



# Pennsylvania Crusader

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA

pagrandcommandery.org

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**Sean M. Tomasic, Grand Commander**

Greetings Sir Knights:

May starts the new Templar year in Pennsylvania. I congratulate all the new elected officers of the Constituent Commanderies and hope that your term is fulfilling and rewarding for you and your Commandery.

With May it also means this is the last time I get to address you as your Grand Commander. It certainly has been a challenging year for all of us - both in our personal and Templar lives.

What has occurred across the world this past year regarding the coronavirus was to say the least unimaginable. We have been all touched by the loss of a Sir Knight, a family member, a friend or a loved one. Our everyday lives from work to school to our daily routine were challenged, altered, and restricted for most of the year. Fear of the uncertainty may have become part of your daily life. However, we knew that someday, this would change.

As I write this, hope and optimism seems to be growing. Vaccines are available, rules on how many people can congregate together are growing and certain parts of society are re-opening.

I would like to thank **ALL** of you. From the elected and appointed Grand Officers, to the committee members, to my advisors and to the members of each of the Commanderies. We did this together. We met the challenges. We had a blank sheet to work from. We were given the opportunity to meet virtually, and **WE** rose to the challenge. Everything in the virtual world was new to us. If this had occurred 5 years ago in society, we could not have been able to make it happen. We overcame having no in-person conclaves by getting Commanderies meeting online, electing, and installing officers and conducting the monthly business of each Commandery virtually.

Sir Knights were able to communicate with each other. To see and hear each other during these times was a blessing – to know that each other was doing well. Sir Knights were able to virtually travel and visit Commanderies throughout our Grand Commandery and see our Fraters who had moved to various locations throughout the country and even the world.

Our faith, our love and our belief Sir Knights have got us to this point and will continue to see us through it.

**Our 168<sup>th</sup> Annual Conclave will be held virtually this year on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please look for the call and register to attend.**

Sir Knights, I enjoyed my travels throughout my time as Grand Junior Warden to Right Eminent Grand Commander – to serve this Grand Commandery was an honor. I have enjoyed every moment and interaction with you. I did my best to serve you. I hope that I lived up to your expectations. Thank you.

I continue with prayers for you, your families and loved ones to be safe and happy not only during these times, but for all times.

Yours in Templary,  
Sean M. Tomasic  
REGC

### **A Letter from the Grand Prelate:**

***The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.*** Isaiah 40:8 (NIV)

As I write this the March winds are howling and the air is brisk and cold. Spring will soon be upon us for the buds are beginning to sprout on the vegetation around me. Autumn has passed and winter will be but a brief memory. We are reminded that at one time or another all living things will wither and fade. It is our faith in an infinite God who promises life without end that helps us to see the conclusions of life not as endings, but as beginnings. We look forward to the leadership of a new line of officers to begin their term. As my time as your Grand Prelate comes to an end may I offer the words of Genesis 31 verse 49, ***“The Lord watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other.” So mote it be.***

Rev. S.K. Orville R. Jones, HPC, IKT, GP