

Combined Investiture – Priory of the Calvary Cross & Priory of the Holy Trinity



Helen, Georgia | March 20–22, 2026

The weekend of March 20–22, 2026, marked a significant and memorable gathering as the Priory of the Calvary Cross and the Priory of the Holy Trinity came together in Helen, Georgia for a combined investiture ceremony. What unfolded over those three days was more than an event—it was a powerful demonstration of unity, tradition, and the enduring bonds of Christian knighthood.

Day One – Fellowship and Foundations

The gathering began at the Troll Tavern, where members of both Pories assembled in fellowship. It was here that new members were welcomed into the brotherhood and sisterhood, and long-standing friendships were rekindled. The atmosphere was one of warmth and anticipation, strengthened over a shared meal that set the tone for the weekend ahead.

Following dinner, the Pories moved to the riverwalk, where all members gathered in formation. In a moment of pride and symbolism, the Turcopoliers of both pories, alongside their respective Master Commanders, formally revealed their guidons. These standards, representing identity, honor, and responsibility, were presented before the assembled members, marking a defining moment for both Pories.

Shortly thereafter, Master Commander Michael Dynak presented the first issuance of priory rings—tokens of commitment and belonging. The inaugural ring was awarded to the founding Master Commander, Knight Lieutenant Michael Creel, symbolizing both his leadership and foundational role within the Priory.

Continuing the tradition of commemorative honors, CAA Ryan distributed the first Priory coins, further solidifying the shared identity and pride among members. As the formal portion of the evening concluded, smaller groups gathered informally, sharing cigars, conversation, and camaraderie. The night was filled with genuine fellowship, punctuated by music provided by Sir Clint Spicer, who brought life and energy to the evening by taking command of the jukebox.

It was, in every sense, a night defined by brotherhood, sisterhood, and the strengthening of bonds.

Day Two – Ceremony and Honor

The following day marked the culmination of the gathering—the joint Investiture ceremony. Both Priories assembled with dignity, dressed in formal attire, with the knights adorned in white mantles bearing the red cross, and swords worn in accordance with tradition.

The ceremony opened with a solemn procession. Leading was the Turcopolier of the Holy Trinity, KLT Michael Creel, bearing the guidon, followed by their knight aspirant. He was followed by Turcopolier KLT Gary of the Calvary Cross, carrying his Priory's guidon, accompanied by Page Keegan, who bore the ceremonial articles for the Investiture, and the Calvary Cross knight aspirants in disciplined formation.

Master Commander Nicholis formally opened the ceremony, setting the tone for what would be a reverent and honorable proceeding. KCP Clint Spicer delivered the opening prayer, grounding the ceremony in faith and purpose. Master Commander Nicholis then conducted the knighting of his candidate, Chris Frein, upholding the sacred traditions of the Order.

Master Commander Michael then proceeded with the elevation of three Companions-at-Arms to the rank of Sergeant:

- SGT Ryan Hall
- SGT Dominic DiMemmo
- SGT Danielle Dynak

Each promotion represented not only time and commitment, but proven dedication to the Order and its values.

In a moment of particular significance, CAA Ryan Hall stepped forward and formally handed his Sergeant's mantle to Master Commander Michael Dynak. In accordance with tradition, Master Commander Michael then draped the black Sergeant's mantle over him—symbolizing his transition from Companion-at-Arms to the rank of Sergeant within the Priory. This act served as a visible and powerful representation of earned responsibility, leadership, and the trust placed in him by the Order.

Following these promotions, KLT Gary McCarthy was called forward. In a moment of significance, he directed Sergeant Ryan to post and formally entrust the Calvary Cross guidon to one of the newly promoted Sergeants—symbolizing the passing of responsibility and trust within the ranks.

Master Commander Michael Dynak then promoted KLT Gary McCarthy to the rank of Knight Captain. However, before he could return to his place in formation, he was commanded to “stand fast.” What followed was an unexpected and deeply meaningful moment—he was awarded the Calvary Cross Distinguished Knight Award, recognizing his service, leadership, and unwavering commitment to the priory.

The ceremony continued with the knighting of the aspirants. Each was called forward individually to take their vows and to receive their Accolade:

- Lady Katrina M. Dynak, who was ceremonially draped by her son, Squire Randall
- Lady Kayla Webb and Sir Codye Webb, who were subsequently knighted and assisted in draping each other.

Each knighting stood as a testament to personal commitment, spiritual calling, and readiness to serve.

Evening Fellowship – Celebration and Brotherhood

Following the ceremony, both priories gathered once more in celebration. Dinner was shared in high spirits, followed by an evening of fellowship and friendly competition through a game known as “Reading Karaoke,” hosted by Sir Clint Spicer of the Holy Trinity Priory.

At one point, the Priory of the Holy Trinity held a commanding lead of 70 to 10. However, in a defining and spirited moment, CAA Genova returned and immediately answered a question correctly, igniting a strong comeback effort from the Calvary Cross.

Despite the rally, the Priory of the Holy Trinity ultimately secured victory, earning the symbolic “Holy Grail.” Yet, the true victory of the evening was found not in competition, but in the laughter, unity, and shared joy experienced by all presents.

The night concluded with a sense of fulfillment—an understanding that what had been built over the weekend would endure far beyond it.

Day Three – Departure and Reflection

As the final day arrived, members began to depart, offering farewells to brothers and sisters who had, over the course of the weekend, become even closer through shared experience.

Though the goodbyes were difficult, they were accompanied by a sense of gratitude. The combined investiture was not only a success—it was a defining moment for both priories. It reinforced the values of faith, unity, and disciplined brotherhood, and set the foundation for continued growth and collaboration.

Closing Reflection

This gathering in Helen, Georgia will be remembered not only for its ceremonies and honors, but for the spirit in which it was conducted. It stood as a powerful reminder that the strength of the Order lies not merely in its traditions, but in its people—men and women committed to faith, service, and one another.

Non-Nobis Domine, Non-Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam.