

TENNESSEE SUPPLEMENT

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Clarence Loyd Crump
Grand Commander

NEW MEMBERS KNIGHTED AT KNOXVILLE FESTIVAL

The Knoxville Area Winter Festival was held January 25 and February 1 at the Locust Street Temple. The Class included candidates from all areas of the Knoxville Association as well as from one of our neighboring associations. In all over twenty candidates were knighted. Shown in the photograph below is the class along with SK Paul Richards PIGM, SK Michael Lett PGHP, and SK Robert Beam EGCG. Congratulations to these Knights!



REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Southeastern York Rite Conference – June 12-13, Mobile AL; all York Rite Masons welcome to attend
Chapter-Council Group Meetings – begin Friday, June 19; see Grand York Rite Calendar for complete schedule
Maggie Valley York Rite Summer Assembly – July 11-14
Commandery Inspections – begin Friday, August 7; a complete schedule will be published in a later supplement

THE RELIGHTING OF THE LIGHTS AT EASTER

Within the Scottish Rite, there is a service performed at Maundy Thursday and Easter called “The Extinguishing and Relighting of the Lights.” It is done in remembrance of both Passover and Easter and is a Masonic interpretation of Jesus’ call for us to stand for the equality of man against oppression and tyranny of all forms.

This service calls to mind the darkness that prevails in the world due to oppression, ignorance, and intolerance; it ends with a relighting of those same lights with the reminder of the New Law of Love proclaimed by our Savior at the Last Supper, and his commandment to love all men as our Father in Heaven loves us. It reminds us that Christ came to love and serve all men, and enjoins us to do the same.

To us as Christian Masons, the Easter Season is a time of rejoicing as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Savior and his victory over death, sin, and eternal separation from our Father. We as Masonic Knights Templar are instructed to perform annually an Easter Service to celebrate this most holy day in our Christian faith.

Christ came not only for us to have eternal life in the hereafter, but for us to have fullness of life in this world also – “I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly” (Jn. 10:10 KJV.) His work on earth brought sight to the blind, healing to the sick, comfort to the poor and oppressed, and justice to the accused. His sacrificial death brought victory over sin and his Resurrection brought triumph over Death. Truly, in a dark world, he was the Light.

As Christian Masons, we have the opportunity to spread that light to our fellow man, to tell them the Greatest Story ever told. We have the message that God loves his children and wants the best for them all. We have the Truth that sets all men free – the Truth of God’s love, of the Savior of the World, his sacrificial death, and his triumphant Resurrection and Ascension.

As Knights Templar, we are able to spread that Light. We have the opportunity to bring sight to the blind through our Eye Foundation. We have the opportunity to promote the Gospel through our Holy Land Pilgrimage. We have the opportunity to share the beautiful teachings and ceremonies of our Order. And we have the opportunity to spread that light through our daily lives as we interact with our fellow man.

As we celebrate this Easter Season, let us rededicate ourselves to sharing that Abundant Life that Jesus spoke of, and to live according to the New Law of Love that our Savior proclaimed.