

# Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

Send submissions to Editor SK Patrick C. Carr, PEC — [carrs@cox.net](mailto:carrs@cox.net)



December, 2024

Gary Mason, REGC 2024-2025

## From the Grand Commander

Sir Knight Dan Owens, Eminent Grand Prelate

*The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked the current Grand Commandery Officers to write articles for this supplement. This month we hear from our Eminent Grand Prelate, Dan Owens.*



Unto us this day is born a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.

Sir Knights, as we approach the blessed season of the birth of our glorious Saviour, let us pause a moment to reflect upon the enormity of the birth of one who was destined to save the world from its sins.

Jesus, the Christ, was born in a simple manger, in a stable. There was no fanfare. There were no traveling parties present to herald His birth. Nothing overly special was done on the day of the birth of the Saviour. Even with all of this absent, the beauty of the moment was celebrated throughout the world.

Simple shepherds who were tending their flocks, were greeted by the angels of the heavenly host. They proclaimed today, in the town of David, a Saviour has been born who is the Messiah. He is Christ the Lord. Once this had been proclaimed, the shepherds left their fields and stopped tending their flocks. They realized this was a monumental occasion worthy of them leaving their posts for a time. They hurried to Bethlehem and discovered the Christ Child, along with Mary and Joseph, in the stable. They saw Jesus laying in the manger where he was placed after his birth. The shepherds were so moved by just the sight and presence of the Christ they continued to tell all they encountered about Jesus and what the angels had told them about Him.

Sir Knights, we should be in awe just as these shepherds were. We are fortunate to have accepted the Saviour as our personal Lord and God. This is a transformational moment in each of our lives. As we celebrate the birth of the Blessed Saviour, let us endeavor to be as excited by His birth as those simple shepherds of the field. With all of our knowledge and technology, we should humbly bow to this simple truth provided by the angels from on high:

“Do not be afraid. I bring you good tidings of great joy for all the people. Today, in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord.”

Be blessed as you continue your journey through this blessed season celebrating the birth of our Saviour and our Redeemer.

Your in the Faith,

*Dan Owens*

Grand Prelate, Grand Commandery of Kansas



## *Slow Down and Enjoy the Season*

The busiest season of the year is now upon us. We are all pulled in so many different directions by our families, our friends, our vocations, and our masonic orders. December brings the time of installation for almost all of the bodies in Kansas. This means we will be out and away from our homes many more days during the month of December than we would normally be during the rest of the year. Even though we will be extremely busy during the thirty-one days of December, let us reflect and remember the reason for this season and take some time to refresh ourselves.

The reason for the season, as we all realize, is Jesus. We know over two thousand years ago our Saviour, Christ the Lord, was born in a simple manger in the town of Bethlehem. He came to the world a baby, free from any expectations from the world, and with a cry. He was born of Mary, a virgin, and her husband, Joseph, who must have been quite confused but still encouraged by the angels and the word of God as to the importance of this event and to the child he would help Mary to raise.

We are so busy during this time we can tend to forget why we spend so much time being busy during December. Yes, there are lots of installations and elections which require our attention. These things must be taken care of if we are to continue our masonic journey. I would only ask as you continue through the season, to pause and take care of yourselves. The season takes so much from us. It takes our time. It takes our attention. It takes our money! It takes our attention away from the real reason for the season and causes us to refocus our attention on everyone else during the season.

Take time to focus on you. Yes, you read that right. Focus on yourself. Just to take a few moments each day and pray for your own energy and attention. These things are important if you are to continue your own personal ministry to those who surround you. Be refreshed through daily prayer as to the reason for the season. This will help you to make it through to January 1, 2025, without becoming overly stressed and extremely tired. Your personal health and sanity are more important during this time than any event you attend, gift you give, or party you attend. Be sure to focus on YOU and your individual needs.

As always, your Commissioned Templar Chaplains are here to assist you. Feel free to reach out to us, either by phone, text, email, Facebook Messenger, or by using the prayer request form located on the Grand York Rite of Kansas website. We welcome the time to pray for your concerns individually. The Commissioned Knight Templar Chaplains of Kansas pray for our membership each day, but we do encourage you to reach out to us for your own individual prayer requests.

Be continually blessed, as you go through this season. May the joy of Christ remain with you and strengthen you during this time of the year.

In peace and love,

Your Commissioned Templar Chaplains of Kansas,

*Patrick C. Carr, CTC*

*Gary B. Strout, CTC*

*Andrew G. Mosley, CTC*

*William Jones, CTC*

*Matthew Rutkowski, CTC*