

**O. E. S. GRAND
CHAPTER LIBRARY**

DEDICATING A BABY

By Lola Lamoreux

Music--"Sleep, Sleep." by Ackley. (May be found in many hymnals)

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#14
Venerable Sister
1955
Folder 10*

As the song is being sung the Marshall quietly leaves her station, goes to the preparation room door and from there escorts the Mother and Baby into the Chapter room. They are given a chair which has previously been placed for them in the South East near the Marshall's station.

At the close of the song the Worthy Matron says:

We are happy tonight to dedicate a little child into our circle. May he(or she) always be surrounded by Charity, Truth and Loving Kindness. Let us listen to the words of our Lord, who was so often surrounded by little children, whom He loved. (Reads Mark 10:13-16) As our Master welcomed these children so also do we.

The winds of God blow softly,
The winds of God blow true,
May they blow today from far away,
The peace of God is love, dear baby, to you.
May they blow to the North your troubles,
May they blow to the South your fears,
From the East and the West
Bring all that is best
With courage for the coming years.

Let us unite in prayer.

Chaplain prays at Altar:

Our Father we thank Thee for little children-for their trusting and simple faith which is such a beautiful lesson to us. We know that these little ones are placed in our hands to be led and guided aright. Help each one of us to live in such a manner that we may truly be good examples to those who are looking to us for guidance. Bless all little children everywhere; bless all parents as they earnestly endeavor to direct the footsteps of their children in the pathways of Light, Knowledge, and truth. May we ever be ready to serve Thee by serving our fellow men. Give us strength and courage to walk uprightly in Thy sight. This we ask for Thy name sake. Amen

As Chaplain resumes her station one verse of "Jewels" is sung.(May be found in any hymnal)

Worthy Matron:

Sister Conductress, you will present this Mother and Baby at the Altar.

The Conductress escorts them to a position before the Altar facing the East. She remains at the side of the Mother.

The Worthy Matron Says:

My Sister, God has given you the keeping of this dear little child, to be protected, nourished and cared for by you, to the best of your ability. It is in your power to direct its footsteps toward the paths of pleasantness and the ways of peace. You have the privilege of cultivating its mind, soul and body. You have also the privilege of teaching it to honor itself, its home, its country and its God. May the lessons you have learned in our beautiful Order ever help you to guide your child aright; may they give you greater faith in God; courage to do the right and strength to uphold you in times of trouble. May God's richest blessing rest upon you and your baby. Sister Conductress, you will invest the baby with the colors of our Order.

As the Conductress ties the ribbon on the baby's arm she says:

As a dedication is an adoption we now adopt this baby into our Chapter and we promise to share with you, its Mother, the duty of its welfare. The Worthy Matron says:

Sisters and Brothers, may we ever be mindful of our duties toward this child and all other children. They are the future citizens of our Country and we must live by the precepts of our Order to fulfill our obligations to them.

As the Conductress escorts the Mother to her seat the second verse of "Jewels" is sung.

The Star Points rise to a given chord and led by Electa wind the Station chairs about the labyrinth and march slowly by the baby each touching its dress or blanket with a wand covered with the color the Point represents, and making the following wishes.

Electa:

I wish for you a love that will ever surround you and make you happy.

Martha:

I wish for you the faith of Martha--trustful, simple and full of hope.

Esther:

I wish for you a pure heart and a life full of joy and service.

Ruth:

I wish for you the virtue of constancy and the spirit of unselfish devotion as exemplified in the life of Ruth.

Adah:

I wish for you courage, fidelity and the joy of being a well beloved daughter
(or son)

The Points resume their stations as the third verse of "Jewels" is sung.

This ends the service.