



# Grand Commandery Knights Templar Massachusetts & Rhode Island



STATE NEWS for AUGUST 2021



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This month, named after Caesar Augustus, brings the greatest cumulative heat of the season to the Northern Hemisphere. It is perfect weather for camping, hiking, fishing, gardening, or just sitting on the front porch with friends and having something cool to drink while watching the world go by. Traditionally, it has been meant to be a time of Masonic rest – a period of getting ready for the commencement of the new Masonic Activities Year beginning next month. I like to think of it as a time for reading, reflection, and thinking about the future of the Craft. It is a time to plan for that future and to use the lessons learned from the past in order to improve that future. This has been a truly wonderful experience for Barbara and me. It is you, Sir Knights -- and our Ladies, that have made it so. Within a few short weeks, my term will be over and nothing but memories. I hope that those memories will not only be pleasant ones for me, but for all of you as well. If there have been mistakes made, now is the time for you and I to think of how we can help amend them in the future. Meanwhile, take your rest and get ready for September.  
May God Bless You All S.K. James S.Stone, Sr., REGC/MA.&R.I

### ***PRELATE's MESSAGE***

Masonically summer is often viewed as a time to rest and refresh ourselves, to prepare for the year to come, to make our plans and set our course. As we do so I can't help but think of Jesus' preparation of the 40 days in the desert. How the devil tempted him and tested his determination to follow his path. Matthew 4:1-10 relates this story to us. Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. "If you are the Son of God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test. Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me. Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only. As we prepare our plans and focus on what is to come let us also remember to bring a renewed spirit of service and commitment to our purpose, that of being Christian Knights and serving together to fulfill God's will for us. In his service and in His name I pray this for us all. Peace to you.  
God bless you all. Glen Cunningham