

Bulletin  
April,  
2024

ST. JOHN'S LODGE No.11  
Free And Accepted Masons  
Oldest Continually Operating Unmerged Lodge in DC

Chartered  
February,  
1846

➤ Trestleboard ◀

Friday, April 5th, 2024

7:00 PM

STATED COMMUNICATION

**“Lodge of Discussion – Why must a Freemason profess a belief in the immortality of the soul?”**

(Open to Master Mason only)

Almas Shrine Temple  
1315 K Street NW  
Washington, DC 20005

**ALMAS SHRINE PARKING**

Garage parking is available onsite at the Temple, and only \$3 for the entire evening.

The entrance to the garage can be found on 13th St, just south of the DCFD Engine 16 Fire Station.

**AILING BRETHREN**

Please keep all our brethren in prayer for good health, good spirits and the continued manifold blessings of the Great Architect of the Universe.

"Be not slow to visit the sick: for that shall make thee to be beloved."

**Brothers Please Remember**, if any member knows of another Brother who is Sick or Confined, please inform Worshipful Master **Michael T. Arce** at 240-821-4530, Senior Warden **Sam Chin P.M.** at 240-604-6364, or Junior Warden **David de Hosson** at 703-732-1163.

(cont.)

➤ From the East ◀

**Warm Fraternal Greetings, my Brothers!**

Thank you to the Brethren of Nur Lodge No. 2000 for their visit to St. John's Lodge No. 11. It was a pleasure to greet and sit in Lodge with these Brothers, and, a personal highlight for me, to invite their Worshipful Master Karem Urus to a seat in the East. As part of my journey to the East, W.B. Urus is one of the many Brothers I have spent time working with or have had the pleasure to join in Masonic Intercourse at Grand Lodge events. It was also meaningful that the Brethren of Nur Lodge No. 2000 inquired about our recent Lantern Lodge, as they are looking to replicate that program at an upcoming meeting!

Thanks to the warmth and wit of Bro. Chris Ruli, our March Communication was a mix of entertainment and information. Bro. Ruli touched on five key points from his latest book, "The White House and the Freemasons." For those who were unable to attend and would like to listen to a sample of Bro. Ruli's research, I've included two links to his recent appearance on the Craftsmen Online Podcast for your enjoyment.

- [The White House and Freemasonry https://sptfy.com/BroRuli1](https://sptfy.com/BroRuli1)
- [Subscriber Extra Episode https://sptfy.com/BroRuli2](https://sptfy.com/BroRuli2)

I have heard your feedback on the refreshments provided after our Lodge meetings. I understand that there are some who desire sustenance beyond pizza. There are two reasons for our current refreshment situation:

- 1) Lack of access to the Almas kitchen. This is an "unmovable" barrier to our meals as, in part with our agreement with Almas, we cannot be promised access to the kitchen on site due to a superseding agreement between the Temple and the Hotel on the use of the kitchen for the Hotel's events. Simply put, if the hotel books a special event, a paid event overrides our access. For this reason, our meals must contain a "disposable" dish and setup option.
- 2) Lack of RSVPs from St. John's Lodge No. 11 members. On a bright note, this has IMPROVED this year! Bro. Junior Warden informed during the collation that followed our March meeting, that has seen an uptick in RSVPs from our members. Here is my refreshments proposal: if we can secure more than 10 meal RSVPs ahead of each Stated Communication, I will amend my budget to allow for more catered/buffet style meals following our meetings - allowing for rule that these means must stay within the disposable dish/setup option.

Finally, let's discuss our April Lodge program. This will be one of the only programs that will be open only to Master Masons. The reason: the discussion for the evening will most likely enter areas of the Fellowcraft and Master Mason degrees, and I do not want to prohibit Brothers from being able to express themselves. We will be opening a Lodge of Discussion following our April business meeting. (cont.)

## ➤ Trestleboard ⇐

### MASONIC BIRTHDAYS

#### APRIL

Chip K. Mahaney, PM 33 years  
Brian Burgess 16 years

#### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Sean Parkhurst, PM April 04  
Michael Case April 19  
David Han, PM, PJGD April 19  
Nelson Fink, PM April 20  
Jason Lee, PM April 23

“On behalf of the officers and brothers of St John’s Lodge No. 11, I would like to thank you for your Fraternal service and wish you many more years of Fellowship and Fraternity.”

— Michael Arce, W.M.

### STATED COMMUNICATIONS

7:00 PM First Friday (Except July)

#### Lodge Mailing Address

1317 Kennedy St NW  
Washington, DC 20011

#### Lodge Social Media

[www.stjohnslodge.org](http://www.stjohnslodge.org)  
[facebook.com/stjohns11dc](https://facebook.com/stjohns11dc)

#### Grand Lodge Web Site

[www.dcgrandlodge.org](http://www.dcgrandlodge.org)



## ➤ From the East (cont.) ⇐

A Lodge of Discussion is a Traditional or Observant Masonry practice where Brethren gather in a secure Lodge to offer their individual input on a singular Masonic question. A reading material is assigned that aligns with the discussion topic for this meeting. In our case, we will be discussing "Why a Mason must profess the belief of an immortal soul?" Our reading will be an excerpt from Bro. Angel Millar's book "The Path of the Warrior Mystic: Being A Man In An Age of Chaos." We will specifically be focusing on a selection from Chapter 12: The Warrior and The Creative Individual. I'm happy to share that Bro. Millar will be virtually joining us for the opening of our Lodge of Discussion! If you are looking for an esoteric, engaging Masonic experience - I look forward to seeing you on Friday, April 5th!

Please be in touch with Bro. Junior Warden to RSVP for dinner. I will be circulating the reading selection to those who have indicated their attendance.

I look forward to seeing you at our first meeting in Spring!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

**W.B. Michael Arce**

Worshipful Master

## ➤ From the West ⇐

### Greetings Brethren,

Our last meeting with the Brethren of Nur Lodge No. 2000 and Brother Chris Ruli was a great experience. He dispelled some myths and brought to light some interesting information regarding Freemasonry and the White House. If you ever have the chance to see Brother Chris speak, I highly recommend it.

I have news regarding some details of our Celebration of Life for W.B. John Regner and the Fidelity Medal ceremony for W.B. Karl Gruel. The event will be held at the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Virginia on June 22nd, please mark your calendars for these important ceremonies. We are expecting to host the Regner family and Daughters from Jobs Daughter's International of DelMar of which W.B. John Regner was heavily involved. There will be a 3:00 P.M. private tour for our group followed by a 5:00 P.M. dinner/table lodge and finally the Fidelity Medal ceremony to close out the evening. The tour will be \$20 for Masons while dinner will be \$30 for Masons and the Lodge will cover both costs for non-mason guests. i.e. Job's Daughters/prospects/other family members. RSVPs should be sent to Brother Junior Warden and myself. More details to come at our Stated Communications.

This month I look forward to the open discourse on a Masonic topic where we hope to see heavy interaction among the Brethren on something that binds us all as one in our Craft - The belief in the immortal soul.

We have many things going on in the Lodge and if you would like to become more active in any way, please reach out to the Secretary and Pillar Officers so that you can continue to grow as a person, and we as a Lodge.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

**W.B. Sam Chin, P.M.**

Senior Warden

**My Dear Brothers,**

Springtime is here, indeed, so I hope you're getting out there and enjoying the warmer weather. As always, it was wonderful to see so many Brothers at our March Stated Communication. It was a distinct pleasure, too, to meet our Brothers from Nur Lodge No. 2000 and elsewhere. Being the history buff that I am, I learned so much from Bro. Ruli's lively presentation – we now know Worshipful Brother Washington laid the foundation for all future engagement by Freemasons with incumbents of the Oval Office. Truly, Washington was a man of many precedents. So, be sure to pick up a copy of Bro. Ruli's book!

Once again, our Worshipful Master has another intriguing program lined up for us. I very much look forward to our group discussion about the importance of notions concerning the soul's immortality within Freemasonry. It sounds like Bro. Millar's book, *The Path of the Warrior Mystic*, is yet another we should also consider picking up. As our craft helps us on our path to becoming better men, Bro. Millar, too, pushes us to broaden our thinking about masculinity, as we face the challenges of modern life.

Until we meet again in April, Brothers, take care and be well. And please continue to be mindful about RSVPing. It's so very much appreciated and helps to ensure we order sufficiently for our gathering, and to cut back on needless waste!

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

**Bro. David de Hosson**  
Junior Warden

**Greetings Brethren,**

At our March Stated Communication, we unfortunately had to suspend six Brothers for non-payment of dues. Since that time, two of them have remitted their dues and have been reinstated. It's that easy. The other four have a year from the date of suspension to remit their dues and be reinstated with no other action.

I cannot stress enough that if you have a situation that creates a hardship, please reach out to the Master. We can work with you on your situation whatever it may be. However, if we don't know, we cannot help.

Please reach out and remind those Brothers of their dues. They will no longer receive these communications until they do.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

**Anand A. Trivedi, PM**  
Secretary

➤ **Upcoming Trestleboard Events** ◀**Friday, May 3rd - The History of St. John's Lodge Charity**

Since 1846, St. John's Lodge No. 11 has been the oldest, continuously operating, unmerged Lodge in the Grand Lodge of DC. Our history runs much deeper, with a distinguished legacy of leadership, community service, and fellowship. Following our May Stated Communication (gavel drops at 7PM), join us in the Almas Shriner Temple Bar for a program by Bro. David de Hosson, Junior Warden on the history of Charity at St. John's Lodge. Program begins at 8PM with complimentary pizza available for all who have an interest in Freemasonry and the Almas Shriner Bar will be open until 10PM. During this program, learn how you can join St. John's Lodge in participating at the third annual Flowers of Remembrance this Memorial Day Weekend at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Please RSVP for our Stated Communication program at [juniwarden@stjohnslodgedc.org](mailto:juniwarden@stjohnslodgedc.org)

**WORSHIPFUL MASTER**

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**SENIOR WARDEN**

Sam Chin    seniorwarden@stjohnslodgedc.org    240.604.6364

**JUNIOR WARDEN**

David de Hosson    juniorwarden@stjohnslodgedc.org    703.732.1163

**SECRETARY**

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**ASSISTANT SECRETARY**

Michael J. Lampart    703.586.8969

**TREASURER**

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**ASSISTANT TREASURER**

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**JUNIOR DEACON**

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**SENIOR STEWARD**

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**JUNIOR STEWARD**

Thomas J. Lindo    stewards@stjohnslodgedc.org    202.445.1621

**TILER**

Ryan Duddy    tiler@stjohnslodgedc.org    614.307.7047

**CHAPLIN**

Wesley Yurgaites    202.706.1355

➤ Trustees ➤

Jason Lee (2024)  
Tommy Ripke (2025)  
D. Scott Heath (2026)



➤ Living Past Masters ➤

Franchot E. White	1978
Chris Pouler	1984
Nelson L. Fink	1986 - 1987
Charles W. Riley	1988
Karl F. Gruel, Jr.	1994 - 1995
Chip K. Mahaney, RWB (Hon.)	1995*, 2005*, 2015*
Akram R. Elias, PGM (Hon.)	1999*, 2001*, 2003 - 2004*
Teko Foly, PGM (Hon.)	2002 - 2003*, 2014*
Robert E. Johnson	2002, 2004*, 2008 - 2010
Joseph Crociata, Jr. PGM (Hon.)	2003*, 2015*, 2016*, 2017*
Alan Gordon	2004
David Han, RWB (Hon.)	2005*, 2010*
Jeffery D. Russell, PGM (Hon.)	2006*, 2013*
Michael D Nicholas, PGM (Hon.)	2009*, 2010*, 2020*
Justin T. Russell	2012
Geoffrey Newman	2012 - 2014*, 2019 - 2020*
Harry Trapp, Jr.	2013
Anand A. Trivedi	2014, 2023*
D.W. Stephenson	2015
James Parkhurst	2017
Sam Chin	2018
Sean Parkhurst	2019
Jason Lee	2020, 2021
Stephen M. Motroni	2022
James Hall	2023

➤ Honorary Members ➤

MWB Teko Foly, PGM  
MWB Joseph S. Crociata, PGM  
MWB Akram R. Elias, PGM  
RWB Christopher K. Mahaney, PM  
RWB David Han, PM  
MWB Michael D. Nicholas, PGM  
MWB Jeffrey D. Russell, PGM  
MWB Alan L. Gordon, PGM

\* indicates Master at another lodge  
\*\* indicates made Honorary PM of St. John's No. 11