



Washington Supplement  
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## Happy New Year 2020!

Greetings, fellow Sir Knights in the jurisdiction of Washington. A new year is now before us, with doors of opportunity to be opened, new paths offering journeys of undiscovered experiences, new relationships to be forged, and a multitude of Blessings to be bestowed upon us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The new year also brings new challenges. As Knights Templar, one of those challenges is our support of the *The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.* The mission of *The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.* is to “improve vision through research, education, and supporting access to care.” The Foundation has grown to \$125 million while expending \$154 million on research, education, and patient care; awarding \$26 million in research grants; and creating \$2 million endowed professorships at each of three leading ophthalmology research and educational institutions (matched dollar for dollar by the institution). As Knights Templar you can be very proud in being part of this “*Great Humanitarian Charity.*” However, as it is with all charities, it requires your support and your efforts in fundraising. With the onset of the new year of 2020, opportunity is before us to re-energize our efforts and increase those efforts to raise funds for *The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.* *The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.* has a number of donation programs most with associated recognition programs. One of the primary contribution programs is the Grand Master’s Club. The Grand Master’s Club donors receive a plaque, lapel pin, and now it has introduced a new jewel, the “Crusader’s Cross”, for those who are in the Grand Master’s Club. The jewel

comes in five levels: \$1,000, \$2,000, \$3,000, \$4,000, and \$5,000. As this is one of the Grand Encampment philanthropies, it is a Grand Encampment jewel and may be worn on the right side of the uniform; however, generally all medals are worn on the left side of the uniform as space permits. Only the Grand Master’s Club donations given by the individual will count toward this award. Whether through a planned gift, annual sustaining support, or a one-time contribution, I hope that you will continue to help with our efforts to raise funds for *The Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc.*, and join in the mission to end pediatric blindness.

**On an administrative note:** Constituent Commanders and Commandery Recorders are reminded that award nomination submissions are due to the Eminent Grand Recorder not later than **1 February 2020**. Deputy Instructors are also reminded that their inspection reports are due to the Right Eminent Grand Commander not later than **1 March 2020**, to be included in the Grand Commander’s Report and to qualify for the Deputy Instructor’s ribbon and certificate.

May the Blessing of GOD, Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost be upon you and your families.

“Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam”

Sir Knight *W. Gary Norton*  
Right Eminent Grand Commander  
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Washington