

# Grand Commandery of New York

## *September News*



S.K. Dennis S. Davis  
Grand Commander

S.K. David J. Passalugo, Editor

1055 Waverly Dr., Hewitt, TX 76643

[dpassalugo@gmail.com](mailto:dpassalugo@gmail.com), (716) 830-7693

### **FAITH, HOPE AND CHARITY**

Christian Greetings Sir Knights;

September is here and it brings New York's current Templar year to an end while giving birth to another. It always seems to work that way... give a little, take a little. Two steps forward, one step back. Direction is a very important piece of any movement recognizing that both physical and mental directions are of equal importance. I have Faith that we are once again gaining traction and moving forward. The new Sir Knights that were finally able to experience our Orders showed excitement and energy that has fueled a higher Hope for our future than that I could have expected. I truly thank those Commanderies and Zones that worked hard to confer the Orders with proficiency and heart.

Energy, excitement, enthusiasm—these words all describe what I was privileged to witness at Grand Lodge's Camp Turk during the DeMolay Session on August 21. The smiles and preparation we observed were true testaments of the Hope we should share about the future of our youth. While the York Rite Bodies were there to confer the Order of York Tribune, support the installation of the new officers and share in the joys of the occasion, I again was reminded of the undertaking involved by the "Dads" and moms together with staff and all for a successful event as this. To all the leaders, laborers and staff of all the Youth Groups my sincere and continuous thanks for the commitments and sacrifices you make on their behalf. This is true Charity for a worthy cause.

Thank you are fitting final words for many occasions and especially this. I could not escape these words while drafting this final article and I now give in. I am thankful for the opportunity to represent the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar State of New York in our travels this year as Lady Diana and I have made many new friends, renewed old relationships and enjoyed plenty of hospitality. I thank the Grand Line officers, Past Grand Commanders and mostly the Sir Knights and Ladies of this Grand Commandery for the support, encouragement, advice, and fellowship we have enjoyed, not only this Templar year but also the many years leading up to this point. We pray to have the opportunity to support those that follow and those we touch.

Courteously with Brotherly Love,  
Dennis S. Davis, R.E.G.C.

## **Upcoming Events**

Northeast Conference, September 9-10, Albany, NY  
Annual Grand Commandery NY, September 16-18, Utica, NY

---

### **Grand Prelate's Corner**

Antonio Cardinal Bacci (1881-1971) once stated: "There are two kinds of optimism. The first is the optimism of worldlings who expect nothing but pleasure from life. They run away from anything which smacks of sacrifice or self-control and, as a result, virtue is completely outside their grasp." This kind of optimism is an inversion of true human values. Sooner or later, this optimism is converted to pessimism.

Christian optimism abhors the malice of sin, lightens our sufferings and moderates our pleasures. It helps us to see God's image in all creatures—gives us joy in this life and hope in the hour of death. And J. I. Packer preached that "Optimism hopes for the best without any guarantee of its arriving and is often no more than whistling in the dark. But Christian hope, by contrast, is faith looking ahead to the fulfillment of the promises of God. Optimism is a wish without warrant; Christian hope is a certainty, guaranteed by God himself. Optimism reflects ignorance as to whether good things will ever actually come. Christian hope expresses knowledge that every day of his life, and every moment beyond it, the believer can say with truth, on the basis of God's own commitment, that the best is yet to come."

Hope is optimism. Hope is certainty. And hope is engagement. That is why we hope with expectation of the future, trust in Christ, and have patience in waiting. Christian hope is bigger and better than we can begin to conceive. In this sense, let us be Christian optimists.