RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY
Sunday, January 10, 2010

On Sunday, January 10, 2010 Rappahannock Assembly will host a parade and ceremony in Fredericksburg, VA commemorating the 233rd anniversary of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom. The statute, drafted by Thomas Jefferson in 1777 in Fredericksburg, was later used as a model by President James Madison in drafting the Bill of Rights and represents a document that had a unique impact on our Nation that continues to this day. This event acknowledges the belief that each individual has the right to practice his or her chosen faith, a right second only to the right to life itself.

The parade, about one mile in length, will depart the Fredericksburg train station at 1:30 PM, proceed through downtown Fredericksburg to the Religious Freedom Monument located on Washington Ave. where the ceremony will begin at 2:00 PM, highlighted by the keynote address to be delivered by Virginia State Del. Robert D. Orrock Sr. The ceremony will culminate with the laying of a wreath at the monument. A reception at the University of Mary Washington Catholic Student Center will follow.

All Assemblies in the Virginia District are invited to participate in this unique event. Dress for the event is full Color Corps regalia. Participants should arrive at the Fredericksburg railroad station by 12:45 PM. For further information contact Rick Reschick at 540-368-9345 or by email at rez55@cox.net. For planning purposes, let Rick know the number of members from your Assembly that plan to participate.

Driving Directions: To reach the railroad station in downtown Fredericksburg, take Route 3 East (exit 130 East (Route 3) off I-95. After approximately 1 mile you will pass under Route 1 and come to a stoplight. Turn left at the stoplight and follow Route 3 business (William Street) into the downtown area. Turn right on Princess Ann Street to get to the Train Station.