



# RIGHT EMINENT GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE



## Grand Commandery Of Knights Templar Of The State Of California

OCTOBER 2025 NEWS

SK Joseph Dongo, Grand Commander

**\*\*Strengthening Our Foundation: Chivalry in Action\*\***

Sir Knights,

Autumn has come, and with it the reminder that what we sow in faith and service, we shall one day reap in fellowship and legacy. This season of harvest is not only about fields and orchards—it is about the fruits of our labor as Knights Templar. Every act of service, every restored brother, every moment of chivalry builds a living temple stronger than stone.

Over the past months, we have spoken of *vision* (June), of turning plans into *movement* (July), of living as *Children of Light* (August), and of restoring our ranks with urgency and compassion (September). This month, let us focus on how we anchor that work in our *chivalric foundation*—the timeless virtues that define us and inspire our service.

### **Chivalry in Today's World**

Chivalry is not a relic of medieval romance. It is alive, urgent, and desperately needed in our fractured world; it is discipleship. Courtesy in the face of hostility. Courage when silence is easier. Honor when compromise is tempting. Service when self-interest calls louder.

When we put these virtues into action, we embody the Strategic Plan's call to be *Faithful Stewards of Chivalry and Community*. Stewardship requires us not only to preserve traditions but to live them so vividly that others are drawn to the Light.

### **A Living Example: Nevada City Constitution Day**

On September 21, I had the privilege of joining Sir Knights, brethren, and community members in Nevada City for their annual celebration of the Constitution of the United States. Together with the Grand Master of Masons in California and several Past Grand Masters, we stood in unity as both Masons and citizens, honoring the founding principles of this nation.

We marched in a vibrant downtown parade, a constitution reenactment full of color and meaning, reminding all who gathered that faith, freedom, and fraternity still bind us as a people. I commend Nevada City Commandery No. 6—one of our smallest Commanderies—for hosting this event faithfully year after year. Your light shines far beyond your numbers.

And let me also extend a word of gratitude to California Commandery No. 1, whose strong showing last and this year made the parade an extraordinary success. You reminded us that when Knights stand shoulder to shoulder, small towns feel the strength of a great Order. This is chivalry in action—not confined to ritual, but carried into the heart of the community.

### **Building on Our Strategic Goals**

As we press forward, let us anchor this living chivalry in our daily labor:

- **Membership Growth & Retention:** Restoration continues, but so must inspiration. Each Sir Knight is a recruiter—not by words alone, but by example.
- **Community Outreach & Service:** Let every Commandery be known as “the Knights who show up.” Whether in parades, charity drives, or church services, let us be visible.
- **Leadership Development:** True leaders are not born; they are trained, mentored, and entrusted. Invest in the next generation now, so our Order does not merely survive but thrives.
- **Faithful Philanthropy:** Our march toward 100% Eye Foundation Lifetime Sponsorship is more than a goal—it is a testimony that Christian Masons heal, restore, and give life.

### **The Knight’s Daily Charge**

I challenge each Sir Knight this month to practice three acts of chivalry:

1. **A word of kindness** where anger might otherwise rule.
2. **An act of service** for someone who cannot repay you.
3. **A prayer of intercession** for a brother, a family, or a stranger in need.

Small deeds, faithfully done, ripple outward to strengthen our Order and uplift our communities.

### **Our Banner Forward**

Sir Knights, October is a time of action. Let restoration become fellowship, let chivalry become service, and let faith become visible in every Commandery. May we follow the example of Nevada City Commandery—small in number but mighty in light.

And let us never forget our sacred motto:

Non Nobis Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam.  
*Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thy Name give glory.*

In Faith and Fellowship,

**Joseph Dongo, KYGCH, KTCH, KCT**  
**Grand Commander**

