

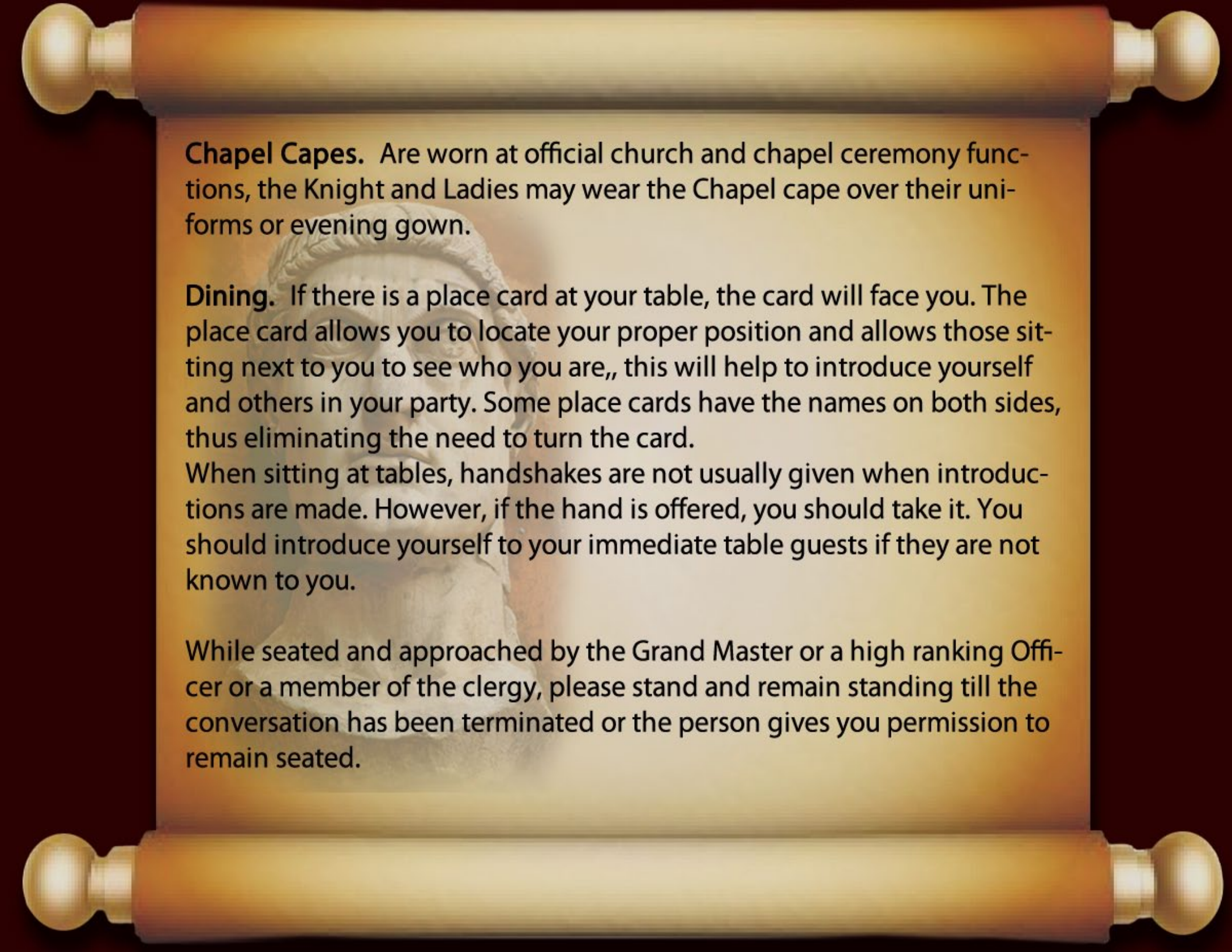
Mannerism and Protocol for Chivalry in the Order Apostolic Blessings and Church Recognition

Attending an official or ceremonial chivalric event is a new experience for many persons who may be apprehensive committing a social error or of giving offense to someone. However, nobility and Knights are rarely offended if a social error inadvertently is made. In most cases, the natural bearing of the Knights along with the manners that are taught to you in your youth are sufficient and will need only slight augmentation. To be sure always use common courtesies, of course, Knights and Ladies are representing the Orders and the chivalric tradition itself, and such, they will want to conform to the requirements of protocol and good manners.

Uniforms of the Order. (Your invitation to the event will stipulate the mode of dress)

Some orders have uniforms which are worn at functions where others would wear evening dress such as tuxedos at either a black or white tie event. In any case our Orders uniform supersedes all other uniforms and modes of dress. Our Orders permit their Knights to wear military uniforms if the person is an active duty or if the person is a retired officer.

Decorations should always be worn. Please see the Orders Constitution for illustrations of the correct wearing of the decorations.

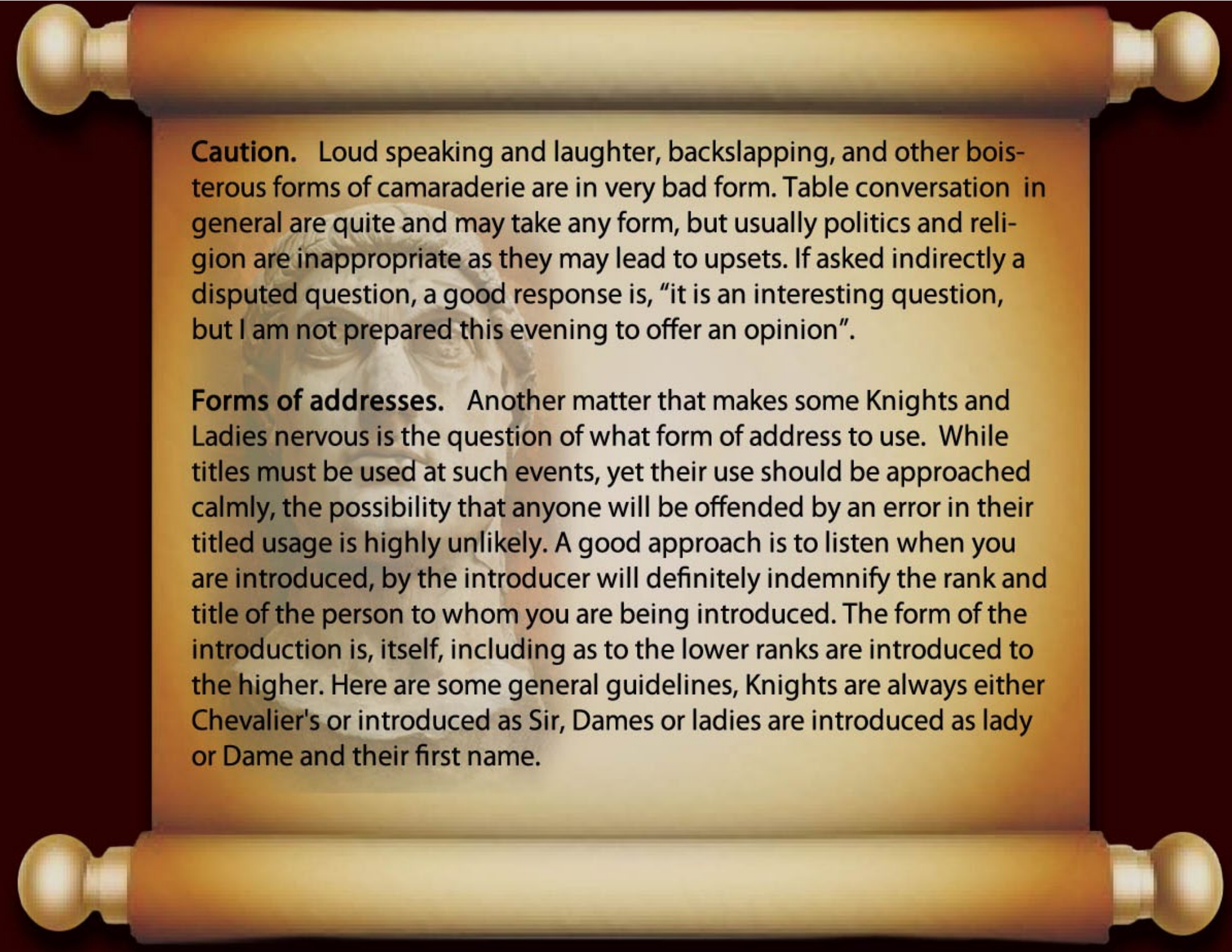


Chapel Capes. Are worn at official church and chapel ceremony functions, the Knight and Ladies may wear the Chapel cape over their uniforms or evening gown.

Dining. If there is a place card at your table, the card will face you. The place card allows you to locate your proper position and allows those sitting next to you to see who you are,, this will help to introduce yourself and others in your party. Some place cards have the names on both sides, thus eliminating the need to turn the card.

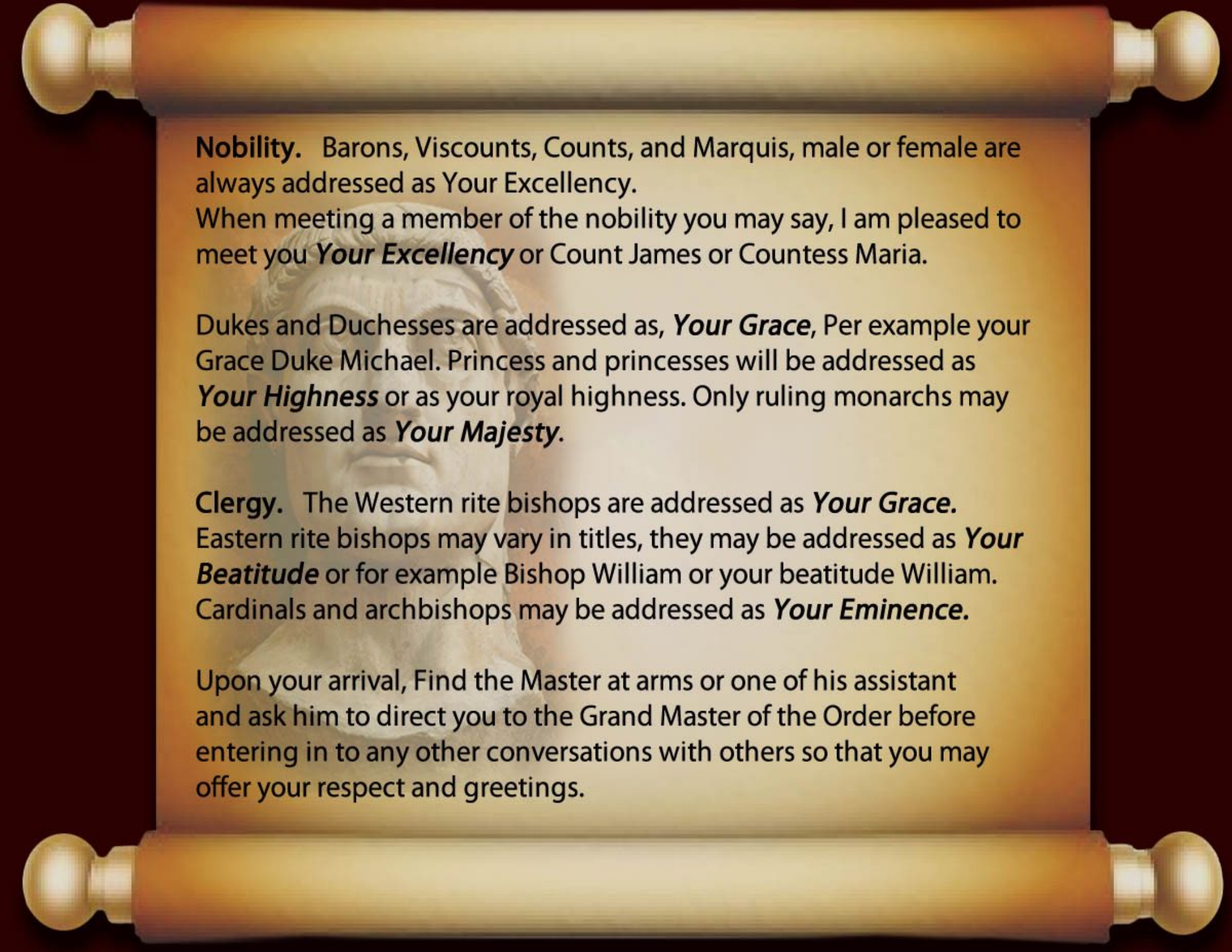
When sitting at tables, handshakes are not usually given when introductions are made. However, if the hand is offered, you should take it. You should introduce yourself to your immediate table guests if they are not known to you.

While seated and approached by the Grand Master or a high ranking Officer or a member of the clergy, please stand and remain standing till the conversation has been terminated or the person gives you permission to remain seated.



Caution. Loud speaking and laughter, backslapping, and other boisterous forms of camaraderie are in very bad form. Table conversation in general are quite and may take any form, but usually politics and religion are inappropriate as they may lead to upsets. If asked indirectly a disputed question, a good response is, "it is an interesting question, but I am not prepared this evening to offer an opinion".

Forms of addresses. Another matter that makes some Knights and Ladies nervous is the question of what form of address to use. While titles must be used at such events, yet their use should be approached calmly, the possibility that anyone will be offended by an error in their titled usage is highly unlikely. A good approach is to listen when you are introduced, by the introducer will definitely indemnify the rank and title of the person to whom you are being introduced. The form of the introduction is, itself, including as to the lower ranks are introduced to the higher. Here are some general guidelines, Knights are always either Chevalier's or introduced as Sir, Dames or ladies are introduced as lady or Dame and their first name.



Nobility. Barons, Viscounts, Counts, and Marquis, male or female are always addressed as Your Excellency.

When meeting a member of the nobility you may say, I am pleased to meet you ***Your Excellency*** or Count James or Countess Maria.

Dukes and Duchesses are addressed as, ***Your Grace***, Per example your Grace Duke Michael. Princess and princesses will be addressed as ***Your Highness*** or as your royal highness. Only ruling monarchs may be addressed as ***Your Majesty***.

Clergy. The Western rite bishops are addressed as ***Your Grace***. Eastern rite bishops may vary in titles, they may be addressed as ***Your Beatitude*** or for example Bishop William or your beatitude William. Cardinals and archbishops may be addressed as ***Your Eminence***.

Upon your arrival, Find the Master at arms or one of his assistant and ask him to direct you to the Grand Master of the Order before entering in to any other conversations with others so that you may offer your respect and greetings.



Grades of the Orders. Our Order has four grades for men.
Knights or Chevalier Grand Collar,
Knight Grand Cross,
Knight Commander and Knight,
Squire and Page.

We have three grades for the ladies.
Lady or Dame Grand Cross,
Lady Commander and Dame,
Lady in Waiting.