



# Grand Commandery Knights Templar Oregon



## State News for March, 2023

Commander: Ryan T. Winters, REGC

Editor: Terry Pea [terrypea@gmail.com](mailto:terrypea@gmail.com)

Website <http://www.yorkriteor.org/gckt/>

*Greetings, Sir Knights*

About 2,000 years ago, our Savior died upon the cross for the remission of our sins and those of our fore-fathers and our descendants. This is a very significant time for Christians everywhere. Easter is the holiday we have chosen to commemorate that hallowed sacrifice by the Great Captain of our salvation. The essence of our Faith, the foundation on which our religion was built, lay in that moment.

We all know the story. When Pontius Pilate summoned a crowd before him and asked whether he should execute Barabbas the robber or Jesus of Nazareth, the king of the Jews. On insistence of the Rabbis, Pilate set Barabbas free and ordered Christ's execution.

"Then saith Pilate unto Him, 'Speakest Thou not unto me? Knowest Thou not that I have power to crucify Thee, and have power to release Thee?' Jesus answered, 'Thou couldest have no power at all against Me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin.'"

-John 19:10-11

When Pilate offered to pardon Jesus, the Son of God accepted the will of God the Father, that His only begotten Son should die on the cross to redeem the sins of fallen man and fulfill the prophesies which were foretold.



In Free Masonry, we celebrate and try to practice the principle of brotherly love. In John 15:12-18, Jesus teaches us the following of brotherly love.

“12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.

13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. 16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. 17 These things I command you, that ye love one another. 18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you.”

Ponder well on the wisdom of these words, Sir Knights.

The Knights Templar celebrate Easter every year in the month of April. I will be attending a Knights Templar Easter Observance with Washington Commandery #15 on April 17 at 7:00 p.m. at the George Washington Masonic Center, 3612 SE 52nd Ave., in Portland. All are welcome to attend. All Grand Commandery officers within 40 miles of Portland are requested to attend.

All Commanderies should make arrangements for celebrating the Easter holiday. There is a ceremony available to order through the Grand Encampment which can be performed in your Asylum as a special occasion. Alternatively, a Commandery may appear in uniform on Easter Sunday at a Christian church of their Commander's choosing. If you take this option, please go as a group and do not mix uniforms.

On public occasions held outside of the Commandery's Asylum, uniformity is the rule. The Commander should decide whether the Knights will wear chapeaus or any of the authorized alternatives and cause this to be known before the event. If the Templar Apron is to be worn, it must be of the design approved by the Grand Encampment for public appearances and must be furnished to all the officers of the Commandery present. Any Knight found thereafter to not be in proper uniform should be caused to wear plain civilian dress if a uniform cannot be furnished by the Knight, by the Commander or by the Commandery.

Courteously,

Ryan Winters,  
Grand Commander

