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**California Supplement
 Grand Commander's Message
 July 2020**

Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you"

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope and pray that where ever you are, this message finds you safe and in good health. First, I would like to thank all the health care providers, the first responders and essential workers who selflessly set aside their own fears and concerns to help others during this time of COVID-19. This message was written during the time when the deadly pandemic curve was still rising and I am hoping that when you receive this, my prayers are heard.

The 2020 Grand Sessions, as you have already been informed, was postponed to July 13-17, 2020 due to the preventative measures issued to stop the spread of COVID-19. All is set and ready except at this time the statistics did not agree with our expectations.

General Order #12 by Grand Encampment cancelled all "face to face meeting until further notice." The Grand Sessions scheduled in July may not take place, unless God willing, all issued restrictions, especially social distancing is lifted and cleared. Elections and Installations may take place "virtually" or "face to face" if social distancing is observed.

I am still the sitting Deputy Grand Commander until elected and installed but eager to start my year. This message was authorized and approved for publication by Sir Knight Bill McBroome, Right Eminent Grand Commander in California.

Please allow me to introduce myself, my name is Cirilo Marquez a Past Commander of Los Angeles Commandery #9 who is continuously serving and diligently working at the quarries. I was anxiously awaiting for this opportunity until COVID-19 came along deterred all the Templar activities so far the year. All other big celebrations in July got cancelled, 4rth of July, which signifies independence Day in the USA, school vacations, Postal Workers Day honoring them for delivering our mail everyday amidst the pandemic. July is also my daughters' and my birth month.

The photo and title shown are the result of the "no face to face meeting" order of the Grand Master of Grand Encampment and "Social Distancing" enforced for election and installations.

My top priority this year is to improve membership, because membership is the lifeline of every organization. The 3Rs' Recruiting, Retaining and Restoring are the main focus of the team, the team being "you and I". My second priority is encouraging each commandery to create and form a Drill Team. I believe that a drill team will generate enthusiasm, interest and esprit de corps within the commanderies. Hopefully the team spirit generated will become the attraction for each Sir Knight to always be with the group which in turn will improve attendance at the stated meetings.

My Motto for the year: "Together = Success" and "Small is Huge"

In His Service,
Cirilo Marquez
 Cirilo Marquez

Stay safe and healthy!!