

Conclaves in the Division.
and their Meeting Place

Rose of Sharon No. 161	Handsworth, B'ham
Morning Star No.249	Kings Heath, B'ham
St Oswald No.278	Worcester
St Chad No.320	Stafford
Tewkesbury No.334	Tewkesbury
St George No.344	Wellington
Stroud No.360	Newnham on Severn
St Mark No.361	Kidsgrove
Guy's Cliffe No.411	Warwick/Leamington Spa
Forum No.455	Cirencester
Holy Trinity No.458	Sutton Coldfield
Divisional Recorders' No.474	Kings Heath, B'ham
Knowle No.484	Knowle, Solihull
Dr Thomas Arnold No.487	Rugby
The Labarum Guard No.503	Rugby
The Marches No.512	Leominster
St Dunstan's No.519	Kidderminster
The Richard Wallis No.520	Nuneaton

The meeting dates for all Conclaves can be obtained from the

Divisional Recorder or the Divisional website

www.rccwestmids.org.uk

*The Masonic and Military
Order of the Red Cross of Constantine
and the
Orders of the Holy Sepulchre and of St John
the Evangelist*

WEST MIDLANDS DIVISION



In Hoc Signo Vinces

Introduction to the Red Cross of Constantine

This Christian Order is full of great beauty and meaning and is recommended to all Royal Arch Companions. It contains much to interest and involve the Mason of mature outlook and offers a warm and friendly welcome to every Brother who seeks the fellowship and instruction which membership promises.

Candidates for this Order see how Christianity can be embraced by Freemasonry, learning how the legend of the Emperor Constantine's conversion to the Christian faith is set within Masonic Ritual, linked with the history of the Roman Empire.



In the early 1800s, there were a number of bodies, Masonic and otherwise, using the name Red Cross, which have confused the early history of this Order. However, there is no doubt that the present Order was re-organised and firmly established by Robert Wentworth Little in 1865.

It was an Order which once started, spread rapidly and in the first decade, over a hundred Conclaves were chartered.

Qualifications for membership of the Order

Entry to this Christian Order is open to Masons who have been Exalted as Companions of a Holy Royal Arch Chapter and who profess a belief in the Christian Holy Trinity.

The Red Cross Order consists of three ceremonies:

In the first ceremony the Candidate is Installed as a Knight-Companion of the Order. The second ceremony is the Consecration as an Eminent Viceroy. The third ceremony is the Enthronement as Sovereign of a Conclave.

Appendant Orders

These are two distinct Orders of Masonry and consist of Knight of the Holy Sepulchre and Knight of St. John the Evangelist, which constitute the Appendant Orders. They are conferred in the twin ceremonies of those Orders and are a means of expanding the Knight's knowledge of Christian Masonry.

All these ceremonies are amongst the finest in Masonry and are a reflection of merit and responsibility founded on a firm Christian belief.

Regalia

Initially, the regalia consists of a simple purple sash and breast jewel, with this being changed for a white sash and an additional jewel after receiving the Appendant Orders.



West Midlands Division

The West Midlands Division is led by the Intendant-General and his Deputy and is administered by the Divisional Recorder. The Division consists of eighteen units, or Conclaves as they are called, and encompasses the Masonic Craft Provinces of Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Staffordshire, Shropshire, Gloucestershire and Herefordshire

Conclaves in the Division

Most Conclaves in the Division meet only three times yearly, with the Annual Divisional Investiture being held on the third Saturday in February. Each Conclave performs its own ceremonies for the Installation of a new member, a Knight-Companion, with what are known as the Appendant Orders being conferred separately.



Is It for You?

The Red Cross of Constantine is an expansion of the aims of Freemasonry, encouraging its members to approach life with fairness, honesty, and unity in all things. The rituals of the Red Cross and the Appendant Orders which follow, are some of the deepest and most thought provoking you'll experience in Masonry and is one of the reasons why so many members are enthused by this Order.

We strongly urge you to make this the next advancement in your Christian Masonic Knowledge! You will find a warm welcome awaits, as well as a wonderful, interesting Order which you will enjoy.

On the reverse of this leaflet are the details of the Conclaves and the towns where they regularly meet. More particulars can be found under the individual Conclave entries in the Craft Provincial Masonic Year Book or directly from the Divisional Recorder or on the Divisional Website – www.rccwestmids.org.uk.

If you would like more information about meeting venues and dates for West Midlands Division of The Masonic and Military Order of The Red Cross of Constantine, the Divisional Recorder, Geoff Watkins, will be delighted to assist and can be contacted at:

Divisional Recorder:-

Geoffrey M Watkins

135 Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster DY11 6JQ

Telephone 01562 863850, Mobile 07831 421259

email Geoff.watkins@hotmail.com