

Wisconsin Forward

Grand Commandary of Wisconsin

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Grand Prelate

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Message 2024

Wisconsin Knights Templar Prelate's Christmas

(Please read aloud at your Christmas observance)

“And it came to pass...”, familiar words? Good, I won't have to repeat that old, old story. In these very trying times of disobedience, incivility, divisiveness, and intolerance we NEED to remember what took place all those years ago in a foreign land. Jesus was born! Halleluia!

The Old Testament, Proverbs 16:24 as says, “Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.” We also find in the Old Testament, in Psalms 133:1esv we read, “A song of ascents of David. Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity.”

Jesus was born to be our mediator, an intercessor for us. And with His birth begins the New Testament with similar ideologies. In Ephesians 4:32 as we read, “Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.” And a final Biblical reference which should lead our lives is found in Matthew 7:12, “So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

A few “final” reminders that can be found in our Holy Writings of tolerance and diversity where we read of the Prodigal Son, a parable of mistakes, acceptance and forgiveness. And for those of you in Eastern Star, you remember these two heroines...Ruth and Naomi whose story is of love, loyalty, and acceptance in overcoming cultural differences. These are truly inspiring stories that can help us embrace this new world of ours. In this Holy Holiday Season please remember those less fortunate; those who have little and yet live large; those who are placed in harm's way; and most of all take time for yourself. You are a deserving individual who has embraced the Templar virtues for many years. May you stay safe and warm.

Peace on Earth,
Kenneth A. Bales, KTCH, KCT, Grand Prelate

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