
Masonic education?*

*Want to "Pass It On" to others?*

*We sincerely hope that you do.*

Below is the local contact information  
for each of the 3 York Rite Bodies:

*Chapter of Royal Arch Masons:*

**Massachusetts York Rite Office 617-426-1973**

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*Council of Royal & Select Master Masons:*

**Massachusetts York Rite Office 617-426-1973**

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*Commandery of Knight Templars:*

**Massachusetts York Rite Office 617-426-1973**

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## Massachusetts York Rite Office

*Robert C. Corr, York Rite Administrator*  
186 Tremont Street, Room 405  
Boston, MA 02111-1003

**Phone - (617)426-1973**  
**Toll Free - (866)426-1973**

E-mail: [yorkriteboston@gmail.com](mailto:yorkriteboston@gmail.com)

### Websites:

**Massachusetts York Rite**  
<http://yorkrite.com/ma/>

**The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts**  
<http://www.gracma.org/>

**The Grand Council of Royal & Select Master  
Masons of Massachusetts**  
<http://yorkrite.com/gcma/>

**The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar &  
Appendant Orders of Massachusetts &  
Rhode Island**  
<http://knights Templar.org/gcct/mari/>



## Congratulations

**on being Raised to  
the sublime Degree of Master Mason.**



### The York Rite

**cordially invites you to continue  
the Masonic Journey  
by answering these questions:**

*"How Did the Craft Receive Their Wages?"*

*"How Important is the Ark of the Covenant?"*

*"What Is the True Word of a Master Mason?"*

*"Who was Hiram Abif?" and*

*"How Did The Original Secrets Get Preserved?"*

*In the York Rite, you shall find the answers to these questions and learn more about Freemasonry. With 153,303 constructing the Temple of Solomon, our Ancient Grand Masters ensured that every man received his just wages. The Mark Master Mason Degree provides the answer to this question.*

*The Ark of the Covenant is an integral symbol in the York Rite Degrees. The Temple of Solomon was built to house this treasure. The ceremonies attending its completion and dedication is one of the most beautiful in Masonry.*

*Earlier this day, you heard the Worshipful Master exclaim that the Master's Word has been lost. A substitute had been communicated to you. The York Rite Degrees also find the answers to how the true Master Mason's Word had been preserved and more importantly what that Word is.*



### Royal Arch Masons

The **Mark Master Mason Degree** teaches the use and lessons of the “Mark” each Craftsman used to distinguish his work in the erection of the Temple. It demonstrates how the Craftsmen received their wages.

The **Past Master Degree** teaches that he who would rule over others must first learn to rule himself.

The **Most Excellent Master Degree** is based upon the completion and dedication of the Temple amid much rejoicing and great splendor. According to tradition, King Solomon instituted a new order of Masons at this occasion as Most Excellent Masters to be conferred upon only those who through diligence and industry have advanced toward a more perfect life.

An ancient manuscript states “the **Royal Arch Degree** has always been considered more august, sublime and important than those which have preceded it and is the very summit of perfection in Ancient Masonry”. With the discoveries of the missing sacred treasure at the rebuilding of the Temple of Solomon that which was lost in the Master Mason Degree is restored to the Craft in a vivid portrayal of epic events.



### Cryptic Masons

The **Royal Master Degree** chronologically precedes the Master Mason Degree. Its central figures are our Three Ancient Grand Masters and a Fellowcraft in search of that reward which would elevate him to the rank of Master Mason. It is the only Degree in Freemasonry where the Candidate meets our Grand Master Hiram Abif.

The **Select Master Degree** explains why King Solomon selected twenty-four true, tried and trusty Craftsmen to work with the Three Grand Masters to complete a vital section of the Temple. It rationally accounts for the concealment and preservation of those essential secrets brought to light in the Royal Arch Degree.

The **Super Excellent Master Degree** teaches the beautiful symbolism of Faith, Friendship and Fidelity. Chronologically, this Degree concerns the siege and destruction of the Jerusalem in 586 B.C. and the captivity of the Hebrew people in Babylon.



### Knight Templars

The **Illustrious Order of the Red Cross** is a simple lesson of the powerful testimony to the almighty force of TRUTH. It is designed to impress upon you that there is but one God and that human nature changes but little over great cycles of time.

The **Order of Malta and the Mediterranean Pass** has a background at the time of the Crusades. It assures safe passage to the Holy Sepulchre. At this period the members of our Order were known as Hospitallers who were famed for the construction and maintenance of hospitals for the poor.

The **Order of the Temple** refers to its members as “Soldiers of the Cross”. Though not historically connected to the Knights Templar of that warring period of the Crusades, today it is motivated by the same principles—the protection of the weak and oppressed, the relief of the distressed and the defense of the Christian religion.

*You have learned early in your Masonic career that Masonry was a progressive science, denoting advancement. Therefore, it is only fitting and proper that you should take advantage of every opportunity for self-improvement and never be satisfied to remain in a static condition. Basic and indispensable as they are to the foundation of all Masonry, the Entered Apprentice, Fellowcraft and Master Mason Degrees comprise the beginning, not the ultimate in Masonic knowledge—just as reading, writing and arithmetic are stepping stones for all higher learning. Time is required to advance through the York Rite. Candidates are honored and dignified by being received individually and not collectively. There are, however, periodic York Rite Festivals conducted throughout the year, which permit those whose available time for spiritual and moral teachings is at a minimum to secure all the Degrees and Orders.*