

# Grand Royal Arch Chapter OF MASSACHUSETTS

INCORPORATED  
ORGANIZED MARCH 13, 1798

Grand York Rite Office: 186 Tremont Street • Room 405 • Boston, MA 02111-1014  
R. E. Grand Secretary, Robert C. Corr • yorkriteboston@gmail.com  
www.gracma.org  
(617) 426-1973

## Affirmation Day 2017

Affirmation Day is observed in different ways, according to local Chapter traditions. The most common form of observance is a Sunday service at a house of worship. Each Chapter or district is urged to follow their local traditions for a successful and meaningful observance of Affirmation Day.

Here are Grand Chapter's overall guidelines for Affirmation Day 2017

- Affirmation Day service may be held on any of the following Sundays: October 22, October 29, November 5 or November 12
- Observing local tradition, service may be held as a Masonic Church Service or in a Lodge building – or whatever other appropriate observance conforms with local tradition
- If service is held at church, the Grand High Priest has granted permission for aprons and collars to be worn
- If service is held at church, the DDGHP, High Priest or other spokesman should say a few words to the congregation about who we are, what we do and that Affirmation Day is the day we reaffirm our sworn oaths and obligations.
- Where appropriate, Blue Lodge, Council and Commandery may be invited. This can bring out more attendees and might get some Blue Lodge members interested in Chapter.
- Per the Grand High Priest, District Deputy Grand Masters, Grand Council Arch officers and Commandery Division Commanders may wear their own regalia. If the observance is to be held in a church and Commandery is to provide an escort, please check with the pastor to see if the church has a problem with swords being worn into their sanctuary.
- Affirmation Day may be held as a district event or held by individual chapters, as local tradition and geography permits.
- Each DDGHP should send a report to the Grand High Priest no later than November 17, 2017

For maximum benefit, Chapters and districts might consider the following:

- Encourage the DD's to promote this on Masonic social media to reach the widest number of Masons possible.
- Send someone to each Blue Lodge in the district to announce the Affirmation Day service and invite members to attend.
- Possibly arrange media coverage following the event. The pageantry and regalia make for excellent news photos.

If you would like to discuss your district or Chapter's Affirmation Day program, feel free to contact the Grand Scribe, Rt. Ex. Robert Fellows, via [info@masonicangelfund.org](mailto:info@masonicangelfund.org)