

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for July 2024**



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GRAND COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Greetings Companions and Sir Knights. Again, I write to you in efforts to inform you as to the happenings around our State and the current affairs of your Grand Commandery.

Our inspection season is well under its way having visited three commanders in June. We have observed one order of the temple degree, and we thank Trinity #20 for a fine display of our highest Order.

July has 4 visits on the Calendar, Elk City, on July 16, Capitol Hill on the 19th, McAlester, on 22 July, Oklahoma City on the 24th.

At the conclusion of the month, we will host the Grand York Rite Festival in honor of our Grand Master John F Carter. This will be at Norman Commandery on the 27th of July. Please send all petitions for those attending to the Grand Recorder as soon as possible for the accurate tracking of all candidates.

This event is a wonderful opportunity for us to expand our organization and gain new energetic and faithful Masons to join the cause in which we have so solemnly dedicated ourselves. We all recognize that our numbers are decreasing but these one-day conferrals are helping to extend our survival. Remember that teaching these men about Templar Masonry is the way that we get them interested in being an active part of our York Rite, and thereby, enriching his existence.

Remember that it will not be about *what we can do* to survive. It is much more about *who we will be* to survive.

Be a Knight Templar!

It is a real honor and true privilege to visit our Sir Knights, in their home Commanderies and to be received in the office of Grand Commander. Looking back over my Masonic career, more especially as a York Rite Mason I am struck by the amazing journey which I have been blessed to be a part of. The vast numbers of Sir Knights I have met, who are great and upstanding examples of true Knighthood have come and some have gone, but each left an indelible mark upon my character. I thank each and every one of them for building me into the Knight that I stand as today. Their traditions became my instructions, and those instructions have become my teachings that I hope to share with the Knights coming behind me.

Remember to keep our hearts filled with those traditions of our knightly order, but keep our eyes focused on the future of our Rite.

In service to our Savior,
SK Glen A Chaney
REGC



GRAND PRELATS MESSAGE

4th of July Devotional: Celebrating Freedom in Christ

Scripture: Galatians 5:1 (NIV) - "It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery."

Today, as we celebrate the 4th of July, we reflect on the freedoms we enjoy as citizens of this great nation. Independence Day is a reminder of the sacrifices made by those who fought for our country's liberty and the values of democracy, equality, and justice that we hold dear.

However, as followers of Christ, we are also reminded of an even greater freedom – the freedom we have in Christ. The Apostle Paul tells us in Galatians 5:1 that Christ has set us free. This freedom is not merely political or social but a profound spiritual liberation from the bondage of sin and death.

Through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross, we are freed from the power of sin, guilt, and shame. We are no longer slaves to our past mistakes or failures. In Christ, we are new creations, and we can live in the fullness of the life God has for us.

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for the freedom we enjoy in this country. As we celebrate Independence Day, we are grateful for the blessings of liberty and the opportunities we have to pursue life, liberty, and happiness.

More importantly, we thank You for the freedom we have in Christ. Thank You for setting us free from the chains of sin and for giving us

new life through Your Son, Jesus. Help us to stand firm in this freedom and to live lives that reflect Your grace and truth.

May we use our freedom to serve others in love, to stand for justice, and to spread the message of Your love and salvation. As we gather with family and friends today, let our celebrations be filled with joy, gratitude, and a renewed commitment to live for You.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Sir Knights take a moment today to reflect on the freedoms you enjoy both as an American and as a believer in Christ. Consider how you can use your freedom to make a positive impact in your community and to draw closer to God. Reach out to someone who may be feeling burdened and share with them the hope and freedom you have found in Christ.

Happy 4th of July!

Respectfully,

Sir Knight Steven Cox

Excellent Grand Prelate



Norman Inspection