

# CALIFORNIA KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

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Let Us Celebrate the Birth and Re-birth  
of our Lord and Savior  
*by Sir Knight Roger S. Ross*

*Greetings Fellow Knights,*

Happy Holidays. It's that time of year again. California's weather is cooling off. Parts of the state are even seeing snow. The children are trying their hardest to behave for the final month before Santa visits, hoping he'll forget their last eleven months of mischievousness. Adults are changing decorations from Halloween to Thanksgiving and now to Christmas.

For many people in this world, this is the greatest season of all. Knights Templar in California and indeed around the world are preparing one of our "Mandatory" ceremonies that we attend. I use the quotation marks around Mandatory because while attendance is required for true Knights, I always consider this a fantastic opportunity to introduce a little bit of Templary to the non-member population of our great nation. Invite your relatives, neighbors and friends to join you at your local Commandery or another one in your area that is hosting a Christmas Observance.

Our two so-called "Mandatory" events, Easter and Christmas Observances, are not performed at a stated or tiled meeting, so they give us a chance to demonstrate to the world some of the attributes, beauty, and privileges of Christianity. These two joyous occasions celebrating the Birth and Re-birth of our Lord and Savior are glorious reminders of the teachings and Grace bestowed upon us by our loving and merciful Father.

I have been asked on more than one occasion "Which is greater, Christmas or Easter?" That's a conundrum for which I cannot conceive a logical answer. What I can articulate is that both are uplifting recognitions which inspire and feed our souls.

I wish every one of you and your loved ones the happiest of this Christmas season and the new year that is quickly approaching. Thank you for the support you have given me throughout the first half of my year as Grand Commander. I encourage all magnanimous Knights to take part in a local Christmas Observance where you can renew your vows, have a libation and celebrate the birth of our Savior and the Grand Master and Commander of us all. Please keep the feeling and true meaning of Christmas in your heart throughout the year.

While the world struggles through another crisis in the Middle East around the Holy Land, please remember that one of the greatest gifts of Christianity is that we can love not only our Brother Knights, but all Christians worldwide and that God's Grace enables us to love everyone, even those who are not Christians. With God, through Jesus, all things are possible. Please Father, help us spread Brotherly, Sisterly, and indeed, Worldly Love. MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYONE and God bless us all ! ✝



Fraternally,

*Roger S. Boss*  
Grand Commander



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