

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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Gary Mason, REGC 2024-2025

From the Grand Commander

Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr, Eminent Grand Generalissimo

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked the current Grand Commandery Officers to write articles for this supplement. This month we hear from our Grand Generalissimo, Patrick C. Carr.



Sir Knights, it is an honor to continue to serve the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas for this next year. I thank you for continuing to elect me to serve not only our Grand Commandery, but each of you specifically. First, thank you for all you do for Masonry here in Kansas.

We have so many great opportunities here in Kansas to continue to develop more resources and Sir Knights for our cause. If you are in need of information, do not hesitate to reach out and contact our Grand Recorder, Allan Jackson. You may be surprised at how much information he has readily at his hands and he can assist you with almost any question you may have.

It is important we continue to work diligently within our subordinate commanderies to enhance what we offer each Sir Knight who joins our ranks. Our ritual is by far one of the most beautiful rituals in all of Freemasonry. I would posit this question to each Sir Knight: Are we opening our Commandery in full form, or are we simply declaring it open? I can assure you if you are just using the short form for your openings you are missing quite a lot of our beautiful ritual. The words should be communicated, along with the signs, at each opening of a Knight Templar Commandery. If nothing else, it gives each of us the opportunity to learn more about the words we use within our ritual, and causes us to pause and think about what they mean and their connection to our Order. If you need assistance with opening your commandery, please reach out to me or any of our other Grand Commandery Officers. We are happy to assist you in learning the ritual and the floorwork.

If you have not asked a Brother Master Mason to join the York Rite, I would encourage you to do so. What we have to offer is unparalleled. We are the Christian Order for Master Masons. True, they must first be a Royal Arch Mason, and then a Cryptic Mason as well before they can join our Order. Each of those bodies contains beautiful lessons and concepts as well and they will enjoy their membership.

One other thing we can accomplish at each of our Commandery meetings is to offer some form of education. This can be something as simple as a reading from the Holy Bible, or it can be as elaborate as a large presentation. Either one you choose is important in relaying to our Sir Knights the value of Masonic Education within our Asylums. Just reading a scripture verse, or passage, and having a discussion about it can lead you to a fantastic discussion.

We read in John 20 verse 19: On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!"

May peace be with you, Sir Knights, and be blessed in all you do,

Patrick C. Carr
Eminent Grand Generalissimo
Grand Commandery of Kansas

Knight Templar Feast 2024

**K A N S A S
TEMPLAR FEAST**



If you were unable to attend the 2024 Knight Templar Feast held in McPherson, Kansas at the McPherson Community Building, you missed a wonderful time of food, fellowship, entertainment, and education.

The evening started with our Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Gary A. Mason, welcoming the attendees to the event. Dinner was served by MOAB BBQ in Wichita, Kansas, by Sir Knight Christopher Collins. During the meal, the first (and possibly only) presentation of an original Knight Templar play, *The Time of the Templars*, was held on the stage. Sir Knights from three jurisdictions were in attendance and performed the play in full costume.

After the play was completed, several Sir Knights were recognized for their diligent work for Templary in Kansas. Those receiving awards included Sir Knights Kelly Long and Michael Colbary who received Templar Cups. Sir Knight Robert Beardsley received the Templar Warrior recognition, and Sir Knight Tom Krauss received the Templar Crusader award.



Congratulations to all those who received recognitions.



The speaker for the evening was Sir Knight T.J. Brumfield, who is serving the Grand Commandery of Nebraska as their Eminent Grand Junior Warden. Sir Knight Brumfield is a brilliant speaker and masonic author. His presentation was on Jesus and if he was, or was not, a member of the Essenes. It was a captivating presentation which left those in attendance with much to ponder about the Order and about Christ Himself.



It was a fantastic event and we look forward to the Fourth Annual Knight Templar Feast to be held in 2025. More information will be coming as it is available.



Two More Commissioned Templar Chaplains

The success of the Commissioned Templar Chaplain program here in Kansas is continuing to grow. In September at the Salina York Rite meeting, the Commandery will be opened and Sir Knights Carr and Mosley will be commissioning Sir Knight Bill Jones during the meeting. At the September meeting of the Junction City York Rite bodies, after the opening of the Commandery, Sir Knights Carr and Mosley will be commissioning Sir Knight Matthew Rutkowski as the fifth Commissioned Templar Chaplain in our jurisdiction. All Sir Knights are invited to attend this wonderful event.