

Calling all Master Masons

If you, or any of your Brethren who are Master Masons are not already members of the Mark Degree why not consider becoming one? A prospective candidate must have been a Master Mason for at least four weeks.

The Mark Degree is administered under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and its Districts and Lodges Overseas. A Mark Provincial Grand Master, his Deputy and Provincial Executive are responsible for the Mark Lodges in their Province.

The Mark Degree is now the third largest in English Masonry, and enjoys good working relations with the Craft and Royal Arch. Just as in olden times the Mark should be viewed as an essential step in a Freemason's progression.

There are sixteen Mark Lodges in this Province.

You can get in touch with the Mark Provincial Grand Secretary or the secretary of your local Mark Lodge whose details you'll find listed in the Provincial Year Book and Directory.

Why not have a look at our Provincial website for more details at
www.leicsrutlandmarkmasons.org



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Provincial Grand Master
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The Provincial Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons of Leicestershire & Rutland

Are you a Master Mason?

Are you looking to take the fourth
regular step?

If you are, join the Mark Degree and enjoy
the warmth of our friendship as you
progress on your Masonic journey

The Degree of Mark Master Mason

The ceremony of admission is called 'advancement' and deals with the building of King Solomon's Temple, and chronologically follows that of Fellow Craft. It is one of the oldest and most fascinating degrees in Freemasonry and actually comprises two degrees. Firstly the candidate is acknowledged as a Mark Man and immediately thereafter advanced as a Mark Master Mason in the same ceremony.

As speculative Mark Masons, our lively and enjoyable ceremony of today is known to be well over 200 years old and in those olden days the degree was conferred in Craft Lodges or within Royal Arch Chapters up until the formation of the United Grand Lodge of England in 1813. In time an independent Grand Lodge of Mark Master Masons came into being in 1856.

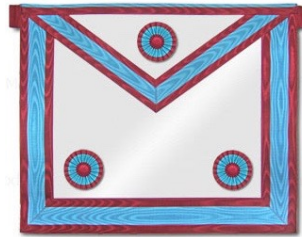
The Mark Degree is centred on the ancient practices of operative stonemasons who in preparing stones for the construction of buildings, marked each stone with their own unique mark to identify their work and entitlement to wages. From this we are taught order, regularity, diligence and discipline; and like the Fellow Craft Degree in the Craft, it is less concerned with the past and future, but more with the here and now of our present life and a contemplation of human strength and weakness, and

affirms that no man is beyond redemption, with the possibility of distinction always within our grasp.

The symbol of the degree is a keystone on which are engraved certain mystic letters, the meaning of which is revealed during the ceremony.

Mark Regalia

The regalia comprises an apron which features a border of light blue with crimson edges and three similarly coloured rosettes. Masters and Past Masters exchange the rosettes for silver levels as in the Craft.



The breast jewel is a keystone suspended from a light blue coloured ribbon edged in crimson.



Our Mark Provincial Grand Lodge

The Mark Province of Leicestershire & Rutland (which originally up until 1894 also incorporated Northamptonshire and Derbyshire) was constituted under the authority of the Grand Lodge of Mark Masters in 1858 and is one of the earliest on the roll of Mark Grand Lodge.

The first two Mark Lodges in the Province were consecrated in 1858 and one other has Time Immemorial status.

In total there are sixteen Mark Lodges that meet across the Province in Leicester, Loughborough, Hinckley, Coalville, Syston, Melton Mowbray, Lutterworth, Market Harborough, Uppingham and Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

The Province is led by a Provincial Grand Master and his Deputy, who are supported by a Provincial team of a Treasurer, Secretary and Director of Ceremonies.

The Mark Degree also has its own Charity - the Mark Benevolent Fund - and this has been very successful in raising money for a number of good causes nationally. Locally the Leicestershire and Rutland Mark Benevolent Fund and the Provincial Grand Master's Discretionary Fund also give money to many local charities and supports members and their families and can respond rapidly to requests for help.