

LEVANT PRECEPTORY

Levant Preceptory is a group of Masonic Knights Templar comprised of Sir Knights from various Commanderies under the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. Levant Preceptory confers the Order of the Temple in costumes that approximate those of the medieval Knights Templar circa 1100 A.D. The attire consists of tunics, chain mail armor, broadswords, steel helmets, and various accessories.

Levant Preceptory made its first public appearance at Baldwin Commandery in Shelbyville, IN on October 13, 2007 when they performed a ceremony written especially for the occasion by Sir Knight James Dillman that commemorated the 700th Anniversary of the suppression of the Knights Templar by King Philip the Fair on October 13, 1307. After obtaining the necessary dispensation from the Grand Encampment of the United States of America and the Grand Commandery of Indiana, Levant Preceptory went on to confer the Order of the Temple for the first time in April, 2008 and has since conferred the Order in various locations in the State of Indiana as well as in Sumner, IL. Levant Preceptory is tentatively scheduled to confer the Order in the historic Detroit Masonic Temple in Detroit, MI on March 24, 2012.

Levant Preceptory has been featured in print in the Indiana Freemason and Knight Templar Magazine. In 2009, the group was featured in the television documentary "Templars Last Stand", a two-hour film produced by Arcadia Entertainment of Halifax, Nova Scotia. The documentary, filmed on location in Israel, England, France, Belgium, Malta, and Indianapolis, IN, aired in full across Canada and in edited form on the National Geographic Channel in the United States in the spring of 2011.

Levant Preceptory holds no charter and essentially operates as a craft club at the will and pleasure of the Right Eminent Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of Indiana. The mission of Levant Preceptory is to remind Masonic Knights Templar both new and old of their connection to the ancient Knights Templar, to encourage the study of their rich history, and to reinforce the necessity of strict adherence to those chivalric ideals and Christian virtues that characterize the true and valiant knight.

For information on Levant Preceptory, contact Eminent Commander John Bridegroom <u>chaos231@comcast.net</u>