

Maryland Supplement

Serving our Community and our Masonic Fraternity

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My Fellow Sir Knights,

Sir Knights

I'm writing this supplement on March 30th. Unfortunately the Grand Encampment publishing deadline is just over 1 month prior to The Knights Templar magazine hitting the streets.

Yesterday (March 29th), I listened to our president speaking optimistically to there being a peak in mid-April in the number of new Covid-19 cases. I pray that has happened by now.

So what do I say to you Sir Knights now, *after the fact!* That is, what do I say in March on this topic that will be of value in May. Even if there is a significant trend downward in the number of cases of Covid-19 it is not likely that we will be back to normal religiously, financially, or medically for a while.

So looking ahead on March 30th to this month of May, I hope we as Christians will be keeping our faith and continuing to pray to our Blessed Savior that our families, friends, Fraters, and those in our communities will be safe, vigilant, and follow the directives of our elected leaders.

Needless to say, the inner workings of our organization pale in comparison to putting our lives back together and so, many of those workings will continue to be put on hold.

But I urge our Eminent Commanders to take whatever time they can spare to communicate with their Commandery members. Find out if there is something their Commandery can do to help a Sir Knight in need.

A foundation of our Fraternity is "RELIEF".

For those in need, relief can take many forms. Financial relief, spiritual relief, psychological relief. To me the most important form of relief I can think of is that of a Sir Knight knowing that there is someone out there that is willing to lend comfort and solace. That someone is thinking about him. That he is not alone in his struggles. That there is help for him if needed.

The character we espouse for ourselves as Sir Knights is expressed in one of the last paragraphs of the short form ritual for the Order of Malta, I quote,

"and in a Brother's cause to do all that may become men" ("become" in this context means defining what is "suitable" to our character).

So I urge each of you to take a few minutes to communicate with any Sir Knight that you may believe to be in need of some kind of relief and offer that relief to that Sir Knight within your ability to do so.

Stay safe, be vigilant, and most importantly pray.

Yours in service to Christ,

Chuck
Charles E. Warns II
Right Eminent Grand Commander
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