

Greetings fellow Sir Knights, Companions, and Brothers, wherever dispersed!

This will probably be my last entry for the Knights Templar Magazine Nebraska Supplement. I was Grand Commander during one of the most difficult and dare I say challenging times in our fraternity's long and rich history, COVID-19. Our Grand Master closed our conclaves to protect our fellow Sir Knights and Brothers. I feel this was the correct choice based on the knowledge we had at the time, of this disease. This completely changed the scope of my duties and the mission I would usually perform during a normal tenure for Grand Commander Knights Templar of Nebraska. Along with the changes necessary for my duties, my goal for these articles also had to change. I was motivated to promote a feeling of hope to those who read these articles, and to remind my fellow Sir Knights that we still have a mission to God, our country, families and each other. In drafting these articles, I sincerely pray I have accomplished my goal, and that I reminded you of the comfort and light offered to you and your families by our heavenly father, during these times while I was writing the Nebraska Supplement for the magazine. I also chose a theme for all of these articles based on an old operative Knights Templar saying: Navare operam Quid impedit (Latin: Do your duty, come what may!) I chose this to remind myself, as well as my Brothers and Sir Knights that no matter what is happening in the world around us, we still have a mission and duties to perform and accomplish. This includes

contacting our fellow Sir Knights and Brothers to check in on them, helping where the need is greatest. Reaching out to your communities also to help your fellow man as our savior Jesus Christ has taught us. Lastly to be a strong and upright pillar for you family.

This disease, in one form or another has touched us all. From those losing employment, closing of businesses, and the tragic loss of loved ones and friends. The good news is that the vaccines have been available for a while now, and more people have been inoculated. Soon, I pray, we will continue to move closer to the freedoms we have known in our country for generations.

That being said, let me remind you that our fraternity still needs your help. This is not a trivial matter. We need to reach out into our community, and find good men to bring into our Blue Lodges. As I have stated before the Blue Lodges are our "well of souls", and thus it is from these lodges where we choose our next set of Brothers and Sir Knights!

I have enjoyed writing these articles, it has been an honor and pleasure serving as your Grand Commander during 2020. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Sir Knight Dan Marr, who "kicked me in the backside" to remind me when these articles were due, so that I would not miss an entry for the magazine. This may be the last time you see this motto, however please keep it near and close to your heart and soul. Let it remind of your duties to God, country, family and your fellow Sir Knights and Brothers: Navare operam Quid impedit (Latin: Do your duty, come what may!)

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