



Nugget

A Welcome to the Initiate

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A short address to the Initiate.

Summary

This Nugget is intended to be delivered to the Candidate following his Initiation either in the Lodge Room or at the Festive-Board when 'toasting' the new Member.

Keywords

Secret Society, Festive-Board, System of Morality, way of life.

A Welcome to the Initiate

I bid you welcome to Freemasonry from the Worshipful Master and all of the Brethren and Visitors present this evening; all of the Brethren who meet in this Building, this Province, the United Kingdom and throughout the World, for it is a worldwide organisation that you have joined this evening.

Freemasonry is not a club, although you will find like-minded men who will welcome you wherever you go. It is not an insurance company, although you may be assured that if you are in distress or need, you will ever find consolation and/or assistance among Masons. It is not a religion, although we call the room we meet in a Temple and many of the lessons we teach ourselves are based on narratives from the Bible which we call the Volume of the Sacred Law.

Freemasonry is not a secret society, as you need to make no secret of being a Mason. Indeed you should be proud to be known as such. It is a society that has certain secrets which are a safeguard for our Members. It is not a restricted association of aristocratic or intellectual snobs, for any man in the world may join.

Lastly, Freemasonry is not just getting together for a convivial drink and a meal. The Festive-Board is an important part, but we place greater emphasis on what happens in our Ceremonies and the relaxation afterwards is a winding-down and the opportunity to get to know one another better.

This is what I welcome to you to, a way of life, a way to regard life squarely, to follow Masonry's precepts and to lead a life you can be proud of, a way to be happy in yourself, and to communicate that happiness to others.

##END##

Recommended use of Nuggets

Nuggets offer a short, simple and readily absorbed means of progressing Masonic knowledge and an easy way to introduce learning to Lodges and Chapters. It is hoped that they will become a regular feature of Lodge and Chapter meetings as well as a source for private-study.

Nuggets can be included as an item in the summons and read at most Lodge/Chapter meetings. They can be:

- Read by either a new or an experienced Mason with the minimum of preparation and practice; *though ideally, they need to be read a few times beforehand.*
- Themed with the meeting or activity.
- Used to initiate a discussion within a Lodge/Chapter, LOI/COI, or group.
- Read at home and shared as a topic for a future discussion.
- Used as a focus for an unplanned, informal discussion.

For further nuggets and other learning materials visit "Solomon" at <http://solomon.ugle.org.uk>

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