



# The Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon

Most Worthy Grand Master, Sir Melbyn of Wud Plumpton

Most Eminent Grand Prior, Sir Philip of Hamilton, KH



## The Office of the Grand Secretary

Right Worthy Knight, Sir Derek of Anfield, P.G.Prec.[CAng]

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Date: 23 June 2023

Dear Sir Knight,

### The Canterbury Pilgrimage – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023

I write to confirm the details for our annual pilgrimage to Canterbury Cathedral.

Our annual service for this year, 2023, will be held in **Canterbury Cathedral**, as usual, commencing at **14:00 pm**, on **Saturday 16th September 2023** (3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in September).

Members of the Order and guests should assemble outside of the Cathedral's main gate, as a group. The group will then be conducted to the chapel at **13:45 pm**.

The dress code for gentlemen is Jacket and Collar and Tie, Ladies dress accordingly. Swords and any other regalia of the Order are NOT worn, although members are encouraged to wear the Tie of the Order as an aid to identification at the Cathedral Gates where the Cathedral Authorities waive the entrance fee for us and our guests.

As with last year we have been unable to secure anywhere that would host a pre-service buffet for us. This should not preclude Knights from making their own arrangements for refreshment within the town centre, with their travelling companions and we will all be easily identifiable wearing our tie of the Order. As a suggestion, we have used the Drapers Arms, 1 – 2, Sun Street, Canterbury CT1 2HX ([Drapers Arms Canterbury](#)), and met in [The Thomas Ingoldsby](#) (Wetherspoon Pub - 5–9 Burgate Canterbury, CT1 2HG) in the past, although there are many other good hostelries to choose from.

With regard to car parking, there is NO parking available on site within in the Cathedral Precincts. There are, however, many car parks within the surrounding area and a Park and Ride Service is also available. For those choosing to travel by rail or coach, both the railway station and coach station are within a comfortable walking distance from the Cathedral.

For those of you who have not attended before, it is a wonderful occasion and something not to be missed. As noted in our Book of Constitutions (6.1.7), all attendees are eligible to wear the Pilgrimage Chough on the right shoulder of the mantle (similar in design to the graphic on the right hand side at the top of this communication), for which there is a small charge of £10. I will ensure that the badges are available for you on the day, payment will be by cash.

I would be most grateful if you would **confirm with me, preferably by via e-mail** (all details are at the head of this letter), as to your intention to attend and whether you will require to purchase the cloth Chough Badge. **It would be most helpful if you would respond by 19<sup>th</sup> August at the very latest**, so that we can ensure that sufficient Chough Badges are available and, of course, give the

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Cathedral some indication of expected numbers. There is a form for completion and return at the end of this letter.

The Most Worthy Grand Master, Sir Melvyn of Wood Plumpton, the Most Eminent Grand Prior, Sir Philip of Hamilton, KH, Rev. William Whitfield of Marchwood, Protector of Canterbury, and, of course, myself, look forward to welcoming you at the Service.

With warmest regards and in Humilitas et Caritas,



Sir Derek of Anfield, PRWGPrec [EAng]  
Grand Secretary,  
The Commemorative Order of St Thomas of Acon

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#### ATTENDANCE CONFIRMATION & ORDER FORM

First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Surname:	<input type="text"/>
Nomen:	Sir <input type="text"/>	of	<input type="text"/>
Rank (Grand/Prov/KC/KH):	<input type="text"/>	Province:	<input type="text"/>
Chapel Name:	<input type="text"/>	Chapel No.	<input type="text"/>
Chough Badge Required: (Click to tick the box if required)	At a cost of £10 on the day (Cash Only)		
Additional Guest N <sup>o</sup> 's:	<input type="text"/>		
Email:	<input type="text"/>		
Tel (mobile best):	<input type="text"/>		