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*“The behavior is the "fruit," and the heart is the "root." The heart is where the seeds are planted.”* -Someone Really Smart

Greetings Sir Knights,

I had not expected to be writing you here, this late in the year. I thought I had written my last article. Alas, I have one more time to say thank you for allowing me to serve you. It has been one of the things I will cherish most and I hope all of you are safe and, despite the separation and frustrations of being required to keep safe distances, are in touch with the people that are important in your lives. They're what really makes times like these less burdensome.

As of the time I am writing this, it is late April and I do not pretend to know what things will look like by the time this reaches you around the first of June. I hope we can confirm a new, new date for the Annual Conclave for you very soon, so we can get on with the business of doing the Good Work together. The encouraging thing is, that the Good Work goes on no matter what circumstances present themselves. I know this because that Good Work comes from the hearts and hands of us all. Every kind word or kind thought never returns void. No instance of thinking of another's interest before our own fails to deliver. It is the intent of our heart that informs our thoughts and actions. There's real power there. Use it.

I miss being with my Brothers more than I expected to and I look forward to meeting with you all again soon.

With all Fraternal fondness and respect,

-Michael Daniels Grand Commander

FROM THE DESK OF THE DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER:

Greetings, Sir Knights

I was hoping to be able to deliver some information on the upcoming events scheduled for the Grand Commander, but at this point, so much is still in flux that I can't say with any real certainty when the next time will be when we will reconvene. I hope it comes soon. Until then, we will be sure to communicate to you any forthcoming developments.

After weeks of confinement to our homes, it seems we are settling into a new routine to help us cope with the conditions thrust upon us. During this time, many of us have lost that rhythmic cycle of Masonic events that for so many years have become a part of our lives. Unlike the Jews during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, we are not in Babylon, but we are in a kind of captivity. As York Rite Masons, we are charged to preserve our forms and traditions lest a calamity like this causes us to forget them and lose something precious.

The same is very much true for Knights Templar. It is important for us to remind ourselves of what we are and what we stand for. One of the best ways to do this is to look back at your ritual book from time to time, not necessarily to memorize it, but to remind ourselves of what we have. As Knights Templar, you are in possession of a tradition over 200 years old that is woven in the fabric of this country's history. It is a proud Order that includes some of the most respected names in our nation's history. Once the restrictions are lifted, it will be incumbent upon us all to lift our banners and keep our honorable heritage alive. We may find it difficult to pick up where we left off, but the future of Templary is counting on us. We must not let them down.

Fraternally,  
Ludwik Wodka  
Deputy Grand Commander.