

Honoring Returno Sta. Paula II

Our order is dedicated to charity, truth, and loving kindness. Your faithful portrayal of each of the heroines of our order indicates to us that you share in this dedication.

Initiation into the Order of Eastern Star does not mean the same to everyone. But, if it is to have the desired result, it must bring a change in mental attitude, and in the heart. A candidate must not be left drifting with the tide, but must be shown events that will mold and change each life.

Jepthah's vow to the Lord was made in a trying time. His loving daughter rose to noble heights by making her peace with her God and giving her life for the freedom of her country.

Ruth's refusal to leave Naomi is one of the most unhesitating confessions of love and devotion in literature. Her obligation to her Mother-in-law did not rest lightly upon her shoulders. Our obligation, too, should be a perpetual force from which there is no release.

The heroine of the story of Esther rose from the humble walks of life to become a queen. She was strong, brave, patriotic, and honorable. She was not changed by the luxury and temptations of her new surroundings. Because she was of great value to the king, he saved the chosen people. Esther, noble queen, who was gentle, elegant and beautiful, lives in our memories.

We are filled with awe when we recall the happenings in the miserable, tumbled-down village of Bethany. Here Martha, a hard-working and overburdened woman, gave proof of her belief in a life eternal. Her joy in the return of her brother, Lazarus, was matched only by her love of the Lord.

Electa was an influential woman in her community. She spent her life caring for the poor and sick. Benevolence was the great passion of her life. She professed her faith to the entire world even though it meant the loss of everything--her good name, wealth, of husband, of children, of life itself. Love of Christ and the Christian religion are her teachings.

Thank you for helping to bring about the instruction and education of new members who have need of you. In aiding them to change their hearts and minds, you have kept them from drifting upon the waters. Thank you for being a bearer of good tidings of Him and of his Son for whom the Star of the East was placed in the Heavens.