


**Masonic Happenings in
The Magnolia State**
1986 Hwy 19 S, Meridian, MS 39301

Fred F. Bean, P. G. C., Co-Editor
Kiely D. Walker, P.G.C., Co-Editor



GRAND PRELATE'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas for most of us is a joyous occasion spent with our family and friends. We gather together to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. We look forward to seeing our loved ones, eating and exchanging gifts. Our wives, mothers, and daughters spend weeks planning and cooking the plethora of dishes. Some of which we only get to enjoy on this special occasion. We spend weeks looking forward to this day. As a child, I remember how slow time would pass from Thanksgiving to Christmas. Those four weeks often felt like four months. The anticipation was almost too much to stand.

Over the course of my life we have witnessed this Holy holiday become nothing more than an extreme example of excess. Our financial success as a nation has turned Christmas into an excuse to eat too much, get too much and even give too much. It has become a competition to see who can outdo who in extremes of excess.

As we begin this holiday, I ask everyone reading this to slow down, enjoy this time with your loved ones, and remember Jesus. If you don't already, I encourage you to make reading the Christmas story from your Bible a part of your celebration. It is told in chapter one of both Mathew and Luke. I personally enjoy Luke because he also tells the story of the birth of John the Baptist and his relationship with Christ.



We are only here for a short time. Do you want to be remembered for the gifts you gave or the souls you led to Christ? Christmas is the perfect opportunity to tell everyone you love the story of our blessed Savior.

S.K. JASON JEFCOAT, GRAND PRELATE

RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

I would like to thank our Grand Prelate, SK Jason Jefcoat, for reminding us of the true gift of the Christmas season. I pray that we will not fall into the trap of the material world for it will all pass away. We should never lose sight of the real gifts in life. I have more vivid memories of the times I spent with my wife than anything she purchased for me. We as Christian Knights should always pay particular attention to spreading the word of God to all mankind, not only during this Christmas season but year round. The Christmas Observance is an important event in the life of our Commanderies and reminds us of the perfect gift which God gave to us in the birth of his son, our Blessed Redeemer. I wish for you and your families a most joyous Merry Christmas and it is my hope that you will share God's perfect gift with your family and friends.

FRATERNALLY,
GEORGE FRAZIER, RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER

THE NAIL

As the story goes, they built a new church building and people came from far and wide to see it. They admired its beauty! Up on the roof, a little nail heard the people praising everything about the lovely structure-except the nail! No one even knew he was there, and he became angry and jealous. "If I am that insignificant, nobody will miss me if I quit!" So the nail then released its hold, slid down the roof, and fell in the mud. That night it rained and rained. Soon, the shingle that had no nail blew away, and the roof began to leak. The water streaked the walls and the beautiful murals. The plaster began to fall, the carpet was stained, and the pulpit Bible was ruined by water. All this because a little nail decided to quit! But what of the nail? While holding the shingle, it was obscure but it was also useful. Buried in the mud it was just as obscure, but now it was useless and would soon be eaten up by rust! The moral of the story-**EVERY MEMBER IS IMPORTANT TO THE CHURCH!** You may, like the nail, feel obscure at times, but just like the nail, your absence is felt. When you are not present for worship, in some way the body of Christ hurts. We are ALL a part of the Lord's ministry.

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

IMPORTANT DATES WILL BE UPDATED ONCE RESTRICTIONS ON MEETINGS ARE REMOVED