

**ARIZONA
SUPPLEMENT**

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**Apartment of the Grand Prelate
Advent and Christmas, AD 2021**

Right Eminent Grand Commander:

On behalf of the Poor Fellow Soldiers of Christ and of the Temple in the Desert, whom you command, I give you greetings in this season of anticipation and fulfillment.

The Christian New Year begins with the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle on November 30th. This is only fitting, as St. Andrew is known to Orthodox Christians as "St. Andrew First-Called" to honor him as the first of the twelve Apostles whom Jesus took to assist Him in His ministry. From this significant day each year, we Christians are offered the opportunity to taste the joyful anticipation of Advent which leads us to that great and happy event: The Feast of the Nativity, or Christmas.

In a time when assaults on the Christian Religion are frequent and even increasing, not only in places where other religious traditions are not required to be tolerant of the minorities within their borders, but in our country, where Christians are a great majority, agitators beat their drums of protest, seeking the destruction of American and Christian values and traditions. They are few but loud and the sensation-seeking media are their willing helpers. Their poison is spread thin, but wide.

Our times present us with the opportunity to perform an act which we have vowed to undertake: Wielding our swords in defense of the Christian Religion. This we can do only symbolically, but done with skill and persistence, we as Knights Templar can make a difference. Lead us, Right Eminent Grand Commander, to make that difference.

We wish for you and your family and friends the warmest felicitations for this happiest of seasons, and also wish you every success in leading our Grand Commandery in the New Civil Year!

Yours in the Fellowship of Christ,
David G. Stankow, KCT, HPGC,
Grand Prelate.

**GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE
Christmas 2021**

Sir Knights All, Ladies and Guests:

It is my extreme joy to be able to bring you greetings from the officers of the Grand Commandery of Arizona.

I always consider this time of year as a time of reflection; not only a review of things we've done but things we've left undone. We all have a tendency to put things off, and sometimes through our lethargy see completing the simplest task as a great sacrifice. Masonically, this can hold especially true when we are asked to give of our time "to the fraternity" around the holidays. Sure, family and friends are tremendously important, but please don't forget that your Brothers and Sisters in Masonry are your family too, and for some, you are their ONLY family. This time of year, while joyous for most, can be the hardest for others; so please don't forget your Brothers and Sisters that need a little extra attention the next few weeks. As a follower of the Light of the World, it is your responsibility to share that light with those that need it most.

So next time you are feeling like you are making a great sacrifice for the Craft or for a Brother, Sister, or Youth of the Fraternity, put that sacrifice in the perspective of the ultimate sacrifice a certain someone made whose birthday we will be celebrating soon. In comparison to what our Lord and Savior did for all of us, your petty complaint is laughable.

Spend some time this season first thinking about what a bright and glorious light was sent into this world by Yahweh the Father. His love for us took precedent over the life of his own son Yeshua; what an amazing gift. So, celebrate Yeshua's glorious birth and Yahweh's wonderful gift to all humanity, but then take some time to reflect that the Son's wonderful light was extinguished so that YOUR light could continue to shine. Once you do that, your problems don't seem that bad anymore, do they? Once your problems and worries are pushed aside, there remains no room left except for gratitude and happiness.

I wish a joyous Christmas season full of love, light, and laughs for you and your entire family.

May Yahweh, the Father, continue to bless all of us and this wonderful fraternity of Knights Templar who will forevermore honor the name of his son: our Lord, our Strength and our Redeemer, Yeshua the Christ, the Light of the World. Amen.

Chadwick Burks
Grand Commander
Knights Templar of Arizona