

MILITARY ORDER OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AWARD SAMPLE CEREMONY

INDUCTION: It is intended that the induction ceremony take place in conjunction with an official function; i.e., Dining In/Out, or similar dignified ceremony or event. An example of the induction ceremony follows.

Official party arrives.

Awardee posts facing the audience.

Nominator makes remarks about the nominee.

Narrator reads the Legend of Saint Christopher

“Saint Christopher, whose name comes from Christophorus (Christ-carrier), has been associated with Transporters from the earliest times – depictions of him on mediaeval church walls were always opposite the entrance so that passers-by could look on them and be fortified. It is believed that, “Whoever shall behold the image of Saint Christopher shall not faint or fall on that day.”

As the legend goes, the extremely robust Christopher devoted his life to carrying people across an otherwise unfordable stream. One day a little child appeared before him and asked to be carried across. To Christopher’s surprise, as he forded the river, the child steadily increased in weight until Christopher found his tiny burden so heavy he feared they would both be drowned, despite his great strength. The child revealed himself as Christ, and explained to the exhausted Christopher that he had just carried the world’s sins upon his shoulders.

Saint Christopher - the patron saint of the Transportation Corps Regiment - was one of the most popular saints during antiquity and early Middle Ages. Usually pictured carrying Christ and symbolically the weight of the world’s sins across a river, the image of Saint Christopher offers a fitting symbol of strength, loyalty and safety for Transporters charged with MOVING THE FORCE now and for all time.”

As the narrator reads the award certificate, the nominator places the medallion over the nominee’s head ensuring the likeness of Saint Christopher is facing out.

“To all Transporters wherever ye may be. Greetings! Know ye that there appeared before a most arduous and selective committee of proven Transporters, a likely candidate for the (Ancient/Honorable) Order of Saint Christopher.”

“Be It Remembered: That the hereinafter mentioned individual has been inspected and passed on by ourself and our loyal staff, and,”

“Be It Known: By all ye Transporters who may be honored by this individual’s presence that (NOMINEE’S NAME) having been tried and found worthy to be numbered as one of our trusty members, has been gathered into our fold and duly initiated into the solemn mysteries of this esteemed Order of Transporters.”

“Be It Understood: That we hereby confer upon this individual the shield of Saint Christopher, and enjoin all Transporters, to show due honor and respect whenever this individual may enter their midst. Given under my hand this (DD) day of (MMMM, YYYY). Signed (approving authority).”

Play the Transportation Corps song and Army song. Official party departs.