

# What is the Templars Order?

## **OBJECTIVE**

To provide you—the parent of a prospective brother templar—an understanding of the Templars' identity and mission, its benefits to your son, and the work and commitment that membership in the Order will require from your son.

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#### **TEMPLARS MISSION**

To deliver a fraternal experience that catalyzes male teenagers in the Catholic faith as they mature into husbands, fathers, and priests.

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# **IDENTITY**

Templars is a Catholic leadership fraternity for male teenagers. Local parishes launch chapters of the Order, typically comprised of 10-25 male teenagers. With the leadership and support of the pastor and lay adult mentors (confrères), the Order proposes an Honor Code to build the character of the young men in the values of Humility, Fidelity, Power, and Witness. Together with the Honor Code, each chapter commits to accomplishing the Work of the Order, which is to:

- Serve at the Altar.
- Build the Brotherhood.
- Give of Yourself for the Good of Others.
- Attend to Spiritual Growth.

The Templars Order and its work are characterized by a profound belief in male teenagers, their positive witness in the Church, and their power in pursuing and promoting the good.

Since 1999, high school-aged young men have adopted the Honor Code and the Work of the Order and matured as Catholic men through it. Dozens have been ordained to the priesthood, and hundreds more have built upon their Templars foundation through holy marriages and successful careers. Undergirding personal and career milestones is the well-grounded faith in Jesus Christ and His Catholic Church that Templars carry forward into life.

### CHAPTER COMMITMENTS

Each Work of the Order has a corresponding time-bound commitment:

Work	Frequency	Form
Serve at the Altar	Weekly	Sunday Mass
Build the Brotherhood	Quarterly	Organized Fellowship
Give of Yourself for the Good of Others	Quarterly	Charitable Service Project
Attend to Spiritual Growth	Annually	Spiritual Retreat

To accomplish the above work, chapters plan and execute a monthly chapter business meeting. The pastor and confrères (lay adult mentors) are present to support the brother templars; however, the chapter belongs to the brothers and is intended to be run by them.

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### **BENEFITS**

- Maturity in the Catholic faith
- Virtuous friendships
- Leadership Formation
- Selfless disposition
- Mentorship through:
  - Proximity to the parish priest(s)
  - Proximity to confrères
- Exposure to the Sacrifice of the Mass and the Mystery of the Eucharist

The above list are the benefits to the brother templars; however, the benefits stretch far beyond the young men themselves. The Church-local and universal-has much to gain from the witness of Her youth. The founding Templars chaplain consistently reminded and encouraged the young men in his care with the words we leave with you:

"Never underestimate the power you have as a young man to witness to Jesus Christ."

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For more information, please visit <u>templarsorder.org</u> and/or speak with your pastor or chapter confrères.