

The Message of the Bells

THE MESSAGE OF THE BELLS



An installation ceremony. Have the Chapter room redecorated with large bells if possible and a bell the color of the Star point extended over each Star point pedestal. A light may be concealed in the bell and turned on as the verses are given. The Installing Marshal standing at her station says:

Ever since the 6th century when bells were invented they have been used on many occasions. They were first used to summon folks to worship, to call them to Church; and then they were used to call the people of the countryside together to tell them the news; the news of birth, of death, of fire, of war, of destruction. Later they rang out to tell of gayety and happiness, the wedding bells, the tinkling sleigh bells and the patriotic bells rang out to stir hearts with a desire for liberty and freedom. The tolling bells told of sorrow and grief.

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(Quiet Christmas music.) At this season of the year glad Christmas bells ring out bringing their message of Peace on Earth, Good will toward men. Tonight the bells of.....Chapter are ringing out, ringing out the old year and ringing in the new. We have been led here by the light of the Star in the East. Let us carry home in our hearts the message of the bells.

(The lights are dimmed, a spot light may be turned on the bells.)

(The newly installed Star points may give the message or one of the Installing Marshals; soft music continues. The Christmas carols played as chimes would be very effective.)

The blue bell rings out for courage,
This blue of sky and sea,
The blue of tiny shy flowers
Which teach fidelity.
Be clothed in this difficult color of blue
And faithfulness will ever abide in you.

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The yellow tells of constancy,
This yellow gorgeous, gay
It points to honor and justice,
Not always an easy way.
Be clothed in this creative color so
bright,
Contentment of service will fill your life.

The white rings out for loyalty
This white so clean and pure,
Crystallization of all colors
It will for aye endure.
Be clothed in this joyous color of white,
And peace of heart will comfort you
to-night.

The green tells of Immortality,
This green of grass and tree
Sends rays of hope to travelers,
A guide for you and me.
Be clothed in the green of all nature's
dress,
And inherit God's Kingdom of Right-
eousness.

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The warm red bell rings out for love,
And tells of fervency,
It drives out fear and hate and doubt,
Brings a glow to you and me.
Be clothed in this healing color of red,
And it's warmth like fire about you
will spread.

Favorite music may be sung or "Sabbath Chimes" may be played before the Installing Marshal concludes.

You've heard the chiming of the bells,
Colored bells.
What a wealth of teachings their harmony foretells.
Through the years of life ahead,
May their golden notes be spread
Till the echo call resound,
From all folks the world around.
And all members of our Star
Come to worship from afar.