



GRAND MASTER'S SAINTS JOHN MESSAGE

Entered Apprentices are taught that the two patron saints of modern Masonry are St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. They are represented in Masonry by two perpendicular parallel lines. Biblical scholars can tell us much about St. John the Baptist but not much about St. John the Evangelist. What we do know is that they share more differences than similarities. Their most remarkable similarity is their common surname of "John," which is Hebrew for "God has been gracious."

St. John the Baptist, as an older cousin of Jesus, was born of Jewish parents, his father being a priest. He personally performed baptisms of repentance for God's forgiveness of sins. In his baptism of Jesus he proclaimed that Jesus was the Messiah and the Lamb of God. St. John the Baptist was executed before Jesus' public ministry had started and never experienced the resurrection of Christ.

Unlike the hands-on baptismal ministry of St. John the Baptist, St. John the Evangelist is credited as being the putative author of the Gospel of John and perhaps at least one if not all of the other three Letters of John. All of these writings occurred subsequent to the death of all the eyewitnesses to Jesus' life. St. John the Evangelist, as a Christian, documented not only the historical accounts of Jesus' ministry of miracles but showed the living religious significance of a risen Christ. Through his writings he linked the historical Jesus with the deeper spiritual teachings for modern Christians.

For Masons, the Saints John are contrasts: one Jewish, the other Christian; one an active minister proclaiming Jesus as the Messiah and the other writing about the living religion of a crucified Christ. Symbolically then the two parallel lines representing the Saints represent Jesus' ministry from his baptism through the meaning of his death and resurrection. These lines also represent two great men—Saints—who, though each had different religious experiences, shared the commonality of revering a God of love. They were men of different times, different methods of ministry and different understandings of Jesus, but they both had a trust in God that made their faith well-founded.

As Masons we are the point in the circle bordered by the parallel lines of these two Saints. Thus we are free to have individual different religious beliefs and yet be bonded together by our collective adoration for a God, who is our distinguished Grand Architect of the Universe. Because we are focused on our common faith in the Grand Architect of the Universe, we are united into one brotherhood rather than being divided by differing religious denominations.

When you toast the Saints John, remember you are honoring two different men that shared the same abiding love for God. May we emulate their trust in God.

Fraternally yours,

David L. Nielsen, Grand Master



CELESTIAL LODGE

Gary F. Demaree	Morning Star No. 5	11/05/2007
Granville J. Edgmond	Morning Star No. 5	06/27/2007
Robert F. Jensen	Deer Lodge No. 14	09/27/2004
John Saksa	Benton No. 25	12/11/2007
William Roper	Westgate No.27	11/12/2007
Jack L. Sommers	Acacia No. 33	11/27/2007
Charles A. Jacobson	Cascade No. 34	12/28/2004
Raymond C. Cambron	Cascade No. 34	12.06/2007
Robert L. Hornung	Ionic No. 38	11/08/2007
John M. Hoyt	North Star No. 46	11/16/2007
Kenneth Wyckman	Harmony No. 49	10/21/2007
Charles G. Davis, Sr.	Havre No. 55	03/14/2007
Jesse A. Fussell, Jr.	Havre No. 55	07/08/2006
Fay E. McDonald	Havre No. 55	10/19/2007
Cecil M. Rhodes	Havre No. 55	06/06/2006
Clifford V. Springer	Havre No. 55	04/2007
James P. Wilcox	Havre No. 55	05/19/2005
Fred N. Bayes	Havre No. 55	03/31/2004
Leslie V. Davidson	Havre No. 55	07/29/2003
John W. Travis	Havre No. 55	07/05/1978
Walter O. Forsman	Euclid No. 58	12/11/2007
Paul Kober	Stillwater No. 62	11/25/2007
Woodrow B. Booth	Whitefish No. 64	03/27/2007
Charles A. Heleman	Whitefish No. 64	03/19/2007
Paul A. Borchers	Mission Valley No. 78	11/20/2007

Note: All Lodges are required to submitted a report monthly even if there are no membership changes.



CELESTIAL LODGE

Dean W. Wilson	Lavina Temple No. 101	02/27/2004
Vern F. Domogalla	Delta No. 128	01/20/2007
Edwin J. Bayne	Pryor Mountain No. 151	07/20/2003
Hector Arbour	Trinity No. 152	11/29/2007
Richard F. Morris	Helena NO. 3	09/29/2007
Robert L. Sonntag	Kalispell No. 42	12/06/2007
James A. Cox	Ottawa No. 51	12/02/2007
Gary A. Lewis	Cascade No. 34	12/14/2007
Fredrick Patten	Cut Bank No. 82	11/30/2007
Roy W. Spoonemore	Rimrock No. 149	11/21/2007
Herald Wetzsteon	Wisdom No. 61	11/04/2007

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

November/December (supplement)

The following is based upon 61 of the 100 Lodges having submitted the required out of 100 reports required.

RAISED

Justin L. Pritchard	Morning Star No. 5	12/15/2007
Cary N. Smith	Morning Star No. 5	12/15/2007
Christopher H. Pippin	Kyle No. 96	12/05/2007

WITHDRAW DUAL/PLURAL MEMBERSHIP

Name	From	Retaining
Howard M. Knapp	Billings No. 113	Mariner No. 2, S.C.

Reinstatement

Gerald M. VanCampen	12/31/01 to 5/9/07	Morning Star No. 5
John Lovell	12/31/02 to 11/11/07	Mt Moriah No. 24

Grand Lodge AF&AM of Montana
425 N Park Ave
PO Box 1158
Helena, MT 59624-1158



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**HAS YOUR LODGE
BEEN SUBMITTING
THE REQUIRED
MONTHLY REPORT ?**

**SANDSTONE NO. 84 FIRST TO
RETURN ANNUAL RETURN
PACKAGE OF 2007**

As you will recall for the last few years our good Brother Bert Williams of Valley Lodge No. 21 in Townsend has been first in returning the Annual Return workpackage and Per Capita for the year. However, this year W. Bro. Bert was beat out by Sandstone Lodge No. 84 of Baker. Over the last several year Sandstone Lodge has come in second but this year they were right on top of things and so we salute them for their effort.