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## 2021-2022 GRAND COMMANDERY OF TEXAS MONTHLY MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

As the holidays quickly approach, my hope is that all of the Sir Knights of Texas are in good health and prospering. For me, I was not expecting us to be still struggling with Covid and now supply chain constraints. It sometimes feels like we just can't get a break. However, we are now in the month of December, and we have a lot to celebrate!! We rejoice in the birth of our Savior. We celebrate his good deeds and the salvation that he offers to each of us. I wish each and every one of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Our Grand Officers are wrapping up their inspections. I hope that everyone had a good time with fellowship and enjoying one another's company.

Don't forget about the Commander's Challenge. Our goal is for each constituent commandery to donate \$1,000 to be split amongst our Youth Fraternal Organizations. Both the DeMolays and the Rainbows would benefit greatly from our generosity.



**For fun, I would like to share some quirky Christmas traditions from around the world that I found online (<https://theculturetrip.com>):**

**Krampus – South Germany and Austria**

**Krampus is a goat/demon being that carries a basket on its back. The creature goes around collecting badly behaved children. The creature is well-known in holiday folklore of some European countries.**

**Mass of the Rooster – Bolivia**

**Legend has it that a rooster crowed around midnight to announce the birth of Jesus. Bolivians eagerly attend church to celebrate Misa del Gallo, “Mass of the Rooster.”**

**The Spider Brings Luck – Ukraine**

**Legend goes that a widow and her children received a Christmas tree but did not have any funds to decorate it. The tree was placed in their home and on Christmas morning a spider’s web covered the tree. When a window was opened and daylight shone on the web, it turned to silver and gold. To honor this legend the Ukrainian people often use plastic spiders and webs to decorate their trees.**

**Throw a Shoe – Czech Republic**

**On Christmas Day, single women throw shoes over their shoulders towards the front door of the home. If the shoe lands with the toe pointing towards the door, the lady will marry within the year, but if the heel faces the door, she will remain single for another year.**

**KFC Christmas Feast – Japan**

**Christmas is not a national holiday in Japan but due to a crazy marketing campaign the Japanese folks have a unique version of Christmas Eve dinner. Turkey isn’t a common food item in Japan, so KFC marketed its chicken as a traditional meal for the holidays. Over the years the idea has caught on and become a holiday tradition.**

**Giant Lantern Festival – Philippines**

**The Saturday before Christmas Eve, the country celebrates Ligligan Parul, the Giant Lantern Festival. Competition is held amongst the villages to create the most beautiful lanterns. They measure 20 feet in diameter are constructed of bamboo, handmade paper and up to 5,000 light bulbs which they arrange in beautiful patterns and shine with various vivid colors.**

**In closing, I would like to leave you with a scripture:**

***“She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21.21***

**I wish all the Sir Knights of Texas a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas.**

***Rennie Wilson***

**Grand Commander 2021 – 2022**





Merry Christmas, it's that wonderful time of the year again, beautiful decorations, lights, tinsel and all the little children on their best behavior anticipating their Christmas gifts. We adults never get too old for this Wonderful time of the year.

As we count our many blessings and joys, we need to remember that **“JESUS Is the Reason for the Season”**.

**My Message to the Sir Knights and their Families this Christmas Season.... is the message of “LOVE”, and I will be presenting it through a little Christmas symbolism.**

## The Poinsettia

The reason we associate poinsettias with the holidays comes from an old Mexican legend. A young girl named Pepita was sad that she didn't have a gift to leave for the baby Jesus at Christmas Eve services. Her cousin tried to comfort her and said that Jesus would love any present from her, even the smallest one. With no money to buy a real gift, Pepita picked a bouquet of weeds that she walked past on the way to church. (Other versions of the story say an angel came to her and instructed her to pick the plants.) When she got there, she left the weeds at the bottom of the nativity scene. All of a sudden, the weeds transformed into beautiful red flowers. The shape of the poinsettia flower and leaves are sometimes thought as a symbol of the “Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men to JESUS. The red colored leaves symbolize the blood of Christ. The white leaves represent Christ' purity. While the green leaves and stems remind the faithful of Jesus being compared to the Vine that brings us essential growth, spiritual nourishment, and Everlasting life.

This is [why Christmas colors are red, white, and green.](#)

We can all learn a lesson from this young girl. We need to constantly show our God the LOVE that he has shown us by sending His Son Jesus to bear the sins of all.



Christmas Message  
December 25, 2021

**2 John 3-6 (NIV)**

**3** Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and from Jesus Christ, the Father's Son, will be with us in truth and love.

**4** It has given me great joy to find some of your children walking in the truth, just as the Father commanded us. **5** And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. **6** And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND GOD BLESS AND KEEP EACH OF YOU SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON.**

This message was prepared by:

*Sir Knight Carl W. Wunsch*  
*Grand Prelate 2021-2022*