



The Rite Light



VALLEY OF ALBANY

ANCIENT ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, N.M.J., U.S.A.

Vol. XXI

Spring, 2001

No. 4



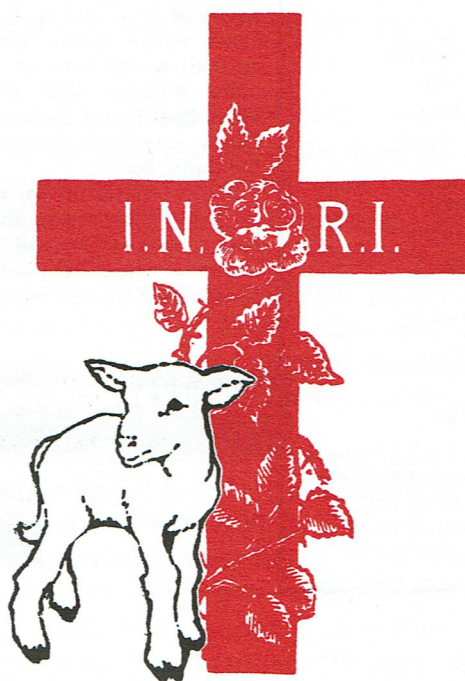
TO ALL KNIGHTS ROSE CROIX



VALLEY OF ALBANY

*Solemn Ceremony
of*

The Feast of the Paschal Lamb



ALBANY

The Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix
will present, in public, a
symbolic celebration of the
Feast of the Paschal Lamb
on Palm Sunday, April 8, 2001

Scottish Rite Hall

Albany Masonic Temple

at 4:30 PM

Roast Beef Dinner (\$8.00) To Follow

Call 434-8970 For Reservations



Allegiance

The Bodies of Scottish Rite, sitting in the Valley of Albany, State of New York acknowledge and yield allegiance to thy Supreme Council, 33° Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States of America, and whose Officers are:



Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°
Sovereign Grand
Commander



Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°
Deputy for the
State of New York



Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33°
Active for Area 4

Ill. Robert O. Ralston, 33°

Sovereign Grand Commander

Ill. Lawrence D. Inglis, 33°

Grand Lieutenant Commander

Ill. Robert W. Clarke, 33°

Grand Minister of State

Ill. Harold L. Aldrich, 33°

Deputy for the State of New York

Ill. Bruce W. Widger, 33°

Active Member and Past Deputy

Active Members for New York

Ill. Richard H. Welkley, 33° (1991)

Ill. Douglas K. Wilson, 33° (1995)

Ill. Gary A. Henningsen, Sr., 33° (1998)

Active Emeriti Members

Ill. John H. Van Gorden, 33° (1974)

Ill. Ralph M. Tompkins, 33° (1981)

Ill. James F. Niehoff, 33° (1991)

Ill. Carlton A. Winchester, 33° (1992)

Ill. Harold F. Dates, 33° (1995)

Deputy's Representative

Ill. Alan C. Lewis, 33°

The RITE LIGHT is published quarterly by Scottish Rite Bodies, Valley of Albany, 67 Corning Place, Albany, NY 12207-1904.

Richard G. Barrell, 33°, Editor, 869-0684 or 434-8970; Russell J. LaGrange, Jr., MSA, Assistant Editor 438-7128 or 457-6166.

The Easter Story



Easter is the most important day of the Christian year. It celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus. On Easter morning, according to the Gospel of St. Luke, Mary Magdalen and some companions visited the cave where He had been buried. To their astonishment, they found the tomb empty. An angel appeared and told them that Jesus had risen.

In the following days, Jesus appeared several times to His disciples, who began to understand that His miraculous victory over death offered the promise of rebirth for everyone who believed in Him.

In the 8th century the Venerable Bede suggested that the word "Easter" may have come from Eostre, the Angle-Saxon name of a

Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility. Her symbol was a hare, which may explain the custom of the Easter rabbit.

Easter eggs are thought to have originated because eggs were a symbol of rebirth. The tradition of coloring them probably began with medieval travelers to Egypt and Persia where people colored eggs for their spring festivals.

The National Live Stock and Meat Board says having ham for Easter may have started up near the Baltic Sea.

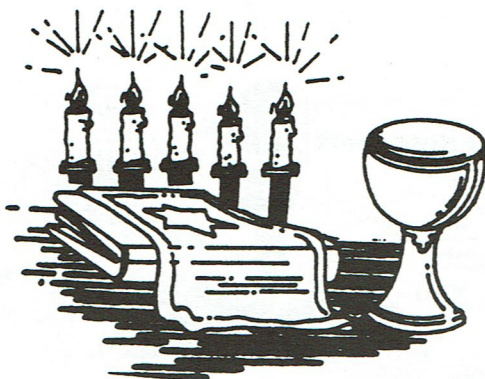
Before winter set in, meat was buried in the sandy shore. The cold ground and sea salt preserved the meat, which was later dug up to celebrate the coming of Spring.



Lamb of God

CANDIDATES ARE EVERYWHERE -

JUST ASK



from the...

Commander-In-Chief

Hello, again, Sublime Princes:

A year ago, your Commander-In-Chief gave hope that everyone was hale and hearty. And so, too, this continues this year as well.

We can report our Scottish Rite in the Valleys of Albany and Troy is alive and well. However, we could have better attendance at our meetings and programs. In this regard, look at your blue program schedule card, listing the various events coming up. These programs may not be perfect, but we try hard to make them interesting.

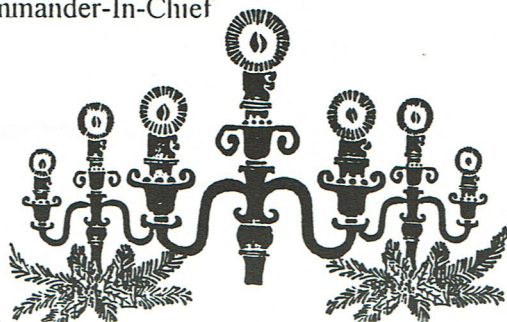
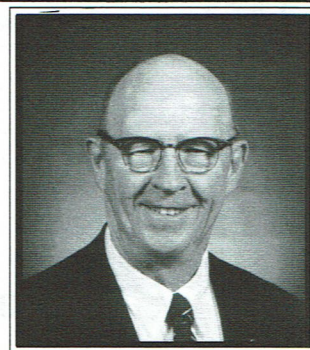
Do not forget April 21, when our Spring Reunion is scheduled to take place. Following the reunion, Cyprus Temple of Albany will conduct their Ceremonial for new candidates. Those wishing to join both the Valley of Albany Scottish Rite and the Cyprus Shrine may do so by completing the petitions found elsewhere in this issue of the Rite Light. Valley of Troy candidates should request petitions from the Secretary. Help get new members, help put on the degrees, and help fill the sidelines to make for a full lodge room.

We are happy to report that our Learning Center for Children is progressing. Albeit rather slowly. Latest information says that the drawings are completed and will be submitted to the Brothers of Van Rensselaer Lodge No. 87, East Greenbush, for approval. A new building, adequate parking, easily accessible from the Capital District, appears to be a win/win situation to this writer. Your contributions to this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated. Please mail your check (payable to the 32* Masonic Learning Centers for Children) to P. Michael Nielsen, 570 Kiantone Road, Jamestown NY 14701-9334, noting that it is to be earmarked for the Valley of Albany Center.

Brother Norman A Jacobsen from Florida sent me a copy of a Scottish Rite Southern Jurisdiction journal, which featured on the front cover a photo of Brother Michael A Richards. Who is he? Well, he is a member of the Valley of Los Angeles, holds the title of Knight Commander of the Court of Honour, and is very active in the Valley. His profession - actor. Stage name - Kramer (of the Seinfeld TV Series). The article says that Brother Richards is nothing like Kramer, but is very serious about his Masonic affiliation. Who was his mentor? None other than Ill. Red Skelton, 33*. Small world, isn't it?

Now, your Commander-In-Chief bids you so long, as this will be my last message for the Rite Light. May 21, 2001 will be election and installation of officers. So come and welcome your new CIC and his Brothers next in line. Thank you for the privilege and the honor of being your Commander-In-Chief the past two years.

Lewis O Slocum
Commander-In-Chief





Greetings from the... Thrice Potent Master

Dear Respectable Brethren:

Greetings! Now is the time to get those petitions in for our next Scottish Rite Reunion, April 21st. Not only do we need candidates, but this is an opportunity for the busy Brother to take advantage of this year's Jubilee, which will hold both the reunion and Cyprus Shrine ceremonial on the same day. Petitions for Scottish Rite and Shrine may be found elsewhere in this issue of the Rite Light.

For the information of the Brethren, your Lodge of Perfection Officers are trying their best to improve on our 14th degree. Each and every Officer in our Line will have a part in the Degree. We have had two rehearsals already, and will be having two more. I can promise you, it will be a good degree. Please plan to attend the Reunion, bring some candidates, and enjoy the day!

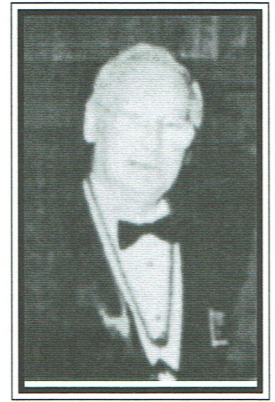
By the time you read this, we will have only one more meeting for this term. Our last meeting will be April 12th, and Dr Ward Stone of the Wildlife Pathology Division of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, will give a most timely presentation. His subject? The West Nile Virus! With the coming of Spring and Summer, this talk should be most informative. The talk will be open to the Ladies, and refreshments will be served afterwards. I encourage you to plan on attending.

Lastly, as this will be my last message for the Rite Light, I want to express my sincere gratitude for you allowing me the opportunity to serve as your Thrice Potent Master this past year.

William M Korn
Thrice Potent Master



Inspiring Thoughts from the Sovereign Prince Delta Council of Princes of Jerusalem



I recently finished redoing a room at home, and if I may say so (with my spouse's approval), it doesn't look too bad!

When I first looked at this project, it seemed to me to be impossible to accomplish. What with removing wallpaper, patching, sanding, washing and lastly, painting (and don't forget moving furniture around), it appeared overwhelming. After all, I am just an amateur. However, the strategy applied was to do a little at a time. Just pick at it. What I thought was to be a monstrous task turned out to be a "pussy cat" job.

Right about now you are saying "what has this got to do with Scottish Rite Masonry?" Here is the relationship - **Membership!** Let me explain. The subject of membership for a long duration has been a substantial problem for all bodies. It, like the renovation of a room, looks like an horrendous task - that of attaining new members. A no-light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel project. Hence, we back off, and become dependent upon the Membership Committee or someone else to do everything, resulting in a loss for all. You, as individuals, believe it or not, are part of that committee. You should press on continually, one step at a time, searching out and finding at least one good candidate to fill the void, either for a symbolic lodge, or your Scottish Rite. The idea is the same as painting that room. We do it a little at a time, by picking at it as a team, and before you realize it our fraternity will flourish. With a positive attitude and determination, it can be accomplished.

We do not require experienced persons - just dedication. Remember, **amateurs built the Ark; professionals built the Titanic.** Just do it!

Robert R Roseberger
Sovereign Prince
Valley of Troy



A Few Words from The Sovereign Prince



Valiant Princes:

Aside from facing the ongoing challenges of attracting new candidates to our Scottish Rite Brotherhood, it can become frustrating to the officers when less than two percent of the members show up for stated meetings. To be sure, there are those living far away, or because of poor health, work, or family concerns, do not fall within the length of their cabltow.

It cannot be overemphasized that every member of the Valley of Albany is just as important as the other. Your continued membership in good standing makes it possible for Scottish Rite to carry on its schizophrenia research, provide scholarships to qualified college students, to keep the doors open to our Museum of Our National Heritage and Library, and care for children with dyslexia in our Children's Learning Centers.

Nonetheless, your attendance at our meetings is also important. Your officers labor diligently providing interesting and informative programs that merit your support. It certainly would be heartwarming if you would join us for at least one meeting this year.

Helping others who need help makes one proud to be a 32nd degree Mason. Also, by belonging to Scottish Rite, your circle of friends whom you might otherwise not meet, is enlarged threefold.

Our February 22 meeting featured a slide presentation of the reconstruction of a bateau (a small flat-bottomed boat with raked bow and stern and flaring sides) which was the principal mode of transportation of perishable goods and supplies from northern New York State, thru Lake Champlain, along the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, and points West (before the Erie Canal). This boat was the "pickup truck" of the 18th century.

Please make note of the Spring Reunion & Shrine Ceremonial, Saturday, April 21, 2001. Candidates are everywhere - just ask. Petitions can be found elsewhere in this issue of the Rite Light.

William F Okesson Jr
Sovereign Prince

Remember, Get a Petition. . .NOW!

Message from...
the Most Wise Master



Perfect Knights: I sincerely encourage your attendance at the *Solemn Ceremony of the Feast of the Paschal Lamb*, Palm Sunday, April 8, 2001, at the Scottish Rite Hall, Albany Masonic Temple, 67 Corning Place (behind City Hall), at 4:30 PM. Our guest speaker this year will be Rev and Perfect Knight Walter A Collins. A roast beef dinner (\$8.00 per person) will follow in the Banquet Hall. Everyone is invited to come.

Our Albany Sovereign Chapter of Rose Croix looks forward to presenting this program for you. The ceremony commemorates both the Jewish Feast of Passover and the Christian institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

It is at this feast when our Mystic Memorial Roll is read, specifically recalling those Brother Knights who have been called to the Celestial Chapter above in the last year, but also, remembering all of our Brothers who have gone this way before us. It is a moving public ceremony held but once a year and at which time a fine turnout of Perfect knights, their families, and friends, is earnestly desired.

There is one other date I would appreciate you reserving, and participating in: Saturday, April 21st, our Spring Reunion, which, incidently, will be a joint effort with Cyprus Shriners Ceremonial. Our Albany and Troy Valleys will be conferring a number of degrees, some of which (the 6th and 26th) are not often witnessed.

We always welcome help in degree work! If any of you have the time and/or interest, your presence just to support those who do work as hard as they do to put on the degrees is always appreciated.

Another inovation at this reunion will be in the presentation of the 14th degree. Most all of the parts will be performed by the current elected and appointed Lodge of Perfection Officers. It should be a definite winner.

I will close by thanking each of you for the help, aid, assistance, and support you have given not only to me so far this year, but to all of our presiding officers and their repective bodies. It certainly is a big plus factor, and allows us to try to give you our best in return.

Russell J LaGrange Jr
Most Wise Master

In Memoriam

*"The clock of life is wound but once To say just when the hands will stop— Now is the only time we have, Place no faith in tomorrow for
 And no man has the power At late or early hour. Live, love, work and with a will The clock may then be still."*

PERFECT KNIGHTS

Andrew Maurice Anderson
 George Aronson
 LeRoy William Bagley
 Joseph A Bastos
 Lester Jones Blankley
 James Halstead Burnett
 Nicholas George Cassimeris
 George Earl Clark Sr
 John O'Neil Crossan Jr
 Frank Roland Currier
 Robert John Curry
 Nicholas Cymbalisty
 Sydney Davis Dean
 Frank Wayne Dumas
 Robert John Duncan
 Ralph George Feathers
 Arthur John Flynn
 Silas Frazer
 Myer Green
 Harry Norval Griffin
 Robert Paul Haizlip
 William Carl Hasselbarth
 Edward Avery Hunter
 John Louis James
 Robert Graham Killough
 Melvin Edward Kruger
 Raymond Patrick Lewis
 Edmund John Marian
 Frank Lewis Mehm
 George Phillip Meier
 William Elisha McDougale
 Francis Henry McKnight
 Philip Kenneth Mickle
 Ernest Ralph Mott
 William Russell Owens
 Vernon Foster Reynolds
 Charles Elliott Rockwell
 Frederick James Root
 Edward Peter Schwarz
 Merrill Cyrus Smith
 Howard Brown Springer, MSA
 Dennis Wayne Stevens
 Frank Wells
 Truman Ross Wynans

DIED

May 28, 2000
 May 01, 2000
 Apr 22, 2000
 Mar 01, 2000
 Aug 13, 1999
 Dec 26, 1999
 Aug 16, 1999
 Mar 01, 2000
 Oct 01, 1999
 Jun 12, 2000
 May 02, 2000
 Jul 01, 2000
 May 05, 2000
 Oct 13, 1999
 Jan 01, 2000
 Oct 28, 1999
 Apr 15, 2000
 Jul 02, 2000
 Dec 03, 1999
 Nov 27, 2000
 Jan 05, 2001
 Jul 01, 2000
 Apr 04, 2000
 Oct 01, 1999
 Jun 06, 2000
 May 01, 2000
 Dec 22, 1999
 Oct 04, 2000
 Jan 26, 2001
 May 14, 2000
 Sep 01, 2000
 Mar 06, 2000
 Jan 01, 2000
 Jan 10, 2000
 Jan 01, 2000
 Apr 19, 2000
 May 18, 2000
 Jul 01, 2000
 Mar 01, 2000
 Sep 29, 2000
 Jul 31, 2000
 May 20, 1999
 Jul 01, 2000
 Aug 03, 2000

Well Done, Good and Faithful Brother

**Valley of Albany
Scottish Rite Freemasonry**

**Cyprus Shriners
A..A..O..N..M..S**

are pleased to announce
the 2001 **Jubilee**

Saturday, April 21, 2001
Albany Masonic Temple
67 Corning Place
(behind City Hall)

Special Fee of \$200.00
for this joint experience includes
Continental Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
and
jeweled Fez

This one day extravaganza affords the busy Brother the opportunity to become a member of two great organizations in half the time.

The impressive and beautiful Scottish Rite degrees, and the mystic warmth and gracious glow received in the Shrine, can only enhance the Masonic light already conferred upon you.

To be a part of this Jubilee - complete the two petitions enclosed, and together with your check for \$200.00 (payable to AASR), return to

R G Barrell, Secretary AASR, 67 Corning Place, Albany NY 12207.

Deadline - April 17, 2001

There are many Masons hoping that someone
will ask them to receive MORE LIGHT

He May Say "YES"!





PETITION FOR INITIATION AND MEMBERSHIP
CYPRUS SHRINE No. 5
Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine



**To the Illustrious Potentate, Officers and Nobles of Cyprus Shrine Temple,
Situating in the Oasis of Albany, Desert of New York:**

I, the undersigned, hereby declare that I am a Master Mason in good standing in _____ Lodge

No. _____ located at _____
City State

which is a Lodge recognized by or in amity with the Conference of Grand Masters of North America. Furthermore, I have resided at my current address for not less than 6 months, as required by the Bylaws of the Imperial Council. I respectfully pray that I may be made a Noble of the Mystic Shrine, and become a member of Cyprus Shrine Temple.

If I be found worthy, and my request granted, I promise to conform to the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of The Imperial Council and the Bylaws and Ceremonies of Cyprus Shrine Temple.

Birthplace: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Profession or occupation: _____

Have you previously applied for admission to any Shrine Temple of the Order? _____

If so, what Temple? _____ When? _____

Residence Address: _____

Street City
County State Zip

Business Address: _____

Street City
County State Zip

Business Phone: _____

Mail Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Wife's name: _____ Were you ever a member of Demolay? _____

Hobbies: _____ Outside interests: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please Print Full Name _____

Recommended and Vouched for on the Honor of Noble _____

Noble _____

Fee, One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00)

Shrine No. _____

Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION, U.S.A.
VALLEY OF ALBANY, N.Y.

MASONIC TEMPLE, 67 CORNING PLACE, ALBANY, N.Y. 12207

PETITION FOR DEGREES / AFFILIATION (Cross Out One)

To the Officers and Members of

INEFFABLE AND SUBLIME GRAND LODGE OF PERFECTION 14°
GRAND COUNCIL PRINCES OF JERUSALEM 16°
ALBANY SOVEREIGN CHAPTER OF ROSE CROIX 18°
ALBANY SOVEREIGN CONSISTORY S. P. R. S. 32°

I, _____, the undersigned hereof, respectfully show that I am desirous of being admitted as a member of your honorable body, and request that I may be received among you, and I will ever pray for the prosperity and glory of the Fraternity and the welfare of the Brethren.

In making this application, I promise on my word of honor that, should I be elected and become a member of your honorable body, I will bear true faith, allegiance and fealty to the Supreme Council of Sovereign Grand Inspectors General of the Thirty-third and last Degree, of the Ancient Body is now holden, and will support and abide by its Constitutions, Orders and Decrees; that I will hold allegiance and be loyal to the said Supreme Council as the Supreme Power of the said Rite within the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States; that I will hold as illegal and spurious every other Body of whatever degree claiming to be of the said Rite, that may be established within its Jurisdiction, that is not holden mediately or immediately under its authority and will hold communication whatever in Scottish Rite Freemasonry with any member of the same, nor allow him to visit any body of the said Rite and which I may be a member; and should I violate any part of this promise I consent to be expelled from Scottish Rite Freemasonry and to forfeit all my rights therein, and in any Body of the Rite, and be denounced to every body thereof in the world as a traitor and forsworn. "And may God aid me to keep and perform the same. Amen."

Name in Full (Print) _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name (NO INITIALS)

Date of Birth _____
Month Day Year

Place of Birth _____
Town State or County

Residence _____
Street and Number City Zip Code

Your Mailing Address (If different than Residence) _____
Street Number City Zone No.

Have resided in above place since _____

Have resided in New York State since _____

Occupation _____

Business Address (or Employer) _____

Telephone No. _____
(Home) (Work)

Were you ever a member of the Order of DeMolay? _____

I have _____ before petitioned for the degrees of the Rite; and was _____

HAVE YOU EVER BEFORE PETITIONED FOR ANY DEGREE IN THE SCOTTISH RITE TO ANY OTHER VALLEY AND BEEN ACCEPTED OR REJECTED? IF YES, TO WHICH VALLEY AND WHERE? YES OR NO?

_____ VALLEY LOCATION
I am a member of _____ Lodge, No. _____ Located at _____

I am a member of _____ Lodge of Perfection _____ Council, P. of J.

_____ Chapter of Rose Croix _____ Consistory; located at _____

Date _____ Candidate's Signature _____

Recommended By _____ Signature _____
(Please Print)

SPECIAL FEE, \$100

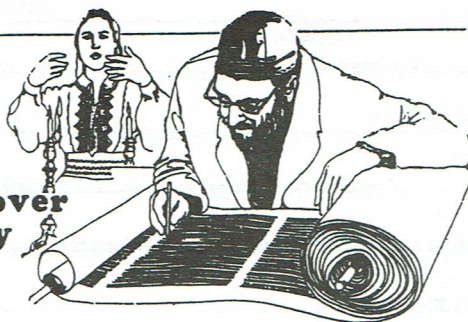
WHY SHOULD I BECOME A SCOTTISH RITE MASON?

The Scottish Rite offers unique opportunities for broad Masonic and social activities. Among the many activities we offer are:

- provide scholarships for students and teachers assist young people to overcome language and learning disorders
- support and create patriotic programs to remind Americans of our great national heritage and the importance of maintaining it
- champion the family as the cornerstone of our society
- combat substance abuse through educational programs aimed at youth
- sponsor Masonic related youth organizations.

Outstanding among these is the Childhood language and Learning Disorders Programs. Presently there are nearly 100 facilities helping children with communication disorders. Our charitable activities need helping hands, and our educational programs need men of vision. Whether you have only two days a year or two days a week your Scottish Rite has a place for you. There is not a better time to join our ranks.

The Passover Story



Passover, which occurs on April 10th this year, is the beginning of an eight-day Jewish celebration. It marks the delivery of the Jews from Egyptian enslavement over 3,000 years ago.

God spoke to the shepherd Moses, his voice coming from a burning bush, telling him to lead the Jews out of Egypt. But Pharaoh wanted them to continue building pyramids. He wouldn't let them go in spite of God's plagues upon the Egyptians.

Finally Moses told Pharaoh that a tenth and last plague would kill all the Egyptians' Firstborn sons. As a signal to the Angel of Death, the Jews sacrificed a lamb and

sprinkled its blood on their doorposts. The Angel "passed over" their homes.

After this plague, the Egyptians said the Jews could leave. In great haste to prepare, the Jews made bread without leavening so they would not have to wait for bread to rise.

As they left, Pharaoh changed his mind and sent soldiers to stop them, but the Red Sea parted, allowing them to cross. It closed again so the Egyptians could not follow.

Today Jewish families celebrate with prayer, songs and blessings, and with a ceremonial seder meal that includes unleavened bread.