

Brethren,

As I begin my year serving you as Grand Master, I have reflected deeply on what strengthens our Craft and what the world most needs from Freemasonry today.

Our ritual teaches us many virtues, but one of the most powerful and visible is Brotherly Love. The simplest expression of that love is kindness.

For this reason, my theme for the year is:

“Kindness Builds Brotherhood.”

Freemasonry is often described as a structure we build together. Every Mason adds to that structure—not with stones, but with his character and his actions.

When we show kindness to a Brother who is struggling, we strengthen our fraternity. When we welcome a new Mason warmly, we build fellowship. When we serve our communities with compassion, we demonstrate the true spirit of Masonry.

This year I encourage every lodge to reflect on three simple questions:

- 1. How can we better support our Brothers?**
- 2. How can we show kindness within our lodge?**
- 3. How can we demonstrate Masonry through kindness in our communities?**

Kindness requires no special talent, only a willing heart.

If each of us commits to practising kindness in our lodges, our homes, and our communities, we will strengthen the bonds of our Brotherhood and demonstrate the true meaning of Freemasonry. Three Simple Goals for the Year. 1. Practice Kindness Within the Lodge - Encourage harmony, patience, and support among Brethren. 2. Care for Every Brother - Make sure no member feels forgotten or alone. 3. Show Kindness to the Community - Let people see Freemasonry through acts of service.

Brethren, a man once asked a wise teacher how he could change the world for the better. The teacher replied, “Start with a single act of kindness.”

The man said, “But that seems too small to make a difference.” The teacher smiled and said, “Kindness is never small. It spreads from one person to another like light from a candle. One flame can light many others without ever losing its brightness.”

Brethren, Freemasonry works in much the same way. One kind word, one helpful action, one gesture of brotherly care can inspire another. And before long, that spirit spreads throughout the lodge and beyond.

That is how Brotherhood is built—one act of kindness at a time.