

may spend them wisely. None of us can be sure that another year or another day will we be here, so we must walk in His steps daily.

Martha is surely a very interesting and devout member of our Star Point Officers group. Because she speaks to us about our faith our life-long beliefs that direct our life's journey, she has an unusual message for all of us.

The fern is dedicated to Martha because it is constantly green and represents the continuity of life and the promise of eternal life after death.

Just as the fern grows naturally wherever it finds a place to put down roots, so faith grows in the soil of life where it is planted.

The fern speaks to us of a strong faith at all times.

Martha teaches us to appreciate God's hand in nature all around

us, the vibrant emerald green of our great outdoors; different shades all blending.

Martha was overcome, even in grief, by a powerful need to listen and to understand and believe Jesus.

The Emerald of Martha is a precious tone in a vibrant green color of the springtime foliage and all its new life and growth.

To get into proper position the Star Points go behind the back of their chairs to go into the Prayer Circle and for other ceremonies conducted around the Altar.

It would be well to read the portion of the secret work covering your Star Point at least twice a year to make certain your wording is correct.

Corley Anne Byras
Worthy Grand Matron



The Star Point Sister Martha

Each officer in a chapter is important. All officers are charged with specific duties at the time of installation. Each officer should strive to perform these duties in a manner becoming the solemnity of our Order. To make our Ritualistic work as impressive as possible, all officers should memorize their work.

The Star Point Officers exemplify the teachings of our beautiful Order and it is important that they strive to present their work with beauty and dignity. To make their work more impressive, their lectures should be memorized.

When the Star Point Officers are explaining their badge of office, they should have their arms and hands at their sides. Each one should hold her sign and remain silent until after the membership gives the response (Ritual page 34-38).

Each Star Point's sign is held until after the Pass is given.

The Sisters chosen to represent the five heroines upon whose virtues our Order is founded are valued Officers in every Chapter. In the design of our Chapter room they occupy very prominent positions, all facing the Presiding Officer in the East, and in a semicircle around our sacred altar. Reverently they face the Altar, assuming the Reverent Attitude for prayers, for our obligation and for draping ceremonies.

They lead us in our opening ceremonies, reminding us of their badge and its meaning for our lives. The beauty of the Altar Circle and the expression

used in delivering their lectures are all part of their unique contribution. Their Ritualistic work can greatly enhance the quality of every meeting and indeed can raise the Chapter's image by their performance. No matter how often we hear their lectures or their opening charges, it is ever new for us the listener.

After each Star Point has completed her lecture, if the pedestal is on the Altar side of her chair she steps back of the chair to pick up the Emblem. If it is behind the chair, she steps back and then steps behind the pedestal and picks it up. The Emblem is picked up and held in the right hand, resting it on the left palm. The Emblem is held in this position until all have passed the station. The Emblem is then replaced and the officer seated.

At the fourth point of our emblematic star, stands the Broken Column of Martha,

the friend of Jesus who lived in Bethany. In its setting among the green fern, it speaks first of nature's life and beauty today, and of our firm assurance of eternal life after death.

The strong base at the foot of the column represents Martha's firm and unshakable faith in God even in her time of personal grief over the loss of her brother. The Broken Column has an uneven face at the point where it has been severed. This broken edge faces our Holy Altar, the source of our strength in ties of trouble and sorrow.

The Broken edge on the Column is a constant reminder that the number of days allotted to us in our lives is in the hands of our Maker. The Psalmist reminds us to number our days and to recognize how few they are, so that we