

1981 Organist Tribute

I wish to extend a very warm welcome to all the Organists of subordinate chapters and former Grand Organists. We appreciate your being here this evening.

Tonight we are honoring the men and women who have or are providing appropriate music that our ceremonies may be as impressive and effective as possible. The office of Organist is very important for this reason. Without music our ceremonies are not very impressive.

It is an office that cannot be held by just anyone. Consequently, it is many times repeated or served by a pro tem in a chapter. Those devoted members who share their talents with several chapters are a great asset to our Order and we appreciate their continual help. It is for this that we are honoring you tonight.

(The Most Worthy Grand Organist Fred La Pointe and Grand Organist Sister Nancy Fitzgerald then played a piano-organ duet "The Lost Chord". The organ was decorated with a gold cloth and a candelabra)

We honor you this evening. You whose responsibility it is to add to our ceremonies through the medium of music. Through your talents, brotherly love is created, for through music we all share a common experience. In the presence of good music, all are equals of human emotion. Music is a part of the most significant moments of a person's life, from earliest infancy until death, Great moments, great emotions and deepest thoughts are accompanied by music. We thank you for your dedicated and loving contribution to the beauty and significance of our Order and we dedicate this verse to you.

All sounds of the world are made
Songs that any of us may hear,
For the sky and the earth and the waters
Sing a melody, sweet and clear.
The wind and the rain and the silence,
Their familiar symphony start
And the fluted laughter of children
Can ring bells in a troubled heart.
The music of family voices,
As flower notes rise from the sod,
Ascend like loving hosannas
To the Master Musician.....God.

We welcome you heartily and we thank you for the love you put into the music all during the year and for the joy you bring to all our hearts.