

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for January 2025**



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GRAND COMMANDERS MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights and Brothers,

Happy New Year! We continue the Templar year having just passed our celebration of the birth of Christ Jesus. I truly hope all of you and your families enjoyed every moment of the holiday and each of you have entered the New Year with hope.

This month, I want to let you know about a few events on the near calendar and some of the long range announcements. We unfortunately had to cancel the annual Grand York Rite retreat weekend in Muskogee due to the potential of severe weather. No leader wants an event which is intended to foster fellowship, education and growth to turn into an event that brings some unfortunate situation or harm to any of our members. So, after careful consideration and listening to “hardly ever wrong Oklahoma Weather reporters,” we decided to err on the side of caution and keep everyone from traveling over the roads that could be dangerous.

The conference in Muskogee was shaping up to be exceptionally good and most informative. It is designed not only to get current Grand Commandery Officers together to exchange thoughts, ideas and future efforts, but to offer an event that non-Grand Commandery Officers to come and be involved in learning more about those efforts.

We will be rescheduling the conference, albeit in a digital form. While the fellowship we looked forward to enjoying in class and at dinner will not be an

element, we will do our best in the digital space of a Zoom conference. Try to share as much of it as we can.

We have several festivals on the calendar. February 1, 2025 is the Central Oklahoma Chapter and Council Festival, held at Norman Lodge #38 and on February 8, 2025 will be the NE Oklahoma Chapter and Council Festival at the Eastgate Masonic Center. On February 15th, Guthrie Commandery will host a Commandery festival and on the 22nd Muskogee Commandery will host the NE Commandery festival. Now is the time to get our candidates identified and petitions submitted for balloting. In the later part of April we are aware that our Grand Session will be held. The Grand Sessions for our York Rite will be 24-26 April. The various bodies will meet over that weekend and conclude with installation of the incoming Leaders of our York Rite bodies. We look forward to seeing everyone there and more details and information will be sent shortly.

Again, Happy New Years and thank you all for your continuing support of our Rite.

Sir Knight Glen A. Chaney, REGC



GRAND PRELATES MESSAGE

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.” – Ecclesiastes 3:1

Almighty and Eternal Father, we come before You at the dawn of this new year, grateful for Your enduring presence in our lives. As we step into the future, guide us with wisdom, strengthen us in service, and inspire us to walk steadfastly in faith, hope, and charity. Amen.

As Knight Templars, we are bound by our commitment to faith, honor and service. The turning of the year is a moment to pause and reflect on how we have upheld these virtues. It is also a time to renew our vows to live as Christ’s knights, defending the weak, promoting justice and spreading love.

In Ecclesiastes, we are reminded that life moves in seasons, each with its own purpose. The past year brought joys and challenges, victories and trials. Yet in every moment, God's hand was present, shaping us into stronger vessels for His will.

As Sir Knights, our mission is not confined to earthly pursuits but is directed toward a higher calling. The dawn of a new year offers us the chance to recommit ourselves to this sacred purpose. Let us strive to live boldly as ambassadors of Christ, seeking His guidance in all that we do.

Sir Knights, ask your selves, have I demonstrated the virtues of faith, hope, and charity in the past year? What challenges have strengthened my character and faith? How can I serve God and my fellow man more effectively in the year ahead?

"I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." – Philippians 3:14

This verse calls us to look forward with purpose. Let us not dwell on past failures but strive to advance in our spiritual journey, seeking the ultimate prize of unity with Christ.

This year, let us strengthen our faith through prayer, study and fellowship. Actively seek opportunities to serve others, especially the vulnerable and oppressed. Promote unity and peace within our Commandery, our communities, and the world.

Heavenly Father, we dedicate this year to You. Grant us courage to face challenges, humility to seek Your guidance, and love to serve others selflessly. May our actions glorify Your name and reflect the light of Christ in a world that longs for hope. Amen.

"May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the Lord turn His face toward you and give you peace." – Numbers 6:24-26

Go forth noble Templars, into the New Year with faith, purpose and the armor of God.

Respectfully submitted,
Sir Knight Steven Cox
Excellent Grand Prelate