

**“Grand Investiture“**  
of the  
**Knighthood of Honour**  
of the  
**Lazarus Union**  
**Union Corps Saint Lazarus International**  
**CSLI**



**INVESTITURE RULES**

Valid from February 2013

These investiture rules are binding and provided a basis for all individual ceremonies being adapted to a special investiture and special location.

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Insert actual seating order

# The Lazarus Union Knighthood of Honour

The concept of knighthood is often considered to be outdated for quite some time already. This is mostly due to the fact that like with many other issues outwardness and contemporary forms of appearance are confused with principles. In a time where the word is replaced by permanently mutating hasty pictures also the feeling for consistent personal qualities flattens out.

So for many the term knighthood just means some sort of glamorous position or social function. Would it be just such a phenomenon one could indeed drop the subject. As it is - seen in a historical context - more than just a sovereign structure or the satisfaction of snotty cravings, it is necessary to examine its roots to answer the question if it still has something to offer for our time. But this would go beyond the scope of these thoughts.

As with other organisational forms it is necessary to separate the essential from the irrelevant. If one can manage to do this the tasks of a modern knight will always remain up to date as they are able to adapt to circumstances.

The greatest value of knighthood was in the ideals its representatives were admonished to adhere to in their life. Obviously also in the times of the zenith of knighthood much ill happened - just think of the robber-knights playing a fatal role during the Interregnum of the Holy Roman Empire. But as knights had to adhere to high values in the end all those who did not live up to these values were barred from the knightly community.

First and foremost task was serving the faith and the most beautiful form of this were the knightly orders appointed to defend the Christian Occident and protect the Holy Sites while at the same time use their military functions to perform Christian altruism. Knights not belonging to any order were religiously not bound less. Sure enough, this was an era strong in faith - but that was not the crucial factor. With equal justification one could contrariwise say that the knights strong in faith had formed their era.

Today most knightly virtues have become rare indeed. Faith decays and with it unselfish services for charity's sake; also bravery is lost amidst the general conformism. Personal honour steps back behind the alleged ideal of economic status. Only a few people continue to say no to the material temptation to rather fight for or defend spiritual values.

As an organisation open equally towards all religions the Lazarus Union pays to this fact and does not put any religion before others during its investiture ceremony. Even when a church is selected as location for the investiture no personal religious feelings of any individual being part of our community of values must be hurt or even ignored.

The more we talk about quality of life the less we understand the real meaning of the term. Quality of life can neither be achieved by any governmental declaration nor by any law.

Senator h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt  
Grand Master of the Lazarus Union Knighthood of Honour

The following participants have been guided to their places and have taken their seats (see seating plan)

**Guests of Honour**

**CSLI Members in Uniform**

**All Other Guests and Visitors**

The Marshal assigns seats to the participants. Reserved seats are marked (some by name).

## **POSITIONS FOR ENTRY**

The Marshal orders the participants for the entry:

**Marshal**

**Banner of the Knights of Honour**

**Banner of the Order**

**Guest orders**

**CSLI members in uniform**

**Sword bearers**

**Postulants**

**Knights and Commanders**

**Knights Grand Cross**

**Members of the Chapter**

**Deputy Grand Master**

**Grand Master**

The **CSLI Fanfare** sounds and the **CSLI Entry March** is played, then the Marshal gives the signal to move into the church. The Great Banner and Detachment Banners halt before the altar.

The Marshal directs the participants to their seats according to the proposed seating plan. Once everyone has sat down, the investiture commences.

# WELCOME BY THE GRAND MASTER

**Music: Fanfare of the Crusaders** (brass)

## HANDING OVER OF THE BANNERS

Command: *"Banner bearers - step forward!"*

The designated banner bearers step forward and assume the assigned positions.

The banners are being handed over one by one by the bearers to the Grand Master.

The bearer stops next to the Grand Master.

The Grand Master after calling the name hands the banner over to the knight being honoured with the banner with the words:

*"I hand over this banner to the knight of our knighthood of honour ..... . May it always fly as a good example."*

The knight turns towards the audience and greets by lowering the banner.

Then the knight returns the banner to the banner bearer who steps back in ranks. After the handing over of the banners potential friendship banners to selected banners present are presented by the Grand Master.

For this purpose only the banner bearers step forward, lower their banner and the Grand Master fixes the friendship banner to the pole.

Finally the banner bearer steps back in ranks. After the command: *"Banner bearers - step back!"* all banner bearers return to the flag detachments.

After this ceremony effects the

**Preparation signal (from a distant trumpet): 'the Grand Tattoo'** (brass)<sup>1</sup>

The Deputy Federal Commander takes position for the

## RENEWING THE OFFICERS PROMISE

**Music: Trumpet signal: "Attention"** (trumpet)

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<sup>1</sup> The 'Zapfenstreich' is defined as "Beating Retreat". Beating Retreat is a military ceremony dating back to 16th century in England and was first used in order to recall nearby patrolling units to their castle.

The 'Großer Zapfenstreich' ("Grand Tattoo") is a military ceremony performed in Germany and Austria.  
Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beating\\_Retreat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Beating_Retreat)

Designated officers step forward and put their left hand on the flagpole of the Union flag.

Deputy Federal Commander:

*"Valued guests, beloved sisters of our Order, dear comrades! Before the investiture, the CSLI Officers renew their vows."*

The Deputy Federal Commander states the formal promise and all the Officers present reply.

Command: *"Flags and banners - down!"*

Deputy Federal Commander:

*Officers, repeat after me:*

**I promise on my honour,  
I will do my best  
To faithfully fulfil my duties in accordance with the principles  
And the model of the CSLI,  
To the best of my knowledge and belief.**

**I promise on my honour  
To voluntarily assume the obligations as an officer  
To the CSLI, to my Corps Comrades  
And to the Presidium.  
For so long  
I again take this obligation.**

**I promise on my honour,  
To preserve the honour and 'esprit de corps' of the CSLI,  
And to protect and defend it.  
I will not allow  
These principles to be violated.  
Should I not be able to act accordingly,  
I will submit my honourable resignation.**

**I promise on my honour,  
During my time in the CSLI also  
Not to disclose any internal CSLI matters  
And to maintain it against all comers.**

**I make this voluntary promise aware that  
from this time on I am an Officer of the CSLI.**

Command: *"Flags and banners - up!"*

**Music: "We Gather Together"** (brass)

The union flag steps back in ranks with the flags and banners. The officers present take their seats.

**Music: "Trumpet Tune"** (brass)

# The actual investiture Lazarus Union Knighthood of Honour

## PROLOGUE:

It seems important to us and worth mentioning explicitly that this investiture ceremony for the CSLI Knighthood of Honour is held in order to continue the tradition of knighthood. The 'attitude' that is BEHIND this accolade is MORE important than the ceremony itself. It does not therefore claim any authenticity nor intends to 'copy' similar ceremonies of other associations and organisations. There will always be similarities, which lies in the very nature of things, but different distinct features of our understanding of such ceremonies do exist.

We consider it, for example, not correct that the candidates kneel in front of 'Grand Masters' and other 'dignitaries' if they do not belong to the Clergy of a religious community. One kneels (in our opinion) only in front of God, and the dignitaries of the church and NOT in front of a human (like you and me)!

This point of view also directs the following procedure for investiture in the CSLI Knighthood of Honour. This investiture ceremony will be simple and short, but will correspond to the dignity of this award and, above all, will not interfere with, or violate, the personal and religious beliefs of the future CSLI Knight of Honour.

## CEREMONY (proceedings):

The Knights Grand Cross, Grand Commanders, Commanders, and Honorary Knights present form (if enough space is available) a semi-circle. In the middle is the Sword bearer, to the right the Grand Master and to the left the highest ranking, most senior member of the Knighthood of Honour. To the right side of the Grand Master is the Grand Chancellor of the CSLI Knighthood of Honour.

The Grand Master opens the investiture ceremony:

*"On behalf of the Lazarus Union and its Knighthood of Honour I cordially welcome today all those present to the investiture of our Knighthood of Honour. The rank and dignities of all candidates present today were after careful consideration by the Chapter of the CSLI Knighthood of Honour and by secret ballot unanimously found worthy of being honoured publicly in this investiture ceremony. "*

Each candidate will be called, and after the mention of his name, stands before the semi-circle. He remains there during the ENTIRE ceremony.

*"Dear ... .... (the candidate's first name is used!) You have come before the Chapter of the CSLI Knighthood of Honour and by SECRET ballot you were UNANIMOUSLY deemed worthy to belong to our community as a ... .. (here the rank and position to which the candidate is to be commissioned is used). Come before us!"*

The Grand Master asks the candidate whether he wants to belong to the community of The CSLI Knighthood of Honour with the following words:

*"I ask you therefore, before the assembled congregation: Do you of your own free will as ... .. (here the rank and position to which the candidate is to be commissioned is used) want to belong to our community and accept our mission?"*

The candidate answers:

*"I want it with all my heart!"*

The Grand Master asks the candidate:

*"Are you aware what it means to be a member of this community?"*

The candidate answers:

*"Yes, I am!"*

The Grand Master then says:

*"Into our Knighthood of Honour we wholeheartedly welcome you. Receive the insignia of your new dignity: the sword, mantle, and the insignia of the LAZARUS UNION Knighthood of Honour."*

While the Grand Master speaks, the Sword bearer hands the sword to the Grand Master which is then presented to the candidates. At the same time the candidate receives the folded mantle. The Grand Master then hands the insignia to the candidate with the words:

*"Receive now the outward sign of your new dignity. Always remember the character of the eight virtues of a knight, and may you be given the power to act on them."*

Then the Grand Master takes the sword again, and with the following words (symbolically) knights the candidate, first on the right, then on the left shoulder, finally touching the crown of the candidate's head:

*"Through the power of the office entrusted to me you are, with this symbolic accolade, from this moment a member of our Knighthood of Honour, and I hereby bid you fraternally welcome to our circle."*

The Grand Master passes the sword back to the Sword bearer and gives the new Knight of Honour a triple kiss of brotherhood (right, left, right).

### **Optional:**

Should a clergyman be present, and the candidate so wish, he steps in front of the clergyman, kneels down and prays for God's blessing with these words:

*"I ask God for His blessing, that He gives me the strength to prove myself equal to this high honour and dignity."*

After being blessed and being handed his Knighthood of Honour certificate, the new Knight faces the audience while the Grand Master present the new knight with the words:

*"Dear attendees, friends, comrades: here is our new Knight (Dame) of Honour, we applaud him (her)"*

**Music:** After the applause the **CSLI Fanfare** honours the new knight. (brass)

Command: *"Flags and banners - down!"*

After the CSLI Fanfare:

Command: *"Flags and banners - up!"*

The new knight moves into his designated place. (This ceremony is repeated for every candidate.)

When all investitures have finished:

**Music: Trumpet Voluntary** (brass)

## **PROMOTIONS** (will be announced by the Grand Master)

Various promotions will be awarded. The Grand Master calls all knight receiving a promotion by name. They step forward and receive their decree and insignia denoting their new rank.

Once all investitures and promotions are finished, the Grand Master speaks the following prayer:

**Lord, make us an instrument of your peace,  
that we practice love, where there is hatred,  
that we forgive, where there is injury,  
that we connect, where there is strife,  
that we tell the truth, where there is misconception  
that we bring faith where doubts are expressed,  
that we awaken hope where despair torments  
that we kindle a light where there is darkness,  
that we bring joy, where there is sadness.**

**Lord, seek to make it:  
not that we are comforted, but that we comfort;  
not that we are understood, but that we understand;  
not that we are loved, but that we love.**

**Because there is in giving, receiving.  
Anyone who forgets himself, finds himself;  
Anyone who forgives is forgiven;  
And who dies, awakens to eternal life!  
Amen!**

This ends the investiture ceremony.

**Music: Prayer from the Austrian Zapfenstreich** (brass)

**Music: Prince Eugen March** (brass)

## **LAZARUS UNION AWARDS**

(will be announced by the Marshal)

Friends, comrades, members from friend organisations, and members from humanitarian organisations will receive awards. This is followed by the

## **REMEMBRANCE FOR DEAD COMRADES**

The Marshal asks the audience to raise. Command:

*“Flags and banners - down!”*

The Federal Commander takes the Corps Banner (which is presented to him and steps to the altar. When the music begins, he lowers the flag.

Music: The Good Comrade (brass)

Flags are all lowered, the audience is standing.

This is followed by one minute of silence. All take their place.

Command: *“Flags and banners - up!”*

## **FINAL WORDS BY THE GRAND MASTER**

The audience is asked to remain seated until the leaving procession is finished and after that gather for pictures.

## **PREPARATION OF THE LEAVING PROCESSION**

The Marshal directs the participants for the leaving procession. They take their places in the following order and prepare to leave:

**Music: Beethoven Symphony No. 9, Fourth Movement** (“Ode to Joy”) (brass)

**Banner of the CSLI Knighthood of Honour**

**Banner of the Order**

**All other Standard bearers**

**Guest orders**

**Sword bearer**

**Marshal**

**Members of the Grand Chapter**

**Knights Grand Cross**

**Grand Chancellor**

**Grand Master**

**Guests of Honour**

**Guests**

## **EXIT:**

**Music:** The **CSLI Fanfare** followed by the **CSLI March** (brass)

The Banner bearers take the Banners and prepare. The Sword bearer prepares. When all is ready, the Marshal gives the sign for the music to be played and the leaving procession begins.

All leave the church in the sequence above. Each banner salutes before the great altar. Outside, all participants then group for a souvenir photo in front of the church.

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**LAZARUS UNION**

Union Corps Saint Lazarus International

CSLI

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Responsible for all contents:

Senator h.c. Wolfgang Steinhardt

