



Pennsylvania Crusader

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA

pagrandcommandery.org

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Sean M. Tomasic, Grand Commander

Greetings Sir Knights:

Here it is – October 2020. It continues to be an unpredictable year. Events continue to be altered or cancelled. Some things in our daily and masonic lives are getting back to ‘normal’, whereas other things are still not permitted. I generally must write this communication between 6 and 8 weeks before the month that it is published. Thus, as August ends, we continue to pray that September will be better as our lives continue to adapt in this pandemic world where we find ourselves.

If you have been attentive this Templar year, you are aware that St. Paul and his teachings are a focus for my year as Grand Commander. In getting through this pandemic I wanted to share a popular writing of his and explore its’ message:

For we walk by faith, not by sight, 2 Corinthians 5:7; KJV

What does this verse mean or imply? First - in some versions of the bible, walk is replaced by *live*. This has generally been held as acceptable – but in doing so, has led to a different interpretation of the verse.

When *live* is used in the verse, it generally implies that the Corinthians must/should live a life of *faith*. That verb tense implies seeking. When reading the rest of Chapter 5 and considering the other verses along with verse 7, it is interpreted that St Paul is simply stating a fact. The Corinthians already *walk* (have faith). Thus, we already have *faith*.

The reference to *sight* is described as physical sight and implied that now we cannot see the Lord.

So, what does all this mean? ***Faith*** and ***Trust***

We *walk* and thus *live* in the *faith* of our Lord in the unseen.

We take our next steps in *trust* and take it blindly for we have *faith* – that will guide us.

I simply put forward this verse to bring an analogy between St. Paul’s writing and our current situation. Yes, the verse is set between our

lives on earth and our future eternal life with the Lord in heaven.

However, in our current time, if we keep our *faith* and beliefs in the Lord, we will get through this pandemic together. God is leading us.

Keep the *faith* my Fraters!

I continue with prayers for you, your families and loved ones to be safe and happy not only during these times, but for all times.

Yours in Templary,

Sean M. Tomasic

REGC

A Letter from the Grand Prelate:

For everything God created is good, and nothing is to be rejected if it is received with thanksgiving. 1 Timothy 4:4 (NIV)

The Grand Commander has been talking to us about “change.” During this pandemic that we are all experiencing right now it seems like change has been occurring on a daily basis. Nothing is the same anymore. However, in God’s creation change becomes something wonderful to behold. Autumn is the time of year when we can see the beauty of God’s majesty all around us—colorful leaves, pumpkins patches, blue skies and the glistening frost in the morning sun. Today would be a good time to take a moment to enjoy this beautiful time of the year. As you are raking up the fallen leaves to be placed in bags for pick-up. Be inspired to rake up some of those past hurts and disappointments along with the leaves and let them go. Be ready to bare your heart as the tree prepares itself to stand bare in winter.

Lord, if we take the time to look, there is beauty all around us. May I never take for granted Your helping hand and the wonder of Your creation.

Rev. & S.K. Orville R. Jones, HPC, IKT, GP

Some Upcoming Events

(Dates are scheduled, but tentative until confirmed due to the pandemic):

October 18 - North East Section Reception

October 24 - Central Section Reception

November 13-14 - Line Officers Seminar