

From the desk of the Grand Master

M ∴W ∴William M. Sardone wsardone@att.net

May 14, 2021

My Brothers,

"Anyone who is fully vaccinated can participate in indoor and outdoor activities, large or small, without wearing a mask or physical distancing," Those are the words from the CDC, and like everything we have done, we follow the Health Guidelines and the Authority's Guidelines.

You have been very patient with how we navigate the Pandemic Issues. While there are still some restrictions, we can take advantage of this announcement and make some changes.

As of this letter we will go back to the "normal" ritual for our degrees. As a result of our Grand Lodge Membership Program and your efforts there are more members waiting to join now more than ever. So, start your degree engines.

We are able to set a tentative date for a FULL Grand Lodge Session. October 23, 2021 to be held in Utica, NY at the Masonic Care Community. This will give Lodge's time for their elections, installations, planning, etc. The Deputy Grand Master has indicated the October timeframe to his new District Deputy Grand Masters and Staff Officers in their training session. This date has been presented to the Board of Past Grand Masters. More information will be sent. We anticipate the gathering number will increase allowing for a FULL session at that time. I am waiting for more collation guidelines as well.

Regarding Lodge meetings, it will be up to the Master's to determine who is vaccinated and who is not. I am not opposed to those who continue wearing a Mask. If there are additional local guidelines for your area, you will need to adhere to them.

The Grand Secretary has sent out all information pertaining to our recent Grand Lodge Session May 3, 2021. We met our Constitutional requirements. The Grand Secretary had reports available for all to review prior to the meeting.

My thanks to the Masonic Hall and Home Trustees for transforming Masonic Care New Rochelle into an exquisite Lodge Room. The furniture was repurposed from Poughkeepsie Lodge. I am looking for pews or benches. Take a look at NYMASONS.ORG for a brief view of this Lodge Room. A Lodge Room that your lodge can use, move to, or have a special event. Just let me know!

If you have questions, please feel to email me. I will answer them. Again, thank you for your patience and ensuring that Masonry Never Stops.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

