

BY-LAWS

-AND-

P13985

RULES OF ORDER

-OF-

**St. George Commandery No. 7,**

**KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN,**

-OF-

Parkersburg, W. Va.

Adopted Sept. 25th, 1884.

Revised Oct. 10th, 1886.

“ January 5th, 1896.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA.  
George Elletson, Printer, Court Square.  
1896.



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# CHARTER.

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The undersigned agree to become a corporation by the name of the Knights of St. George, of Parkersburg, for the purpose of promoting sound christian morals among the members thereof, and of giving the young men of our city who profess the Catholic faith, an opportunity of associating in brotherly love and mutual enjoyment without danger to their faith and sound morals, the mutual support of the members in case of sickness or other unfortunate circumstances when spiritual or bodily assistance is expedient or necessary, and for that purpose desire authority to purchase, hold, lease, sell and convey real property to the value of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS and personal property to the value of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS.

Given under our hands this eighth day of September, in the year of Our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-four.

[SIGNED.] J. F. PATRIDGE, J. T. McDONOUGH, P. H. MULVEY, GEO. W. CARNEY, M. J. SMITH, W. F. KORNHOFF, JR., J. G. FLOECKHER, P. V. DOLON, JOHN H. KELLEY, D. H. LEONARD, M. E. CLARK.

Whereupon the corporators named in the said agreement, and who have signed the same, and their associates and successors shall, and be hereby declared to be a corporation by the name and for the purpose and objects therein specified, as authorized by Chapter 83 of the Acts of the Legislature of West Virginia, passed April the first, 1873. In testimony, whereof, I have hereto set my hand and seal of the County Court of Wood County, State of West Virginia, this 2nd day of October, A. D., 1884.

THOS. G. SMITH, CLERK.



# BY-LAWS

—OF—

## St. George's Commandery No. 7, Knights of St. John.

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### ARTICLE I.

SEC. 1. The regular monthly meetings of the Commandery shall be held on the first Sunday of each month at 2 o'clock, P. M.

SEC. 2. The drill exercises shall commence at 8 o'clock, P. M., on Tuesday evening of each week.

SEC. 3. In the absence of the President, 1st Vice-President, and 2nd Vice-President, the Recording Secretary shall call the meeting to order and a chairman Pro-tem shall be appointed.

SEC. 4. All reports of committees shall be presented to the Commandery in writing and when acted upon shall be placed on file by the Secretary.

SEC. 5. Every member present shall vote on every question before the Commandery, unless he is personally interested in the result or has been excused by the President for reasons which he may consider satisfactory.

SEC. 6. Only members of the Uniform Rank shall be entitled to vote for Military Officers.

### ARTICLE II.

#### SICK COMMITTEE.

SEC. 1. The President shall appoint, annually, a committee of five (if possible one member from each ward to be known as the "Sick Committee.

SEC. 2. Any member of this Commandery who knows that a brother member is sick, will report

the same to the Corresponding Secretary, so that he may notify the members of the Sick Committee, whose duty it is to see that each member is properly cared for.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the Sick Committee to visit all members reported sick within 48 hours after receiving such report, and see that they receive such immediate care and attention as their condition may demand and report the same at the next regular meeting, with such other information as they deem necessary to bring before the Commandery. They shall also keep themselves well informed as to the condition of sick members. It shall also be their duty to sign all applications for sick benefits when they find them just and constitutional, and no benefits shall be paid out by the Treasurer until the application has been signed by the Chairman of the committee.

SEC. 4. Any member being seriously ill shall be entitled to a night watch of two fellow-members.

### ARTICLE III.

#### BENEFITS.

Sick Benefits shall only be paid on the following conditions:

1st. He shall have been six months a member of the Commandery, and not in arrears for three months' dues at the time of such sickness or disability.

2nd. He shall be required to notify the Corresponding Secretary of his sickness or disability, furnish a certificate from a regular practicing physician, or the Sick Committee certifying to the same, and no benefits shall commence until this section has been complied with.

3rd. In case said sickness or disability shall have been caused by improper or immoral con-

duct, or by any disease or infirmity by which he was inflicted previous to his initiation into the Commandery, no benefits shall be allowed.

4th. Benefits shall not be allowed for the first week of sickness or disability, nor for any fractional part of a week, and in no case shall benefits continue for more than thirteen consecutive weeks for one sickness. In case the sickness or disability shall still continue, and the member is in need of further benefits, the amount necessary shall be made up in any way the Commandery may determine and pay over to the member in need.

5th. Should he, by improper or immoral conduct, prolong the disease or infirmity, he shall forfeit his claim to further benefits during such sickness or disability.

6th. All money due the Commandery from a member receiving benefits shall be deducted from the amount due him as benefits.

7th. A member who shall become sick or disabled while in arrears to this Commandery for any amount equal to three months, cannot by payment of his arrears become entitled to benefits during said sickness or disability.

8th. Money due the Commandery for fines and assessments shall not debar a member from receiving benefits, unless the same shall have been due three months previous to the sickness or disability of the member.

9th. Should any member obtain or attempt to obtain benefits for himself or others by fraud or deception, he shall be expelled from the Commandery forthwith.

10th. Any member receiving benefits and found absent from his home or place of residence later than 8 o'clock, P. M., shall be deprived of



benefits from the order during such sickness unless a satisfactory excuse be accepted by the Sick Committee.

#### FUNERALS.

Upon the death of a member there shall be a solemn High Mass offered up for the repose of his soul and the Reverend Father officiating shall be remunerated for his services from the treasury of the Commandery. The Commandery shall also attend the funeral of a deceased member in full uniform, preceded by a band of music if no objections are made by the family of the deceased, the costs of the band to be paid from the Treasury of the Commandery.

#### RELIGIOUS.

To perpetuate the principles which led to the establishment of this Commandery, and in honor of St. George, our patron Saint, the 23d day of April of each year shall be celebrated as our anniversary, on which day a solemn High Mass shall be sung, which shall be attended by all the members in a body and in full uniform. If an anniversary comes on Sunday all members shall receive Holy Communion, otherwise on the Sunday previous; and all members failing to attend Holy Communion on the day designated shall be fined one dollar unless excused by the Commandery.

These By-Laws shall not be altered, amended or suspended unless such alteration, amendment or suspension be proposed in writing one meeting previous to action being taken thereon, provided also that three-fourths of the members present vote in the affirmative.

# ORDER OF BUSINESS.



SEC. 7. The order of business at all regular meetings shall be as follows :

- 1st. Opening the meeting according to Ritual.
- 2nd. Roll Call,
- 3rd. Reading the Minutes of the preceding Meeting.
- 4th. If Minutes are approved the President and Secretary shall both sign same.
- 5th. Collecting dues, fines etc.
- 6th. Installation of officers and Inaugural Address of the President.
- 7th. Transaction of postponed business.
- 8th. Reports of officers and Committees in waiting.
- 9th. Miscellaneous Business.
- 10th. Proposal and election of new members.
- 11th. Election of Officers.
- 12th. Remarks for the good of the Commandery
- 13th. Adjournment.

## FINES AND PENALTIES.

SEC. 1. Any member who shall absent himself from a meeting of the Commandery shall be fined twenty-five cents; a continued absence of three months, without a legal excuse, shall be a just cause for expulsion.

SEC. 2. Any member who being notified, shall fail to sit up, or fail to procure some one to sit up in his place with a sick member, shall be fined three dollars; no member after being notified to sit up with the sick shall be allowed to hire any one in his place who is not a member of the Commandery.

SEC. 3. If any member neglects to pay his dues for three months, it shall be the duty of the Secretary to notify said member of his arrearages; if he then fails to make payment, he shall be expelled from the Commandery.

SEC. 4. Any member who shall fail without just cause to turn out in public processions of the Commandery, when the same shall have been determined upon, shall be fined one dollar; this fine shall apply only to the Patrons' Feast, processions and parades determined upon to be held within the city limits.

SEC. 5. If any member shall refuse to attend a funeral of a deceased member, he shall be fined the sum of one dollar; a refusal to pay said fine shall be a cause for expulsion, to be brought to the notice of the Commandery as mentioned in section seven, this article.

SEC. 6. Any member who shall at any meeting of the Commandery, funeral, parade, procession, or at the house of any sick or deceased member, so conduct himself as to merit the censure of the Commandery, shall be reprimanded publicly by the President, fined or expelled, as upon motion the Commandery may determine; this action is

not intended to limit the authority of the President, who, as such, has to preserve the decorum and dignity of the Commandery.

SEC. 7. If any member shall refuse to pay a fine, when called upon by the Secretary, shall be a just cause for expulsion from the Commandery, and such refusal shall be brought to the notice of the Commandery by the Secretary at the next regular meeting thereafter.

SEC. 8. Whenever any member shall have done any act or deed, or refuse to do any act, or neglected any duty which may be a cause of expulsion, fine or reprimand, the same shall be brought to the notice of the Commandery by the officer or member cognizant of the fact.

SEC. 9. Any officer who shall fail to perform those duties entrusted to him by the Commandery, shall be fined 50 cents for the first offence, for the second, \$1.00, and for the third he shall be expelled from office.

SEC. 10. Any member refusing to come to order when required by the officer in charge shall, for the first offence, pay a fine of 25 cents, for the second 50 cents, and for the third be expelled from the Commandery.

SEC. 11. Any member swearing or using any profane or indecent language at any meeting shall, for the first offence, pay a fine of 50 cents, for the second \$1.00, and for the third be expelled from the Commandery.

SEC. 12. Any member entering into any personal or political dispute that may disturb the business of the Commandery, shall pay a fine of 50 cents.

SEC. 13. Any member coming to the meeting under the influence of liquor shall, for the first offence, pay a fine of 50 cents, for the second, \$1.00 and for the third be expelled from the Commandery.



SEC. 14. Any member who refuses or wilfully neglects to obey the officer in command at any parade, procession, or at instructions in parade movements, shall pay a fine of 50 cents for the first offence, for the second \$1.00, and for the third he shall be expelled from the Commandery.

SEC. 15. Any member who is already appointed to serve on any committee, cannot be compelled to serve on another committee, and consequently will not incur a fine for refusing. Should he accept the appointment and afterwards refuse to act he will be fined the sum of twenty-five cents.

SEC. 16. Any member who leaves the room while the Commandery is in session, or at drill without the leave of the presiding officer, shall forfeit and pay a fine of 25 cents for each and every offence.

SEC. 17. Each and every member of any committee that neglects or refuses to report at the time appointed, shall pay a fine of 25 cents.

SEC. 18. All business transacted by the Commandery shall be kept within its own walls, and no member is allowed to make the business of the organization a matter of discourse or gossip among people that are not members, on pain of expulsion or a fine not to exceed \$5.00.



## RULES OF ORDER.



1. The President having taken the Chair, the officers and members will take their respective seats. At the signal being given there must be a general silence in the meeting room, and no member can leave the room without permission from the President.

2. The President shall preserve order and pronounce the decision of the Commandery on all subjects. He shall decide questions of order without debate, subject to an appeal to the organization by one member, on which appeal no member can speak but once, when the question will be: Shall the decision of the President stand as the judgment of the Commandery? which question will be taken by the Vice President.

3. When any member speaks or offers a motion, he will stand up and respectfully address the President, confining himself to the question, avoiding all personality, indecorous and sarcastic language, as well as any reflection on the organization or any of its members.

4. Any member that shall disturb the meeting, either by abusive, disorderly or profane language, or refuse obedience to the President, will be admonished for first offence by the President, and if he offend again, he will be excluded from the room for that meeting, and afterwards dealt with as the Constitution and By-Laws may prescribe.

5. When two or more members rise to speak at the same time, the President shall decide which is entitled to the floor.

6. No member shall interrupt another while speaking, except to call him to order for words

spoken in debate; when the question is settled he may proceed if permitted.

7. After any question has been decided, one member who voted in the majority may move for reconsideration thereof.

8. No member shall speak more than ten minutes nor more than once on the same subject without permission of the President.

9. Any member may call for a division of the house, when the President will request those in favor of the question to stand; he will count the number, and then order those opposed to stand, and by a majority decide.

10. No motion will be subject to debate until it has been seconded and stated from the President. It must be reduced to writing at request of two members.

11. When a question is before the Commandery, no motion will be in order, except to adjourn for the previous question, to postpone indefinitely, or for a certain time, to divide, to commit or amend, which motion shall severally have precedence in the order herein arranged.

11. All questions, unless otherwise provided, will be decided by a majority vote.

13. Before putting a question the President will ask: Is the Commandery ready for the question? If nobody rises to speak, he will rise and put it, and after he has risen no one will be permitted to speak on it.

14. No committee can be finally discharged until all debts contracted by those have been paid.

15. A motion to adjourn is always in order and must be decided without debate.

16. A motion to adjourn to a certain time is debatable.

17. Any of the preceding Rules of Order may be suspended, altered, or amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

## Rules Governing the Military Exercises.

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To insure efficiency and discipline in all that pertains to the military exercises, the following Rules and Regulations shall be observed:

1st. The Captain, or in his absence the officer acting as Captain at any drill or parade of the Commandery, shall be entitled to and receive the respectful attention of all the members present, and all orders which he may give must be promptly and cheerfully obeyed.

2nd. Officers will exercise their authority for the feelings of their subordinates, set an example of attention and obedience of orders to the members under their command and do all in their power to carry out the orders of the officer in command.

3rd. Each and every member will pay strict attention to the commands of his superior officers, and promptly execute all his commands in good faith and to the best of his ability.

4th. All members must be civil and courteous to one another, and refrain from the use of profane, obscene or offensive language while on drill or parade.

5th. While on drill or parade, no member or officer shall be permitted to leave his place without the permission of the officer in command.

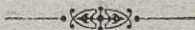
6th. While on drill or parade, except when standing at rest, the members will refrain from talking, laughing or doing anything that will have a tendency to attract the attention of the members from hearing or obeying the commands.

7. The uniform of the Commandery shall not be worn in public by any of the members, either

in whole or in part, without the consent of the commanding officer or by a majority vote of the Commandery at a regular or special meeting.

8th. Any officer or member violating any of the above rules, or reported wearing his uniform two hours after being dismissed, shall pay a fine of \$1.00.

9th. It is hereby made the duty of the officers in command at drills or parades to report all such violations to the Commandery at the first regular meeting after the occurrence.



## REGULATIONS.



1st. Smoking in hall at time of meeting or drill is strictly prohibited, and a fine of twenty-five cents will be imposed for each offence.

2nd. No member will be allowed to invite any person to the hall of this Commandery more than once without permission from the Commandery, unless said person is an applicant for membership.

3rd. Any person coming to the hall and not a member of this Commandery or a Catholic Sir Knight, shall be considered an intruder.

4th. No game of any kind will be allowed in the hall on Sunday, and any member violating this rule will be fined \$1.00.

5th. No person not a member of this Commandery shall be allowed in the hall while business is being transacted.



We hereby approve of the Society known as the Knights of St. George, of Parkersburg, W. Va., and accord to its members all the privileges granted to recognized Catholic organizations.

This recognition, however, is given on the express condition that the above Society faithfully observe all the laws and statutes of this Diocese pertaining to Catholic Societies.

{ SEAL. }

Given from our residence in the City of Wheeling, this 2nd day of October, 1884.



JOHN J. KAIN,

Bishop of Wheeling.



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