PRESENTATION OF ALTAR BIBLE

By Undine Del Rose, Past Grand Chaplain

To be given THE FIRST THING UNDER GOOD OF ORDER.

Worthy Matron requests Star Points and Associate Conductress to retire to Preparation room and prepare for ceremony presenting a Bible to Chapter. (Have in Preparation room six white candles in holders.) They light the candles and as they enter the room the Organist plays enough of ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS to get them in a form Aisle position directly West of Bible. (Aisle to be used later when Bible is taken to Altar.)

They stand in Aisle form all during ceremony. When they are formed correctly the one presenting the Bible rises and asks—Worthy Matron may I approach the East—She says—You may—The one presenting Bible approaches East carrying the Bible and says the following—

The one presenting Bible slowly approaches the East while Organist plays enough of Hymn HOLY, HOLY, HOLY until the one presenting Bible reaches the East — Says following:

Worthy Matron it gives me great pleasure to have the honor to present this Holy Bible to our Chapter—It is the most precious gift that may come to a Chapter. The Bible we honor this evening deals with man's inner life, his deepest self, his ideals. It declares that all men constitute a vast Brotherhood, all being equal in the sight of God. I now present you this Bible from ______ for our Chapter use.

Worthy Matron speaks:
I am delighted and pleased to have the honor to receive this Bible for our Chapter. Again many thanks for it.

One presenting Bible being seated the Matron then instructs the Conductress to approach the East and take the Bible to the Altar.

(Organist plays softly SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER and Conductress gets Bible and takes it to Altar going down the Aisle formed by the Star Points and Associate Conductress. Conductress just steps from Altar to her station. Seats herself.)

Bible being on Altar—Worthy Matron speaks thus:
Our Holy Bible precious book is full of truth and grace;
It is found upon the Altar now in the accustomed place,
And as we read its pages o'er, we find for human needs,
A prayer which our Lord gave to us, a prayer for every creed.

(Worthy Matron calls up Chapter and says— (Let us all bow our heads while the Chaplain from her station leads us all in the Lord's Prayer.

—sounds gavel and those forming aisle go to stations and place candles on their pedestals. Now anyone may make remarks or thanks for Bible.

Finish up closing as usual.