

# Grand Commandery of New York

## *May News*



**John Scott**  
Grand Commander

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Sir Knights,

### ***Blessings and best wishes to you***

I hope you all had a wonderful and blessed Easter. I want to thank the Sir Knights and Ladies who joined Lady Lynn and me at the Grand Encampment Easter Weekend in Arlington, Virginia. I hope you all had as much fun as we did. I want to particularly thank Sir Knight Larry Kania, GJW, for a great job with hospitality. If you have never attended this marvelous event, please consider making the trip next year. It is a wonderful way to join old friends and make new ones from all places where our Templar flag flies. The Easter Observance at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial is a beautiful experience you will not soon forget.

May is the month for our Annual Meeting at which time we have the election and installation of officers. I ask you to choose your officers wisely. Every officer in every station must be dedicated to your commandery and Templary and willing to fulfill the duties of his office, including the obligation to learn and recite from memory his parts in the Tactics and Orders. Please recall General Order No. 1 where I expressed my Hope that we would all commit ourselves to improve our proficiency. I still realize that this will not be easy, but we can succeed because we are Sir Knights who are distinguished from the rest of mankind by the “unrestrained rectitude of our conduct.”

Recall that the 212th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of New York will be held at the Crown Plaza Desmond Hotel, 660 Albany Shaker Rd., Albany New York 13501 on Friday, September 26, 2025, through Sunday, September 28, 2025. Full information on the Conclave will be distributed shortly—mark your calendars. Additionally, I remind you that pursuant to

Section 647 of the Constitution, Statutes and Regulations of the Grand Encampment of the United State of America, it is the duty of the Commander, Generalissimo, and the Captain General, to attend the Annual Conclave of their Grand Commandery. I expect every Commander, Generalissimo, and Captain General of our constituent commanderies to fulfill this important duty of his office either personally or by proxy. (See: Article XII, Section 30 of the Statutes of the Grand Commandery of New York)

Finally, as we move into the summer months, I hope you will rest and enjoy your leisure time. Jesus recognized his disciples need for respite when he encouraged them to "Come away by yourselves to a desolate place and rest a while." - [Mark 6:31](#). But, in Acts 17:21, Paul also highlights the dangers of idle curiosity and encourages meaningful engagement. The Bible provides a balanced perspective on leisure, acknowledging the need for rest and enjoyment while urging believers to use their free time to glorify God and live responsibly. Therefore, while you enjoy your summer, exercise discipline and set aside time to study the Scriptures, Tactics, and Orders.

And now, may "the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace and believing that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit." - Romans 15: 13

Courteously and in His service,  
S. K. John W. Scott, R.E.G.C., K.C.T.

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### **Grand Prelate's Corner**

The Christian author, Max Lucado wrote that "Faith is often the child of fear." If you give a man a chance between sure death and a crazy chance, he'll take the chance....every time. Great acts of faith are seldom born out of calm calculation. It wasn't logic that caused Moses to raise his staff on the bank of the Red Sea. It wasn't medical research that convinced Naaman to dip seven times in the river to cure his illness. It wasn't common sense that caused the Apostle Peter to abandon the Law and embrace grace.

At the beginning of every act of faith, there is often a seed of fear. The message is clear—as long as Jesus is one of many options. He is no option. As long as you can carry your burdens alone, you don't need a burden bearer. As long as your situation brings you no grief, you will receive no comfort. And as long as you can take Him or leave Him, you might as well leave Him, because He won't be taken half-heartedly.

So my Fraters, this statement, faith, is often the child of fear, reminds us that faith can sometimes arise or be strengthened in response to, or even as a reaction to feelings of fear or uncertainty. I am reminded of the Biblical statement, "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7)

Faith can inspire courage to take risks, pursue dreams, or stand up for what is believed in. Embracing Power, Love, and Self-Control reminds us that through faith, we have the strength to face life's challenges, not in our own might but through the power granted by God. Love casts out fear (*1 John 4:18*). Acting in love, whether towards ourselves or others, can often dispel the shadows of fear.

Self-control, a fruit of the Spirit, enables us to manage our emotions and reactions, preventing fear from driving our decisions. Therefore, let us rise and stand up for our Knightly and Christian teachings and proclaim Jesus Christ is Lord even in a world that negates that teaching.