

FLOWER CEREMONY FOR INITIATION.

Marshal picks up the flowers, then nods to the points who stand.
She says:

These flowers are the highest expression of nature's loveliness. We never tire of looking at their perfect and delicately hued colors. From time immemorial they have been endowed with expressive language.

To Adah as she gives her flowers: BLUE symbolizes FIDELITY.

To Ruth as she gives flowers: YELLOW symbolizes constancy.

To Esther as she gives flowers: WHITE represents light, purity and joy.

To Martha as she gives flowers: GREEN symbolizes hope and immortality.

To Electa as she gives her flowers: RED is the color of love and service.

She speaks as she returns to her station:

In this garden of color we see reflected the sublime virtues of our heroines, Adah, faithful to an obligation, Ruth, constant in devotion, Esther, loyal to a purpose, Martha, faithful in her sorrow, and Electa, loving and serving to her death.

JAN CHARTER

From: "Julie Gansler" <newptcomfort@hotmail.com>
To: <OESTar@yahogroups.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 12, 2002 6:45 PM
Subject: [OESTar] Marshal's Lecture

In Virginia we have a "Flower Ceremony" for when the Marshal presents the flowers to the Star Points while the AC is preparing the candidates. It is optional and done before Adah and Esther prepare themselves.

WM: "Sister/Brother Marshal, you will provide the Star Points with the colors of their stations"

The Marshal rises, bows to the WM and leaves with the basket of flowers and returns in the same manner. Centering the space in the East, she stops, faces West. The Star Points rise, then all move at the same time, toward the Altar. The Marsahl distributes the flowers to the appropriate Star Point, being careful not to reach across the Bible with the words:

"We have chosen these flowers for emblems,
 The Violet (to Adah), the Lily (to Esther), the Rose (to Electa);
 The Jasmine (to Ruth) adds its sweet perfume
 With the Fern (to Martha) in dainty repose.
 All speak their own great lesson--
 Lessons of Faith, Hope and Love.
 While the Bible with wide spread pages
 Brings us blessings from above."

My Sisters, you will fill well your stations of honor and trust, teaching these candidates that love shall e'er lead them and hope guard the way, if they follow the light ever constant and true, and God's Commandments ever obey."

The Star Points return to their stations, and after receiving a bow from the Marshal, respond with a bow, are seated, and place the flowers on their pedestals.

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MARSHALL'S FLOWER CEREMONY

Marshall raises points.

These flowers (or ribbons), each of a different hue,
Symbolise our heroines, faithful and true.
The lessons they convey,
Help guide us every day.

To Adah:

I place in your keeping flowers of blue,
For the daughter who's deeds were noble and true.

To Ruth:

The Widow's story that never grows old,
Represented by flowers of yellow gold.

To Esther:

A Queen who defendd her people's plight,
You, I bring flowers of purest white.

To Martha:

A sister who had faith in things unseen,
I come with sprays of nature's green.

To Electa:

Flowers of vivid red I give to you,
For mother's love, charity and loyalty so true.

Our Sisters, faithful and true,
Will convey their stories of the Star to you.
Symbolizing fidelity, constancy, loyalty, faith and love.
All of which are the teachings from above.

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