

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

Send submissions to Editor SK Patrick C. Carr, PEC — carrs@cox.net



December, 2022

Robert D. McClarty, REGC 2022-2023

The Obligations

Sir Knight Roger Walls, Right Eminent Past Grand Commander

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked his other officers to write articles for the insert, and this month's article was written by our Junior Past Right Eminent Grand Commander.

Over the last three weeks, I have performed three masonic funerals. I know this is a sorrowful time for the family, but at the brother's request they are performed.

Funerals are stressful anytime, but more so at this time of year-Thanksgiving and Christmas time frame, and even up to New Years. As these days return every year, the families are reminded more of a sorrowful time during a time of joy and family celebrations.

As we, and I am referring to masons, more especially York Rite Masons, read and understand the Great Lights writing, we are to be more mournful at a birth and rejoice at the death of the Saints. To my way of thinking on this precept is at birth we are brought into a time that is under great influence more by the secular side of life that is influenced by the prince of the world and at death we are received into a eternal life with our heavenly Father, God. The promise to all who place their trust in God and believe in Jesus Christ as our Savior from this secular influence, into that life with God for an eternity. Again, a promise from the Great Lights on which all masons have made their vows. Our obligations are made on the Great Lights at a very serious time.

Here I want everyone to remember that obligation and vow we have all taken. This obligation is so important to us, that it is repeated over all the orders we have made as York Rite Masons. If you review the different orders obligations, you should see that the obligations have pretty much meaning -they are to our Creator and our belief in eternal life, that transition from this life to time eternal. Our life here on earth is short in comparison to eternity and how we live our lives here determines where that eternal life will be spent.

Masonry in fact give us the guidance we need to enter that great life in the presences of God. As we follow our obligations, and live our lives according to that guidance, the promise of an eternal life in His presence becomes a reality and we are saved. This does not mean we won't face the influence of this secular life, but it will give us the assurance of the life to come with Him, our Creator.

I urge all my brothers to occasionally review your obligation, rededicate your life according to the vow you made at the alter in the middle of the lodge of every order over the Great Lights. And to remember THE BEST IS YET TO COME! I pray a Merry Christmas to All and a Prosperous New Year!

Honor Guard Presentations

The end of the year is fast approaching and the Honor Guard has been busy. Sadly, the Leavenworth parade was held in sub freezing temperatures. It was decided, for the good of our members and their health, to not participate this year. There has been too much sickness throughout our ranks and it was better for our members to stay home and to stay well.

Sir Knights Justin Crippen and Gary Mason took a part of the Honor Guard to a Veteran's Day event at Belle Plaine High School. It was a fantastic event as the Honor Guard presented the colors.



Mt. Olivet Commandery Gives to Charity

Mount Olivet Commandery No. 12, located in Newton, Kansas, and a part of the York Rite bodies residing there, presented checks to charity at their November meeting. Several charities were selected to receive funds from the bodies. One of the groups selected was the Job's Daughters Bethel Number 21 located at the temple in Newton, Kansas. Giving of our

time and our resources to Masonic Youth help our fraternity to continue to grow as we influence and develop the next leaders. Spend time visiting a DeMolay Chapter, a Rainbow Assembly, or a Job's Daughter Bethel. You may be surprised how well you are received and how happy they are to spend time with you.

