



**MASSACHUSETTS &  
RHODE ISLAND  
SUPPLEMENT**

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**FEBRUARY MESSAGE**

February – the shortest month of the year, should be one of the busiest for commanderies. Many things that were going on at the same time last year are now on hold... Order conferrals, social events, and special Masonic meetings of all kinds. With the Holiday Season of Christmas and New Year's behind us, now is the time to start building momentum for the reopening of our Templar year.

As part of that momentum, I would remind everyone that a well planned meeting is the key to success. Keep your business meeting short. One way to achieve this is to include the monthly minutes and treasurers reports in your monthly communication. EVERY member of your Commandery is entitled to receive this information weather they attend or not. Another program is our new Templar Lecture series. A brief meeting, quality entertainment, a good meal and plenty of socializing goes a long way to boost morale and attendance!

Reach out to your Division Commander for more information.

I'm planning to host another "Sunday Evening with the Grand Commander" this month. Again, this will be another zoom meeting. Topics will include a Covid update with S.K. Don Stevens. The work of the year, best guess as to when we can open, office update, Q&A.

And let us not forget – February is for remembering your special Valentine! Flowers, cards, and a special evening is always appropriate to let your Valentine know that you appreciate the support you get all year long. Templary would not be possible without them. Be safe and stay healthy,

S.K. James S. Stone, Sr., Commander

**PRELATE's FEBRUARY MESSAGE**

When we think of February we usually think of St. Valentines day, hearts and flowers for our special someone. As I write this there is no way to know what we will be able to do if anything this year to gather and celebrate together. Consider St. Paul's famous words to the Corinthians on the topic of Love.

*"Love is patient, love is kind. Love is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury. Love does not rejoice over wrong-doing, but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."*

Familiar words to us all most likely and often heard at weddings. I remember it being read at mine many years ago. The last months have certainly tried our patience, taught us to try and do what is best for everyone in our social gatherings or lack thereof. We may feel long suffering at this point and hopeful that an end to our isolation is coming quickly. I think we can identify with this description now more than ever.

Perhaps at last we understand a tiny bit better how our Lord must feel towards us. Despite our shortcomings, our rebellions, our refusal to accept his love, he still loves us. Indeed so much his Son sacrificed himself to save us. Paul wasn't describing love between husband and wife although the verses are certainly fitting, he was explaining God's love for us. As we turn our thoughts towards Easter and the sacrifice our Blessed Savior made on Calvary let us strive to emulate that love in our lives so we may be worthy of his love for us.

God bless you all

Glen Cunningham , Grand Prelate