



Grand Collège des Rites Écossais
SUPRÊME CONSEIL DU 33° DEGRÉ EN FRANCE
1764 - 1804
GODF

Monthly letter 183 - May 2022

Dearest Brothers and Sisters,

“The major feature of masonic life is the fact that it takes place in a space separated from the outside world... The Loge meets in such a space [...] in a specific place at a specific time.” Thus, René Le Moal and Georges Lerbet defined the singularity of masonic practice in their introduction to freemasonry as a philosophical and spiritual quest for knowledge.

“Masonry as a distinct experience of time and space”, as a release from outside constraints allowing everyone to achieve one’s own initiatory experience.

One can easily take the measure of the full complexity of the practice when one remembers to what extent the world in which we live is part of a completely different reality with its culture of emotions, of immediacy, of individualism.

This is why we must take special care to protect our sacred builders’ space from being invaded by the codes and practices of the outside world – as it sometimes happens. This means being especially watchful so that the exoteric does not systematically take the place of esoterism.

Although contemporary problems are not foreign to us, we ought to assess them with the masonic method and the tools which are our own. Otherwise, it would be useless to situate ourselves in a distinct time and a distinct space.

In the ritual at the Entered Apprentice’s degree of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite practised in the Grand orient of France, the Worshipful Master says, as a conclusion to the opening of the Lodge: “Brothers and Sisters, we are no longer in the profane world. We have left our metals at the door of the Temple, let us lift up our hearts in fraternity and let us turn our eyes towards the Light.”

No doubt, this sentence would not be out of place in all and any of our rituals, from the 4th to the 33rd degree.

Please rest assured of my fraternal feelings.

ILL. B.R. Georges LASSOUS, 33°
Sovereign Grand Commander