



**Missouri Supplement**  
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## Giving Thanks in Troubled Times!

### GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

As November arrives, so does the season of thanksgiving. Veterans Day is first to honor our veterans. Veterans Day originated as Armistice Day. It was first observed on November 11, 1919, the first anniversary of the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I. It became a national holiday in 1938. On November 11, 2020, I would like to remember and thank all of the veterans for their service and sacrifice. In particular, I want to personally thank the Sir Knights who have served this great country. I take my Chapeau off to you for your service.

Thanksgiving Day is the traditional day when we assemble around the table with family and friends to give thanks for the blessing of a bountiful harvest. As we gather with our families this year, let us also remember that this holiday may not be a happy one for some of our neighbors who are alone during the holiday season. If possible, invite them to share your family celebration. After all, as Christians, we should watch out for people in our Communities.

During this holiday season, please take time to reflect on those Brothers, Companions, and Sir Knights whose friendship has enriched our lives. Don't forget to thank our Ladies who give their understanding, love, and support which enables us to be Knights Templar.

On behalf of the Grand Commandery Officers, I extend to each of you and your families our sincere wishes for a safe and happy holiday season.

Finally, Janet, Stephanie, and I hope that each of you have an opportunity to enjoy this time with your family and loved ones. May God keep you safe in your travels and bless you with all his love.

"This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24 ESV)

### Christianity - Templary - In Christ's Footsteps!

Sir Knight Charles E. Cooper, Grand Commander

### A THANKSGIVING MESSAGE FROM THE HOSPITALER COMMITTEE

Greetings, Sir Knights, from your Grand Commandery Hospitaler Committee.

At the time of this supplement's writing, we are mid-way through September, and by the time you read this article it will be October. Our lives are filled with news of pandemics and strife. There is fear and uncertainty aplenty. I hear of conflicts between Turkey and Greece and skirmishes on the border between India and China. There is domestic political unrest and social division unlike any I have seen in my lifetime. The northwestern United States is ablaze and I just heard that Yellowstone experienced a quake storm.

My mind is literally swimming with too much input. So, what kind of thanksgiving message am I supposed to convey?

I look down and right in front of my eyes is that perfect creation. A flower may be considered the pinnacle of any floral garden. A gardener I am not, but this year I decided to take advantage of our lockdown and try my hand at planting some roses in front of my house. They have been blooming for months. When one set of buds would bloom and die off, then another group would take its place. They have been like staggered fireworks going off for much of the summer. They are beautiful! I take no credit for the success of the roses, only for the initiative to plant them. I have a black thumb, so these flowers are something of a miracle to have survived my gardening skills or lack thereof.

My point is this, that amidst all of the turbulence and anxiety of 2020, my three rose bushes flourished. It seems, almost, as if the vices and superfluities of our world had no impact on the perfection of the roses. In a similar fashion, these same challenges have no impact on the perfect love that Jesus has for each of us. Regardless of what challenges and uncertainties you may face during the remainder of 2020, rest assured that just as my roses continued to flourish, so will the love of our Savior continue to shine upon us, one and all! A perfect flower to symbolize a perfect love, one that is impervious to our current events.

Take a few minutes to smell the roses. You will be glad that you did.

Sir Knight Michael C. Rohman, Chairman, Hospitaler Committee

### THE KNIGHT'S THANKSGIVING

On Thanksgiving day when we give thanks for all that the Lord has done for us during the year, we should also remember the Eucharist – a Greek word meaning "thanksgiving." We should pause at this time to consider the divine mystery of God's love. In the Holy Eucharist, God gives us His only Son. Jesus gives us His Body and His Blood in Holy Communion. God gives us everything in the Eucharist. We should celebrate the Eucharist every day by giving thanks for life itself. Life is precious and all too fleeting. We should also give thanks for our chance to love. God loves us and we should take every opportunity to return that love. Life is all about love. We should not squander our opportunities to give or to receive love.

May Our Eucharistic Lord and Savior grant us the grace of always giving thanks for all that He bestows on us.