



THE GRAND COMMANDERY
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Sir Knight Peter R. Spring, KCT
Right Eminent Grand Commander

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Knightly Greetings,

A message from our Chairman of the Holy Land Pilgrimage Fund

I'm going to the Holy Land! The Knights Templar of Virginia are sending me!

Imagine, a dedicated minister you know saying those words! It can and does happen! Almost every year when conditions in Israel allow. It happens because of YOU, a Knight Templar of Virginia! About fifty ministers from the various states, sponsored by the Knights of their state, almost every year, make a very special pilgrimage to the land of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Knights of Virginia have created and over the years built a fund that allows your committee to use the accrued interest from that fund. With this we are able to send two ministers to participate in the pilgrimage to the Holy Land sponsored by the Grand Encampment of the Knights Templar, USA.

But they are no regular tourist, on a sightseeing tour, no, and yes! This is a working tour, not only will the ministers be seeing and walking in the footsteps of Jesus, but they will also be following an extensive study plan created for them, so they may better and more thoroughly appreciate and understand the voyage they are on, and the location they are in.

We as Knight Templars are very proud that we may sponsor these ministers, selected, and sponsored by your Commandery to participate in this fantastic opportunity. Imagine a minister that has the calling to teach the Christian gospel that has no belief that he might ever have the opportunity to travel to the Holy Land, to actually be able to go. Then imagine that you, as a Knight Templar, are making that dream happen!

But the story doesn't end there! That same minister, returns home, infused with the fire of our Savior! He has been in Jerusalem, breathed the air, touched the buildings, and walked the paths and roads! How much more inspired is that minister to teach and preach the gospels of our Christian Religion?

Sir Knights, all this is only possible because of your generous donations. I strongly urge you to support this truly outstanding charity of ours.

Because of your excellent support of this most worthwhile endeavor, a special award has been created to exemplify your participation, "The Knight of the Holy Land" Award and Medal. With your accumulative or initial donation of \$500, a beautiful Medal and Certificate will be awarded to the donor, and each subsequent \$500 donation, an oak leaf attachment or oak leaf cluster attachment and certificate will be awarded. Watch for these medals on the uniforms of our Virginia Knights, you will see them proudly displayed throughout our Commonwealth!

Courteously, Yours in Christ,



Joel D. Ratliff, KCT, REPGC

Knightings!

It was my privilege, and honor, to personally Knight 31 new Fraters on Saturday, February 5th, at no less a venue than the George Washington Masonic National Memorial.

Piedmont Commandery No.26 held a Festival of Orders comprising the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, The Order of Malta and the Order of The Temple. It turned out to be a long day, but the new Sir Knights fully appreciated the time, dedication and effort that went into organizing a first-class Knight Templar Festival.

All the parts were recited very well, but there were two outstanding renditions of the ritual given first by S. K. Tom Varner, in the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, and second by S. K. Matthew Vepraskas as the Commander in the Order of The Temple.



Please continue to be safe out there!

With all Knightly Courtesy,



S.K. Peter R. Spring, KCT
Grand Commander