

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MICHIGAN

State News for April, 2025

Web Site: www.kt-mi.org

SK Donald E. Murphy, KCT, REGC

"Grow Michigan For The Future!"

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Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies, Companions and Brothers All!

Welcome to the April 2025 edition of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan update and Knights Templar Magazine Supplement.

Spring appears to have sprung in Michigan and we are reminded so visually of renewal. Each spring brings new growth, warmth, and energy. The Grand Commandery is busy with planning the upcoming 2025-2026 year while trying to finish 2024-2025 strong. You are all encouraged to join us for a time of instruction and fellowship at the Captain General's Workshop on April 5, 2025, 8:30 a.m. kickstart with coffee and donuts and lunch to follow, in Lansing Michigan (1125 Weber Drive, Lansing, Michigan 48912). The Captain General's Workshop may be a bit of a misnomer in that it is NOT only for Captain General's. It is a main feature of the Templar year for instruction and gathering. It is useful for new sir knights, officers, as well as refresher for those who have been around for a time.

Easter is upon us, let us savor the sweetness of this season, that God would send his Son for our renewal and restoration. There are couple of April 20th Easter Observances that can be attended here in Michigan. The Great Lakes National Cemetery will be at 0745 assemble/0800 service and the Fort Custer National Cemetery will start at 8 a.m.

**We Have a Risen Savior (An Easter Message)
S.K. Darrell Brockway, Grand Prelate**

Sir Knights, as we look back on the last week of our Savior's life, we see Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a colt on Palm Sunday. On Holy Thursday we see our Lord doing the unexpected, humbling himself and washing the feet of his disciples, later taking the bread and wine of the Passover meal, and telling his disciples that to finish the work he

had come to do, his body would be broken and his blood poured out. In that week we learned how Judas would betray Jesus, and how he was taken by soldiers to the court of the high priest, where he was accused of crimes he never committed. We see Peter, the man who had just professed his total commitment to his master, deny him three times. We were with him on Good Friday as Jesus was condemned, brutally beaten and scourged. We saw how he was mocked by the soldiers who put a reed scepter in his hand, and cruelly pressed a crown of thorns onto his head. We were there as they made him carry his own cross through the streets, jeered at by the mob, and then nailed to the cross and left hanging in agony to die. Sadly, we saw him taken down from the cross by his disciples and laid in a tomb.

The story-line is so familiar to us that it's easy to forget what was taking place in the minds of the disciples after the Savior's death. Not only was their friend dead, but also the high hopes for what he had come to do. He was the Messiah, the King. He had spent three years telling them how God had sent him to establish his kingdom. How could any of that happen now? However, Easter Sunday would change everything. Scripture tells us that on Sunday morning Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (the mother of James) went out to visit the Sepulcher. We can only imagine the state of their grief as they traveled the dark road from Bethany to that place just outside the walls of Jerusalem where the tomb was. At dawn when they reached the tomb they saw the stone to the entrance had been rolled away, and someone like an angel was sitting upon it. It was the angel of the Lord who greeted them and said that Jesus had risen, as he had foretold. Suddenly, their sense of grief was mixed with wonder and joy. Yet, they did not fully understand. Matthew tells us that Mary Magdalene ran from the tomb to find Peter and John to tell the news of Jesus' resurrection. When they realized what Mary was saying, Peter and John ran to the tomb. John tells us that he outran Peter on the way there, and peered into the empty tomb. Then Peter caught up and entered, and saw that Jesus was gone.

The sun was up by now and there on the stone shelf in the tomb were the grave clothes, the linen shroud and the cloth that had covered Jesus' face. They were not in a jumble as if someone had unwrapped and stolen the body in a hurry, but neatly folded and left there. That's when John tells us that he himself believed, even though he didn't yet understand. John and the other disciples would come to understand after meeting with the risen Jesus in the time prior to his Ascension into heaven and Pentecost. It was then that all the pieces fell into place. The disciples witnessed that Jesus died for our sins, and that God raised him to new life so that we too could have a share in that life, if we believe in him.

And Sir Knights that is the Easter message. Amen!



ON THE RADAR

Easter Observances – Fort Custer National Cemetery – Shelter B (assemble 0730, service 0800, questions SK Bradtke 269-550-0968) and Great Lakes National Cemetery – Shelter no. 2 (assemble at 0715 service at 0730, questions SK Striggow s.striggow@gmail.com)

Grand Lodge Installation – May 20th (Incoming Most Worshipful Master has requested a Templar Honor Guard, we should have good turn out from Detroit No. 1, Grand Commandery and other Constituent Commanderies, and perhaps DeMolay – Last year we had over 60!)

There should be several opportunities to march together in 4th of July Parades (please let me know if your commandery is hosting one so we can pass the word). There will not be a Cherry Royale Parade this year as we would like to focus energy on supporting parades that have an active Commandery presence in that town if possible.

If your commandery has candidates, your Grand Commandery is here to help give them a special day in your asylum. We are here to fill gaps as needed or organize traveling team. Don't wait, we can help.

Grand Conclave Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan, August 16, 2025 Bay City Double Tree. Request presence of dias officers and all sir knights who can attend this wonderful day which includes morning business session, drills and pass and review, Past Commanders Association, Installation, Divine Service, and Round Table Dinner.