

SOUTH CAROLINA SUPPLEMENT S.K. Michael W Kirk R.E. Grand Commander Grand Commandery of South Carolina www.scgyr.org

Greetings Sir Knights and Brethren,

I wish to thank everyone for the honor and privilege to serve as your Grand Commander for 2020-2021.

While she won't read this, a special thank you goes out to my wife Cheri who accepts me missing family events. My promise is to do my best to support the Commandery and all the York Rite.

I am a firm believer in brotherhood. It is my belief that by being true brothers and not just talking about it, that will fill one area of why men want to join. Support your lodges, York Rite bodies. Support each other mentally and physically. Have a regular breakfast or dinner (supper) meeting as friends and brothers get to know each other. Being a good brother is not always convenient. It takes work.

In celebration of Easter, I want to share a short story I came across.

"And they compelled one Simon a Cyrenian, who passed by, coming out of the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to bear His cross." (Mark 15:21)

Simon grumbles beneath his breath. His patience is as scarce as space on the Jerusalem streets. He'd hoped for a peaceful Passover. The city is anything but quiet. Simon prefers his open fields. And now, to top it off, the Roman guards are clearing the path for some whoknows-which-dignitary who'll march his soldiers and strut his stallion past the people. "There he is!" Simon's head and dozens of others turn. In an instant they know. This is no dignitary. "It's a crucifixion," he hears someone whisper.

Four soldiers. One criminal. Four spears. One cross.

The condemned man steadies the cross as best he can, but stumbles beneath its weight. He pushes himself to his feet and lurches forward before falling again. Simon can't see the man's face. Only a head wreathed with thorny branches.

The sour faced centurion grows more agitated with each diminished step. He curses the criminal and the crowd. "Hurry up!" "Little hope of that, Simon says to himself."

Fraternally
SK Michael W Kirk
Grand Commander