

# Closing Formation Narrations

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## Reason for change

Three new ceremony narrations added to the Book of Ceremonies as a coordinated set. These are meant to provide Bethels with narration ceremonies for the Living Cross, the Closing Square & Compass, and the Closing Triangle. These three ceremonies have been reviewed for inclusivity and combined into one coordinated document for consistency of format and tone.

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## Proposed Changes

### Closing Formation Narrations

*These narrations may be used at a meeting or as a ceremony while visiting, for example, another masonic body, church or in the community. Customarily they are read by a Bethel Guardian or Associate Bethel Guardian but may be read by any adult or daughter.*

The members, led by the Guide and Marshal, form the [Cross, Square & Compass, or Triangle] as space allows at the given venue while the Musician plays "Forward all Jobs Daughters", "We're Jobs Daughter Fair and True" without the members singing. Members kneel on 3 chords (four chords when using flowers). Narration may be read before the Daughters sing two versus of "Nearer My God to Thee" or "Let There Be Peace" or between the versus. The Musician then plays the selected song softly in background while narrator reads.

### Triangle Narration

**NARRATOR: For Job's Daughters everywhere, the Closing Ceremony is a beautiful and moving experience. The years may pass, but the special feeling from taking part in the formation of the iconic Job's Daughters symbols never wanes. Our lessons guide us in all that we do, whether it be community service, self-development, leadership building activities, faith, or patriotism.**

**Some of you are seeing the closing formation of the triangle for the first time, and you may not be aware of the significance given to the location of each Officer. Triangles are the strongest shape in geometry; no matter how much weight you put on any side, the triangle remains solid and will not break. The Honored Queen is near the Altar as a reminder of humility and faithful service as the leader of the Bethel. As the pinnacle of the Triangle, the Honored Queen is the guiding light of the Bethel, leading others by example and pointing the way to the highest attainments in life. On the corners of the triangle are the Junior Princess and Senior Princess. They assure a balance is maintained in our Bethel, just as there needs to be a balance in our lives. The Officers comprise the fiber that brings the Triangle together. Together they remind us through the teachings of the Book of Job, that although the world may seem to have forsaken us at times, we must remain faithful, as our strength comes from love. Our members stand together in the Triangle, as sisters and as friends.**

**[OPTIONAL PARAGRAPH] Many Bethels choose to incorporate sign language into the closing formation for a very special reason. The philanthropic project of Job's Daughters International is H.I.K.E., which is an acronym for Hearing Improvement Kids Endowment Fund. Through fund raising efforts, Job's Daughters assist children with hearing loss to**

achieve improved communication skills. Because of this philanthropy, the use of sign language has a special significance.

As the Daughters come out of the Triangle turning right and left, the diagram on the floor will be that of a large open Holy Book, a reminder of our source of strength and understanding of the will of our Creator. As you look at our members in the Triangle, let it serve us to ask ourselves if we are humble in our service to others; if we are supportive of our fellow sisters; and if we are striving to build a better tomorrow. "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job."

After the Daughters sing and/or give the Mizpah Benediction, the musician will play three chords (four chords when using flowers) for Daughters to rise; conclude the closing formation.

### **Cross Narration (The Living Cross)**

**NARRATOR:** For Job's Daughters everywhere, the Closing ceremony and formation of the Living Cross is a beautiful and moving experience. The years may pass, but the special feeling from taking part in the formation of this most important of Christian symbols never wanes. Like all Masonic-related organizations, Job's Daughters International bases its foundation on a belief in God, with a special emphasis on the Book of Job, the 42nd Chapter, 15th verse... "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job; and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren."

The Holy Scriptures guide us in all that we do, whether it be religious, patriotic, community service, self-development or leadership building activities. For we know we must maintain our faith in God, and through trust in Him we will achieve our final reward for living a virtuous life. Some of you are seeing the formation of the Living Cross for the first time, and you may not be aware of the significance given to the location of each Officer in the Cross. The Honored Queen is at the base of the Cross as a sign of humility and service to those they serve as the leader of our Bethel. The base must be solid and strong to support the Cross. Through the Honored Queen's strength, the Cross stands high as a testament to the message it proclaims to the world. At the center of the Cross is the Chaplain, who represents our faith in God as the focal point of our organization and our lives. The Chaplain is a constant reminder of the lessons we learn from the Holy Scriptures, and of our daily need to speak with God and give our lives to His care and keeping. On the ends of the arms of the Cross are the Junior Princess and Senior Princess. They assure a balance is maintained in our Bethel, just as there needs to be a balance in our lives through an understanding and pursuit of those attributes God expects us to make a part of our lives. The Officers of the Bethel comprise the fiber that holds this Cross together by relating the truth of Job's life that although the world seems to have forsaken us at times, we must turn to God and remain faithful to Him. As we live our life with faith and patience, so will we be rewarded.

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And when we call it a Living Cross we aren't just referring to the Job's Daughters who have formed it. Instead, we mean it as a living, active force in our lives. As you look at our

members in the Living Cross, let it serve us to ask ourselves if we are humble and yet strong in our service; if God is the center of our lives; if we maintain a balance by pursuing those things God expects of us; and if we are keepers of the message and proclaim that message in our every thought, word and act. As the Daughters come out of the Cross, turning right and left, the diagram on the floor will be that of a large open Holy Bible. A reminder of our source of strength and understanding of God's will. "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job."

After the Daughters sing and/or give the Mizpah Benediction, the musician will play three chords (four chords when using flowers) for Daughters to rise; conclude the closing formation.

### **Square and Compass Narration**

**NARRATOR: For Job's Daughters everywhere, the 42nd Chapter and 15th Verse of the Book of Job has special significance: "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job, and their father gave them inheritance among their brethren."**

Today, in order to become a Job's Daughter, one must be related to or sponsored by a Master Mason, or related to a Majority Member of Job's Daughters; this is a Job's Daughter's inheritance. The gift of Masonic heritage is one our members hold dear, so here before you, these Job's Daughters have formed the Square and Compass, symbolic emblems of Masonry. At each of our meetings, we ask for a blessing upon the Master Masons who give us heritage, recognizing the special relationship Job's Daughters shares with the Masonic Lodge.

We learn much from the doctrines of Masonry: the ideals of charity and love, equality and upright living. We aspire to love one another, teach one another and help one another. The Closing Ceremony of Job's Daughters is a beautiful and moving experience. The years may pass, but the special feeling from taking part in the formation of this important Masonic symbol never wanes.

Some of you are seeing the closing formation of the Square and Compass for the first time, and it is right that we pause to recognize its profound meaning. As a representation of the tools used by an architect, no symbol is more universally recognized as the emblem of Freemasonry. At the heart of its meaning is the call to live a life filled with brotherly love, focused on charity, dedicated to truth – a life that is honest, true and dignified.

The Square stands as a timeless emblem of integrity. In Job's Daughters, we pledge ourselves to this path of integrity. Just as the strength of a building rests upon its perfect corners, the strength of our character rests upon living life squarely - upright, honest, and true. The Officers of our Bethel form the living lines of this Square, bringing balance, peace, and harmony to our work, and reflecting the virtues of piety, honesty, and reverence that anchor our organization.

The Compass gently crosses the Square. At its apex, near the Altar, stands our Honored Queen, representing the pivotal role faith plays in the leadership of our Bethel. A Compass is used to create perfect circles, symbolizing friendship, love, unity and infinity. May our circle be forever unbroken and our connection never severed.

The Square and Compass are working tools, reminding us that life is an ongoing work-in-progress. We shape within our hearts a cornerstone, polished to gentle radiance and refined to a flawless strength, that may anchor a foundation strong enough to uplift all who journey beside us.

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As you look at our members in the Square and Compass formation, let it serve us to ask ourselves if we are maintaining a balance in our lives, encircling others in our love, creating a strong foundation of faith, and living life squarely. As the Daughters come out of the Cross, turning right and left, the diagram on the floor will be that of a large open Holy Bible. A reminder of our source of strength and understanding of God's will. "And in all the land were no women found so fair as the Daughters of Job."

After the Daughters sing and/or give the Mizpah Benediction, the musician will play three chords (four chords when using flowers) for Daughters to rise; conclude the closing formation.

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**Submitted by:**

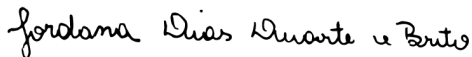
Amber Vipond, PHQ, PGG, Ritual Revision Co-Chair



Marcy Jaqua, GG, Ritual Revision Co-Chair



Jordana Brito, PHQ, PBG



Bonnie Conner, PHQ, PBG



Mariana Cota, PHQ



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