

Consecration

The Brethren assemble in the Lodge Room.

1. The Consecrating Officer enters, accompanied by the Assisting Officers; he appoints his Officers and opens a Lodge of Royal Ark Mariners.

2. **The Opening Hymn**

*Hail Eternal, by Whose aid
All created things were made,
Heaven and earth Thy vast design,
Hear us, Overseer Divine.*

*May our work begun in Thee,
Ever blest with order be,
And may we, when labours cease,
Part in harmony and peace.*

*By Thy Glorious Majesty,
By the trust we place in Thee,
By the badge an emblem sign,
Hear us, Overseer Divine.
So mote it be.*

3. The Consecrating Officer addresses the Brethren on the object of the Meeting and calls upon the Chaplain for Prayer.

4. **The Opening Prayer**

Chant (*Omnes*)—*So mote it be.*

5. The Director of Ceremonies addresses the Consecrating Officer.

The Consecrating Officer replies and gives directions.

6. The Petitioners are arranged in order in the East.

7. The Warrant is read.

The Consecrating Officer enquires of the Petitioners if they approve of the Officers named in the Warrant.

The Petitioners signify their approval by the sign of F.

8. **The Oration**

by the Chaplain on the Nature and Purpose of the Institution.

9. **Dedication Prayer (First Part)**

Chant (*Omnes*)—*So mote it be.*

The Brethren turn towards the East.

10. **The Invocation**

Chant (*Omnes*)—*So mote it be.*

11. The Chaplain reads Genesis, chap. vii, vv. 11 to 14.

12. The Lodge Board is uncovered.

The Consecrating Officer and Wardens carry the elements of Consecration three times round the Lodge, halting in the East after each perambulation.

13. Before the First Circuit the Chaplain reads Psalm lxxii, v. 16.

The Brethren sing —

*When once of old in Israel
Our early Brethren wrought with toil,
Jehovah's blessings on them fell
In showers of Corn and Wine and Oil.*

The Consecrating Officer scatters Corn—the emblem of Abundance and Plenty.

Musical Response—*Glory be to God on high.*

14. Before the Second Circuit the Chaplain reads Nehemiah chap. x, v. 39.

The Brethren sing —

*When there a shrine to Him alone
They built, with worship sin to foil,
On threshold and on corner-stone
They poured out Corn and Wine and Oil.*

The Consecrating Officer pours Wine—the emblem of Joy and Gladness.

Musical Response—*Glory be to God on high.*

15. Before the Third Circuit the Chaplain reads Exodus chap. xxx, vv. 25 and 26.

The Brethren sing —

*And we have come, fraternal bands,
With joy and pride and prosperous spoils,
To honour Him by votive hands
With streams of Corn and Wine and Oil.*

The Consecrating Officer sprinkles Oil—the emblem of Peace and Harmony.

Musical Response—*Glory be to God on high.*

The Petitioners are arranged in order around the Lodge Board.

16. The Chaplain reads Leviticus chap. ii, v. 13.

The Brethren sing —

*To build on the great corner-stone
To Him Who oversees our toil,
This temple to His praise alone,
Who gives us Salt, Corn, Wine and Oil.*

The Consecrating Officer, perambulating alone, strews Salt—the emblem of Fidelity, Hospitality and Everlasting Friendship.

Musical Response—*Glory be to God on high.*

17. The Consecrating Officer Dedicates the Lodge

18. The Chaplain reads Genesis chap. ix, vv. 8-17.

19. Anthem

*Disposer Supreme and Judge of the earth,
Who chooseth for Thine the weak and the poor,
To frail earthen vessels and things of no worth,
Entrusting Thy riches which aye shall endure.*

*All honour and praise, dominion and might
Thou Great Overseer we render to Thee,
Who round us hath shed Thine own marvellous light,
And calls us from darkness Thy glory to see.
So mote it be.*

20. The Chaplain perambulates the Lodge three times, censuring.

21. Dedication Prayer (Second Part)

Chant (*Omnis*)—*So mote it be.*

The Petitioners are arranged in order in the West.

22. The Consecrating Officer Constitutes the Lodge

Chant (*Omnis*)—*So mote it be.*

23. Patriarchal Benediction

Chant (*Omnis*)—*So mote it be.*

Installation

24. Presentation of the Commander Designate.
Installation (*Board of Installed Commanders*).
25. The Commander is Saluted and Proclaimed.
26. Appointment and Investiture of Officers.
27. The Address (*to the Commander*).
28. Approval of By-laws.
29. Election of the Consecrating Officers as Honorary Members.
General Business.
30. To close the Lodge.
31. Closing Hymn, and National Anthem.
32. Recession.

Founders and First Officers

Wor. Com. (N)	W.P. Com. J. F. WEJLINGS	Matthew Clarke 1012
I.P. Com.	W.P. Com. J. DUDLEY, R.A.M.G.R.	Eaton 977
S. Warden (J)	Bro. E. J. TOY	(Eaton 977)
J. Warden (S)	W.P. Com. R. E. WOOLLEY	Temperance 629
Chaplain	W.P. Com. W. MACK, R.A.M.Prov.G.R.	Central Keystone 744
Treasurer	Bro. G. J. PEARCE	Moseley 667
Scribe	Bro. M. C. HOOKER	Hertford Military 408
Asst. Scribe	Bro. D. W. LLOYD	Matthew Clarke 1012
D.C.	W.P. Com. W. J. NORTON, R.A.M.Prov.G.R.	Perseverance 733
S.D.	Bro. G. E. DAVENPORT	Hertford Military 408
J.D.	Bro. D. R. BOSTON	Bedford Charity 115
<i>A.D.C. Commander</i>	W.P. Com. J. C. HEWITT	Yenton 719
<i>Organist A.D.C.</i>	W.P. Com. D. A. LIGHT	<i>Bedford Charity 115</i>
Guardian	W.P. Com. G. C. HOOKER	Hertford Military 408
Steward	Bro. L. TAYLOR	Perseverance 733
Warder	Bro. S. E. SKIPPINGS	