



Missouri Supplement
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Getting Back to the New Normal

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

I want to congratulate Sir Knight Clark A. McLemore, Junior Past Grand Commander, for his excellent leadership during his year as our Grand Commander. It truly has been an honor following him through the advancing line and I sincerely appreciate all of his help in preparing me for my year as Grand Commander.

I want to thank all of the Sir Knights that attended our virtual 2020 Annual Conclave. Although we accomplished all of our normal business, I certainly missed the "face to face" time that we normally have during our Grand Sessions. We owe Sir Knight Hanson, Sir Knight Sample, and Executive Assistant Debbie a huge thank you for all of their hard work to make the virtual session run as smoothly as it did.

It is my honor to be your Grand Commander and to represent the Grand Commandery of the State of Missouri. I am truly humbled by your confidence in my abilities and I will do everything that I can to promote and grow our Magnanimous Order. I sincerely hope that I am up to the challenges that lie ahead during my year as Grand Commander. If I can be of assistance to you, then please let me know.

As this year starts with no face to face meetings, I encourage all Commanderies to start holding their monthly conclaves by WebEx or other virtual methods. Some of you already have, but it is essential that we start bringing our Sir Knights together by whatever means necessary. Sir Knight Hanson, our Grand Recorder, will be happy to set up your WebEx meetings for you. We have paid for it and we might as well make full use of it. All you need to do is have your Recorder send Sir Knight Hanson an email request with the date and time of the meeting, he will schedule the meeting, and send your Recorder an invitation that can be forwarded to your members. If the pandemic continues, we may have to conduct our regional conclaves in this manner. It is very important that we continue to communicate with each other for the good of our order.

Once the pandemic restrictions are lifted, I look forward to visiting as many Commanderies as I can. If your Commandery would like to hold an open installation of officers, then I would be happy to install your officers – just let me know as soon as possible, so I can put it on my calendar.

We plan to have a formal installation of the Grand Commandery Officers later in the year at my reception.

I close with the scripture of 1 John 4:19 (KJV), "We love him, because he first loved us." Let us go forth with love.

Christianity - Templary - In Christ's Footsteps!

Sir Knight Charles E. Cooper, Grand Commander

INDEPENDENCE DAY!

If someone were to ask you, "What do you want from life?" Among the first things you would probably ask for are the freedom to do what you want, and to be safe and secure. These are the things we want from America.

If we want our nation to provide these things, then what are we willing to give our nation? Are we willing to give of ourselves to make the blessings keep flowing? Or are we just willing to take and give nothing back? For the last couple of generations, we have fallen short in teaching our children that with freedom, with liberty, with every blessing, comes an obligation to be responsible for them.

It may have been best said by President George Washington, "I now make it my prayer that God would keep you, the leaders of this new nation, in His holy protection. That He would incline the hearts of the citizens to subordinate and obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly love for one another, and finally that He would most graciously be pleased to have us to love mercy, charity, and humility. And that He would make us be temperate of mind, and have the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, without which, we shall never hope to be a happy nation."

Have a happy and safe celebration of our nation's Independence Day!

BE PERSISTENT!

The parable in Luke 18 encourages us to be persistent in our praying for God is not like the unjust judge described in Verse 1 - 8. While it is not necessarily a comparison between God and the unjust judge, it is more a contrast of extremes. We need to realize that, as the judge was unwilling to listen, our God is willing and ready to bless us. But, does the parable's view of God in prayer reflect our prayers in life? Do we see God as unjust with His hand clasped tightly on the blessings that we seek or is He truly overflowing with blessings, if only we were to ask and persist in the asking? Let us seek God's blessings with hearts of faith, believing His Word, and we will not be disappointed.

A BRIEF HAPPY MESSAGE!

Smile at your wife. Smile at your husband. Smile at your children. Smile at each other – it doesn't matter who it is – just share a smile. And that simple act will help you to grow in greater love for each other.