



The Somerset Sword of Chivalry

Ritual

Eminent Preceptor

This sword was presented to the Province of Somerset by the family of a former Knight and a Founder of one of our Preceptories.

On receiving the Sword, The Right Eminent Provincial Prior decreed that it be a symbolic representation of our Order and that it be known as The Somerset Sword of Chivalry. He considers it to be an emblem of the existing bond between all Knights of the Province and trusts that it will promote and encourage those attributes expected of every Knight; namely, courage, honour, justice, courtesy, and a willingness to assist the weak and distressed.

Presenting and returning the sword is a symbolic ritual between Knights which has endured for centuries. Its purpose is to emblematically protect our secrets and to guard our faith, to give salutations and the sign of a Crusader, to confer the accolade on Candidates during their installation into our Order, and to provide an Arch of Steel to honour Knights entering a Preceptory.

As this Sword journeys from Preceptory to Preceptory it is the earnest wish and desire of The Right Eminent Provincial Prior that it will instil and foster lasting fellowship and goodwill between all Knights throughout the Province.

Eminent Preceptor, I now have great pleasure in presenting this Somerset Sword of Chivalry to thePreceptory for safe keeping and charge you, accompanied by as many of your Knights as possible, to deliver it to the Preceptory on*date*.....

