



Provincial Grand Chapter of Warwickshire

The Ephod



The Ephod is mentioned in the scripture readings prior to the Installation of Joshua: “and he put the Ephod upon him, and girded him with the curious girdle of the Ephod, And bound it onto him therewith” Book of Leviticus viii v7.

The Ephod was worn by the Hebrew High Priests and is described in the early books of the Bible. A passage in the book of Exodus describes it as an elaborate garment worn by the high priest upon which the breastplate containing the Urim and Thummim (pronounced: you-rim & thumb-mim) is worn. By all accounts the Ephod was made of fine linen woven from pure gold, blue, purple and scarlet threads (familiar colours also used in the Royal Arch) and further embroidered in gold. It was held together by a girdle about the waist and had two shoulder straps, fastened to the Ephod with golden rings, to which the breastplate was attached with gold chains.

It would be a garment like an overall or tabard (See illustration above). Two precious stones of Malachite or Onyx were fixed at each shoulder, upon which were engraved the names of the twelve tribes of the Children of Israel.

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