

Job's Daughters Pageant to Honor Masons

Daughters march in slowly as Narrator begins reading the Narration. Lights are all on. Daughters form the Square and Compass.

The history of Masonry dates back to the time before the Christian Era. In the middle of the seventeenth Century, a group of skilled architects banded themselves together for the protection of their craft and the prosperity of their skills. They were the first "Master Masons", creators of the magnificent edifices of the Medieval Period of cathedral building in Europe. They worked under their own government, traveling from place to place as work required.

Some years later, in 1702, a London, England, lodge decided to open the doors of Masonry to men unskilled in architecture. As the demand for operative skill decreased, the lofty moral principals, noble ideals and manly virtues of those who were already members, attracted to this society men of prominence in church and state, whose higher character and fine attainments had made them distinguished. This is the origin of Freemasonry as we know it today.

Persecuted by church and state because of its successful effort to promote free thinking and lofty ideals, its history pages are smeared with the blood of martyrs who gave their lives that this order survive. Its history also has many gilded pages covered with the records of deeds well done, of bonded men set free, and of mercy and good-will to all mankind.

A writer of authority on the subject of Masonry tells us that the great secret of this Order is that it makes men aware of the divinity within them. A Mason's whole life takes its beauty and meaning from this divine spark and inspires him to follow and obey it. This same writer says, "A man is a Mason, when he can look out over the rivers, the hills, and the far horizon with a profound sense of his own littleness in the vast scheme of things, and yet have faith, hope and courage which is the root of every virtue."

This quotation from "THE VEIL OF ISIS" by Winwood Reade, is a revelation of the high ideals of this great Masonic Order that we revere and honor.

Lights are dimmed. Girls turn and kneel with hands at sides.

"The doctrines of Masonry are the most beautiful that it is possible to imagine. They breathe the simplicity of the earliest ages, animated by the love of a martyred God. That word which Puritians translated CHARITY, but which is really LOVE, is the keystone which supports the entire edifice of this mystic science. LOVE ONE ANOTHER, TEACH ONE ANOTHER, HELP ONE ANOTHER. This is all our doctrine, all our science, all our law. We have no narrow minded prejudices; we do not debar from our society this sect or that sect; it is sufficient for us that man worships GOD no matter under what name or in what manner. It is impossible to be a good Mason without being a good man."

Girls raise arms, holding onto sleeves, form Square and Compass.

Here before you, Job's Daughters have formed the SQUARE AND COMPASS, symbolic emblems of this exalted Order, to which these young ladies assembled owe their heritage. We exalt it, honor it. We are proud of its victories over bitter persecution, we are grateful for its triumph over the snares of time.

Lights on.

As the Job's Daughters rise and retire, the audience is invited to rise and join them in singing the first verse of "Onward Christian Soldiers".

Girls rise and retire. Girls sing descant when appropriate.