

# New York Supplement

David J. Passalugo, Editor  
1055 Waverly Dr., Hewitt, TX 76643  
[dpassalugo@gmail.com](mailto:dpassalugo@gmail.com) (716) 830.7693



Yves Etienne  
Grand Commander

Greetings Sir Knights,

Once again, it is being reported that many people are infected with new strains. The B117 is still moving in our direction. It is too early and risky to declare victory. Let us all, Sir Knights, continue with caution in the process of reopening our Commanderies: Continue to seek your vaccine, wear your face mask, and follow all the authorities' rules and regulations.

We recently held the School of Instruction and Seminars of 2020-2021, virtually. Sir Knight David D. Goodwin, GCT, MEPGM of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, presentation was well received by all. Sir Knight Goodwin presented an overview on Knights Templar's Structure and Protocol. It was very informative. Sir Knight Goodwin explained how protocol plays a very important role in Templary in general. He is well known on this subject. We are fortunate to have him in our area. Thank you very much for your leadership Sir Knight David. Our next presentation was held on April 16, 2021.

On April 3, 2021, the Grand Commandery presented a virtual Holy Saturday Easter Observance Service commemorating the day that Jesus Christ lay in the tomb after his death. The service was officiated by Rev. & Sir Knight Charles M. Roberts, PGC, Grand Prelate. This event was open to the public.

In April, we celebrated Easter. During a normal year, many Sir Knights, families, and friends would have been in Alexandria, Virginia, to celebrate Easter by attending the yearly Eastern Sunrise Service at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial and walk up the Hill in full Templar uniform to the stains of "Onward Christian Soldiers." Because of the COVID-19 virus we were not together in a large group. The Grand Encampment's virtual Easter Observations were held on Sunday, April 4, 2021.

This year, we had to do all of our Easter celebration at home. Many churches are closed, but some held services online. In my opinion, we don't have to gather together in a house of worship, in order to worship Jesus Christ. We can do it at home and in our heart. We should not let this pandemic divorce us from our faith.

Let us all pray together in order to come out of this pandemic well. Please, I urge you all to continue to stay home, be patient, and stay safe.

Courteously and Fraternally,  
Sir Knight Yves Etienne, R.E.G.C.

## Grand Prelate's Corner

This month I want us to center for a moment on another important aspect of the Christian faith that occurs forty days after the resurrection. This year it will be celebrated on Thursday, May 13, 2021. Have you guessed what that celebration is? It is Ascension Day.

For 40 days after his resurrection, the Bible says that Jesus travelled and preached with his apostles, preparing them for his departure from Earth. Ascension Day marks the moment Jesus literally ascended into heaven before his disciples, at the village of Bethany, near Jerusalem. The Ascension marks the conclusion of Jesus' post-resurrection appearances. It is the final elevation of his human nature to divine glory and the near presence of God.

The Ascension is affirmed by the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds. Ascension is important for us as Christians because it assures us that Jesus Christ reigns with the Father in heaven and is there to intercede for us and by our faith in him we will be granted a place in paradise. Ascension Day's meaning provides a sense of hope that the glorious and triumphant return of Christ is near. It is a reminder of the Kingdom of God within the Templar's heart, and of the ever-present Spirit of God, watching over and protecting us as we spread the light of Jesus' truth throughout the world.

The Ascension of Christ points to the kingship of Christ, and the theological implication is that the Ascension was the final redemptive act conferring participation in the divine life on all who are members of Christ. In other words, Christ "was lifted up into heaven so that he might make us partakers of his Godhead." That's why Templars observe this event for it adds another piece of the puzzle of gospel story concluding with the Day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit will come and lite upon us all.

So we see and experience the gospel story as birth, life, death, resurrection and ascension. It will be finally wrapped with the gift of the Holy Spirit to empower us for service until Christ's return.

---

## From the Editor

As true Christian Knights we have our faith in Christ and are true "Warriors for Christ". In this light we must also be leaders and help protect others from harm in any way we can.

We all must ban together in our faith and with our leaders to overcome the virus we have been battling for so long now. We can't give up—we're so close now to beating this terrible scourge. Have faith, protect yourselves and encourage others to do the same. Get your vaccines and help protect yourself.

If we all help each other we can overcome and beat the beast.