



Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois



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Grand Commander

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Merry Christmas Sir Knights of Illinois,

We are in the heart of the Christmas season. The chill is in the air and leaves are on the ground but hope and love are all around. This time of year, we take the time to think of Family and Friends. Family is the first to greet us or the first ones we greet when born into this fabulous and precious life. Friends greet us latter as we walk, crawl, and roll through life. Family and Friends are there when we lay down our swords and join Gods Great Asylum.

This kind of reminds me of a story I heard. A young woman with child and her husband were on a journey. The young woman, we will call Mary, went into labor with only her husband, we will call Joseph, to attend her. There, a baby boy, we will call Jesus, was greeted into this world by his family. A few days later three friends showed up with gifts to greet the young boy.

I call upon all Commanderies to partake in Christmas Libations this year. Invite Friends and Family to celebrate the season with your fellow Sir Knights in honoring the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ. It is a great time to introduce Templary to non-Templars. Invite a local Minister to deliver a Christmas Message. Finally Honor the Templars and Ladies of the Commandery who laid down the working tools and those who are unable to attend due to illness or disability.

Finally, plan your Christmas Celebration with Friends and Family. Be thankful for the gifts of the season. The most precious is love for your fellow man. God loved us and gave us his Greatest Gift, his only son Jesus Christ. We all should spread and return the love. I wish we could all break bread and celebrate together.

Merry Christmas from my Family,

John M. Sansone, Grand Commander