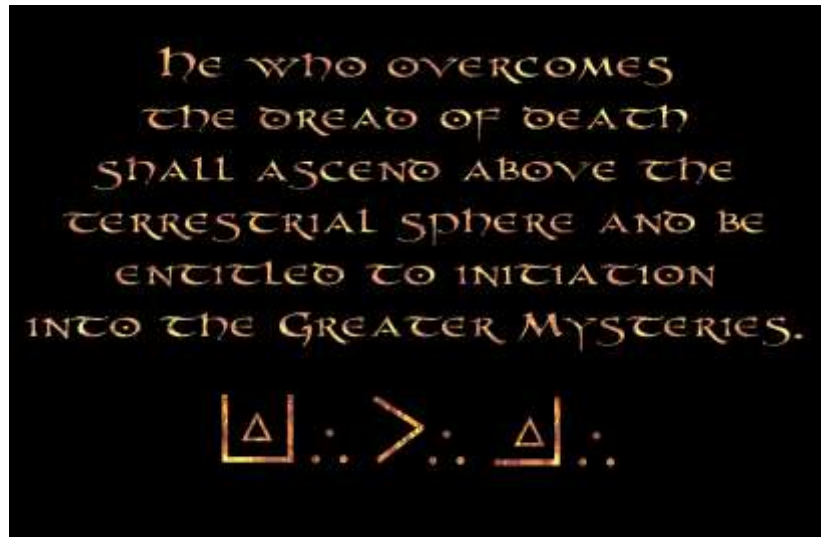




**30°, Knight
Kadosh or
Knight of
the White
and Black
Eagle**

What lesson is taught to us in this degree, which is required for attaining the higher degrees?

- This degree teaches us that to proceed beyond this degree, we must overcome the fear of death.
 - “Death is inevitable, and in the grand scheme of the Grand Architect, it is the entrance to another existence. We must all overcome what we fear most in order to fully cross the threshold of self-knowledge, even death is the gateway to the personal knowledge of God.”
- At the bottom, in cypher are the initials J.:B.:M.:
 - They represent Jacobus Burgundus Molensis, as well as remind us of the first 3 degrees.



In the first apartment the Candidate enters he is made to sit in front of three skulls. What do these skulls symbolize?

- The three skulls—one wreathed in laurel and amaranth, one a triple tiara, and one a crown—represent the three people surrounding the downfall of the Knights Templar here titled the “Knights Kadosh.”
 - Jacques deMolay: His skull is seated on a velvet cushion and mounted with a wreath of laurel and amaranth denoting immortality.
 - Pope Clement V: His skull is on the left designated by the papal tiara.
 - King Phillip of France: His is on the right designated by the crown.
- The image of the three together denotes “the history of the human race; that constant tragedy of guilty power and murdered innocence.”

What are we taught about the mystic ladder in this degree?



- The ladder reminds us of the maxim, “let him who stands, take heed lest he fall.”
- This is to teach us that if we practice all that the ladder teaches us, whatever evil or misfortune might overwhelm us, we will be able to patiently bear the storms.

What do the skull, cross, and crown, represent on the altar in the fourth apartment?

- It is important to note that these are three separate symbols and not a symbol by group.
- The skull is a reminder that before death there is not rank or title. From the skull, we simply know someone lived and died.
- The crown is a symbol of all the kings and emperors who have abused power and extinguished the fires of freedom with the blood of patriots.
- The cross here is not a symbol of Christianity but rather of all religion, and when placed next to or with the crown, it becomes a symbol for unifying church and state—the patron of ignorance and ally of despotism—against which we always must fight.

What does this degree teach us about the Masonic Encampment?



- In this degree, we gain knowledge of another portion of the Encampment, the equilateral triangle.
 - We are taught that the three sides remind us of the importance we learned of the number three in the Symbolic Lodge.
 - The virtues of all the other degrees from the nonagon, the heptagon, and the pentagon are but tenets of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth.

What does the regalia of this degree symbolize?

- The belt and sash of this degree are black, symbolizing the theme of this degree of overcoming the fear of death.
 - The clasp of the belt is almost exactly the same as the 28°, however the initials J.:B.:M.: are in the place of the double headed eagle.



What does the regalia of this degree symbolize?

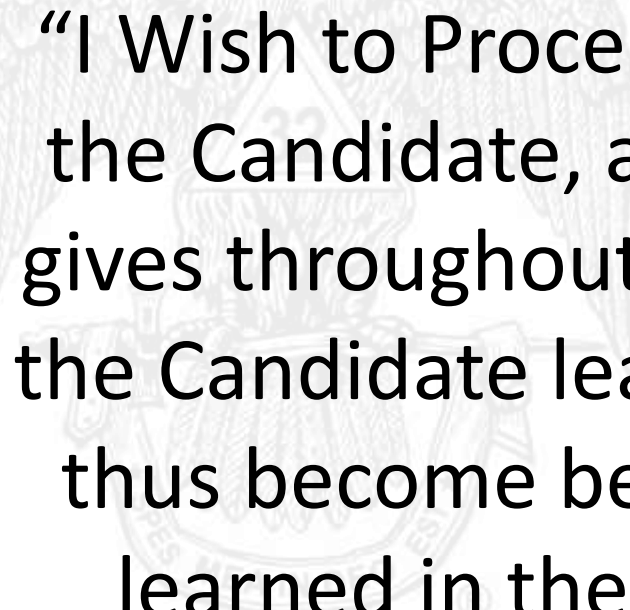


- The cordon, like the sash and sword belt, is black and holds the same meaning.
- On the cordon are two Teutonic crosses, a double-headed eagle, and the letters *K* and *H*.
 - The *K* and *H* are the first and last letters of the Hebrew word *Kadosh*.
 - The double-headed eagle, like the crosses, is red and likely a symbol of fervency and zeal, and it holds a poniard with a black and white handle.
 - The eagle itself with two heads is a symbol of the past and future, and the black and white handle of the poniard symbolizes the division of good and evil.

What does the regalia of this degree symbolize?

- The jewel is a Teutonic Cross of gold, enameled with red and emblazoned with a silver double-headed eagle.
 - The gold and silver, as symbols for the Sun and Moon, likely represent the same division as the handle of the poniard.
 - The red symbolizes fervency and zeal.





“I Wish to Proceed” is the required response the Candidate, accompanied with Constans, gives throughout the degree. In facing Death, the Candidate learns to confront his fears and thus become better than himself—a lesson learned in the Degree of Perfect Master.

How does this degree force the Candidate to face the reality of the fate that awaits everyone?