



Missouri Supplement
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Saints Be With Us!

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

I sincerely hope that, when this magazine reaches your mailbox, everyone in your family is healthy and safe.

In the month of October we will begin our Regional Grand Conclaves. The first one will be on October 3rd and the remaining three will be held on October 24th, November 14th, and December 5th. All of the Regional Conclaves will be held using the Grand York Rite's WebEx virtual meeting service. Each meeting will begin at 10:00 am and will be approximately two hours long. It is only necessary for you to attend one of the meetings since the agenda and presenter will remain the same for all four Regional Conclaves. However, you are welcome to attend as many of the meetings as you desire. I hope that you find the content of the Regional Conclaves interesting and that you enjoy the Knightly discussions during this time when we are unable to meet in person.

In keeping with the tradition started during Grand Commander Larry Odom's year, I have asked our Grand Standard Bearer, Sir Knight Terry D. Coppotelli, to pen an article for this month's supplement. I hope that you enjoy it.

Christianity - Templary - In Christ's Footsteps!

Sir Knight Charles E. Cooper, Grand Commander

A MESSAGE FROM THE GRAND STANDARD BEARER

In 1982, I was fortunate enough to visit Europe between attending College and the Marine Corps. When in Rome, besides running into Ronald Reagan (that is a story for another time), I visited the Pantheon. The Pantheon is one of the oldest surviving buildings of the Roman Empire. Upon entering, I was struck by how something so ancient could be so well crafted. As soon as you walk inside, you have the perception of being outside. Its roof is still considered the largest unreinforced concrete dome of that time period, and it is naturally lit from an oculus or hole in the center of the dome. An odd characteristic of the structure is the fact that the inside walls form a huge rounded room, and the floor is slightly convex. The slope from the center of the floor to the outer edge is designed this way to permit rain water that enters through the oculus in the dome to flow into a drain system surrounding the inside wall.

Built around 113 AD, its name is derived from the ancient Greek language "of, relating to, or common to all the gods." The Byzantine Emperor Phocas later gave the Pantheon to Pope Boniface IV. On May 13, 609 or 610, it was consecrated as a church to the "Blessed Virgin and all the Martyrs," and Pope Boniface ordered an anniversary and feast of the dedication to St. Mary and the Martyrs. This has been celebrated in Rome ever since.

Over time, the date of the event has changed to November 1st, and has become what we know today as "All Saints' Day." It is followed by "All Souls' Day" on November 2nd. According to Catholic history, Saint Ulrich was the first Saint canonized by a Pope (Pope John XV in 993 AD). Since the canonization of St. Ulrich, there have been over 10,000 people canonized as Saints.

Which brings us to the purpose of this article. Like many Christian holidays, modern society has commercialized All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. It seems that the night before All Saints' Day eclipses the day of obligation itself and many have lost sight of the purpose of All Saints' Day and All Souls' Day. This year, on Saturday, October 31st, it is okay to enjoy ourselves and have fun. But please remember Sunday, November 1st, and Monday, November 2nd, as the holy days of obligation that they signify. Please honor the true meaning of these days by praying for the Saints and the Souls no longer of this Earth.

Sir Knight Terry D. Coppotelli, Grand Standard Bearer

SHARE YOUR LOVE

We are transformed and filled up with love when God is in our lives. And if we are filled up with God's love, then that love will overflow to others. But we must actively participate in the sharing of God's love with others. We do not need to worry that we will run out of God's love because He will fill us up again and again if we but remain faithful. God has symbolically made each and every one of us Saints through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We need to live our lives in a manner that honors that gift and trust.

"But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on one cheek, turn to them the other also. If someone takes your coat, do not withhold your shirt from them. Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you." (Luke 6: 27-31, NIV)

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do that. And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, expecting to be repaid in full. But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." (ibid.: 32-36)