

**District of Columbia Supplement  
Sir Knight Kevin S. Matthews  
Right Eminent Grand Commander**

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<http://knightstemplar.org/gckt/dc>

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Sir Knights, the COVID -19 epidemic currently holding siege to our country and the world over is affecting businesses and households in diverse ways. Certainly, some of our Sir Knights have not been spared from its downstream negative effects.

An important question most of us need to ask and answer at this crucial time is how we can assist the less fortunate among us? Here are few thoughts to consider: setting up special emergency assistance funds, regularly establishing contacts with the elderly and home bound, establishing permanent Knight Templar/Masonic information platform and renewing our faith in the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**Establishing special emergency assistance funds for deserving Sir Knight within each Grand Commandery:** We have seen record numbers of Americans filing for unemployment benefits for the first time due to the devastating effects of corona virus. Our Masonic family is no exception, and as such, it behooves us as Knight Templars to do our best to set up a special emergency assistance funds within each Grand Commandery, if not already done, to timely assist struggling Sir Knights in alleviating financial pains caused by the corona virus. This emergency assistance funds application must be streamlined, easy to process and available to deserving Sir Knights.

**Establishing regularly contacts with the elderly and home bound:** Undoubtedly, communication is perhaps the lifeline of any organization, especially this of ours. Statistics have shown that the elderly, home and bed-bound citizens are more at risk of corona infections and more susceptible to quick and untimely death. Significant numbers of our elderly population live by themselves

either as widowed or with fewer relatives to check on their welfare regularly. As Sir Knights, every reasonable effort must be made by each Commandery within the Grand Commandery to check on their welfare to ensure they remain safe within their environment; and should the need arise, render timely assistance to them.

**Establishing Knight Templar/Masonic Information Platform within Grand Commandery to provide:** You have heard the old adage: "knowledge is power." With the establishment of a permanent Information Platform within each Grand Commandery designed to develop, generate and disseminate needful and timely information to include, but not be limited to; community resources, food supply, social services, therapy, mental health services, and employment. Such a platform may certainly alleviate a significant amount of the economic pain caused by the corona virus.

**Renewing our faith in the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ:** Now is perhaps to time to reconnect with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who can deliver mankind from all bondage. The Bible says, "'For I know the plans I have for you,' says the LORD." "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11). The Bible also says, "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9). In today's world, people everywhere are discouraged. Many are fearful. Many wonder, "Where is God? He is here ... for you ... right now. Jesus said, "When you go through hard times, I will be there for you. Invite Jesus into your life.

**Yours in All Knightly Courtesy,**

*Kevin S. Matthews*

**Grand Commander 2019-2020  
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar  
of the District of Columbia**

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