



## IOWA NEWS FOR DECEMBER

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Sir Knights,

It's hard to believe that 2021 is drawing to a close! It seems a lot has happened this year in our country and our Order, however at least for me this year has been a blur. I was glad that we were able to reopen our Commanderies and begin knighting new Sir Knights into our Order, and be present in other Masonic and civil ceremonies. I am looking forward to a great 2022 and moving our Order forward.

There has been some chatter nationally about the actions taken by Grand Master Johnson, and as of this writing there will be a special Conclave of the Grand Encampment called in March at the East Central Department Conference in Fort Wayne, Indiana. To me all of this is unnecessary noise and does nothing to further our Order. I made comments at the North Central Department Conference that I think all of this is nonsense, no matter which side of the issue you are on. To me it is a distraction from the world's problems. I have similar thoughts on the happenings in our country and world at large.

As we enter the Christmas season, I think it is important that we keep our eyes on Christ and the Bible. If we keep focused on doing Christ's work, all of the other problems and disagreements will fall away. If we do that, we will be able to truly change the world for the better, and be more like what God intended us to be.

I write these words hoping that you will find relevance in them and hope that you can find them. With the new Triennium these notes are no longer published in the printed version of the Knights Templar magazine, and I can't help but wonder if they are read. If you are reading this, please drop me a note and let me know. I understand the reason for no longer printing, and the financial expense that is saved, however I think in times of declining membership, we should be doing more to get our messages out and not worry about expenses. But this is just my opinion.

I wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. I urge you all to reflect on your Christian vows of knighthood and remain focused on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Until we meet again, I remain

In His Service

Chris Beard, Grand Commander