



Published monthly Volume XCVII Issue No. 3 – March A.D. 2022, A.L. 6022

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We'll be having an EA Degree on Wednesday the 30th, and our Lodge visit for March will be to Temple Terrace no. 330 on 3/16. Dinner is to be a St. Patrick's Day spread. Come join us!

Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

W. Jerry M. Snell, Jr. - W. Stephen Edson – Br. Raymond Ciunci – Br. Allan A. Jenkins



Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?

The Lutz Fire Department, TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) Lutz chapter 56
BSA (Boy Scouts of America) pack and troop 12 Lutz
Lutz Little League Baseball
Awards college scholarships in N.W. Hillsborough County
McKittrick Elementary School
“Helping Paws Program”
Rainbow Assembly (Hillsborough County)
De Molay (Hillsborough County)
Shriners' Hospital
Lifepath Hospice
Jobs' Daughters
Monthly Bingo jackpots at the Florida Masonic Home in St. Petersburg

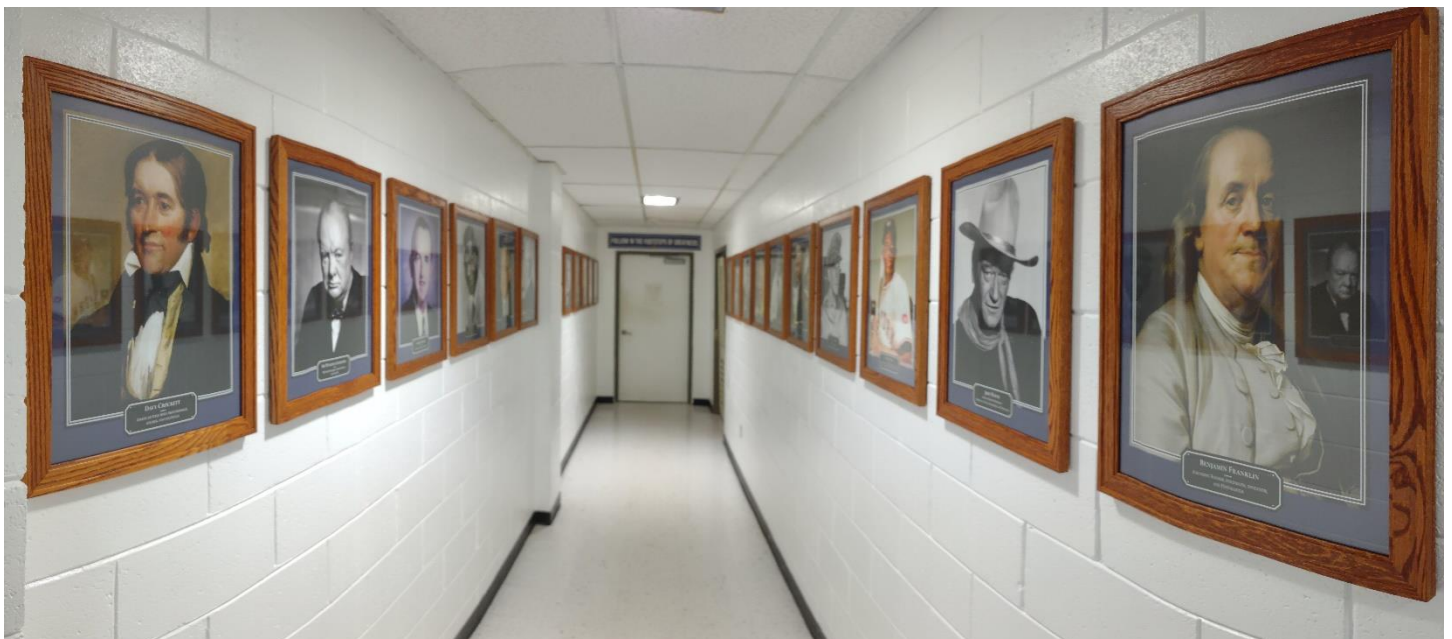
A message from the Worshipful Master:

My Brothers - Please review the following for developments in several important Issues.

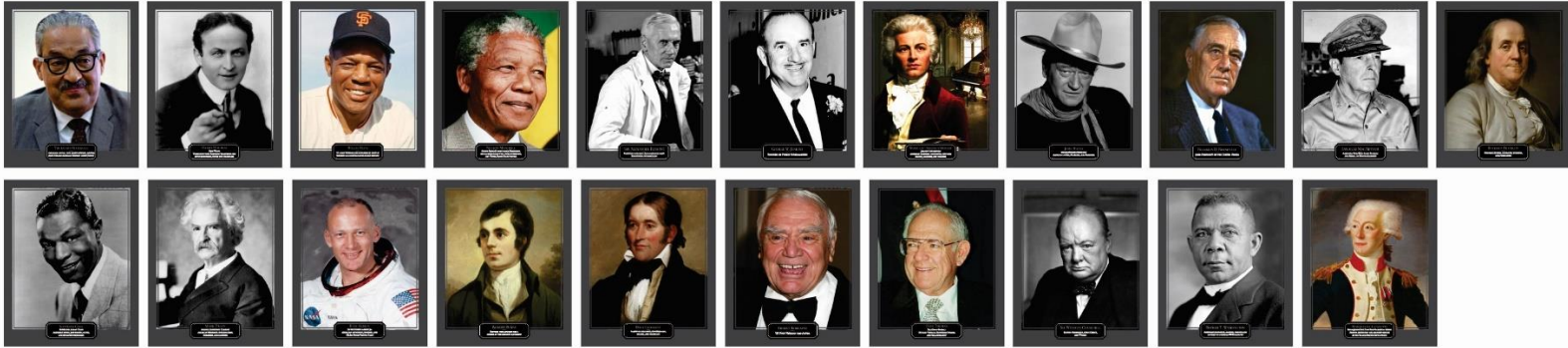
- **2nd Visit from Professional Lift Solutions** - Some of you were present when we first spoke to Grant Talkie about installing a wheelchair lift at the lodge. I have invited him back so we can ask him several additional questions and get us all on the same page. The date for his visit will be **April 2nd at 11 AM**. Please plan to attend so we can move this project along.
- **DDGM Official Visit** - DDGM Tom Newton - Will be visiting us during our 2nd Stated Communication on 3/17.
- **EA Degree** - We will hold an EA degree on 3/30 (Wed). To my knowledge, at this point, we have one candidate. The chair assignments for the degree are as follows.
 - WM - Bro Wade Angel
 - SW - Bro Brian Reach
 - JW - Bro Demetrios Dellis
 - JD - Bro Tom Sheehan
 - SD - Bro Joe Circhirillo
 - Mar - W.: Steve Edson
 - SS - Bro Tom Overman
 - JS - W.: Dan Valdez
 - Chaplin - Bro Frank Penny
 - Tyler - W.: Tony Hedayat
 - Music - Bro John Nagy
- **Family Night** on Thursday 3/31 We will have a Family Night - (Covered dish) we will provide the Hotdogs and Burgers.
- **Lodge Visit** - W.: Sklet has set up our first visit on Wed. March 16th to Temple Terrace Lodge no. 330.

Fraternally,

Ray Ciunci WM



If they could do the things they did then,



imagine the things that we can do now.

**Thank you to all of our Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon
The Past Masters of J.F. Swartsel and Community Lodge © who are still with us today, and
continue to carry the torch of Light on behalf of Freemasonry**

1957 W • Randolph Dey - 1965 W • Thomas B. Daughtey - 1976 W • Phillip V. Getz - 1981 W • Edward B. Wilson
1985 W • Charles Inman – 1985/1997 W • Harold A. Glisson © - 1986 W • Gary F. Gentry
1987/1994 W • R. Willard Brown - 1988 W • Floyde G. Kirk © - 1992 W • Floyd A. Dozier - - 1992 W • Michael P. Byers ©
1993 W • Winston A. Williams © -- 1986 W • Gary F. Gentry 1995 R • W • Donald R. Bell, PDDGM
1995 W • Walter T. Beaver © - 1996 W • Robert Thibodeaux © - 1998 W • Gary A. Richey - 1998 W • Christopher Boles ©
1999 W • David B. Lambert, Sr. - 1999/2010/2013 W • Steven G. Whitmer © - 2000 W • David B. Lambert, II
2000 W • Kenneth C. Tucker © - 2001 W • James R. Lambert - 2001 W • John W. Warren © - 2002 W • Gregory A. Lambert
2003 W • Joseph E. Fara, Sr. - 2004/2007/2011 W • Steven C. Whidden © - 2005/2006 W • Robert L. Herman, Sr. ©
2007 W • William L. Boortz - 2008/2013 W • Gregory L. Savage – 2008/2012 W • Keith A. Crews ©
2009 W • Drew M. Keenan - 2009 W • Matthew K. Jones © - 2011 W • Richard D. Sego – 2012/2019 W • Jerry M. Snell, Jr.
2014 W • Jeffrey T. Sklet – 2014/2015/2018/2019 W • Jerry A. Haywood © - 2015 R • W • Charles C. Osborne, PDDGM
2016 W • Danilo O. Valdez. - 2016 W • John Northrop © - 2017 R • W • Charles J. “Sam” Pesola, PDDGM
2017 W • David Jones © - 2018 - • W • Martin A. Greif - 2020 W • Adam S. Feldman - 2021 W • Samuel McPherson



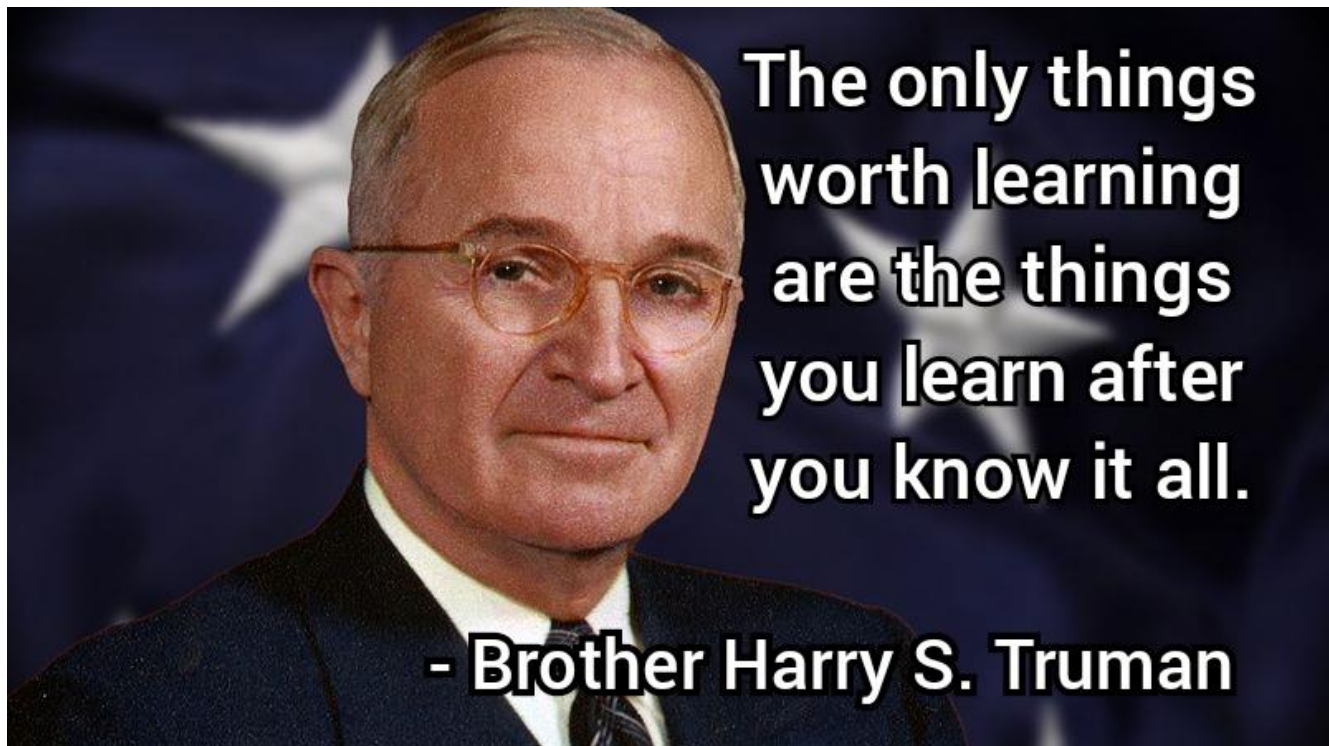
Your Amazon purchases can be helping the Fraternity!

The link is <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/59-2740213>

Next time you need something, go to smile.amazon.com instead of www, and select “the Masonic Home Endowment Fund, Inc.”, and ½% of your purchase will be donated to provide help, aide, and assistance to the residents of the Masonic Home!

Your 2022 J. F. Swartsel Officers are as follows:

Worshipful Master W ∴ Raymond Joseph Ciunci
Senior Warden Brother Wade Edward Angel
Junior Warden Brother Brian Andrew Reach
Treasurer W ∴ Jeffrey Thomas Sklet
Secretary W ∴ David Bruce Lambert Sr.
Chaplain W ∴ Jerry Marvin Snell Jr.
Marshall W ∴ Stephen Douglas Edson
Senior Deacon W ∴ Danilo Orlando Valdez
Junior Deacon Brother Demetrios Thomas Dellis
Senior Steward Brother Joe Circhirillo
Junior Steward Brother Thomas Martin Sheehan
Tyler W ∴ Bahram (Tony) Hedayat
Musician Brother John Nagy
Historian W ∴ Samuel McPherson



Please remember your Lodge boosters and thank them!

R.:W.: Ronald E. Stanley - R.:W.: Donald R. Bell - Mark L. Lager - Daniel Allen - Brad Sollberger - Ernest P. Sidlow

Chair Chatter

From the Secretary: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

If you have changed your address, please give me a call @ (813) 838-7705 or email me at dlambert7907@gmail.com so I can update your records. Also check your Dues Card to see if it is current.

Calendar of Important Lodge Dates: March 2022.

- 1st 6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 2nd (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM, District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).**
- 3rd Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 8th 6 PM Officers Meeting @ J. F. Swartsel, Degree Practice to follow**
- 11th 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ Tampa 240. (Check for ZOOM meeting)**
- 14th Boy Scouts using downstairs.**
- 15th 6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 16th 6:30 – 8:00 Commandry Practice @ J. F. Swartsel No. 251.**
- 16th Monthly Lodge Visit: Temple Terrace no. 330, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 17th DDGM OFFICAL VISIT to J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30 PM.**
- 19th Trestleboard articles to W.: Feldman.**
- 21st 7:30 - Friendship Chapter No. 209 meeting.**
- 22nd 6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 25th 6:30 – 7:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ John Darling No. 154.**
- 26th Open Books 9 AM-Noon, now being held at John Darling Lodge no. 154.**
- 28th Boy Scouts using downstairs.**
- 29th 6:30 – 7:30 Degree Practice @ J. F. Swartsel.**
- 30th EA Degree at J.F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Degree begins at 7:30 PM**
- 31st 6:30 – Family Night @ J. F. Swartsel.**

From the Worthy Matron: Elizabeth McAbee

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our Chapter year has come to a close and we begin our new term in March. It has been a pleasure to bring you news and inspirational thoughts throughout this past year.

Plan to attend our Installation of Officers at 7:00 p.m., Saturday, March 19, 2022. Come and join us for fellowship and food (you know everyone brings their best recipes for our special meetings). Installation will be open to family and friends, so invite those who might have an interest in joining our fraternity.

Our monthly meeting is March 21, and will be Obligation Night and we'll have our yearly reports from our Secretary and Treasurer. This year's Grand Chapter session, *Friendships Are Golden Session*, will be held April 5-7, at the Renaissance Golf Resort in St. Augustine, and many of our members plan to attend.

Masons in good standing and their female relatives are eligible for membership in the Order of the Eastern Star. Information brochures are available in the literature holder on the wooden shelf in the Lodge foyer and petitions are available by request.

Praying you're blessed...

Fraternally,

Elizabeth C McAbee
Worthy Matron
813/494-6210
Matthew 5:16

A NEW
YEAR
&
NEW
OPPORTUNITIES

Worshipful Master: Brother Ray Ciunci

Greetings from the East Brothers!!

Today I met with the Worshipful Master of Holyrood Lodge W:. M.: Jamal Redfurn and some of his Officers. The purpose of the meeting was initially to iron out some of the final details of their renting our Lodge for meetings starting in April, since their Lodge is being sold and will no longer be available to them. As the conversation proceeded, W:.M.: Redfurn made a comment about how alive our Lodge is, and **I told him the reason is that all of us love one another and that's what makes the Lodge go! He mentioned that he senses that every time he comes to Swartsel!** We also talked about how we can help one another.

With Brotherly Love all things are possible without it nothing is possible!

There are a lot of other things going on.

Improving the Lodge building

- We have been discussing installing the elevator with two contractors. We will continue to pursue this.
- We have also installed a suggestion box at the entrance to the Lodge Room.
- We are renting equipment so we can repair the flagpole out front and the outside front light.

Good of the order

- We recently passed three Brothers to Fellow Craft.
- We also voted another Brother into the Lodge and will soon be conducting his EA Degree.
- We have also passed the Lodge budget for 2022
- There will be several Brothers in addition to the Master and Wardens going to the Grand Communications.
- We will be restarting Lodge visits this month and are working to re-start the fish-fry soon.

So our Lodge is a happening place! If you have not attended recently, stop in... we'd love to see you.

Fraternally Yours,
Ray Ciunci – Worshipful Master

From the Senior Warden: Brother Wade Angel

As life begins to slowly return back to something resembling “normal”, we are once again looking to resume some of our regular activities. We will be visiting other Lodges, and attending events as a group. I encourage all of our Brothers to take part. We need to get back to having a dozen Brothers attend our Lodge visits and Master Mason Association meetings. We should also get out in the community and volunteer as a group. It helps our community and brings favorable attention to our Lodge. In our effort to grow our Lodge, community exposure is critical. We should also encourage our friends, neighbors, and co-workers to stop in and meet us. Have dinner with us and see what the Lodge is like.

Brothers can and should recommend activities and projects for the Lodge. Do you know a group or individual that needs assistance? Let us know. Sometimes it is small things. Example: if two or three Brothers go to the little league fields and work the concession stand so the parents can actually watch their kids play instead of schlepping hotdogs. Parents will appreciate that.

As we try to attract new members to the Fraternity, we must realize that younger men want to be part of something active. Just like we did when we were that age. We can set that up for them and build a Lodge for the future. We may also want to consider updating our Lodge furnishings to be more appealing to younger petitioners. If we all get together to do the work, it could be very rewarding.

Fraternally Yours,

Brother Wade Angel

From the Junior Warden: Brother Brian Reach

Not much to say from the South this month ... but an interesting thing happened while I was shopping for the Lodge.

I was in the checkout line at Publix the other day when I noticed that a pair of women were glancing at me and chatting back and forth. I immediately suspected I had something weird going on with my order or clothing, as it has been quite a while since I have had that kind of attention otherwise. As it turns out, there was something right with my clothing ... I had my Mason's hat on. They were mother and daughter and had a number of Masons in their family. So we chatted about J. F. Swartsel and how close our Lodge was and how great the Fraternity is.

The take away my Brothers is this, if we are out and about the town, consider being "out there" a little more about being a Mason. You just never know what opportunities may present themselves to plug our great Fraternity!

March Dinner Menu:

March 3: Yellow rice with chicken and black beans, Cuban bread, Garden salad and dessert.

March 17: Goulash, vegetable, bread/rolls, Garden salad, and dessert.

Brother Brian Reach JW

From the Lodge Mentor: Worshipful Danny Valdez

My Brothers,

I would first like to thank our catechism instructors for educating our new Brothers as they go through the Degrees. Their hard work is clearly paying off, as our attendance has continued to improve since after the pandemic had us closed for 6 weeks, and the participation of our Brothers have made it so we have consistently been able to fill our complete Officer line.

Speaking of, I've decided to not pursue the South after this Masonic Year, and will instead focus on my role as Lodge Mentor. When I accepted a chair at the bottom of the line and progressed through, I did it to help my Lodge. Seeing the caliber of new additions to our Lodge over the past few years, I believe my spot should go to a Brother looking to go through for the first time, and I can focus on making sure our newest Brothers are given proper instruction and help as they progress. I have confidence that whoever steps into next year's vacancy in the line will pursue success in the chairs with the same passion I did. It is a fun, challenging, and rewarding journey!

We will likely be having an EA Degree in March including courtesy candidate(s) from Holyrood 257, and a MM in April if things progress like they're looking. Thank you to everyone had a part in our new tracking board; it's made it a lot easier to keep track of things like this so nobody slips through the cracks!



York Rite Lessons

Companions and Sir Knights,

What does the word Free signify, when connected with Freemasonry?

No bound, not in captivity. The word “Free” in connection with “Mason” originally signified that the persons so called were free of the company of Guild of Incorporate Masons. During the Middle Ages the craftsmen that were trained in the Roman Colleges of Artificers were serfs or bondsmen, and were declared free to travel throughout Europe, building cathedrals, monasteries, and other religious buildings. The Masons who were selected to build the Temple of Solomon were declared free, and were exempted, together with their descendants, from imposts, duties and taxes. They had also the privilege to bear arms. At the destruction of the Temple by Nebuchadnezzar, the posterity of these Masons were carried into captivity with the ancient Jews. But the good-will of Cyrus gave them permission to erect a second temple, having set them at liberty for the purpose. It is from this epoch that we bear the name of Free and Accepted Masons. Ez 2: 1

“Every blade of grass has an angel that bends over it and whispers, Grow! Grow!” The Talmud

What cord was used by the Masons during the Middle Ages?

The threefold cord was very much cherished by the Comocine Masters during the Middle Ages, as well as the Companions of the Royal Arch of today. Ec 4: 12

“Better late than never.” An old Southern saying.

Who were the Ish Chotzeb?”

Hewers who, with the stone cutters and builders, amounted to eighty thousand, and mentioned as “Bright Fellow Crafts” at the building of Solomon’s Temple.

“What becomes fragile when we age is not your bodies as much as our egos. The best time to take some daring steps is when we get older.” Helen Hayes

Who were Ish Sabbal?

The Apprentices at the abuilding of Solomon’s Temple.

“When honor is lost, much is lost. When courage is lost, all is lost.” Johan Wolfgang von Goethe

Zealously,

Most Excellent Companion

James F. (Robby) Robertson, KYCH

Grand High Priest

Grand Chapter of RAM of Florida

Laus Deo

Your humble and obedient servant



1/28: We are fortunate to have strong enough participation in our Lodge that we were able to send a group of Brothers to the MM Association meeting while still being able to send a separate group of our Brothers to attend the Installation of Holyrood Lodge no. 257's Officers and congratulate Worshipful Master Jamal Redfurn on ascending to the East. Good luck to you and your Officer line in 2022!



Masonic Education

This month, we present “Wearing the Emblems”. By Rob Morris

You wear the Square! but have you got
That thing the Square denotes?
Is there within your inmost soul
That principle which should control
Your actions, words, and thoughts?

The Square of Virtue, — is it there,
 Oh, you that wear the Mason's Square?
 You wear the Compass! Do you keep
 Within that circle due
 That's circumscribed by law divine,
 Excluding hatred, envy, sin,
 Including all that's true?
 The Moral Compass draws the line,
 And lets no evil passions in!
 You wear the Trowel! have you got
 That mortar, old and pure,
 Made on the recipe of God
 Divulged within His ancient Word,
 Indissoluble, sure?
 And do you spread, 'twixt man and man,
 That precious mixture as you can?
 You wear the Oriental G!
 Ah, Brother, have a care!
 He whose All-Seeing Eye surveys
 Your inmost heart, with open gaze,
 Knows well what thoughts are there!
 Let no profane, irreverent word
 Go up t' insult th' avenging God!
 You wear the Cross! it signifies
 The burdens Jesus bore,
 Who, staggering, fell, and bleeding, rose,
 And took to Golgotha the woes
 The world had borne before!
 The Cross, — oh, let it say, Forgive,
 Father, forgive, to all that live!
 Dear Brother! if you will display
 These emblems of our Art,
 Let the great morals that they teach
 Be deeply graven, each for each,
 Upon an honest heart!
 Then they will tell, to God and man,
 Freemasonry's all-perfect plan!



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"Soft and safe be the earthly bed of our Brother; bright and glorious be his rising from it. Fragrant be the acacia spring which shall flourish there. May the earliest buds of spring unfold their beauties over his resting place, and, in the bright morning of the world's resurrection, may his soul spring into newness of life and expand into immortal beauty in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear Brother, Farewell!"

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