

The
United Religious and Military Orders
of
The Temple and of St. John
of
Jerusalem, Palestine, Rhodes, and Malta.

Province of Staffordshire
Warwickshire and Shropshire

Order of Festal Evensong

in

Birmingham Cathedral

on

Monday, 3rd June, 1935,

At 3-0 p.m.

THE UNITED RELIGIOUS AND MILITARY ORDERS OF
THE TEMPLE AND OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM,
PALESTINE, RHODES, AND MALTA.

PROVINCE OF ~~STAFFORDSHIRE, WARWICKSHIRE,~~
~~AND SHROPSHIRE.~~ *Worcestershire*

ORDER OF FESTAL EVENSONG IN *Pershore Abbey*
BIRMINGHAM

CATHEDRAL,

ON

Sunday MONDAY, THE ~~3rd~~ *24th May* JUNE, 1925, AT *3.15 p.m.* ~~7~~ O'CLOCK.

All knights except the Provincial Prelates and those detailed to escort the Provincial Prior shall be seated before the entrance of the Cathedral Clergy.

The Provincial Prelates (Present and Past) shall enter with the Cathedral Clergy and take their places in the Chancel.

Then shall be sung the Hymn, "O Lord, how joyful 'tis to see."

*"Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is, brethren,
to dwell together in unity!"*

O LORD, how joyful 'tis to see
The brethren join in love to Thee!
On Thee alone their hearts relies,
Their only strength Thy grace supplies.

How sweet within Thy holy place
With one accord to sing Thy grace,
Besieging Thine attentive ear
With all the force of fervent prayer!

O may we love the House of God,
Of peace and joy the blest abode;
O may no angry strife destroy
That sacred peace, that holy joy.

The world without may rage, but we
Will only cling more close to Thee,
With hearts to Thee more wholly given,
More wean'd from earth, more fix'd on Heav'n.

Lord, shower upon us from above
The sacred gift of mutual love;
Each other's wants may we supply,
And reign together in the sky.

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him, all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, Angelic host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

During the singing of this hymn the Provincial Prior escorted by his Constables and the Sword, Standard and Banner Bearers, shall advance to the chancel steps. The Sword and Standards shall then be carried to the Sanctuary where they shall be received by the Provincial Prelates, and by them be deposited in the places appointed. The Sword and Standard Bearers shall then rejoin the Provincial Prior.

THE ORDER FOR EVENING PRAYER.

The Exhortation.

The General Confession.

The Absolution.

The Lord's Prayer.

The Versicles. *Response*

The Psalm "I was glad when they said unto me" (CXXII.). *Psalm on*

Then shall the Provincial Prior be conducted to the Lectern and read the Lesson (Ephesians vi., 10-18).

The "Nunc Dimittis." *on long field*

The Apostle's Creed.

The Lord's Prayer.

The Versicles. *Response*

The Collects ~~for the Sunday after Ascension Day~~

THE PRAYERS OF THE ORDER.

O MERCIFUL LORD, grant Thy Holy Protection and salutary blessing to this Order. Enlighten its members with the rays of Thy brightness, that they may see the just ways of our Heavenly Captain, and may by their example induce the companions committed to their charge so as to follow them through the wilderness of temptation that, having overcome the enemies of Thy Holy Name, they may finally arrive at the Heavenly Jerusalem, armed with the Shield of Faith, and the Breastplate of Righteousness, through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

O MERCIFUL REDEEMER of perishing mankind, who has promised that Thou wouldst be in the midst of those assembled in Thy Holy Name; look down upon us, Thy humble servants, with an eye of tender compassion; and so direct us that our labours may be begun, continued, and ended in love to Thee, affection to our companions, protection to the distressed, and obedience to our Order.—Amen.

The Prayer for the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Prayer for the Emperor
Then shall be sung the "Hymn "Soldiers who are Christ's below."

"To him that overcometh."

SOLDIERS, who are Christ's below,
Strong in faith resist the foe:
Boundless is the pledg'd reward
Unto them who serve the Lord.

'Tis no palm of fading leaves
That the conqueror's hand receives;
Joys are his, serene and pure,
Light that ever shall endure.

For the souls that overcome
Waits the beauteous heavenly home,
Where the Blessed evermore
Tread, on high, the starry floor.

Passing soon and little worth
Are the things that tempt on earth;
Heavenward lift thy soul's regard;
God Himself is thy Reward.

Father, Who the crown dost give,
Saviour, by Whose Death we live,
Spirit, who our hearts dost raise,
Three in One, Thy Name we praise. Amen.

~~Then shall the Lord Bishop of Stafford, Knight of the Order,
be conducted to the Pulpit and address the Congregation.~~

Then shall the Alms be collected by the Heralds, and received
by the Almoner, while the Congregation sing the Hymn, "For all
the Saints."

"Compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses."

FOR all the Saints who from their labours rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confess'd,
Thy Name, O Jesu, be for ever blest.

Alleluia!

Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou in the darkness drear their one true Light.

Alleluia!

O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true, and bold,
Fight as the Saints who nobly fought of old,
And win, with thee, the victor's crown of gold.

Alleluia!

O blest communion! fellowship Divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in Thee, for all are Thine.

Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
Steal on the ear the distant triumph-song,
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.

Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.

Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The Saints triumphant rise in bright array:
The King of glory passes on His way.

Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia! Amen.

~~Then shall the Right Reverend the Provost~~ pronounce the
Benediction.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.

God save our gracious King,
Long live our noble King,
God save the King!
Send him victorious,
Happy and Glorious,
Long to reign over us;
God save the King!

Thy choicest gifts in store
On him be pleased to pour,
Long may he reign;
May he defend our laws,
And ever give us cause
To sing with heart and voice
God save the King! Amen.

At the conclusion of the National Anthem the Sword and Standard Bearers shall repair to the Sanctuary and receive again the Sword and Standards from the Prelates, and shall remain facing East until the Procession of the Clergy shall have left the Chancel. Then shall they turn about and escort the Provincial Prior to the Baptistry, the Sub-Prior following with the Great Officers, and the Present Officers of Provincial Priory.

All other Knights shall remain in their places until the Procession has passed.

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