



NINE O’CLOCK INTERPOLATION

an open ceremony
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All Chapter meetings, whether open or private, require the giving of the Nine O’Clock Interpolation if the meeting includes the hour of nine o’clock in the evening. The Nine O’Clock Interpolation may also be given on other DeMolay occasions which include the hour of nine o’clock in the evening when the circumstances are appropriate to the nature of the ceremony.

When the hour of nine o’clock arrives – or as soon thereafter as the proceedings will not be too greatly disturbed – all lights except the candles are dimmed. A gong is struck nine times. The striking of the gong and dimming of the lights may be omitted at public occasions if the circumstances are such that it would be more appropriate.

- M.C.** Brethren, at this hour, all over our land, mothers are bending above the beds wherein lie the children they love. At this hour also, the guests in homes and hospitals are preparing for the hour of rest. Let us pause a moment in our deliberations while the Chaplain offers a prayer.

Suggested music cue:

- M.C.** * * * (3 raps)

All stand.

- M.C.** Brother Chaplain, you will lead us in prayer.

Ch., conducted by Mar., moves X Z I J. As Ch. and Mar. leave their stations, all Active DeMolays in the East and the S.C. and J.C. descend to floor level.

Mar. and Ch. halt at point J. Mar. takes one further step North; both face East. Ch. takes one step toward Altar; simultaneously Mar. takes one step backward away from Altar. At public occasions outside the Chapter room where no Altar is available, M.C. will proceed directly to next speech.

- M.C.** Active DeMolays will kneel on left knee. All others will remain standing.

Active DeMolays except Mar. kneel in unison as Ch. kneels.

- Ch.** Our Father, as sons of loving and indulgent parents, we invoke Thy divine blessing upon all the fathers and mothers of our country and of all the world and wilt Thou pour out a special blessing for our mothers who have watched over us with unceasing care during all the years of our lives. We ask Thy benediction upon all who labor for the relief of suffering and need. May we ever realize that we are brothers of the helpless and suffering and rejoice in every call to the relief of pain or the alleviation of sorrow. Wilt Thou help us to lead upright and patriotic lives worthy of the devotion of all who have labored for our beloved country in every field of sacrifice and service. Amen.

- ALL** *(In Unison)* God bless mother. God bless father. God bless the purposes of DeMolay. Amen.

Suggested music cue:

Active DeMolays rise as Ch. rises. Ch. takes one step backward away from Altar. Simultaneously Mar. takes one step forward. Both face North. Ch. takes one step forward to Mar.'s side. Ch. conducted by Mar. moves J K V Z. Ch. crosses in front of Mar. and moves to X, stands facing his station. Mar. moves Z X and both Ch. and Mar. simultaneously face West. As Mar. and Ch. leave Altar, all Active DeMolays who were in the East and S.C. and J.C. return to daises. Lights are raised to full.

M.C. * (rap)

All sit down.

APPENDIX

Pronouncing Glossary

alleviation	ə-lē'vē-ā'shən. Something that relieves or lessens.
benediction	bĕn'ĭ-dĭk'shən. A blessing.
deliberations	dĭ-lĭb'ə-rā'shənz. A meeting; a decision-making process.
indulgent	ĭn-dŭl'jənt. Disposed to show favor.
interpolation	ĭn-tŭr'pə-lā'shən. The act of inserting into a sequence.
invoke	ĭn-vōk'. To call on for assistance, often to a higher power.
wilt	wĭlt. Old style of “will” (in the second person, “you”).