

# CHIVALRIC CODE

## **Prowess**

To seek excellence in all endeavors expected of a Knight and other wise, seeking strength to be used in service of Justice, rather than in personal aggrandizement.

## **Justice**

Seek always the path of Right, unencumbered by bias or personal interest. Recognize that the sword of justice can be a terrible thing, so it must be tempered by humanity and mercy. If the right you see rings true, agrees with others, and you seek it out without bending to the temptation of expediency, then you will earn renown beyond measure.

## **Loyalty**

Be known for your unwavering commitment to the people and ideals you choose to live by. There are many places where compromise is expected; Loyalty is not one of them.

## **Defense**

The ideal knight was sworn by oath to defend his liege lord and those who depended upon him. Seek always to defend your nation, your family, and those whom you believe worthy of loyalty.

## **Courage**

Being a knight often means choosing the more difficult path, the personally expensive one. Be prepared to make personal sacrifices in service of the precepts and people you value. At the same time, a knight should seek wisdom to see that stupidity and courage are cousins. Courage also means taking the side of truth in all matters, rather than seeking the expedient lie. Seek the truth whenever possible, but remember to temper your justice with mercy, or the pure truth can bring grief.

## **Faith**

A knight must have faith in his beliefs, for faith roots him and gives hope against the despair that human failings create.

## **Humility**

Value the first contributions of others; do not boast of your own accomplishments, let others do this for you. Tell the deeds of others before your own, according them the renown rightfully earned through virtuous deeds. In this way the office of knighthood is well done and glorified, helping not only the gentle spoken of, but also all who call themselves knights.

## **Largesse**

Be generous in so far as your resources allow; Largesse used in this way counters gluttony. It also makes the path of mercy easier to discern when a difficult decision of justice is required.

## **Nobility**

Seek great stature of character by holding to the virtues and duties of a knight, realizing that though the ideals cannot be reached, the quality of striving towards them ennobles the spirit, growing the character from dust towards the heavens. Nobility also has the tendency to influence others, offering a compelling example of what can be done in the service of rightness.

## **Franchise**

Seek to emulate everything that has been spoken of as sincerely as possible. Not for gain but because it is right. Do not restrict your exploration to a small world, but seek to infuse every aspect of your life with these qualities. Should you succeed in even a tiny measure then you will be well remembered for your quality and virtue.