

General Instructions for ALL Competitions

- All competitions will be held in-person at Grand Session.
 - If unavoidable extenuating circumstances prevent in-person attendance by a competitor, please contact the Ritual Committee Co-Chairs to request special accommodation. Accommodation requests will be considered but are NOT guaranteed.
 - Competitors must be registered to attend Grand Session in order to participate.
 - Competitors will have the opportunity to look at the competition room before they begin.
 - Enter the competition room in an orderly fashion and wait inside the competition door until the Verbatim Judge says “You may begin” and then begin your Ceremony or go to your station in an orderly manner of your choice.
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MEMBER TEAM COMPETITIONS

Each Bethel may enter **one** team in **EACH** team competition. A Member may be part of *each* team the Bethel enters.

- A. Custodians
 - B. Circle of Five - Ceremony of Initiation (Individual or Combined Bethels)
 - C. Capes and Crowns - Ceremony of Initiation
 - D. Bethel Team Competition
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A. CUSTODIANS - NEW!

Participants: Two Members from either the same Bethel or combined Bethels.

Members will prepare the Bethel room for a regular meeting. No verbatim speaking parts will be given. There will be no open flame equipment, such as candles and/or candelabra. There will be no obstructions to the floor work the members need to complete.

The Members should enter the competition room in an orderly manner of their choosing. The chairs, pedestals, and paraphernalia that they need to move will be clearly laid out in the competition room. The East, West, North, and South marching lines will all be marked on the floor as reference points. Additionally, spaces will be marked to serve as the Preparation and Anteroom areas. This will be restated below but the Altar, Altar cloth, Honored Queen’s podium, and the Musician’s instrument (a piano) will already be in place.

Once prompted to begin, the Members will have 15 minutes to set up the Bethel Room following the criteria listed below. No points may be earned by finishing before the Members’s time is up. However, there will be points deducted for going over the allotted time. They may complete set up in any order they choose, but they will be judged on correct completion of all instructions outlined below.

If the Custodian’s need a prompt from the Floorwork Judge about where a specific object goes, they may ask for one. The prompt will be in what cardinal direction the object belongs within the Bethel Room. As with verbal competitions, points will be deducted for each prompt that is requested.

1) Chair and Pedestal Setup

a) Messenger's Semicircle - 7 chairs

- i) The chairs of the five Messengers, the Chaplain, and the Treasurer should be placed in the semicircle facing the East. They should form a perfect semicircle and can be adjusted to any room by shortening or lengthening the steps taken. The Altar will already be correctly placed in the room by the Ritual Committee and will be covered by an Altar cloth.
- ii) The backs of the Chaplain's and the Treasurer's chairs should be in line with the west side (back) of the Altar. Allow three steps of space from the north side of the Altar to the Chaplain station and three steps of space from the south side of the Altar to the Treasurer station.
- iii) The First and the Third Messengers' chairs each should be placed three steps west of the Chaplain's and the Treasurer's chairs. The right side of the First Messenger's chair is in line with the center of the Treasurer's chair. The left side of the Third Messenger's chair is in line with the center of the Chaplain's chair.
- iv) The Second and Fourth Messengers' chairs each should be placed two steps west of the First and Third Messengers' chairs. The right side of the Second Messenger's chair is in line with the center of the First Messenger's chair. The left side of the Fourth Messenger's chair is in line with the center of the Third Messenger's chair.
- v) The Fifth Messenger's chair should be placed two steps west of the Second and Fourth Messengers' chairs in line with the center of the Altar and the Honored Queen's station.

b) Royalty - 3 chairs

- i) The Honored Queen's podium will already be correctly placed in the room by the Ritual Committee in line with the center of the room and the center of the altar.
- ii) The Honored Queen's chair should be placed a comfortable distance in front of the Honored Queen's podium, in line with the center of the Altar.
- iii) The Junior and Senior Princesses' chairs should be placed on either side of the Honored Queen's chair in a straight line.

c) East - 5 chairs in the East and 2 pedestals

- i) The Dove and Urn of Incense pedestals should be placed with the back of the pedestals three steps West from the Honored Queen's podium. The pedestals should be in line with Chaplain and Treasurer chairs.
- ii) The chairs of the Librarian, the Senior Custodian, the Junior Custodian and the Recorder should be facing West and placed two steps east of the East Line with the back of the chairs three steps west of the Honored Queen's podium.
 - (1) The Dove pedestal in front of, and to the North of, the Senior Princess's chair should have the Librarian's chair on its North side and the Senior Custodian's chair on its South side.
 - (2) The Urn of Incense pedestal in front of, and to the South of, the Junior Princess's chair should have the Recorder's chair on its South side and the Junior Custodian's chair on its North side.
- iii) The Musician's chair should be behind the North Marching Line facing South near the instrument.

d) Adults - 3 chairs for Adults

- i) The Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian's chairs are placed 3 steps west of the Recorder's station, side by side, behind the South Marching Line facing North.
- ii) A piano will already be correctly placed in the room by the Ritual Committee.
- iii) The Director of Music's chair is placed at a comfortable distance behind the instrument.

e) West - 2 chairs

- i) The Guide and Marshal's chairs are placed side by side behind the West Marching Line facing East with the centerline of the Altar between them.

2) Paraphernalia

a) Royalty

- i) A flag base for the National Emblem should be placed to the North of the Senior Princess's station. A flag base for the Bethel Flag should be placed to the South side of the Junior Princess's station.
- ii) The Gavel should be placed on the Honored Queen's podium, on sound block if there is one.
- iii) The Horn of Plenty should be placed on the Honored Queen's podium, south of the center, near the west edge, facing northwest.
- iv) The Lily of the Valley should be placed on the Honored Queen's podium, north of the center, on the northwest corner.
- v) The Charter should be placed at the foot of the west side of the Honored Queen's podium. Nothing except the Charter shall be placed between the Honored Queen's podium and the Altar.

b) East

- i) The Dove should be placed on the pedestal for the Dove, found between the stations of Junior Custodian and Recorder; the Dove faces west.
- ii) The Urn of Incense should be placed on the pedestal for the Urn of Incense, found between the stations of Senior Custodian and Librarian; the handle of the Urn is turned north.

c) Altar

- i) The Bible should be placed on the Altar near the East edge with its back in the center of the Altar and the open edge facing north. There shall be no loose papers in the Bible or on the Altar. The ribbon in the Bible should be marking the page where Job 42:15 is found. Nothing except the Bible, other appropriate Holy Book, and the Altar cloth shall be placed on the Altar.
- ii) The Altar kneeling bench or cushion should be placed on the east side of the Altar.

d) Preparation Room

- i) The National Emblem and Bethel Flag should be placed un-rolled in the Preparation Room area.
- ii) An additional Bible should be placed in the Anteroom area.

Additional Instructions for Junior Division:

Once they are finished setting up the Bethel Room, Custodians will then sit at their respective stations (Junior and Senior Custodian) together in an orderly manner of their choice.

Custodians will PAUSE and wait for the floorwork judge to dismiss them.

Once dismissed, the Custodians will rise together, walk straight from their station to the Altar line. Junior Custodian will turn South and march to the South Marching Line. Senior Custodian will turn North and march to the North Marching Line. Both Custodians will march on their respective lines to the West Line, then exit the Bethel Room in an orderly manner of their choice through the Preparation Room door.

Additional Instructions for Seniors Division:

Custodians must complete the setup of the Bethel room **without speaking to each other**. However, they are still able to ask for a prompt from the Floorwork Judge.

Once they are finished setting up the Bethel Room, Custodians will then sit at their respective stations (Junior and Senior Custodian) together in an orderly manner of their choice.

Custodians will PAUSE, then the Custodians will rise together and, as per the ritual, remove the chairs in the Semicircle to the Marching Lines.

The Custodians will advance west from their stations to the Altar Line, then south and north to the Marching Lines and west to a point opposite the Fifth Messenger's station (Plate 11). The Junior Custodian pauses while the Senior Custodian removes the Fifth Messenger's chair. The Custodians work together to remove the remainder of the chairs. After removing the chairs of the Chaplain, Treasurer, and all Five Messengers, the Custodians return to their stations by retracing their steps. Once the Custodians have returned to their stations, they remain standing, PAUSE, and wait for the floorwork judge to dismiss them.

Once dismissed, the Custodians will rise together, walk straight from their station to the Altar line. Junior Custodian will turn South and march to the South Marching Line. Senior Custodian will turn North and march to the North Marching Line. Both Custodians will march on their respective lines to the West Line, then exit the Bethel Room in an orderly manner of their choice through the competition room door.

B. CIRCLE OF FIVE

Participants: Five Members from either the same Bethel or combined Bethels.

Messengers present their lectures from the Ceremony of Initiation in sequence, each standing in the correct position west of the Altar as per the Ritual. The instructions to the Guide and Marshal must be given by the Second, Fourth, and Fifth Messengers as part of this competition.

Once prompted to begin by Verbatim Judge, the Members will proceed to the Messenger's semicircle and sit at their respective stations in an orderly manner of their choice.

When ready, the First Messenger will rise, turn left, and take position west of Altar between stations of First and Third Messengers (page 142-Plate 25).

FIRST MESSENGER: On the edge of an Arabian desert, there lived centuries ago a man whose name was Job. He was a pious and upright man who loved and feared God and turned away from all evil. God, in His goodness, blessed this man with great riches.

With his wife, seven sons and three daughters, he lived in the valley in peace, happiness and plenty. His vast states stretched many miles over the plains and into the hills where grazed his countless flocks of sheep. Dotting the landscape in the lowlands, and shaded by giant palms, were the homes of his sons.

At the close of each day, it was the custom of the younger members of this happy family to feast at one of their homes. Job, not wishing to impose the gravity of his years upon the festivities, remained at his own home in peace. Job feared that his children, in their worldly pleasures and untold wealth, might forget or turn away from God. By regular hours of worship, he taught his family to share in his righteousness.

In the Heavenly Council, God commended the piety of his faithful servant Job. The Adversary, whose mission was to test the faith of the people of the earth, accused Job of being pious because God had blessed him with great wealth and extensive estates and possessions. He declared that if God should take away Job's riches, his piety and reverence would turn to hate. God permitted the Adversary to try Job's faith, but warned him not to do bodily harm to Job.

So the Adversary set forth on his mission.

First Messenger turns right, returns to their station, and is seated (page 142-Plate 25).

After First Messenger is seated, Second Messenger should PAUSE, rise, then take position west of Altar by walking on a diagonal line, stopping between stations of First and Third Messengers (page 142-Plate 25).

SECOND MESSENGER: Job was happy, for his children were about him. The days faded into evening, and he looked out on the peaceful land and watched the star as they came forth in silent procession. He silently glorified the Great Hand which controls the universe.

But there came a day when the Adversary struck Job with his wrath. Messengers falling at Job's feet told him of disaster following disaster; his flocks destroyed by lightning; his beasts of burden carried away by plundering tribes; his servants put to the sword; and finally, the death of his sons and daughters by a mighty wind which laid low the homes of feasting and pleasure.

Job, in anguish, cast himself upon the ground, laying his forehead in the dust.

The Adversary watched, ever ready to return to his Master with the story of Job's fall from his faith in God. In spite of his misfortunes, Job remained steadfast and continued to worship God.

Again the Adversary approached the throne saying, "All that a man hath will he give for his life. Put forth Thine hand and touch his flesh and he will turn from Thee." God answered, "He is in thine hand, but save his life."

The Adversary went forth. Job's suffering was intense. He was banished from the habitations of man. Yet, in his suffering and misfortune, he remained faithful to God, saying, "Shall we receive good at the hand of God and not expect to receive misfortune?"

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims to the Junior Princess.

Second Messenger returns to their station by stepping back until on a line with their station, turns right, goes to their station, and is seated (page 142-Plate 25).

After Second Messenger is seated, Third Messenger should PAUSE, rise, and then turn right and take position west of Altar between stations of First and Third Messengers (page 144-Plate 27).

THIRD MESSENGER: Job, stricken with a never-ceasing torture, sought refuge upon a heap of ashes. He was almost helpless, and his feeble efforts to arise from the ground provoked the mirth of the children who played about.

His companions were beggars and outcasts. The day faded into evening. Again, Job heard the twilight song bird, but its strain had changed to sorrow. He gazed with reverence upon the horizon streaked with the afterglow of a lowering sun. His eyes paused upon the ruins of the homes of his sons, and, in his troubled mind, again he saw the candlelights grow dark - one by one - until the last. All was darkness, and Job, in the agony of his heart, cried aloud, "Why does God continue life to the wretched who long for death?"

As daylight dispelled the gloom, there came out of the East three men. They were the friends of his youth, Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar. They met by appointment to tell Job of their sympathy, for the story of his misfortune had traveled to the farthest parts. They sought Job among the outcasts but knew him not. When at last they found their friend, they looked upon him in great pity and watched with him. They knew that his grief and suffering were intense. They waited until Job, in his misery, broke the silence.

At length Job spoke, "Let the day perish wherein I was born." He continued portraying a peaceful

vision of death and release from earthly suffering. He awakened to his real condition and his words rose like the storm out of the lull. "Why is light given to a man whose way is hid?" Job spoke with the passion of despair and the bitterness of his misery. The eldest of his friends reminded him that calamity destroys only the wicked and the righteous will endure.

Again and yet again, the friends insisted that Job was being punished for sinful acts. Job replied to each in turn. He maintained his purity and righteousness and wondered at the work of God's Divine Hand.

Third Messenger turns left, returns to their station, and is seated (page 144-Plate 27).

After Third Messenger is seated, Fourth Messenger should PAUSE, rise, and take position west of Altar by walking on a diagonal line, stopping between the stations of the First and Third Messengers (page 144-Plate 27).

FOURTH MESSENGER: Job's cries to God to appear were heard by the Almighty. There came a wind whirling about the mound, and out of the tumult came God's answer, "Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? Declare, if thou hast understanding." So on and on the whispering of the wind asked Job, "Who shall make the sun to shine and the moon to walk its silvery path; the troubled waters of the sea to be calm and the rivers to flow their winding course; the rolling thunder and the flashing lighting to cease; the birds to sing their lay and the beasts to roam the plain; and the earth to move in its appointed course? Who shall satisfy the desolate and vast ground with gentle rains and scatter the east wind upon the earth?"

Job heard in shame and answered, "Behold I will lay my hand upon my mouth. Once I have spoken, but now I will not answer." Again the voice persists, "If thou hast an arm like God, take up the sword and rule the universe, but lay low all that is proud, subdue the forces of evil, and hide the faces of the wicked in darkness."

Job answered, "I know Thou can do everything, and that no thought can be hidden from Thee. Therefore, I have uttered that which I knew not, and I repent in dust and ashes."

Then the Lord spake unto Eliphaz saying, "My wrath is kindled against thee and thy two friends, for ye have not spoken of me the things that are right, as my servant Job hath."

Job's righteousness had prevailed. God laid His hand upon him, healed his wounds, guided him to the ruins of his home and restored to him twice as much of the world's goods as he had before. So Job lived for many years in peace and plenty as a reward for his steadfastness during the trial by the Adversary.

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims to the Senior Princess.

Fourth Messenger returns to their station by stepping back until on a line with their station, turns left, goes to their station, and is seated (page 144-Plate 27).

After Fourth Messenger is seated, Fifth Messenger should PAUSE, rise, and take position west of Altar between the stations of the First and Third Messengers (page 146-Plate 29).

FIFTH MESSENGER: The story of Job is a lesson of life. It has been handed down from generation to generation in the Sacred Writings. Whatever its antiquity, it is as true today as when it was written.

The members of this Order are just beginning the warfare of life - the trials of human existence. We are going forth on our pilgrimage filled with ambition and hope. All the magic of youth and the joy of life are ours, and our eyes are filled with wondering interest in the world's affairs.

We know now what may be written in our book of destiny. There may come a time when, through

adversity, we may be tried for our faith in the Great Creator of Heaven and earth. We may in the years to come be fettered by poverty and toil, yet in our hearts there should forever echo the remembrance of the trials of Job, his steadfastness to God and the reward for his righteousness.

The Sacred Book informs us that Job was rewarded with twice as much of the world's goods as he had before, and that other sons and daughters were given to him. But above all, he enjoyed the blissful happiness of the commendations of God for his faith.

The closing chapter of the Book tells us, "In all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren." Let it be our purpose so to live that the members of our Order will be known throughout the land as true Daughters of Job.

PAUSE - do NOT sing.

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims to the Honored Queen.

Fifth Messenger backs to their station and is seated (page 146-Plate 29).

The Members will remain seated until the Verbatim Judge dismisses them. The Members retire in an orderly manner of their choice.

C. CAPES AND CROWNS

Participants: Three Members from the same Bethel: Honored Queen, Senior Princess, Junior Princess. Each must wear the official regalia of the office they are representing. Honored Queen must be filled by a current or past Honored Queen. Junior & Senior Princesses do **NOT** have to be current or past princesses to compete.

All paraphernalia, including the emblems and gavel, will be provided. There will be no Custodians, Guide, Marshal, or other officers present. They will not have to sing. Only the speaking parts referred to in these instructions will be given. For smoothness of delivery, most instructions to the Inner Guard, Guide and Marshal have been omitted.

The directions in the Ritual are very specific about when to sit and to stand; however, we are repeating the information here so there will be no confusion on the part of the competitors.

Once prompted to begin by Verbatim Judge, the Members will proceed to the East and sit at their respective stations in an orderly manner of their choice.

HONORED QUEEN

Rises. Ceremony of Initiation.

PAUSE - Remains standing. Inner Guard, are there candidates in waiting?

Guide and Marshal, you will retire and present the candidates for the Ceremony of Initiation.

Inner Guard, you will admit the Preparation Committee, all members and visitors who have been properly vouched for. Honored Queen is seated and remains seated.

You will answer the alarm and admit the candidates.

PAUSE - *Rises.* Pilgrims, we extend to you a fraternal greeting. Heed well what you shall hear.

PAUSE. We read in the Book of Job that "In all the land were no women found so fair as the daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren." This is the passage upon which Job's Daughters is founded. In our lessons, we strive to teach that to be fair is to do good. We are all daughters of God, and by the most intimate ties we are related to the Masonic Fraternity, that organization which stands for the brotherhood of humanity. While Job's Daughters is no part of this fraternity, there is a great work for us to do. We must learn and practice reverence for God, loyalty to our flag, respect for our elders and love for all the world.

In the story of Job we learn that if amid all the temptations of life we remain faithful to our Creator, we will be enriched with His blessings. Before you continue your journey, you are required to take a solemn Obligation to remain faithful to our teachings. This will be communicated by our Chaplain. Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims west of the Altar. PAUSE - *Honored Queen remains standing.*

Daughters, you will rise. PAUSE as Junior and Senior Princess Rise. Chaplain, you will attend at the Altar.

PAUSE - *One rap of the gavel (*) PAUSE* as Junior and Senior Princess are seated.

Junior Princess, (*rises*) these Pilgrims are seeking to share in our ambitions and our labors of love. They believe in those things which make for a better and happier world. I find them worthy of the confidence we are about to place in them.

The lessons of the First Epoch are to be taught under your direction. *Honored Queen is seated.*

JUNIOR PRINCESS

Remains standing. Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims east of the Altar for the lectures of the First and Second Messengers. PAUSE - *Junior Princess remains standing.*

We hope that the lessons of this Epoch have been deeply impressed upon you, and that they will be carried with you forever. Remember the pious and prosperous Job, passing in peace over his vast estates, ever stopping to give a word of cheer to his servants. Hear him bless his children and pray that they may continue to live in the fear of God.

When the shades of night begin to fall, he goes forth into the gathering gloom and hears God's voice in the waters of the river, in the song of the night birds and in all nature. He looks toward the homes of his sons and, as one by one the candle lights are extinguished, he offers a silent prayer that the morrow will be the same as today - full of love, peace and plenty.

Then, as a storm out of the southland, comes blow after blow on the head of this pious man. His wealth is swept away, his family is destroyed and his body is torn with pains of disease. Yet, in his hour of trial when all the world seemed to forsake him, he remained God's faithful servant. Job was steadfast.

We learn from this Epoch always to remain faithful to God in our every thought, word and act, no matter what earthly trials we may be called upon to endure. Be steadfast, practice love, dispense light, shun falsehood and believe only in the truth.

The sign of the First Epoch is given by placing the open right hand over the mouth. *Junior Princess exemplifies sign.* It alludes to the thought and care exercised by Job before he answered. Let it be a lesson to each one of us to be thoughtful before we speak.

Pilgrims, you will exemplify with me this sign. *Junior Princess exemplifies the sign a second time.*

The response is “Patience.” It alludes to the patience of Job. Pilgrims, you will repeat after me the response of the First Epoch. *Junior Princess gives the response.*

The mystic number of this Epoch is seven. It alludes to the number of Job's sons and the measure of his flocks.

The emblem of this Epoch is the White Dove, which symbolizes purity and truth. *At the word “emblem” the Junior Princess extends their left hand toward the Dove until the sentence is completed.* It is also symbolic of the name of Job's first daughter whom he called Jemima, which means “dove”.

PAUSE. Honored Queen, the Pilgrims are prepared for the Second Epoch. *Junior Princess is seated.*

HONORED QUEEN

Honored Queen rises. Senior Princess, *(rises)* the lessons of the Second Epoch are to be taught under your direction. *Honored Queen is seated.*

SENIOR PRINCESS

Remains standing. Pilgrims, you are bound to us by the sacred pledge of Job's Daughters. The lessons which we learn here assist us in building our own individual character.

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims east of the Altar for the lectures of the Third and Fourth Messengers. PAUSE - *Senior Princess remains standing.*

Pilgrims, you have heard the sad story of Job's anguish. The man whom God corrects should count himself happy, for his correction is meant to awaken him from his dream of evil and lead him into a broader, cleaner life, rich in blessings.

God knows your every thought and watches over you in hours of pleasure and in times of misfortune. Every thought is like a dewdrop from Heaven, its usefulness is forecast and its purpose fulfilled. We will give ourselves to faith that never faileth, kind thoughts to our fellow men, inspiring confidence and hope of reward.

The sign of the Second Epoch is given by placing the hands in the position they were in at the Altar and bowing the head slightly. *Senior Princess exemplifies the sign.* It alludes to the manner in which Job received his pleasures, but most of all his adversities.

Pilgrims, you will exemplify with me this sign. *Senior Princess exemplifies the sign a second time.*

The response is “Faith.” It alludes to the faith of Job.

Pilgrims, you will repeat after me the response of the Second Epoch. *Senior Princess gives the response.*

The mystic number of this Epoch is three. It alludes to the three daughters of Job and his three friends from the far East. The emblem of this Epoch is the Urn of Incense, which in all ages has symbolized prayer. *At the word “emblem” the Senior Princess extends their right hand toward the Urn until the sentence is completed.* It is also symbolic of the name of Job's second daughter whom he called Kezia, meaning “cassia”, used in incense.

PAUSE. Honored Queen, the Pilgrims are prepared for the Third Epoch. *Senior Princess is seated.*

HONORED QUEEN

Rises. Pilgrims, it is my pleasure to impart to you the last lesson of our Order. As quoted from the Book of Job, "Thou shalt forget thy misery. Remember it as waters that are passed away and thy life shall rise brighter than the noonday."

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims east of the Altar for the lecture of the Fifth Messenger.

PAUSE - *Remains standing.*

Pilgrims, it is my pleasure to impart to you the closing lessons which we learn from the study of Job's life.

The three principal Officers of the Bethel are placed side by side in the East of the Bethel to represent the three daughters of Job of whom we read in the Holy Book.

The mystic number of this Epoch is five. It alludes to the messengers informing Job of his misfortune and the five Messengers who relate the story to the Pilgrims in Job's Daughters. The mystic numbers of our Order are seven, three and five, as explained in each Epoch.

The emblem of this Epoch is the Horn of Plenty, which symbolizes the triumph of Job over the temptations of the evil one, and the reward for his piety and faith. *At the word "emblem" the Honored Queen extends their left hand toward the Horn of Plenty until the sentence is completed. It should ever remind us to advance with strength and power. It is also symbolic of the name of Job's third daughter whom he called Keren Happuch, which means "Plenty".*

The Honored Queen picks up the Lily of the Valley with their right hand and places it in the palm of their left hand, holding the stems.

The Lily of the Valley is the emblematic flower of our Order. From the retired place in which it grows we learn humility. It is white, and white in all ages has been deemed an emblem of purity. The Lily of the Valley teaches that beauty beams from purity throughout the vale of humility. *Replaces the Lily of the Valley on the podium.*

The sign of the Third Epoch is given by placing the right hand over the heart. *Honored Queen exemplifies the sign. It alludes to the intention of living uprightly.*

Pilgrims, you will exemplify with me this sign. *The Honored Queen exemplifies the sign a second time.*

The response is "Reward." It alludes to the steadfast and upright who finally receive their reward.

Pilgrims, you will repeat after me the response of the Third Epoch. *The Honored Queen gives the response.*

Senior Custodian, you will approach the Altar, retire and exemplify the manner of leaving a Bethel while it is in session, after which you will ask the Outer Guard to admit you in the regular manner.

PAUSE. Senior Princess, *(remains seated)* you will explain the Salutation Sign and examination of a member who cannot be vouched for. *Honored Queen is seated.*

SENIOR PRINCESS

Rises. The salutation Sign is given when entering or leaving a Bethel while it is in session by stepping into the semicircle between the stations of the Second and Fifth Messengers, standing in the center of the semicircle

facing the Altar, and making a slight nod to the East. Remain standing until the Honored Queen responds with a nod. Then leave the semicircle by backing out between the stations of the Fourth and Fifth Messengers.

Never turn your back on the Altar until you are outside of the Messengers' semicircle. Then be seated or leave as the case may be.

If a member's qualification to attend a meeting is ever questioned, she can prove her membership in Job's Daughters by taking an examination.

PAUSE. Junior Princess, (rises) you will represent a member whom I will examine. The Princesses stand at an angle so that the signs may be easily seen by the Pilgrims.

SENIOR PRINCESS AND JUNIOR PRINCESS

SP: You will explain and exemplify the sign of the First Epoch.

JP: The sign of the First Epoch is given by placing the open right hand over the mouth. JP exemplifies the sign. It alludes to the thought and care exercised by Job before he answered. Let it be a lesson to each one of us to be thoughtful before we speak.

SP: What is the response of the First Epoch?

JP: The response is "Patience." It alludes to the patience of Job.

SP: You will explain and exemplify the sign of the Second Epoch.

JP: The sign of the Second Epoch is given by placing the hands in the position they were in at the Altar and bowing the head slightly. JP exemplifies the sign. It alludes to the manner in which Job received his pleasures, but most of all his adversities.

SP: What is the response of the Second Epoch?

JP: The response is "Faith." It alludes to the faith of Job.

SP: You will explain and exemplify the sign of the Third Epoch.

JP: The sign of the Third Epoch is given by placing the right hand over the heart JP exemplifies the sign. It alludes to the intention of living uprightly.

SP: What is the response of the Third Epoch?

JP: The response is "Reward." It alludes to the steadfast and upright who finally receive their reward.

Senior Princess and Junior Princess nod to each other and are seated.

HONORED QUEEN

Rises. Pilgrims, when you enter or retire from a Bethel in session, you will do as exemplified by our Senior Custodian. Each member is required to commit to memory the signs, responses, Obligation, Salutation Sign, Grip, and Mothers', Fathers' and Guardians' Prayer. The Guide will now give you the Grip of the Order.

The Grip of Job's Daughters is given by joining hands in the usual manner and slightly pressing the other's hand twice.

PAUSE. We are taught that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, which includes both just thinking

and right conduct. We hold high our aim and name of Job's Daughters which stands for:

- J - Joy with judgment,
- O - Order being our first law,
- B - Beautiful and gracious in manner,
- S - Sincere in undertaking.

- D - Domineering over self,
- A - Abstain from evil,
- U - Upward and onward,
- G - God's name held in reverence,
- H - Hope never faileth,
- T - Truth always spoken,
- E - Eager for knowledge,
- R - Reaching toward the best,
- S - Steadfast and upright, we will face life squarely for future success.

Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims west of the Altar.

PAUSE. Our Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

*Three raps of the gavel (***) - PAUSE as Junior and Senior Princess rise.*

PAUSE.

One rap of the gavel () - PAUSE as Junior and Senior Princess are seated.*

Remains standing. Guide and Marshal, you will conduct the Pilgrims to the Recorder's desk to sign our Permanent Record Book.

I now welcome you as a member of Job's Daughters International. At the close of the meeting, the members will greet and welcome you. This completes the Ceremony of Initiation.

One rap of the gavel ().*

HQ is seated

The Members will remain seated until the Verbatim Judge dismisses them. The Members retire in an orderly manner of their choice

D. BETHEL TEAM COMPETITION

GENERAL INFORMATION: To compete in the Bethel Team Competition, each competition team must have a minimum of seven (7) Members. The competition team may be members of either a single Bethel, or multiple Bethels combining to make a competition team. Members may **not** compete in multiple Bethel Team competitions.

The stations needed for this competition are: Honored Queen, Junior Princess, Senior Princess, Guide, Marshal, Chaplain, Senior Custodian, Junior Custodian, Treasurer, First Messenger, Second Messenger, Third Messenger, Fourth Messenger, Fifth Messenger, Musician, Librarian, & Recorder.

This Ceremony will be given as though in an open meeting. The Pledge of Honor, Stations and Duties, and secret work will be omitted from the competition. Escort, Introductions, and Honors, Order of Business #1-3 and 5-16, the Retiring of the National Emblem, as well as the instructions to the Inner and Outer Guards, and their speaking parts, have also been omitted for time, clarity, or for general aesthetics. For competition we will be using the Opening Prayer **not** the Lord's Prayer. The Bethel Flag will already be in the east. Omit the instruction to the Bethel Flag Bearer from the Ritual.

There will **not** be a Member of Honor candidate for the Guide and Marshal to escort or the members to deliver their parts to. Instead, please imagine a person is there for the purposes of this competition and act exactly as you would if there was a person receiving this honor.

Adults will not be judged on floor work or speaking parts. There must be a Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian present for competition. An adult other than the Bethel Guardian or Associate Bethel Guardian may fill this position. The only adults from the Bethel allowed in the room will be those representing Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian and adult pianist. If you will need someone to fill one of these stations, please indicate this on your Registration Form.

The Bethel Guardian will use the Honored Queen's real name when introducing them at the beginning of the ceremony.

Musician: If you do not have a Member pianist, an adult may fill this role. If you will need someone to fill one of these stations, please indicate this on your Registration Form. If you prefer to perform using the recorded Ritual music, please let the committee know.

Size of Room: The size of the space we will be using in the room will be approximately 44' x 40', which is the outside dimension.

Multiple Stations: Honored Queen must be filled by a current Honored Queen or a Past Honored Queen. The **Honored Queen** and **Guide** must not perform multiple parts. **Please be sure to list ALL stations a Member will be performing on the registration sheet.**

All speaking parts must be given from the appropriate station. If a Member will be performing more than one part, they must complete their first part at that station before moving to their next station. Officers may move to their next station after being seated at their current station. Timing of moving between stations is for each team to decide what will work best for them; EXCEPT, Members may NOT move between stations while someone is speaking. Movement between stations is considered under General Impression scores and won't be docked unless excessively disruptive.

Paraphernalia: All paraphernalia will be provided, including a gavel in the East.

Singing and Signing: There will be no signing during the Ritual competition. Quality of singing will not be judged, but words need to be clearly enunciated. Members will be judged if they do not sing where indicated or if they sing anywhere not indicated. Songs sung during competition will be: "Open the Gates of the Bethel", "Star Spangled Banner", "Bethel Flag Song", "Sweet Hour of Prayer", "Now Our Work is Over", "Forward All Job's Daughters", and "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

Member of Honor Ceremony - with Opening and Closing

*Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian and Bethel Choir enter as per Ritual.
Bethel Guardian sounds one rap of gavel (*).*

BETHEL GUARDIAN: Bethel Number 100 of Kearney, Nebraska of Job's Daughters International is about to convene. All members, parents, grandparents, and guardians of Job's Daughters, and adults with proper Masonic relationship are invited to remain.

*Bethel Guardian nods to Musician/Pianist to begin.
Members sing first verse of "Open the Gates of the Bethel." Officers will be waiting at the "doors" of the Bethel and will need to mime their opening as per the Ritual.
Officers enter, as per Ritual.
Honored Queen ascends the dais and assumes their station, as per Ritual.*

BETHEL GUARDIAN: I have the pleasure of introducing the Honored Queen [name].

*Bethel Guardian presents the Gavel to the Honored Queen.
Honored Queen does NOT sound the gavel.*

HONORED QUEEN: The Officers will take their stations.

*Musician/Pianist plays a chord for Officers to face east.
Members sing second verse of "Open the Gates of the Bethel."
Officers complete the opening march and stand at their stations, as per Ritual.
Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian descend the East Dais side-by-side once the Officers have left the East Line. They stand at their stations, as per Ritual.*

HONORED QUEEN: Marshal, you will display the National Emblem.

*Marshal retires, through the Preparation Room "door" to retrieve the American flag.
Honored Queen gives three raps of the gavel as the Marshal enters with the flag (***)
Citizens salute the flag by placing their hands over their hearts. All face the flag. This salute is to be held until after the Pledge of Allegiance.
Marshal presents the flag west of the Altar, as per Ritual.
Citizens, except the Marshal, sing one verse of "The Star Spangled Banner."*

HONORED QUEEN: This flag is an emblem of the liberties we enjoy, the protection of our homes, and the freedom of our institutions. It is a symbol of the freedom of our institutions. It is a symbol of the blood of our forefathers, who died that our country might endure. We love it and all for which it stands. Marshal, place it in the East at the right of the Senior Princess.

Marshal places the flag in the East, as per Ritual, then steps back to join in the salute.

HONORED QUEEN: All citizens of the United States of America will join in pledging allegiance to the flag.

*Citizens recite the pledge of allegiance. The salute is lowered at this time.
Marshal returns to station and is seated.
Honored Queen sounds one rap of gavel as Marshal turns to return to station (*).*

HONORED QUEEN: Daughters and Majority Members, you will rise and join in singing the Bethel Flag Song.

Daughters and Majority Members rise, turn toward the flag, and sing "Bethel Flag Song."

Honored Queen will sound one rap ().*

HONORED QUEEN: Our Chaplain will lead us in the Opening Prayer.

*Honored Queen sounds three raps of gavel (***)*

Members sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

Chaplain attends at the Altar, reverently opens the Bible, kneels at the Altar, and assumes the Attitude of Prayer, as per the Ritual.

All Members assume the Attitude of Prayer with the Chaplain.

ALL MEMBERS: Blessed Father, we thank You for the opportunity to meet together. Make us ready and eager to gather knowledge and wisdom that we may grow to become confident young women. Give us faith to trust that You will always guide us and help us to be more accepting of others. We ask that You watch over us and help us learn to do Your will. Amen.

Members return hands to their sides with the Chaplain.

Musician/Pianist plays Altar music, as per Ritual.

Chaplain rises and returns to their station, as per the Ritual.

HONORED QUEEN: In the name of our God and by virtue of the power given to me by the Grand Guardian Council, I now declare Bethel number 100 of Kearney, Nebraska of Job's Daughters International regularly opened for business.

Honored Queen sounds one rap of gavel ().*

Honored Queen will PAUSE and remain standing.

HONORED QUEEN: Member of Honor Ceremony.

HONORED QUEEN: Would Rosie Riveter please rise and step to the sidelines? Guide and Marshal, you will escort them west of the Altar.

Musician/Pianist plays march music, as per Ritual.

Guide and Marshal leave their stations marching south and north respectively, marching to the adults to be honored.

Guide marches to the Altar Line and turns north to pass in front of the Altar.

Marshal marches to the Altar Line and turns south to pass in front of the Altar at the same time.

Guide turns west at a point between the north side of the Altar and the Chaplain's station, marches west to the west side of the Altar, turns south, and marches to the southwest corner of the Altar.

Marshal turns west at a point between the south side of the Altar and the Treasurer's station, marches west to the west side of the Altar, turns north, and marches to the northwest corner of the Altar.

Guide and Marshal center the adults between them on the west side of the Altar.

GUIDE: Honored Queen, it is my pleasure to present Rosie Riveter, whom the members of this Bethel deem worthy of bearing the title, "Member of Honor."

HONORED QUEEN: Members and friends, we have set aside this time to bestow the highest honor that Job's Daughters can confer on an adult: the title of "Member of Honor" by virtue of their outstanding and meritorious service to a Bethel and our Order. Rosie Riveter, your service and love for this Bethel was deemed by our members to be worthy of the title, "Member of Honor of Bethel No. 100."

Guide and Marshal, you will escort Rosie Riveter east of the Altar to hear the words of thanks that our members have for them.

Musician/Pianist plays march music, as per Ritual.

Guide leads the line of adults along the south side of the Altar and turns north at the Altar Line.

Marshal follows.

Guide and Marshal center the adults between them on the east side of the Altar.

GUIDE: Daughters, you will impart your words of friendship.

GUIDE: Treasurer. *(Rises.)*

TREASURER: Your character has a foundation built on honesty and integrity. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: First Messenger. *(Rises.)*

FIRST MESSENGER: Just as Job taught his family to share in his love of God, so have you set an example of the Daughters to share your love of God. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Second Messenger. *(Rises.)*

SECOND MESSENGER: You have remained faithful to Job's Daughters International in every thought, word and act. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Third Messenger. *(Rises.)*

THIRD MESSENGER: Your continued faith in the Daughters of Job has given us strength to go upward and onward toward higher goals. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Fourth Messenger. *(Rises.)*

FOURTH MESSENGER: You have watched over us and cared for us in times of pleasure and misfortune. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Fifth Messenger. *(Rises.)*

FIFTH MESSENGER: From you we have learned this lesson of life – that whatever may befall us, if we remain steadfast, we too will receive our reward. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Chaplain. *(Rises.)*

CHAPLAIN: You have shown us that piety; religion and reverence for sacred things are the beacon lights of life. Guide and Marshal, you will escort Rosie Riveter to the East. *(Seated.)*

Musician/Pianist plays march music, as per Ritual.

Guide leads the line north on the Altar line. Turns east on the North Marching Line. Turns south on the East Line and center themselves and the Recipients on the East Line.

GUIDE: Daughters, may we hear some kind words from you for those we honor tonight?

GUIDE: Musician. *(Rises.)*

MUSICIAN: You have brought harmony to this Bethel with your patience and words of wisdom. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Librarian. *(Rises.)*

LIBRARIAN: You have encouraged us to pursue knowledge in everything we do. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Senior Custodian. *(Rises.)*

SENIOR CUSTODIAN: You have always performed the humblest task promptly and cheerfully. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Junior Custodian. *(Rises.)*

JUNIOR CUSTODIAN: You have given us so much joy and we wish for you the greatest job of all, that of work well done and a life well spent. *(Seated.)*

GUIDE: Recorder. *(Rises.)*

RECORDER: Every task you have lovingly performed for our Bethel is recorded in the Book of Life. *(Seated.)*

Once the Recorder is seated, the Guide should pause, then may continue by addressing the Honored Queen.

GUIDE: Honored Queen, *(rises and remains standing)* Rosie Riveter has received words of thanks from our Officers and I now present them to you for further recognition.

HONORED QUEEN: Junior Princess, *(rises)* have you a word of greeting?

JUNIOR PRINCESS: Your acts of kindness have improved the lives of the Daughters of this Bethel. *(Seated.)*

HONORED QUEEN: Senior Princess, *(rises)* have you a message to share?

SENIOR PRINCESS: By trusting in God, you have shown us that we can overcome all misfortunes. *(Seated.)*

HONORED QUEEN: Your friendship and love is a priceless gift whose value is far greater than gold. May you always know that you have the love and friendship of Bethel No. 100 because you share your life with us.

Honored Queen extends a hand to mime bringing the honoree to the East Dais.

HONORED QUEEN: It gives me great pleasure to present you with your Member of Honor Certificate, which we hope you will cherish among your life's treasures. I now have the honor to introduce Rosie Riveter, Member of Honor of Bethel No. 100.

Honored Queen mimes handing an imaginary certificate to the honoree.

HONORED QUEEN: Members and friends, you will rise and join with me in giving Rosie Riveter a hearty congratulations and thank you for their service to our Bethel.

Honored Queen leads the applause and members and adults may join in. One rap ().*

HONORED QUEEN: Guide and Marshal, you will escort Rosie Riveter to the sidelines.

The Guide and Marshal escort them to the sidelines to a seat of their choice after which they return to their stations and are seated.

HONORED QUEEN: This concludes the "Member of Honor" Ceremony.

PAUSE and remain standing.

HONORED QUEEN: Closing Ceremony.

PAUSE and remain standing.

HONORED QUEEN: Our labors are at an end and we are about to separate for a time. Each one should carry the memory of the lessons taught and strive to apply them to her daily life. Let us ask God to help us to live justly,

to love and honor those near and dear to us and to radiate happiness to all mankind. Chaplain, you will attend at the Altar.

*Honored Queen sound three raps of gavel (***)*.

Chaplain attends at the Altar as per Ritual.

Members sing "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

Members assume the Attitude of Prayer with the Chaplain.

CHAPLAIN: Our Heavenly Father, we ask Thee to bless the work of our Order. may the lessons we teach be the means of making us better in Thy sight. May we practice in our lives the trustful faith of Job. Teach us to be loyal to our companions and guard our words and actions, that we may receive the honored reward. We ask this for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Members respond by saying "Amen."

Members sing two verses of "Now Our Work is Over."

Chaplain remains kneeling for the first verse. During the second verse, Chaplain rises and reverently closes the Bible as per Ritual. After the song is complete, Chaplain returns to their station.

HONORED QUEEN: All present, except the Officers, Bethel Choir, Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian will please be seated until the Officers and Bethel Choir have retired.

Custodians remove chairs from the Semicircle, as per Ritual.

Bethel Guardian and Associate Bethel Guardian leave their stations when the Custodians reach the Altar line and ascend the East Dais, as per Ritual.

Honored Queen presents the gavel to the Bethel Guardian.

Musician/Pianist plays a chord for the Treasurer, First Messenger, Second Messenger and Fifth Messenger to face south and the Chaplain, Third Messenger, and Forth Messenger to face north, as per Ritual.

Members sing two verses of "Forward All Job's Daughters" for the closing march and use the Cross Formation, as per the Ritual. Adjustments may be made, as each team sees fit, to make the formation look like a cross.

Members will sing two verses of "Nearer, My God, to Thee" once they are in the Cross Formation, as per Ritual.

There will be NO signing.

Members will exit the Cross Formation and assemble on the West Line, as per the Ritual.

BETHEL GUARDIAN: This concludes our ceremony.

Guardian nods.

Officers respond with a nod.

Bethel Guardian sounds one rap of gavel ().*

Musician/Pianist plays march music, as per Ritual.

Officers will follow the Honored Queen, in pairs, marching west of the Altar, then south to the south marching line, then out the Anteroom "doorway" as per the Ritual.

Bethel Guardian, Associate Bethel Guardian, and Musician/Pianist may retire once all Officers have exited.

Officers and adults may exit the competition room after the entire competition team retires.