

# RANKS, TITLES, HONORIFICS

This free download takes a brief look at correct formal terms of address when speaking to members of the Church or a Sacer Ordo.

It is perfectly acceptable to use a superior's military or church title by itself or by adding his surname, such as in answering a question ("Yes, Field Master," or, "No, Cardinal Davis").

When talking to a social inferior or equal, you can generally get away with first names only. Cardinals don't go around calling each other Your Excellency, for instance. Only the Pope has no equals or superiors.

## CHURCH, ADMINISTRATIVE

Archdeacons and deans use the honorific address, "Monsignor." They are introduced as The Reverend <full name>, <title> of <Curial office>.

Secretaries are introduced as <Secretarial rank> <full name> of the <Curial office>. They are addressed either as "<Secretarial rank> <surname>" or simply by their rank.

Primicerii are introduced as Primicerius <full name> of the <Curial office>. They are addressed as "Primicerius <surname>" or "My Lord Primicerius."

Cardinals are introduced in a rather more formal fashion. The full and proper usage is His Eminence, Cardinal <surname> of the <Curial office>. The correct term of address is "Your Eminence." Less formally, they may be referred to as, "Cardinal <surname>."

Nuncios receive the formal introduction of Envoy of His Holiness the Pope, Nuncio <full name>. They are addressed as, "Nuncio," or more formally, "My Lord Nuncio." Aides are simply referred to "Monsignor" and formally introduced as Nuncio-Monsignor <last name>.

## CHURCH, ECCLESIASTIC

Priests are introduced as Father <full name>, and formally addressed as, "Your Reverence." Most parishioners simply use Father, followed by the priest's first name, such as Father Michael.

Archpriests are addressed as regular priests, but introduced as Archpriest, Father <full name>.

Archdeacons and deacons are referred to as, "Lord Reverend" or "Your Lordship," in honor of their position. They are introduced as The Reverend Father <full name>, <title> of <cathedral>.

Bishops are introduced as The Most Revered <full given name>, the Bishop of <bishopric> and addressed as, "My Lord Bishop" or, "My Lord."

Archbishops are introduced in the same manner as bishops, though with the title archbishop. They are addressed as, "Your Excellency."

The Pope is always addressed as, "Your Holiness," and introduced simply as His Holiness, Pope <name> or His Holiness, the Pope.

## CHURCH, MONASTIC

Monks and nuns carry the titles "Brother" and "Sister" respectively and are introduced as Brother or Sister <first name>. Outside their monastery, the suffix of the monastery/convent of <name> is added.

Father and mother superiors are introduced as the Reverend <given name>, Father/Mother Superior of the monastery/convent of <name>. They are referred to when speaking to them simply as, "Reverend Father/Mother."

Abbots and abbesses are introduced as The Very Reverend Abbot/Abbess <given name> of the abbey of <name>. They are addressed as, "My Lord Abbot" or, "My Lady Abbess."

# NECROPOLIS 2350

## SACRI ORDINES

Sacer Ordo titles shown here are the basic versions. Chaplains and Knight below Preceptor Master can add their Battle name, Squadron name, Banner letter, and Lance number to their formal introduction, though such would only normally be done when meeting a true notable, such as one of the four leaders of the Knight's Ordo or the Pope.

Chaplains are formally introduced Padre<full name>, Chaplain of the <Ordo> and addressed as "Padre."

Knights are formally introduced as Sir or Lady <first name>, <honorific> Knight <specialty> of the <Ordo>, such as, "Sir Henry, Seraphim Knight Artillerist of the Ordo Lazarus Sanctus." When addressed, the correct form is, "Sir," regardless of sex. The surname by itself is only used by social equals or superiors, and even then usually only when giving orders. Senior Knights insert <honorific> Senior Knight after their name.

Knight Commanders are introduced as Lord or Lady <full name>, <honorific> Knight Commander of the <Ordo>. Such Knights are addressed as, "My Lord" or "My Lady."

Certain specialists within a Preceptory hold unique titles all suffixed by the word Preceptor. For instance, the head of the Preceptory's civilian population is the Preceptor Estate Manager, while the head of the administration is the Preceptor Administrator. While accorded the same respect as a Knight Commander, they are very rarely of this rank.

These individuals are introduced as <honorific> Preceptor <occupation> <full name> of the <Ordo>. When addressed, the correct form is "My Lord/Lady Preceptor," except for the Preceptor Chaplain, who is addressed as, "My Lord Chaplain."

Preceptor Masters are introduced as Lord or Lady <full name> of the <Ordo>, <honorific> Preceptor Master of <Preceptory>. Such nobles are addressed as, "My Lord/Lady Knight."

Field Masters are introduced as His or Her Grace <full name> of the <Ordo>, <honorific> Field Master of the Commanderie of <name>. They are addressed as, "Your Grace."

The four commanding officers of each Ordo are addressed as, "Your Excellency." When introduced, they take the title, His or Her Excellency, <position> <full name> of the <Ordo name>.

For instance, Sandra O'Flaherty would be introduced as, "Her Excellency, Grand Master Sandra O'Flaherty of the Ordo Lazarus Sanctus."

## PAPAL RECOGNITION

Ranks within the Sacri Ordines are few and they are very hard to achieve. Most Knights never reach the rank of Senior Knight, despite decades of service. Medals and decorations are unknown, for the Church believes that offering material rewards for doing one's duty leads to pride and envy, as well as reckless behavior. The first two are sins, while the second is just foolhardy.

However, the Pope has accepted that Knights who serve the Church in battle for long periods of time deserve more recognition. As a result of the Pope's enlightenment, a new naming convention is introduced in 2351. It is also a great public relations exercise, as everyone loves a hero.

More importantly, from a Church perspective, Knights earn these titles through continued duty and obedience, as well as living longer, not by taking unnecessary risks. As such, the new titles only represent experience, not command responsibilities or heroic actions.

Player character Knights who reach the character Rank of Veteran receive the honorific "Throne" in front of their regular title. Those who become Heroic are honored with the title "Cherubim." Readers should note that true cherubim are not the winged, pudgy-faced children of the Victorian imagination, but rather more awe-inspiring creatures. Legendary characters carry the title "Seraphim."

Thus, a hero may be a Seraphim Senior Knight, Cherubim Knight Scout, or Throne Knight Combat Engineer.

For NPCs, the WM should use the honorifics as he sees fit based on the needs of his game. In general, the higher the honorific, the better skilled the Knight should be.

Typically, up the Knight's important skills by one die type if he is a Throne Knight, two die types if a Cherubim Knight, and three steps for a Throne Knight. If the die increases above a d12, add the Professional or Expert Edge as applicable. Skills cannot rise above a d12+2. Instead, the Knight gains the Master Edge.