GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA Knights Templar State News for October 2021



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Greetings Sir Knights, as we begin to wrap up this year we can be proud of the work we have done and all we have accomplished. We can celebrate the new members we have created while at the same time mourning those we have lost. And as this year draws to a close it is important for us to get out and start looking for those Master Masons who have not yet experienced the York Rite and encourage them to attend one of the regional festivals scheduled for February of next year. The potential candidate will need to receive the Mark Master and Past Master Degrees prior to arriving at these regional festivals so it is more important now than ever to start the process of finding those men now.

Some may ask why a Master Mason should become a Knight Templar. Well, I would like to borrow an article from April of 1962 to help answer that question. The information in that article is as pertinent now as it was then.

To quote Sir Knight Galelma J. Buthcher, then the R.E. Grand Commander of Virginia, Every Master Mason, Christian in faith, should strengthen his belief in the principles of clean living by becoming a Knights Templar. Or—shouldn't we say, in these days when the unity of Masonry is so sorely needed, to become a York Rite Mason? In the symbolic Lodge—Master Masons will have received the great lessons, Temperance, Fortitude, Prudence and Justice. They were so deeply impressed with "the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the immortality of the souls."

Their Masonic knowledge and experience would be enriched still further—were they to receive the lessons of Charity, Moderation, Industry and humility; as are so eloquently portrayed in the degrees which are conferred in the Chapter. Here—in Capitular Masonry it would be a continued experience from the drama of the Blue Lodge, and where they would receive something of value which had been lost.

The most meaningful of all Masonic Light available to the Christian brother in Masonry can be found only in the three Orders as are conferred in a Commandery of Knights Templar. Here is where one experiences, witnesses, and worships a superb drama and ritual taken from the life of Christ and the New Testament. Only a Christian can truthfully vow to support and maintain these truths in the importance "Truth," the "Triumph of Immortality" and the reward awaiting the "Faithful Followers of the Cross."

It is the Christian obligation of every Templar to invite and recommend York Rite Masonry to his fellow Blue Lodge brethren.

In concluding I would simply ask each and every one of you to make it your mission to find those Master Masons, who would not only benefit from the lessons of the York Rite, but would be an asset to the future of your Commandery as well.

Sir Knight Mark McFadden Eminent Grand Junior Warden



INSPECTION AT TRINITY No. 20



INSPECTION AT BEN HUR No. 14



INSPECTION AT OKLAHOMA No. 3