

NOTES FROM THE LODGE

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM

GOING FORWARD

28 Nov 2024

Volume V Issue II

In this issue:

From the East

In Memoriam:

W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA

True Practice of Charity

Building Bridges, Not Walls

Prayer as a Working Tool

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NOVEMBER

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FROM THE EAST

Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Greetings, my brothers,

I am writing this the day after Thanksgiving. I trust you have all enjoyed the holiday, hopefully spent time with family, eaten a glutinous amount of food, done your best to avoid dicey dinner conversation with that one relative, watched some football, taken a cat nap on the couch, and are now just itching to get back to lodge so you can help with final preparations for the Dickens Festival next weekend.

As we turn the corner into the final month of the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made together. It's been a year of growth, camaraderie, and a continued commitment to our Craft. Thanks to the hard work of each of you, we've managed to keep our traditions alive while also finding new ways to connect and serve our community. Whether it's the success of our fundraisers or the many hours spent improving the lodge, your dedication has been nothing short of inspiring.

However, as we celebrate our achievements, it is with a heavy heart that I share the sad news of the passing of one of our most senior and beloved members and past masters, W:. Brother Alten Richard "Dick" Cox, DSA.

W:. Bro. Dick was a Freemason for over 72 years, having been initiated in 1952 at just 22 years of age. He was a Past Master of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 and received the Distinguished Service Award in 2004. A kind and warm gentleman, W:. Bro. Dick set the standard for what it means to be a true Freemason. His quiet smile and gentle presence were a beacon of brotherly love and fellowship to all who knew him. He will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and brothers alike. Please join me in keeping his family in your thoughts as we mourn his passing and celebrate his life.

As we continue with our work, we had a fantastic Fellowcraft Degree in October for Bro. Russell Galati and Bro. David Brown. With heartfelt enthusiasm, we congratulate these brothers as they take the next step along their Masonic journey. This degree was truly outstanding, and I regret that anyone who missed it was not able to witness such an exemplary performance. The brothers of Suffolk Lodge

FROM THE EAST

Submitted by W.: Jason Intardonato

consistently deliver excellent work, but this particular degree raised the bar even higher. A special mention must go to our Senior Deacon, Bro. Gilbert Quiles, whose dedication and talent made this degree one for the ages. Bro. Gilbert is undoubtedly one of the best ritualists in our District and likely one of the best ever to serve our lodge. At this Fellowcraft degree, he delivered the Middle Chamber Lecture in a performance that left us speechless. Not only was it nearly perfect, but he included all of the optional sections, transforming it into a nearly 50-minute, heartfelt, and dramatic performance. His delivery was nothing short of masterful, and it is an experience none of us will soon forget. If you missed it, don't worry—we'll be holding another Fellowcraft degree soon, and I strongly encourage you not to miss it!

In November, we were also blessed to initiate three new Entered Apprentices—Bro. Nicholas Santori, Bro. Regan St. Clair, and Bro. Kenneth Meiselman. Please join me in offering them a warm welcome into our Masonic family. Our degree team did an exemplary job, once again demonstrating the excellence we've come to expect from our lodge. We are excited to work with these new brothers and help them find their place within the fellowship of Suffolk Lodge.



Entered Apprentice Class of Nov. 2024

FROM THE EAST

Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Looking ahead, the Dickens Festival is just around the corner. We've got a lot to do in the coming days to ensure it's a success. Your help with final preparations—setting up booths, rehearsing performances, and welcoming guests—will be crucial in making this event a memorable one. I am confident that with our team working together, we will once again demonstrate the strength of our brotherhood and our commitment to community outreach.

As we gear up for December, let's also keep in mind the importance of staying on top of our dues. Remember, dues are due by December 31st, and paying them promptly helps keep our lodge strong and sustainable. If you are facing any financial hardship, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to support each other, just as we always have.

Finally, let me express my gratitude to each of you for making this year so meaningful. The work we do together isn't always easy, but it's always rewarding. I'm proud to serve alongside such a dedicated group of brothers, and I'm excited for what we will accomplish in the year ahead.

Thank you for everything you do. I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting and at the Dickens Festival!

Fraternally yours,

W:. Jason Intardonato
Master, Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM



Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM

IN MEMORIAM

W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA 1929-2024



W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA, 94, passed away peacefully in his home on November 8, 2024, just 12 days shy of his 95th birthday. Richard was born on November 20, 1929, in Monroe NY, to Russell Scott and Bessie Merritt Cox.

IN MEMORIAM

W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA 1929-2024

When Richard was in high school, he and his family moved to the Cox family home in Greenport NY here he graduated from high school. Upon graduation, Richard served in the Army for two years as an electrician during the Korean War. He was stationed in Germany and loved sharing stories of his travels throughout Europe during that time.

When he returned to the States, Richard began a 40-year career at the Long Island Power Authority in Port Jefferson where he met the love of his life, Mary Frances Howell. Mary was working as a waitress at the Ideal Restaurant, on Main Street in Port Jefferson. Mary and Richard were married September 13, 1953, at the First United Methodist Church, in Port Jefferson. Soon after they bought a home in Port Jefferson Station where they raised their two children, Dennis and Elaine.

Richard was a Mason for 72 years first at the Greenport Lodge and then at the Port Jefferson Lodge. He was proud to be a Mason and was given the honor to serve as a Master in the Port Jefferson Lodge. He was truly dedicated and enjoyed the decades he spent attending monthly Lodge Meetings, helping to organize and marching in the 4th of July Parade in Port Jefferson. He treasured the brotherhood he shared with his Mason brothers.



IN MEMORIAM

W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA 1929-2024

Richard was an active member and trustee of the First United Methodist Church in Port Jefferson for many years. If something needed to be done at the church, he was the first one there; he got the job done; there was nothing he could not fix. Richard and Mary enjoyed lifelong friendships with other parishioners. Through the years they hosted and attended Progressive Dinners, organized and worked Chicken Barbeques and celebrated countless weddings, births, and holidays together.

In 1980, while working at the Long Island Power Authority, Richard developed a more efficient test for verifying maximum input and reliability of gas turbines to generate electricity for which he proudly was awarded a monetary prize.

After Richard retired, he and Mary enjoyed traveling with his sister Martha and her husband John Mazzaferro, Johnny. They annually visited Martha and Johnny's daughter, Karen and her husband Fernando Jimenez in Mexico, Texas, and Florida. Mary and Richard also enjoyed vacations in Hawaii, Maine, and the Panama Canal and celebrating many wedding anniversaries at Woodlock Pines in the Poconos. Richard and Mary were truly soul mates. Richard also enjoyed boating, gardening, bike riding, helping others, and spending time with his family.

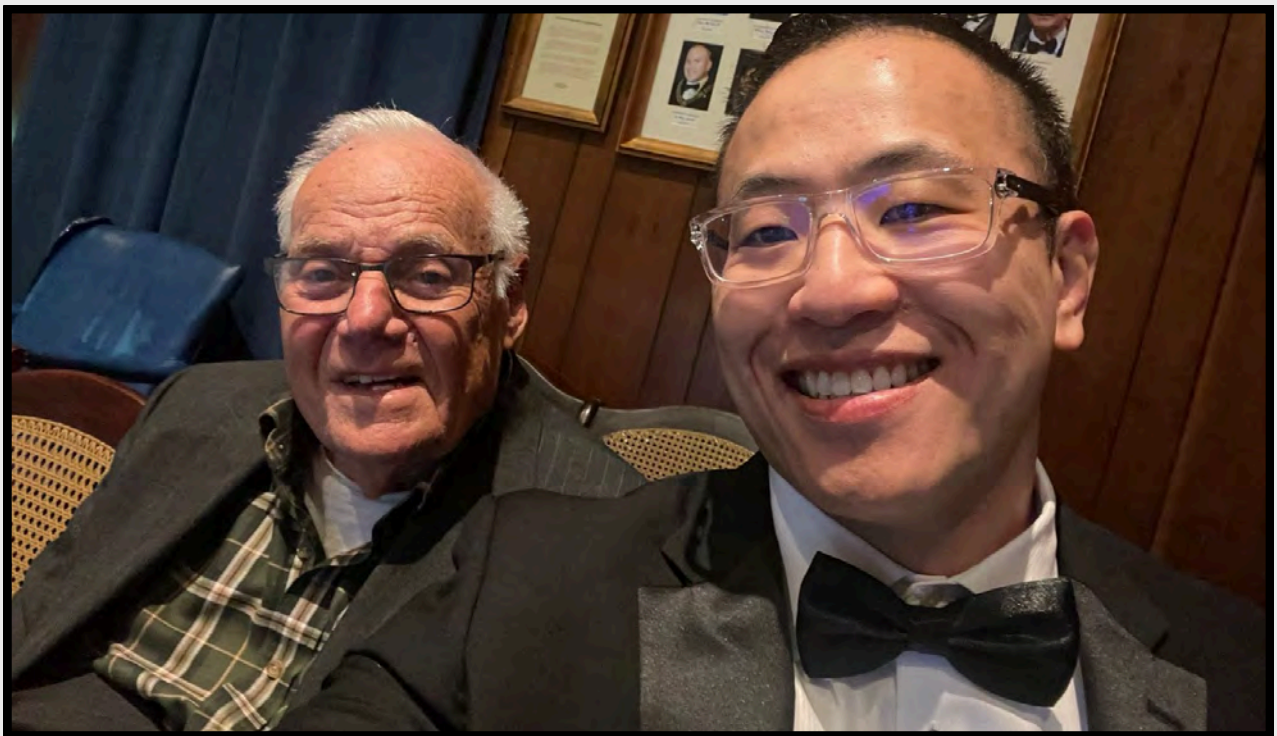


IN MEMORIAM

W.: Bro. Alten Richard Cox, DSA 1929-2024

Richard is survived by his son, Dennis Merritt Cox and wife Susan Tursellino Cox, his daughter Elaine Frances Cox Madden, and husband Robert Edward Madden, his grandchildren, Marisa Lynn Cox Berg (Kevin Berg), Russell Scott Cox (Joy Chen Cox), Chelsea Marie Cox, Erin Frances Madden Plastine (William Plastine), Dylan Robert Madden and great grandchildren Anthony Richard Berg, Derek William Plastine, Daisy Marelaine Plastine, Natalie Nicole Urban, Gavin Michael Urban, and Sean Patrick Catalado.

Richard is predeceased by his parents, Russell Scott and Bessie Merritt Cox, his beloved wife, Mary Frances Howell Cox, his sister and brother-in-law Martha and Johnny Mazzaferro and his granddaughter, Elizabeth Ann Haas.



TRUE PRACTICE OF CHARITY

Submitted by W:. Thomas Pace

The Practical Method of True Charity: A Path to Meaningful Giving



Charity, in its most authentic form, is not merely about donating money or material goods; it is about offering compassion, empathy, and support in ways that address the real needs of individuals and communities. True charity involves a deep understanding of the struggles others face, the humility to recognize our shared humanity, and the willingness to act in ways that empower, rather than simply alleviate, suffering. But what does true charity look like in practice? How can individuals and organizations engage in giving that has a lasting and meaningful impact?

TRUE PRACTICE OF CHARITY

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Submitted by W:. Thomas Pace

1. Start with Listening and Understanding

The foundation of true charity is a commitment to understanding the needs of others. Before offering help, it is crucial to listen to the people you intend to support. This means asking questions, being present, and seeking to understand their struggles, aspirations, and the root causes of their challenges.

When charity is based on assumptions about what others need, it can be misguided and even harmful. For example, donating clothes or food without understanding local conditions or cultural preferences can miss the mark. By taking the time to listen, you learn what is truly needed, which might not always align with the most visible or immediate issue at hand.

2. Give in a Way That Empowers

True charity seeks to empower recipients, not create dependency. This means offering help that supports self-sufficiency and dignity. Rather than giving handouts that might temporarily alleviate a need, true charity looks for ways to enable individuals and communities to help themselves in the long term.

For instance, providing education, job training, or skills development helps people create their own opportunities and break free from cycles of poverty. Similarly, microloans and grants that allow people to start or grow small businesses can be a form of charitable giving that fosters independence, rather than reliance on aid.

Empowering charity also involves acknowledging the strengths and potential of those being helped. It's about walking alongside people, offering guidance, and offering the resources they need to succeed.

TRUE PRACTICE OF CHARITY

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Submitted by W:. Thomas Pace

3. Practice Consistency Over Perfection

Charity is not a one-time act but an ongoing process of care and involvement. True charity is consistent, committed, and sustained over time. It's easy to give during the holidays or when there's a high-profile campaign, but lasting change requires a steady, persistent effort. This could involve volunteering regularly, establishing long-term partnerships with organizations, or continuously supporting the same causes rather than spreading yourself thin across multiple efforts.

Consistency also means being there during tough times, not just when it's convenient. When giving is driven by compassion rather than obligation or a desire for recognition, it leads to deeper, more lasting relationships.

4. Offer Time and Presence

One of the most valuable forms of charity is giving your time. In a world increasingly driven by material exchange, dedicating time to someone in need offers something far beyond money or goods. Sometimes, simply being present—whether through listening, offering companionship, or providing emotional support—can be the most meaningful form of charity.

In many cases, people in need may require more than material assistance. They might be seeking human connection, guidance, or comfort. Volunteering at a local shelter, mentoring a young person, or assisting an elderly neighbor can have a profound, lasting impact, much more so than a one-time donation.

TRUE PRACTICE OF CHARITY

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Submitted by W:. Thomas Pace

5. Focus on Sustainability and Collaboration

True charity is not about quick fixes but about fostering sustainable solutions. This means considering the long-term implications of the help you offer. Is the assistance you're providing likely to create lasting change? Are you addressing underlying systemic issues, or merely putting a temporary bandage on a wound?

Collaboration is also key to effective charity. Working together with local communities, experts, and other organizations can ensure that resources are used efficiently and that solutions are tailored to the specific context. It also helps to avoid the imposition of external solutions that may not resonate with the community or meet its real needs.

6. Act with Humility and Respect

True charity recognizes that both the giver and the recipient are human beings with dignity and worth. It avoids condescension or the assumption that the giver is in a superior position. Charity based on humility means treating those you help with respect, never viewing them as objects of pity or charity cases, but as equals deserving of love and support.

When giving, it's important to maintain an attitude of respect, acknowledging the strength and resilience of those you're helping. Whether you're providing financial assistance, donating your time, or offering other forms of support, remember that true charity sees others as partners in a shared effort, rather than passive recipients of aid.

TRUE PRACTICE OF CHARITY

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Submitted by W:. Thomas Pace

7. Teach the Value of Charity to Others

Charity is a value that can be passed down from one generation to the next. One of the most powerful ways to practice true charity is to inspire others to do the same. Educating children and young people about the importance of giving—whether it's through time, resources, or kindness—helps build a culture of generosity and compassion.

Engaging in charitable acts with others, particularly those you care about, not only spreads the impact of your efforts but also strengthens community bonds and encourages a deeper understanding of the importance of giving. This collective effort amplifies the power of charity, creating a ripple effect of kindness and empathy.

True charity is not defined by the size of the gift but by the thought, care, and empathy that go into it. It's about connecting with others on a human level, listening to their needs, and offering support in ways that promote dignity and self-sufficiency. True charity is long-term, sustainable, and empowering, and it's driven by humility, respect, and a desire to create a positive impact that lasts. Whether through time, resources, or simple acts of kindness, each small act of true charity can contribute to a more compassionate and connected world.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

Submitted by W.: Jason Intardonato

TRANSCENDING POLITICS THROUGH THE IDEALS OF FREEMASONRY



Freemasonry, grounded in the timeless principles of personal integrity, equality, and fraternity, provides a powerful philosophy that speaks directly to America's founding ideals, as enshrined in the Constitution and Declaration of Independence. In a time when our country can seem polarized, Freemasonry reminds us that, at heart, all Americans share a common desire for "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." These universal aspirations, reflected in our nation's founding documents, align seamlessly with Masonic principles that encourage harmony, self-improvement, and community service.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Life

The right to life represents a sacred respect for each individual's right to exist in safety, dignity, and purpose. Freemasonry's respect for the inherent worth of every person mirrors this principle by promoting the value of each individual's unique contribution to society. As Masons, we uphold the value of life not just in our own pursuits but in how we interact with others, affirming that all people deserve compassion and respect as brothers and sisters in our shared human experience.

Liberty

The Constitution's protection of liberty speaks to every Mason's commitment to freedom of conscience, thought, and action. In Masonic terms, liberty is not only the freedom from oppression but the freedom to pursue truth and wisdom, to act according to one's moral compass, and to choose a life of virtue. Freemasons understand that true liberty comes with responsibility—the responsibility to respect the rights of others and to contribute positively to our society. This respect for mutual freedom fosters a Masonic environment where brothers from all walks of life and political backgrounds can come together, recognizing that freedom must be balanced with a sense of shared duty.

Unity in Diversity

The Masonic experience fosters unity among diverse brothers by emphasizing what we have in common rather than what divides us. In a politically charged environment, Freemasons find common ground by focusing on shared ideals rather than contentious issues. Our bonds as Masons transcend political affiliations, uniting us in the work of building a stronger, more cohesive community rooted in respect for one another and love for our country.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato



The Pursuit of Happiness

The pursuit of happiness reflects a universal longing for fulfillment, purpose, and well-being. In the Masonic context, this pursuit is about more than personal pleasure; it encompasses the joy of meaningful work, the satisfaction of contributing to the greater good, and the inner peace that comes from living in harmony with Masonic virtues. Freemasonry encourages each brother to seek happiness through self-improvement, community service, and strengthening bonds with family, friends, and neighbors. This common goal unites Masons as they support one another's journey toward a fulfilling life.

Constitutional Principles of Justice and Equality

Central to both the Constitution and Freemasonry are the principles of justice and equality. Freemasonry teaches that all men are equal in the eyes of God and should be treated with respect and fairness. In our Masonic lodges, we practice equality by setting aside differences of wealth, rank, and social status, focusing instead on the character and moral integrity of each brother. This practice of equality affirms our commitment to a just society, one that provides opportunities for all citizens to thrive and reach their potential.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

A Higher Call to Citizenship

Ultimately, the Masonic approach to patriotism and citizenship goes beyond party lines. Freemasons aspire to be model citizens who embody the best of America's ideals—those of civility, respect, and service. By nurturing these values within ourselves and our lodges, we aim to influence our broader communities positively, promoting a spirit of cooperation and mutual support.

In all of these ways, Freemasonry offers a roadmap for living out the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, reinforcing our duty to support and uplift our country. This philosophy encourages brothers to engage thoughtfully and respectfully with the world, creating a fraternity where each man is called to rise above divisions, embody American ideals, and work toward a society that values each individual's right to these unalienable rights.

During the American Civil War, Freemasons on both sides of the conflict demonstrated the power of their shared bonds by setting aside enmity to extend compassion and respect to their Masonic brothers. Historian Michael A. Halleran's *The Better Angels of Our Nature* captures several poignant accounts of Freemasons from the Union and Confederate forces transcending the brutality of war to uphold the principles of fraternity and brotherhood.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

One of the most moving accounts describes the Battle of Gettysburg in 1863. During this fierce and deadly conflict, a Union soldier, upon recognizing a fellow Mason among the wounded Confederates, risked his own safety to cross battle lines and offer aid. Similarly, at the Battle of Antietam, Confederate Captain Henry Clay Taylor was mortally wounded, and his Masonic brethren on both sides ensured he received a proper burial with full Masonic honors. These actions, grounded in Masonic principles, offered comfort and dignity to the fallen, even in the face of one of the bloodiest days in American history.

One notable event occurred in 1862 when Union forces took control of Fredericksburg, Virginia. Union troops respected the Masonic Lodge building there, refraining from looting or destroying it despite the prevailing hostilities. This act of preservation was not an isolated gesture; it reflected a mutual respect shared by Masons on both sides of the conflict. The Fredericksburg Lodge held special significance, as it was where George Washington had been initiated as a Mason decades earlier. This respect for Masonic landmarks highlighted a reverence for shared history, transcending regional loyalties and the bitterness of war.

Another remarkable instance took place after the Battle of Franklin in Tennessee in 1864. Following the battle, Confederate General Patrick Cleburne lay mortally wounded. Union Masons, upon realizing his Masonic affiliation, ensured he received Masonic rites and a dignified burial. Such gestures of respect, extending beyond the call of duty, demonstrated the enduring bond between Masons, regardless of the flags they served under.

BUILDING BRIDGES, NOT WALLS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Perhaps one of the most famous examples involves the story of Confederate Brigadier General Lewis Armistead at the Battle of Gettysburg. During Pickett's Charge, Armistead was struck down and lay gravely wounded. He made a Masonic sign of distress, which was recognized by Union Captain Henry H. Bingham, a fellow Mason. Despite their opposing sides, Bingham ensured that Armistead was cared for and that his personal effects were returned to his family in the South. This act of compassion amid one of the war's most devastating battles illustrates the powerful impact of Masonic loyalty, even in the face of mortal combat.

These accounts underscore that Masonic principles—mutual respect, compassion, and the duty to support a fellow brother—were upheld amid unimaginable strife. Freemasonry's emphasis on “brotherly love, relief, and truth” created a bridge over the deep chasm of division and hatred, proving that shared values could persist even in times of unprecedented turmoil. Freemasons on both sides held sacred their commitment to these values, seeing in each other a fellow man who shared a common heritage and purpose, despite differing allegiances.

For Freemasons today, these stories from the Civil War offer a profound reminder: when we focus on what unites us—our values, ideals, and respect for one another—we can transcend even the fiercest divisions. By remembering the examples set by these brothers, Masons today can embody the same courage to honor life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all Americans. This legacy calls us to look beyond political differences and strive to build unity rooted in shared purpose, creating a society where mutual respect and common goals uplift us all.

MASONIC PRAYERS

Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato



In Freemasonry, prayer holds a unique and foundational role. Lodges around the world open and close their meetings with solemn words addressed to the Great Architect of the Universe reflecting a collective yearning for guidance, wisdom, and peace. Prayer in a Masonic lodge, whether formal or informal, is a time-honored tradition that transcends individual beliefs, fostering a sense of unity and humility among the brethren. While Masons use physical tools like the square, compass to symbolize moral and ethical guidance, prayer can be understood as an equally powerful, though often overlooked, working tool—a “secret” tool that shapes the character and spirit of the Mason.

The Significance of Prayer in Masonic Practice

Freemasonry, though not a religion, has always encouraged reverence for the divine, recognizing that each Mason brings his personal faith to his journey

MASONIC PRAYERS

...continued

Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

through the Craft. Prayer in a lodge is not about doctrinal alignment or religious ritual but rather about connecting to the values and intentions that transcend differences, grounding members in the shared acknowledgment of a higher power. This universal appeal to the Great Architect reminds Masons that we are part of something greater than ourselves, a fundamental idea that transcends any one religious tradition and unites Masons across cultures and faiths.

At the beginning and end of meetings, Masons pause to offer a prayer of gratitude, guidance, and hope for all gathered. This act of prayer invites every brother to reflect on the purpose of the lodge and the moral lessons embedded in its teachings. It is a moment that centers the Masonic experience in humility and recognition of the virtues that Masons strive to embody: integrity, charity, wisdom, and fraternity. These are virtues that are not only taught within the lodge but also carried out into the world as part of each Mason's daily life.

Prayer as a Working Tool of a Mason

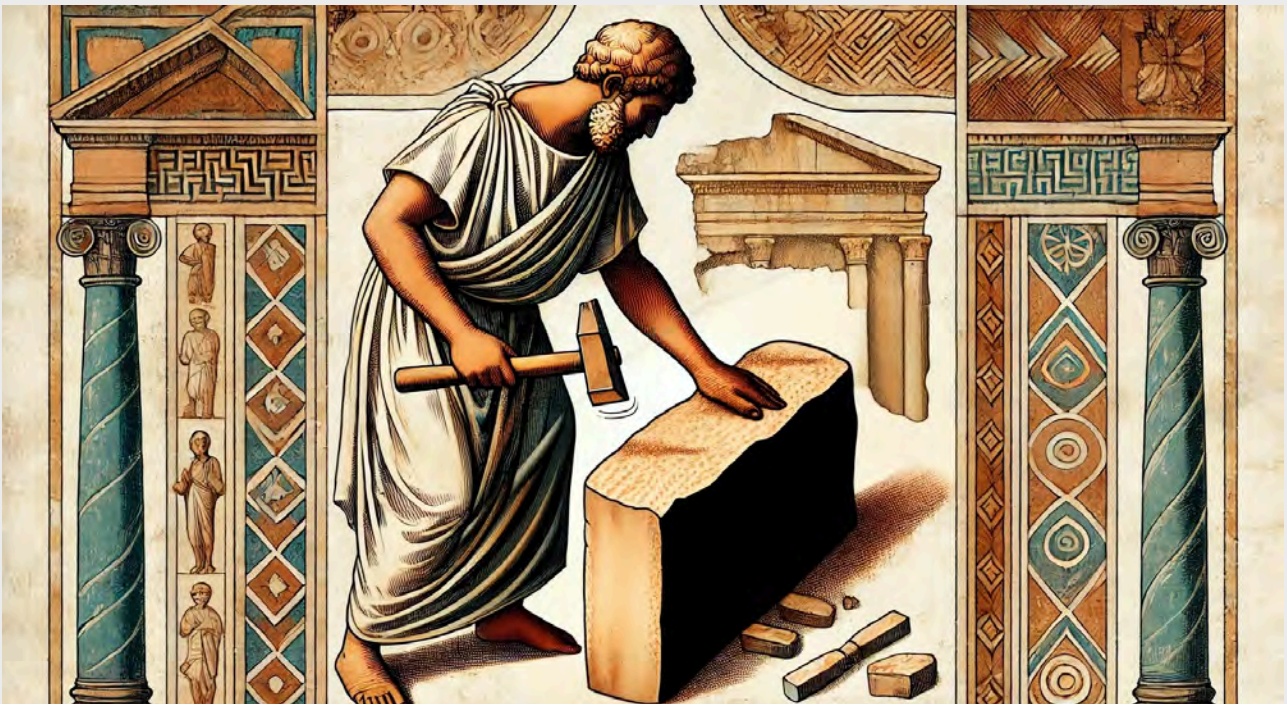
Just as Masons rely on tools like the trowel to spread the cement of brotherly love and the square to guide their actions with fairness, prayer can be seen as an inner working tool that aligns the mind and heart. It helps a Mason cultivate the virtues he learns in the lodge, acting as a moral compass to guide his thoughts and intentions toward the good of all. This internal practice of prayer shapes the Mason's spirit, encouraging him to maintain an optimistic perspective, seek wisdom, and remain resilient in the face of adversity.

MASONIC PRAYERS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

When a Mason prays, whether alone or in the company of his brethren, he is metaphorically “working the stone” of his own inner being, chiseling away at his weaknesses and rough edges. In prayer, he calls upon the Great Architect for patience, strength, and compassion, so that he may better fulfill his obligations and contribute positively to his community. Over time, prayer becomes an invaluable tool that aids the Mason in his quest for self-improvement and in his dedication to serving others.



The Forms of Masonic Prayer: A Request, a Wish, and an Aspiration

In Masonic practice, prayer can take various forms, each serving a different purpose yet all focused on the well-being of others and the pursuit of a better world.

MASONIC PRAYERS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Request for Aid: This form of prayer is often used when a Mason seeks guidance or strength, recognizing that he does not walk his path alone. By requesting aid, Masons acknowledge their human limitations and their need for assistance in navigating life's challenges. This humble act reinforces the notion that even the strongest among us benefit from divine support, and that it is not weakness but wisdom to seek guidance from a higher source.

Wish for the Benefit of Others: The Masonic obligation to care for others extends beyond the lodge, with many prayers directed toward the welfare of fellow Masons, family, and humanity as a whole. Whether asking for peace in times of turmoil or blessings for the sick and distressed, these prayers reflect the Masonic principle of charity. When Masons wish for the well-being of others, they are actively using prayer to express love, hope, and a desire for harmony—a commitment that unites all Masons regardless of personal differences.

Positive Aspiration for the World: In a world that is often fraught with conflict, injustice, and suffering, Masons use prayer as a means to rise above pessimism and remain committed to their ideals. By praying for a world built on the values of truth, justice, and brotherly love, Masons contribute to a spirit of optimism and resilience. This type of prayer is not a passive hope but a call to action, a reminder that Masons are charged with working toward a better world, using their time, talents, and resources to make a tangible difference.

MASONIC PRAYERS

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Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

Prayer in Troubling Times: Holding onto Faith and Purpose

In times of crisis or hardship, prayer takes on an even greater significance in the Masonic lodge. When brothers face loss, illness, or hardship, prayer serves as a source of comfort and strength, binding them together as they offer words of solace and encouragement. Prayer also helps Masons hold onto their sense of purpose and faith in the good that can be achieved, even in a world that sometimes seems to be unraveling. By lifting their hearts in prayer, Masons renew their commitment to being instruments of peace and healing, to bringing light to places of darkness.

The Unseen Power of Masonic Prayer

The beauty of prayer lies not in its outward form but in its inward effect. While a Masonic prayer might not change the external world immediately, it does change the Mason who prays, enabling him to be a more compassionate, wise, and resilient brother. This transformation is the true secret power of Masonic prayer—it strengthens the inner man, helping him bring a spirit of understanding, patience, and unity to every interaction, be it within the lodge or beyond.

Freemasonry teaches that every Mason is a builder, tasked with constructing an ethical and moral life that will serve as a foundation for a better society. Prayer, as one of his “secret tools,” helps the Mason maintain a steady hand and a focused heart as he works. It keeps him aligned with the virtues he is called to embody, reinforces his connection to his brethren, and deepens his relationship with the Great Architect of the Universe. Through prayer, Masons affirm their role as humble laborers in a greater plan, seeking not their own glory but the good of all.

MASONIC PRAYERS

...continued

Submitted by W:. Jason Intardonato

The Ongoing Craft of Prayer

Prayer in a Masonic lodge is more than a ritual—it is a reminder of the values that bind brothers together and the higher purpose they all serve. It serves as a daily affirmation of the Masonic virtues, a quiet but powerful tool that shapes the character of each Mason and fortifies his resolve to make a difference in the world. In using prayer as a working tool, Masons commit to a lifelong craft of seeking wisdom, spreading love, and building a world that reflects the values they hold sacred.

In an age of distraction, doubt, and division, Masonic prayer serves as a grounding force, reminding every brother of his duty to himself, his lodge, and humanity. It is a powerful, unseen instrument that guides the Mason on his journey, inspiring him to strive for the noble ideals of brotherly love, relief, and truth, and to work tirelessly to bring light and harmony to the world around him. Through prayer, Masons uphold their commitment to a world where the values of Freemasonry are not merely ideals but living realities, built upon the foundation of faith, hope, and charity.



TRESTLE BOARD

THURSDAY, NOV 28TH, 2024

NO MEETING: THANKSGIVING!

THURSDAY, DEC 5TH, 2024

STATED COMMUNICATION: DICKENS PREP!

Quick Meeting & then Attend to finishing setup for the Dickens Festival

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple

When: from 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Attire: Dress for Decorating, Comfortable Clothes

SAT-SUN, DEC 7TH & 8TH, 2024

CHARLES DICKENS FESTIVAL!

COOKIES! Mrs Claus! Trains! Elves! Magic! Dancing! Brotherhood!

As always, we need ALL HANDS ON DECK for this, our most crucial fundraising event of the year.

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple

When: from 10:00AM - 9:30 PM Sat & 10:00 AM- 8:00 PM Sunday

Attire: Victorian Era Dickensian Costumes, Holiday Costumes or business casual clothing appropriate for representing our lodge to the public.

THURSDAY, DEC 12TH, 2024

SOCIAL NIGHT, DICKENS CLEANUP

HOLIDAY COCKTAILS & PUTTING AWAY THE DICKENS DECOR

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple

When: from 7:00 - 9:30 PM

Attire: Casual

TRESTLE BOARD

MONDAY, DEC 16TH, 2024

REHEARSAL FOR DD VISIT

We will review protocols and procedures for DD Visitation. Tiler, Jr. Deacon and Marshall must be there. All other officers strongly encouraged to attend as well.

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple

When: from 7:30 - 8:30 PM

Attire: Casual

THURSDAY, DEC 19TH, 2024

SUMMONED COMMUNICATION: OFFICIAL VISIT OF R.:W.: ROBERT LICATA, DISTRICT GRAND DEPUTY

Collation followed by Meeting

Where: Port Jefferson Masonic Temple

When: from 6:00 - 9:30 PM

Attire: Formal Attire, Tuxedos for Officers, Black/Dark Suits

THURSDAY, DEC 26TH, 2024

NO MEETING - HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



SUFFOLK LODGE OFFICERS 2024-2025

Office	Name	Email
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Secretary	W:. Frank Miranda	frank.miranda@suffolk60.com
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Steward	Bro. Edward Henry	wardmelville1@icloud.com
Steward	Bro. Horace Alindogan	acedogan2@gmail.com
Marshall	W:. Gary Gudzik, DSA	gary.gudzik@suffolk60.com
Tiler	Bro. Henri Rosenblum	drhenri@msn.com
Musician	W:. Thomas Pace	thomas.pace@suffolk60.com
Trustee	W:. Gary Gudzik, DSA	gary.gudzik@suffolk60.com
Trustee	W:. Thomas Pace	thomas.pace@suffolk60.com
Trustee	W:. Nicholas Montanino	namontanino@optonline.net
Chaplain	W:. Christopher Connolly	copodet@aol.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 2024-2025

Office	Name	Email
Northstar	W:. Philip Lunarola	philip.lunarola@suffolk60.com
Temple Beautification	W:. Thomas Pace	thomas.pace@suffolk60.com
Finance	Bro. Alfred Intardonato	fred@intardonato.com
Audit	W:. Gary Gudzik, DSA	gary.gudzik@suffolk60.com
Ritual	W:. Gary Gudzik, DSA	gary.gudzik@suffolk60.com
Communications	W:. Jason Intardonato	jasoni@suffolk60.com
By-laws	W:. Christopher Connolly	copodet@aol.com
Special Events	Bro. Duy Nguyễn	duy@suffolk60.com

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM

SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT TEAM

Office	Name	Email
District Deputy Grand Master	R:. W:. Robert J. Licata	ddgm@suffolkmasons.com
Grand Steward	R:. W:. William DeBenedetto	glso@suffolkmasons.com
Asst. Grand Lecturer	R:. W:. Jeffrey Santorello	santorello@aol.com
Asst. Grand Lecturer	V:. W:. Bruce A. T. Siska	batsaia@optonline.com
Asst. Grand Lecturer	V:. W:. Jeremiah Campbell	miah1221@gmail.com
Asst. Grand Lecturer	V:. W:. Stuart H Smith	ssmith3300@ak.com
Grand Chaplain	R:. W:. Timothy J. TenClay	teejtc@gmail.com
District Advisor	R:. W:. William McCauley	masonknight@msn.com

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM

DISTRICT DATES

Masonic Development Course		
October 4th, 2024	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
October 18th, 2024	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
November 1st, 2024	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
Road to the East Course		
February 21st, 2025	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
February 24th, 2025	Riverhead Lodge	9:00 AM
March 6th, 2025	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
March 9th, 2025	Riverhead Lodge	9:00 AM
March 21st, 2025	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
March 23rd, 2025	Riverhead Lodge	9:00 AM
April 3rd, 2025	Babylon Lodge	7:00 PM
April 6th, 2025	Riverhead Lodge	9:00 AM
Suffolk District Dinner		
April 25, 2025	Riverhead Polish Hall 214 Marcy Ave, Riverhead, NY	6:00 PM-10:00 PM
Grand Lecturer's Convention		
March 25th, 2025	Babylon Lodge	TBA

DISTRICT DEPUTY OFFICIAL VISITS

October 10, 2024	Star of the East Lodge
October 17, 2024	Wamponamon Lodge
October 22, 2024	Alcyone Lodge
November 14, 2024	The Lodge of Antiquity
November 21, 2024	Potunk Lodge
December 19, 2024	Suffolk Lodge
January 8, 2025	Smithtown Lodge
January 13, 2025	Connetquot Lodge
February 4th, 2025	Amityville Lodge
February 18, 2025	Riverhead Lodge
March 13, 2025	Dongan Patent Lodge
March 19, 2025	Peconic Lodge
April 9, 2025	Babylon Lodge

GRAND LODGE DATES

May 5-6, 2025	Grand Lodge Communication 71 West 23rd Street, New York City
June 20-23, 2025	St. John's Day Weekend Masonic Hall & Home, Utica, NY

SUFFOLK DISTRICT LODGES

The Lodge of Antiquity No. 11	2nd & 4th Thursdays W.: Timothy McCann (631) 988-3157
Suffolk Lodge No. 60	1st & 3rd Thursdays W.: Jason Intardonato (631) 388-0948
Peconic Lodge No. 349	1st & 3rd Wednesdays W.: Joseph M. Cato (631) 985-2603
Wamponamon Lodge No. 437	1st & 3rd Thursdays W.: Anthony E Lombardo (631) 680-7551
Jeptha Lodge No. 494	2nd & 4th Mondays W.: John Lentinello (516) 526-7694
Riverhead Lodge No. 645	1st & 3rd Tuesdays V.: W.: William Arnold (631) 903-1510
Alcyone Lodge No. 695	2nd & 4th Tuesdays W.: Bradley Hubbard (631) 793-6171

SUFFOLK DISTRICT LODGES

Babylon Lodge No. 793	2nd & 4th Wednesdays W.: Daniel C Masciana (631) 966-1140
Connetquot Lodge No. 838	2nd & 4th Mondays W.: Jon Agnes (631) 793-7426
Star of the East Lodge No. 843	2nd & 4th Thursdays W.: Anthony Vermandois (631) 725-2177
Old Town Lodge No. 908	1st & 3rd Mondays W.: Josh Belury (513) 506-1232
Amityville Lodge No. 977	1st & 3rd Tuesdays W.: Paul Castellaneta (516) 459-9453
Potunk Lodge No. 1071	1st & 3rd Thursdays W.: Dominick Peppaceno (631) 871-7770
Smithtown Lodge No. 1127	2nd & 4th Wednesdays W.: William R. Hanson (516) 805-1589
Dongan Patent Lodge No. 1134	2nd & 4th Thursdays W.: Steven Winn (631) 258-9190

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

2024 + 2025 DUES

2025 DUES NOTICES ARE GOING OUT!

Brothers, your lodge depends upon timely remittance of dues to operate and maintain our beautiful temple, which is our sanctuary. Please pay your dues on time or better yet, in advance. Dues can be paid by check, cash or credit.

Please contact the secretary or WM if you are having trouble paying your dues. secretary@suffolk60.com or jasoni@suffolk60.com

Regular Member Dues: \$400/year

35 Year Member Dues: \$220/year

Please make checks payable to:

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

and remit to:

Suffolk Lodge No. 60 F&AM

312 Main St.

Port Jefferson, NY 11777

To pay by credit or debit card you may either pay at the bar register at the temple or pay online by going to: <https://store.suffolk60.com>

Credit transactions incur a service charge.

ONLINE RESOURCES

SUFFOLK60 WEBSITE

<https://www.suffolk60.com>

SUFFOLK 60 FACEBOOK (PUBLIC)

<https://www.facebook.com/Suffolk60/>

SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT WEBSITE

<https://suffolkmasons.com>

SUFFOLK MASONIC DISTRICT BAND

<https://band.us/band/70497133>

The **Going Forward** Newsletter was developed by W.°. Frank Miranda and is currently edited by W.°. Jason Intardonato, Master of Suffolk Lodge No. 60 AF&AM. Please submit any questions, corrections, announcements, or other suggested content to jasoni@suffolk60.com.