



Washington Supplement

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Greetings Sir Knights:

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for your vote of confidence in me by electing me as your Right Eminent Grand Commander for the 2021-2022 Templar year. I will do my best to attempt to live up to your expectations. My predecessors have left a great legacy, and I hope that I will not disappoint you in continuing that legacy.

Several objectives, of great importance to me, and I hope also to you, must be pursued to continue to make Knights Templar and Freemasonry a vital part of the future. One is our candidates who have been kept, I hope patiently, in waiting to join our ranks. The restrictions will hopefully be lifted soon, and then we must concentrate on the conferral of Degrees and Orders. In that regard, remember that first impressions are lasting, and the presentation of the Orders must be impressive so that our new Knights will have an appreciation which will encourage their further activity in our wonderful fraternity.

My next concern is communication. Although electronics have helped some during the restrictions of the pandemic, I fear we have left behind a number of members who are not savvy to electronics and are not electronically connected. We need to make a concerted effort to keep all members informed of our plans and activities by whatever means of communication are needed. This includes not only electronic media, but also snail mail, telephone, and whatever other means we can come up with. Experience shows that keeping our membership informed and involved will go a long way toward accomplishing our goal of membership retention.

Of much concern to me is education. The symbols employed in our Degrees and Orders are very old and have many layers of meanings. Conferral of the Degrees and Orders can be very impressive, but sometimes the explanations of the philosophy and symbols is superficial. I encourage all to extend their knowledge of the history, philosophy and symbolism of Freemasonry. In this regard, the Companion Adept of the Temple program offered by the York Rite Sovereign Collage of North America is very helpful, and I encourage all of our Sir Knights to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

I look forward to visiting each of the Constituent Commanderies in the Jurisdiction, and the in-person interactions with all of our Sir Knights. In the hope that the Pandemic restrictions are lifted by September, I am planning my Commandery visits beginning in September.

With that I will end this missive, and wish all the very best in this coming Templar year.

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Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Washington