



Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Illinois



SK John M. Sansone
Grand Commander

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Illinois State News for April 2022

Greetings Sir Knights of Illinois,

As many of the Sir Knights have heard, The Illinois Grand Commandery attended a historical Special Conclave of the Grand Encampment on March 12, 2022. Illinois had over 20 SKs and Ladies in attendance. The results of the Special Conclave were the removal of the Grand Master Michael Johnson, reversal of many of his decisions, reinstatement of his Deputy Grand Master whom he attempted to remove 2 weeks after his election to that office and installation of the new Grand Master. I would like to congratulate our newest Grand Master, Sir Knight David Joseph Kussman upon his ascension to this high office with great responsibility.

Thoughts run through your head of the teachings of Masonry and the Rites. One proclamation we make as Templars is supreme in my recollections of the events of the Special Conclave. "I now declare in truth and soberness that I entertain no enmity nor ill will against a soul on earth, which I would not freely reconcile, should I find in him a corresponding disposition." These are very powerful words of forgiveness when one is sincerely sorry for a wrongdoing. I wonder how the Sir Knights would have reacted, if Sir Knight Michael Johnson had shown a sincere sorrow for his actions that the membership did not agree with, and which caused the call for the Special Conclave. The few times I had a one-on-one conversation with Sir Knight Johnson, I thought of him as a fine Christian Man. My heart breaks for the err he committed, and Sir Knights, I hope he is sincerely sorrowful for his actions, and worthy of our forgiveness.

Now for a more Joyous message. April is the month that hosts the Highest Holiday of Christendom, Easter. We celebrate the rebirth of our Savior Jesus the Christ, who sacrificed his life on the cross to forgive our sins. He gave mankind a reboot through his crucifixion and resurrection, and a guide to the future through his teachings. It is up to us to determine what we do with the gifts he gave us. Please do not waist them on selfish wants.

This year I have made the decision that Illinois will observe Easter Services at home. We will be joining St. Aldemar Commandery for the Sunrise Service at the Old Cemetery on the Hill in Petersburg, IL. Gathering will be at or before 6:00AM, Service will begin at Sunrise about 6:15. At the conclusion St. Aldemar will open the doors of their Commandery promising hot coffee and refreshment (donations accepted). All Sir Knights may attend and celebrate with us.

The Grand Commandery applied for a grant again this year from the Illinois Knights Templar Assistance Outreach, your charity, for \$2,000 to be sent to each Commandery in the state

with the admonition that the Commanderies are to select worthy projects in their local community and distribute these alms. This is the highest charge in Christianity and Templary to help the needy. Your Commanderies should have already received these funds and I hope the plans are in place for their proper use. We do ask that you report back on how these funds bought relief in your local communities so that we can share your ideas in making a difference in your communities.

Fraternally,

John M. Sansone, Grand Commander

April Inspection Schedule

Commandery	No.	Div.	Date	Notes
Tancred	2	5	4/2/2022	
Joliet	4	1	4/9/2022	
Galesburg	8	2	4/9/2022	Joint w Rock Island at Galesburg
Rock Island	18	2	4/9/2022	Joint w Galesburg at Galesburg
Aurora	22	2	4/23/2022	
St. Bernard	35	1	4/23/2022	
Elwood	6	3	4/30/2022	DAIS VEDGC

Consult the Grand Commandery Website for any changes and updates

***** Due to the passing of Sir Knight William Jackson Jones, MEPGM, I am making ***
the following appointments.**

SK John T. Reidas, REPGC will assume Chairmanship of the Jurisprudence and Protocol Committees.

SK William J. Smith, REPGC is appointed to fill the vacancies on the Jurisprudence and Protocol Committees