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**California Supplement  
 Grand Commander's Message  
 Oct. 2020**

**Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."**

Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies,

The month of October in a "normal" situation is when the incoming officers reassess and finalize their plans for the ensuing year. The incoming High Priest of the Chapter, Illustrious Master of the Council and the Eminent Commander of the Commandery as well as the Dais officers have to prove that they are qualified and commendable to sit in the advanced chair, then elections come next. Each body of the York Rite will attempt to replicate the normal in-person method by a totally different means that has never been done before. There will be doubt and challenges that come up in doing qualifications and elections virtually, but thanks to the hard work of the Sir Knights behind the scenes, a solution is at hand. Directives will be issued to local bodies when ready; all in strict compliance with the precautionary measures and restrictions still in effect.

This pandemic is unexpectedly overstaying and horribly stirring up the whole world with uncertainty as to when normalcy will return. We know that when the time comes, it will be a "new normal" which will most likely be totally different than what we were used to prior to this pandemic. It really is a crazy year but I remain optimistic in that what went down will surely come back up and will likely be more efficient and more effective than previously.

We are all in this together and together we will conquer it and will come out smarter and stronger.

Masonic activities continue to be at stand-still where nothing much is happening, there are no new candidates and we can't recruit new members nor are we able to advance them to the next degree. Despite all of that, let us create something in the interim and take advantage of the advancements in broadcasting technology so that even in the midst of this pandemic we can work around the restrictions. Let us utilize all the virtual meeting platforms available to enable us to be in constant contact with our membership. Extend an invitation to ALL the members of your Commandery including those who are not able to attend due to infirmities, those that have not been seen in the Lodge for a while and those sir knights driving long distances, sometimes more than two hours sitting in heavy traffic just to attend an hour long Stated Conclave.

The Grand Commander's General Order #1 has been circulated to all constituent Commanderies authorizing virtual monthly Templar conclave for the dispatch of business. It was sent out with the approval stamp of the Jurisprudence Committee. Monthly Templar conclaves can be done through any available virtual meeting platform, effective September 2020 until further notice. I am confident that attendance to the virtual meetings and restoration of membership will improve.

Let us continue to show support to our charities for the year, The Knight Templar Eye Foundations, Inc. A one-time donation of \$30.00 will make you a Life Sponsor, which is open only to Knights Templar. The Cancer Research America, a National Foundation for Cancer Research (NFCR). Your donation will fund the continued research for a cure to Metastatic Breast Cancer; the disease that took away the sunshine of my life, my Lady Julieta.

In His Service,  
*Cirilo Marquez*  
 Grand Commander

My Motto: "Together=Success, Small is Huge"

**Shelter in-place is safest, wear a mask and observe social distancing.**