

GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MARYLAND
SK Scott G. Lapp, KCT, REGC
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Happy New Year Sir Knight!

And we, the Grand Officers of Maryland wish you all the best in the coming season. We also hope that your Christmas holiday was truly a blessing for you and your families.

We have started the year in a flurry (pun intended) and are gearing up for even more. We put out a spiritual message for Christmas (various forms of social media) which I hope reached many hearts and minds. As we approach the Easter holiday, let us not forget the reasons we observe these holidays, but keep them sacred in our hearts.

We have also formally launched the new website and I encourage you all to go and check out the new and improved designs (YorkRiteMaryland.org).

We have also engaged in readying many programs and protocols for our state, a review that has been a long time in coming. Included in these updates and changes, is the call for revised By laws from the Grand Commandery (Jurisprudence review) and the Constituent bodies of Maryland. We are doing our best to stay current and viable while maintaining our compliance and continuity in relation to the Grand Encampment and our own regulations. Doing so will keep us working as a team and allow those rules to get to the masses so no one is a victim of, or an exploitationist, of unguarded ignorance.

All throughout the state, our newly formed Sword Drill team has been presenting the US flag at Blue Lodge installations, in uniform to garner some awareness of our Order. Our thanks to MWGM Watson for making that a reality.

We are also keeping our eyes focused on a few other great coming events, but which will have separate notices of:

* The Easter Sunrise Service at the G.W. Museum in Alexandria, and led by the Grand Encampment, on 4/5/26. (charter bus transport is available)

* The Cockeysville S.O.O.B. Chartering conference for that newly formed body (and Supreme visit) on 4/9 through 4/11 of 2026.

* The Semi-Annual Sessions Conclave for the Grand Commandery on 5/18/26, hosted by Monumental Crusade Commandery KT#3.

We are also keeping a sharp eye on the political events of the UK, and if it is deemed safe, the Grand Commander would like to form a trip in the early fall for Templar knights to go and view relevant sites. More info to come as warranted.

As you can see, so much to do and more coming every day! How do I get more involved, you ask? Bring a qualified friend to join our ranks and come have fun with a friend as they meet some new ones. Or just get to a Conclave near you, yourself. Each of us around the state is working hard to be better at welcoming new and returning knights to see what new events and new friendships can be made. If you haven't been to commandery in a while, you haven't been to commandery! Without you, we are just a page in history.

In service to the Lord and our Order,

SK Scott G. Lapp, KCT, REGC
Grand Commander of Knights Templar of MD.