



Grand Commandery of Minnesota

Knights Templar

Editor S.K. Tom Hendrickson P.G.M.

May the peace of our Savior Jesus Christ be upon you in this, our time of need!

As of this writing, we find ourselves at the crossroads of the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, and the ability to continue to make a huge difference in our gentle Craft, our Order, and the world. And with that in mind, I sit down tonight to write to you from the isolation of my home in Brooklyn Park.

You see, my mailbox has been full to overflowing during these times. Or, rather, it would be if e Mail was a physical thing. Messages from the Grand Lodge. Messages from our DRs and AD. Messages from the Grand York Rite bodies. Messages from Supreme Bethel, Grand Guardian Council and others from the Jobiverse. These messages don't count the totality of the messages and e Mails, because I still have work and all of those clients who count on our Company as an essential service. All of these messages tell of closings, postponements, of changes to the way we have worked and lived over the past years and are the change that our children will speak of in years to come.

When I am faced with all of these messages, I try and remember that each of these messages comes from a person. Each message is a story of fear, of concern, of a loss of sorts. Each message tells of sickness, of sadness, of a need to make changes in our lives. And each of these messages comes with a renewed need for us to reach out to our Brothers and Sisters, our families, and our extended

circle of friends. If it were just these messages of sorrow, we may never see the daily joy, and with only sadness and fear, life is far from worth going on.

We are faced with the prospect of our Grand Commandery session being canceled, postponed, or otherwise modified to be in compliance with Grand Encampment rulings, as well as those of World Health Organization. While the session is still planned, and we urge you to come to perhaps the best session I have seen, we are mindful of the situation we find ourselves in. Due to the timelines of publication, this may have all changed by the time you are able to read these words. I can only hope that we will be able to meet, conduct business, and once again, to shake hands. But knowing that may all change, and that we may have to find other means to conduct the business of this Grand Commandery, I also know you will all do so with grace and decorum.

Tonight, as you go to bed, I urge you to make a plea to our Savior. Know that there are those in need out in these cold streets, and across the world. There are those who most need your kind words, and the prayers that you offer to Him. Your family, your Lodge and all of the world needs you to be the light that cannot be kept under a bushel basket. Most of all, you yourself need that grace, that peace that even one person can bring into your life. Remember that and remember that we are here for all of you. Think of us kindly, as we will all be thinking of you. And remember to be that light to others, in His name.

Be seeing you when this is all over...

SK Brian K. Dimatteo, KTCH, KTC
Grand Commander, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of
Minnesota

Isaiah 41:13

¹³ For I, the LORD thy God, will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, 'Fear not; I will help thee.'