

Statutes and Constitution

1. The title of the Order shall be *The Healing, Teaching and Chivalric Order of St. Raphael*.
2. The Order of St. Raphael exists by virtue of a Charter dated 1st January 1953 granted by the British Patriarch of the Catholicate of the West of the Catholic Apostolic Church, which is constituted, established and erected as a lawful and canonical Religious Order. The Catholic Apostolic Church operates in the East, mainly in India, though its Catholicate of the West controls operationally its activities in the United Kingdom and other European States; it has full Apostolic Succession.

In January 2003, the present British Patriarch of the Catholicate of the West confirmed that the Metropolitan See of Glastonbury considered the Order of St. Raphael, by virtue of its Charter, to be fully independent from the founding authority, having a life of its own.

3. The Order of St. Raphael further exists by virtue of a Charter dated 17th June 1954 granted by the Sovereign Grand Master of The Teutonic Order of the Levant, by which it received the status of a Chivalric Order. The Teutonic Order of the Levant has since been reconstituted under the title *Ordo Militaris Teutonicus*.
4. The Order shall be ruled by a Grand Master who shall also be Lord Abbot in respect of the religious aspects of the work of the Order.
5. The Grand Master shall hold office for life or until his resignation be received in writing, or orally in Grand Council.
6. The Grand Master shall at his pleasure appoint Officers to assist him in the government of the Order. He shall appoint them to such offices as he thinks fit. The present list of offices takes precedence as follows acting during the pleasure of the Grand Master:
 1. Deputy Grand Master
 2. Grand Prior
 3. Grand Chancellor
 4. Grand Marshal
 5. Grand Treasurer
 6. Grand Herald
 7. Grand Lecturer
 8. Grand Director of Music
 9. Grand Registrar
 10. Grand Steward
 11. Grand Custodian of Insignia
 12. Grand Deputy Marshal
 13. Grand Sub Prior
 14. Grand Sword Bearer
 15. Grand Cross Bearer
 16. Grand Banner Bearer
 17. Grand Guard
7. The Grand Master shall, at his pleasure, confer on subscribing members who have already taken the vows and received the accolade of knighthood within the Order, the honour and dignity of *Knight (or Dame) Grand Cross*, who shall take precedence immediately after the Grand Prior.
8. The Grand Master shall, at his pleasure, confer on subscribing members who have already taken the vows and received the accolade of knighthood within the Order, the appointment and

distinction of *Knight (or Dame) Commander*, who shall take precedence immediately after the Knights Grand Cross.

9. On the day of his installation a new Grand Master shall nominate two members of the Order to be members of the High Council. These two members shall at once be created Knights Grand Cross of the Order.
10. The High Council of the Order shall consist of the Grand Master and those two Knights Grand Cross appointed as in paragraph 9 of these Constitutions.
11. 1. On the failure of a member of the High Council due to death, resignation or illness, the Grand Master may, at his pleasure, name a successor. 2. Should it be for the good of the Order, the Grand Master may, with the approval of the other High Council member, remove the other High Council member and replace him or her by another appointment.
12. On the death or resignation of the Grand Master the remaining two members of the High Council shall be designated the Regency Council of the Order.
13. When a new Grand Master nominates his new High Council, the members of the previous Regency Council cease to hold that office and revert to the rank of Knight (or Dame) Grand Cross.
14. The High Council exists to advise the Grand Master and assist him in the executive decisions essential to the good running of the Order. They should consider themselves as Trustees in whose hands the future of the Order rests.
15. The Grand Council of the Order shall be composed of all:
Members of the High or Regency Council Knights (and Dames) Grand Cross
Knights (and Dames) Commander
Senior Chaplains of the Order.
16. The Grand Council of the Order shall meet annually, when propositions may be considered for the good of the Order, and recommendations received from the High or Regency Council be given consideration.
17. Especial meetings of the Grand Council may be convened by the Grand Master at his pleasure, by the High or Regency Council to consider matters of importance to the Order, by the Grand Chancellor, or by notice signed by not less than ten members of the Grand Council.
18. All members of the Order, together with invited guests and invited spectators from other Orders of Chivalry may attend meetings of the Grand Council, but may not vote unless being a member of the Grand Council as defined in paragraph 15 of these Constitutions.
19. The Grand Prior of the Order shall be responsible for all matters concerning the spiritual welfare and growth of the Order and the work of healing. To the Grand Prior shall report the Grand Sub Prior, together with all conclave Chaplains.
20. The Grand Chancellor of the Order shall be responsible for all administrative matters of the Order. To the Grand Chancellor shall report the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Herald, together with all conclave commanders.
21. The Grand Marshal of the Order shall be responsible for the conduct of the ceremonies and Service of Investiture and for marshalling the participants on ceremonial occasions. To the Grand Marshal shall report the Grand Deputy Marshal, the Grand Sword Bearer, the Grand Cross Bearer, the Grand Banner Bearer and the Grand Guard.
22. The Grand Treasurer of the Order shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Order including the allocation of funds to charity from time to time.

23. The Grand Herald of the Order shall be responsible for keeping members of the Order informed of the activities of the Order, in particular by the publication of a newsletter. The Grand Herald will also take the responsibility for the production of all certificates presented to members at investitures.
24. The Grand Lecturer of the Order shall be responsible for all teaching aspects of the Order, shall ensure that this aspect is not overlooked and shall keep and circulate papers written and presented. To the Grand Lecturer shall report all conclave lecturers.
25. The Grand Director of Music shall be responsible for arranging any musical accompaniment on ceremonial occasions.
26. The Grand Registrar shall be responsible for the recording of names, addresses, honours and awards of merit of members and the publication, from time to time, of a Roll of Members.
27. The Grand Steward shall be responsible for all dining arrangements after ceremonial occasions.
28. The Grand Custodian of Insignia shall be responsible for all aspects of ordering and the supply of insignia in accordance with the Constitution and Dress Regulations of the Order. The Grand Custodian of Insignia is also responsible for the ceremonial presentation of insignia at the Service of Investiture.
29. The Grand Deputy Marshal shall assist the Grand Marshal in his duties and by fulfilling the duties of the Grand Marshal when the Grand Marshal is unable to attend any ceremony or investiture.
30. The Grand Sub Prior shall be responsible for supporting the Grand Prior in his duties and for fulfilling the Grand Prior's ceremonial duties when the Grand Prior is unable to attend any ceremony or investiture.
31. The Grand Sword Bearer shall carry the sword of the Order at all ceremonial occasions.
32. The Grand Cross Bearer shall carry the cross of the Order at all ceremonial occasions.
33. The Grand Banner Bearer shall carry the banner of the Order at all ceremonial occasions.
34. The Grand Guard traditionally guards the entrance to the venue being used for ceremonial purposes even though there is no secrecy attached to the ceremonies or investitures of the Order.
35. The Grand Master shall, at his pleasure, approve, constitute and consecrate Conclaves of the Order assisted by officers selected and approved by him.
36. Each conclave of the Order shall be ruled by a Commander, who shall hold the grade of at least Knight Commander, who shall hold office during the pleasure of the Grand Master.
37. The Commander of a conclave may appoint the following officers to assist in the ruling of his conclave, such officers to act during his pleasure. However, every appointment is subject to the approval of the Grand Master. Proposed appointments should be sent to the Grand Chancellor for approval by the Grand Master. Officers take precedence as follows:
 1. Deputy Commander
 2. Chaplain
 3. Vice Chancellor
 4. Marshal
 5. Treasurer
 6. Lecturer
 7. Director of Music
 8. Deputy Marshal
 9. Sword Bearer
 10. Banner Bearer
 11. Captain of Guard

38. The Grades of the Order, together with administrative appointments shall rank as follows:

Grand Master and Lord Abbot

Deputy Grand Master

Member of High Council

Grand Prior

Grand Chancellor

Senior Chaplain

Knight or Dame Grand Cross of the Order

Conclave Commander

Knight or Dame Commander of the Order

Chaplain

Knight or Dame of the Order

(The above grades can only be conferred by the Grand Master or his Deputy)

Commander of the Order

Officer of the Order

Assistant Chaplain

Member of the Order

(The above grades can be conferred by the Conclave Commander)

39. In addition to the grades detailed in paragraph 38, suitable young people between the ages of ten and eighteen years may be admitted as junior members.

40. A junior member who has been such for three full years may join the adult Order at age seventeen.

41. No junior member may hold office within the Order.

42. No member may receive the accolade of Knight or Dame until they have attained the age of twenty one years. Similarly no one may be appointed to the grade of Knight Commander until they have attained the age of twenty five years. (This shall not apply where a Peer of the Realm, or foreign equivalent, shall be appointed to an Honorary Grade).

43. The Grand Registrar shall control the junior section of the Order, and shall appoint such officers as may be thought necessary.

44. In addition to the grades detailed in paragraphs 38 and 39, suitable candidates who do not qualify for membership may be admitted as Friends of the Order.

45. An applicant for membership of the Order shall submit his/her application in writing on the prescribed forms to the office of the Grand Chancellor, and such other documentation as may be laid down from time to time.

46. The Grand Master shall consider all such applications for membership and shall award such grade of membership as he feels appropriate, when a certificate of membership shall be prepared by the Grand Herald and presented to the new member at the next possible occasion.

47. Recommendations for promotion within the Order must be made to the Grand Chancellor by the Conclave Commander for consideration by the Grand Master. The Grand Master may, at his pleasure, promote members of the Order, whether or not a recommendation has been made.

48. Admission to the Order may take place within a local conclave for the grades of Member, Officer or Commander where the ceremony should be conducted by the conclave commander. Admissions to the Order above that of Commander may only be conducted by the Grand Master. It is expected that the new member will become a member of a local conclave and a member may belong to more than one conclave; no fees are payable for joining more than one

conclave and if belonging to more than one conclave, a member shall only pay one annual subscription.

49. Membership of the Order shall be open to both men and women who have been baptised or otherwise lawfully admitted into the Christian faith. They must confess a belief in the value of prayer to heal. In order to qualify for the higher grades they must be sufficiently open minded in belief to consider the teachings of the Order, studying the great philosophers and thinkers of all ages in order to gain a greater insight into Faith.

50. Membership of the Order should be a matter of pride, and in order to extend the work of the Order as widely as possible should be publicised whenever and wherever convenient, always being consistent with the dignity and honour conferred by membership.

51. Members may make use of the following prefixes and post-nominals:

Rank	Prefix within the Order only	Prefix within the Order and in Public life	Post-nominal
Grand Master	Most Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
Grand Master Emeritus	Most Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
Deputy Grand Master	Right Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
High Council Member	Right Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
Past Grand Master	Right Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
Senior Chaplain	Right Excellent		S.Ch.S.R.
Knight Grand Cross	Right Excellent	Chevalier	G.C.S.R.
Dame Grand Cross	Right Excellent	Dame	G.C.S.R.
Knight Commander	Excellent	Chevalier	K.C.S.R.
Dame Commander	Excellent	Dame	D.C.S.R.
Chaplain			Ch.S.R.
Knight		Chevalier	K.S.R.
Dame		Dame	D.S.R.
Commander (male)			C.S.R.
Commander (female)			C.S.R.
Officer			O.S.R.
Assistant Chaplain			A.Ch.S.R.
Member			M.S.R.

52. The Order is not an Order of Merit, but a stateless International Order of Chivalry. It exists for the express purpose of healing the sick through the power of prayer and giving spiritual refreshment to those who suffer.

53. Each conclave shall organise its work in the distinct aspects of:

a). healing the sick through prayer

b). teaching members of the Order and the public in general such knowledge as is preserved or discovered from time to time and the thoughts of the great philosophers

c). chivalry

Conclaves may also engage in work of a charitable nature should the members thereof so desire.

54. The Order in general shall support such charities as may be decided by the Grand Council from time to time.

55. Regalia. The regalia of the Order is described hereunder and is obtainable from the Grand Custodian of Insignia.

a). Every member of the Order shall, in addition to other regalia, wear a small wooden cross, supported from a plain black cord, as has been customary among Teutonic Knights from time immemorial. This cross may be worn at any time. It is bestowed on all aspirants at the time of their admission, regardless of rank allotted.

b). Every member of the Order shall be entitled to wear a buttonhole badge or brooch, tie or scarf, or similar item, of design approved by the Grand Chancellor's office, and is encouraged to do so to provide opportunity to discuss the work and merits of the Order.

c). The mantle or church cape may be worn by all those holders of Grades listed as entitled to use post-nominals in paragraph 51. This item is not compulsory, though all members are strongly encouraged to purchase one. Mantles must be worn by those officiating or acting in office at ceremonial meetings of the Order, or taking part in processions of members of the Order.

The mantle is of black gabardine, lined with purple taffeta and a black velvet collar. The neck should be fastened with a gilt chain from two lion-head clasps. On the left breast is the Cross of the Order, the 220mm Maltese Cross being in white, lined with gold. The Potent Cross will be in gold to match the outlining of the Maltese Cross. The mantle should fall to between six and nine inches from the ground.

For ladies the mantle is of black velvet with a hood and arm slits, all lined with purple taffeta, the neck fastened with a gilt chain from two rose clasps. The cross is identical to that for men.

d). At ceremonial meetings of the Order only members wearing a mantle may wear beneath it a white tunic, alb or similar garment. It is preferred, but not essential, that members below the Grade of Knight, together with clerical members, should wear an alb, those of Knight and above to wear a tunic. When a tunic is worn a sword and sword-belt should also be worn. Such alb or tunic, plus sword and sword-belt must be worn by the officiating Commander, Marshal and Deacon and by the Postulants being admitted or received.

However the alb or tunic is never worn if the member is wearing uniform, morning suit, full evening dress or dinner jacket, regardless of office or duties. Ladies may also wear an alb or surplice, or, if preferred a white dress, or white blouse and black or navy skirt. Ladies never wear a sword or sword-belt.

e). Junior members should wear a purple sash, 50mm in width, worn from the left shoulder to the right hip and finished at the hip with a purple fringe (boys) or purple bow (girls).

f). Members (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon on the left breast. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions, and may be mounted on a bar with other decorations.

g). Members (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon on the left breast.

h). Officers (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a silver basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast. A

miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

i). Officers (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a silver basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast.

j). Assistant Chaplains should wear the breast medal and ribbon as for Officers (male). A cope, tippet or stole may be decorated with the badge of the Order.

k). Commanders (male) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt metal button rosette in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

l). Commanders (female) should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt basket weave button rosette in the centre of the ribbon on the left breast.

m). Knights should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple collarette. A silver plated breast star may also be worn showing the badge of the Order with a white Maltese Cross and gilt Potent Cross. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette with silver flashes in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

n). Dames should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple bow.

o). Chaplains should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a collarette or bow depending on whether male or female, as for Knights and Dames. A breast star may also be worn as for Knights. A cope, tippet or stole may be decorated with the badge of the Order.

p). Knight Commanders should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple collarette with silver Russia braid to both edges of the ribbon. A silver plated breast star may also be worn, as for a Knight. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a silver metal button rosette with a silver and gilt flash in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

q). Dame Commanders should wear the medal of the Order suspended from a 32mm wide purple bow with a silver metal button rosette with a silver and gilt flash on the centre of the bow.

r). Knights Grand Cross should wear a 100mm wide purple cordon (sash) with bow; 100mm gold bullion fringe; the medal of the Order suspended from the bow worn from right shoulder to left hip. A gilt breast star may also be worn showing the badge of the Order with a white Maltese Cross and gilt Potent Cross. A miniature of the medal suspended from a 16mm wide purple ribbon with a gilt metal button rosette with gilt flashes in the centre of the ribbon may be worn on appropriate occasions.

s). Dames Grand Cross should wear a 100mm wide purple cordon (sash) with bow; 100mm gold bullion fringe; the medal of the Order suspended from the bow worn from right shoulder to left hip.

56. Chains and Collars. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master, Grand Master Emeritus, Grand Prior and Grand Chancellor may wear a chain of office, each of specific design. A Commander of a Conclave may, in his Conclave, wear a purple collar, which may be decorated with a silver chain.

57. Batons. The Grand Master, Deputy Grand Master and Grand Chancellor may carry a baton, each of specific design, in which case no sword is worn.
58. The Vice Chancellor of each Conclave shall send to the Grand Chancellor a copy of the notice of every intended meeting of his Conclave, and, following the meeting, a report of the proceedings.
59. Vice Chancellors will keep records of the meetings and proceedings of his Conclave, as well as details of the membership.
60. Vice Chancellors will send an annual report on the proceedings of his Conclave which shall be considered at the meeting of Grand Council.
61. Each year the Vice Chancellor will send a list of current members of his Conclave to the Grand Chancellor and the fees due to the Grand Treasurer.
62. The fee for the registration of a new candidate for the Order shall be such amount as shall be decided by Grand Council from time to time and shall be sent to the Grand Chancellor with the application details.
63. Every member of the Order shall pay an annual oblation, the amount shall be decided by Grand Council from time to time and this amount shall be included by the Conclave Vice Chancellor in his/her annual return. Life Members do not pay any annual oblation. The annual oblation is paid only once regardless of the number of Conclaves to which a Member belongs.
64. The date when annual fees become due to Grand Council is 1st June in each year.
65. Members of all Grades are especially reminded that the Order exists to the Greater Glory of God and to work in those aspects detailed in paragraphs 52 and 53. At all times they should conduct themselves in a manner consistent with membership of a Religious and Chivalric Order.
66. The Grand Master may, at his discretion, admit to Honorary Membership any person who he deems as being worthy of association with our Order, due to their position in life and society, or to their office in other Chivalric Orders, granting them such grade as he feels appropriate. Such Honorary Members shall not be charged any fees. However, they may elect to be treated as full subscribing members, should they so prefer.
67. Any matter not covered by these Constitutions or which requires explanation shall be referred to the Grand Chancellor. The decision of the Grand Master and his High Council in such matters shall be final.

These revised Statutes and Constitution were prepared at the Office of the Grand Chancellor,
R.E. Chevalier Barry Uttley, GCSR., GCSM. 1st October 2008

And Approved by the Grand Master, M.E. Chevalier Howard Doe, GCSR., GCSM. 14TH October 2008.