

WISCONSIN SUPPLEMENT

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Parker W. Dow
Grand Commander

From the Grand Commander;

Easter is 12 April, another busy time for the fraternity. In my home Valley AASR, the Most Wise Master invites the KT Commander to participate in the Feast of the Pascal Lamb. There the Rose Croix Officers honor our fallen brothers and in due time extinguish the Rose Croix lights. For the Commandery Easter Service the officers of the Rose Croix are invited to relight their lights and assist the Sir Knights by making the arms of the cross.. This is a marvelous combination of the 2 main branches of the fraternity. Neither event is restricted, both are open to the public. The overlooked position of sideliner needs to be filled – Can you attend? For sideliners the uniform is not required.

The Grand Encampment has 3 Easter Services for members to attend. One is only about 10 - 14 hours away (depending where you are leaving from). If you have nothing else going on then you can have a mini vacation there. Information is on the GE website for the 8th Annual Mid-America Observance at the Liberty Memorial, Kansas City, Missouri.

We celebrate the birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension of our blessed savior. In December, Christmas, we celebrated his birth and life. Easter is here or his death and resurrection. But we must also remember that in 40 days from now is our ascension service. Remember to do so at your proper Conclave.

Commandery Officer Elections are coming fast and many of our Commanderies have a very small membership. Consider taking two years in a chair before progressing to the new office. Fill the officer line, put the new members to work and bring in petitions.

We do exhibition drill – it is not graded. Consider putting a Drill Team together, practicing the sword manual, marching and making designs like the Passion Cross. The extra effort given will be noted inside your Commandery and by the Sir Knights participating but that will take time. If your Commandery cannot field a team then consider having 2 Commanderies combine and fill a team. Combining into one team makes it that harder to practice but you can do it. A “D” size team takes 6 SKs and 1 Captain who will direct them. If you have questions then we know some guys that can give you the answers.

Ask your Grand Officers about the GE Leadership Seminar presented at Departmental Conclaves. Our Department Conclave is the 4th Saturday in October and Uniforms are not to be worn at this event. The Seminar is free. You pay for your transportation, room and food.

Courteously
Parker W. Dow, KTCH, REGC

From the Grand Prelate

I really want to begin with the Beatitudes, as referenced in Matthew, and pair them with the events of Holy week. Before I do that, I will regress to a bit of Biblical history. The Sermon on the Mount takes place relatively early in Jesus' ministry, after he has been baptized by John the Baptist, and after His fasting and meditation retreat in the desert, and begun to preach in Galilee. Now...the Beatitudes come from chapter 5 in the Book of Matthew. They are an important part of the Sermon on the Mount and serve to fulfill God's promise from Abraham by showing them the way to the kingdom of heaven. They respond to the desire for happiness that God has placed in our human hearts. (By the way, four of these blessings also appear in the Gospel of Luke, followed by four woes which mirror the blessings.)

And now, onto my article and pairings with some events of Holy week:

Passover dinner and Jesus' betrayal

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God” –Matthew 5:8

Jesus is arrested

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called the children of God” – Matthew 5:9

Jesus' crucifixion

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” –Matthew 5:3

Jesus' death

“Blessed are those that mourn, for they will be comforted” –Matthew 5:4

Jesus' resurrection

“Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” –Matthew 5:10

There are more Beatitudes than I have used here, yes, that's right, count them. Please read your Bible. You may make different choices, and that is OK as long as you give each one some thought.

As we reflect on Christ's journey let Him be the shining example for all of us to emulate. Take Him into your hearts. Share the joy of the resurrection! Christ has risen, ALLELUIA!

Grand Conclave

13 June 2020

Madison ZOR Shrine Temple

575 ZOR Shrine Place, Madison, WI

Hampton Inn 608-271-0200

Deadline May 7, 2020 to reserve a room