



Grand Commandery of Minnesota February 2022  
*Knights Templar*

S.K. Joseph J. Anderson R.E. Grand Commander

Editor Tom Hendrickson P.G.M.

Minnesota Knight Templar Eye Foundation

Greetings Sir Knights of Minnesota, it is my privilege to serve as the chairman of the Eye foundation for the Grand Commandery of Minnesota for 2021-2022. The 54<sup>th</sup> Voluntary Campaign of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) is underway with Sir Knight Lon. W. Kvasager, KCT Past Deputy Commander of the North Central District as the Chairman.

The KTEF was incorporated in 1956. The original mission of the Foundation was “to provide assistance to those who face loss of sight due to the need for surgical treatment without regard to race, color, creed, age, sex or national origin provided they are unable to pay or receive adequate assistance from current government agencies or similar sources and to provide funds for research in curing diseases of the eye.” On December 31, 2010, the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc., by direction of the board, shifted the Foundation’s focus and adopted a new mission statement “to improve vision through research, education, and supporting access to care.” The report of the Knights Templar Eye Foundation, Inc. as of June 1, 2021. \$164 million has been spent on research, patient care and education.

The KTEF is a 501(c)3 charity so all contributions are tax deductible. It receives a 100% rating from Charity Navigator <https://www.charitynavigator.org/ein/520686958> as well as many other independent organizations that rate charitable organizations. The KTEF awards start-up grants, ongoing research grants and endowments. One endowment is close to home at the Mayo Clinic. We have had the pleasure of hearing Dr. Bronsky speak at our Grand Sessions in the past.

I would like to encourage all Sir Knights of MN to give generously to the KTEF. The Grand Commandery is striving for 100% participation in the Life Eye Sponsorship program. The current cost for a Life Eye Sponsor is \$30.00 and can be purchased either directly from the Knight Templar Eye Foundation at <https://www.ktef.org/donations-page> or through your Commandery recorder. Consider taking donations at your stated conclaves and when you reach \$30.00 purchase a Life Eye Sponsor Membership for a Sir Knight that does not have one yet. There are states who have reached this goal and it would be great if Minnesota could join them. Congratulations to Zion Commandery No. 2 on reaching the 100% participation goal.

If you have any questions please reach out to me or any of the Grand Commandery Officers, or visit the Knight Templar Eye Foundation Website at <https://www.ktef.org/>. Thank you Sir Knights for all you do, I consider it an honor to be counted in your ranks.

In His Service,

S.K. Alan Mackenzie

2021-22 MN Eye Foundation Chairman

**True Masonic light is knowledge of the Devine**