

THE TEXAS TEMPLAR

A monthly publication of the Grand Commandery of Texas



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Right Eminent Grand
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Sir Knights,

I extend to each of you my warmest fraternal greetings as we enter a new year together. The turning of the calendar invites both reflection and renewal—an opportunity to give thanks for the labors of the past year and to recommit ourselves to the sacred principles that define our Order. As Knights Templar, we are ever reminded that our charge is not only ceremonial, but spiritual: to walk steadfastly in faith, to serve with humility, and to uphold the banner of Christ in all that we do.

The New Year stands before us as a season of purpose and preparation. Just as the Knights of old readied themselves for the work set before them, so too must we prepare our hearts, our Commanderies, and our fellowship for the tasks ahead. May this year strengthen our bonds of fraternity, deepen our commitment to charity and Christian service, and renew our resolve to live honorably as defenders of the faith.

Looking ahead, I wish to draw special attention to our upcoming Grand Conclave in April. This gathering is one of the most important events of our Templar year, offering us the opportunity to conduct the necessary business of the Grand Commandery, to enjoy true fraternal fellowship, and to celebrate our shared dedication to Templary in Texas. I strongly encourage every Sir Knight who is able to attend to make plans now. Please be sure to register and secure your hotel accommodations as outlined on [page 4](#), as registration and room reservations are essential to ensuring a successful and well-organized Conclave.

As we move forward into this new year, let us do so with confidence and faith, trusting in God's guidance and blessing. May our actions reflect the virtues we profess, and may our Order continue to be a beacon of Christian knighthood in our communities and beyond.

May God bless you, your families, and your Commanderies, and may He grant us wisdom, unity, and peace in the year ahead.

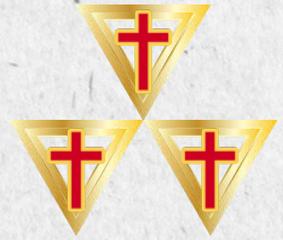
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason L. Lesikar".

Jason L. Lesikar
Grand Commander

PRAYER PROJECT

Prayer requests may be sent to the Eminent Grand Prelate of Texas who will offer up prayers for all that are submitted. This program is not limited to just Sir Knights of Texas nor members of Commandery alone. Submissions can be sent in through our website or by clicking [here](#).



A.P.O.A.S. COMMANDERY NEWS

Congratulations to the 2026 officers of A.P.O.A.S. Research Commandery!

Commandery: Casey Maxwell
 Generalissimo: Ricky Cox
 Captain General: John Hollowell
 Senior Warden: Michael Malone
 Junior Warden: Corey Harris
 Prelate: Chance Chapman, PGC
 Treasurer: Justin Bauer, PGC
 Recorder: Zachary Haston
 Standard Bearer: Butch Blackman, PGC
 Sword Bearer: Raul Scully
 Warder: Keith Brandt
 Sentinel: Zakary Wyatt



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BULLETINS & GENERAL ORDERS

BULLETIN No. 1

Contact Info



GENERAL ORDER No. 1

Districts, Schools, & Clerical info



GENERAL ORDER No. 2

Membership Cards & Grand Officer Info



GENERAL ORDER No. 3

Texas Holding Cmdry



GENERAL ORDER No. 4

Ascension Message



GENERAL ORDER No. 5

Statewide District Competiton



GENERAL ORDER No. 6

Notice of REPGC
Dixon's Passing



GENERAL ORDER No. 7

Patriotic Observance
Veterans Day



GENERAL ORDER No. 8

Christmas Message



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PRELATE'S APARTMENT



A MESSAGE FROM THE EMINENT GRAND PRELATE SK CHANCE CHAPMAN, PGC, KCT

Sir Knights,

Happy New Year! What a joyous time when we celebrate the ending of one year and look forward to the exciting times are to come in the new one. I encourage you all to make this year a remarkable one. As you set your resolutions for 2026, I encourage you to do two things. First, set a goal to attend one more Commandery event than you did last year. All of our Commanderies will benefit if we dig a little deeper and find a way to be of service just a bit more. Secondly, I encourage you to spend a little more time with your Bible opened and in prayer with God. The spiritual growth that can be attained is surely worth it.

Let us remember that we are to know, understand, and spread the Gospel. Romans 5:8 reminds us that *“while we were all still sinners, Christ died for us.”* May we never forget the Great Commission in Matthew 28. In verses 19-20, we are instructed to *“therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

Prayer Challenge: Find 10 minutes to pray each week with three simple points: **Adoration** (acknowledge who God is); **Surrender** (verbally give God one specific area of your life); and **Listening** (sit in silence for 2-3 minutes and invite God to speak through His Holy Spirit).

Action Challenge: Each week this month, ask yourself one question: What is one small act of obedience God is prompting me to do right now? And then, do it immediately, without negotiating.

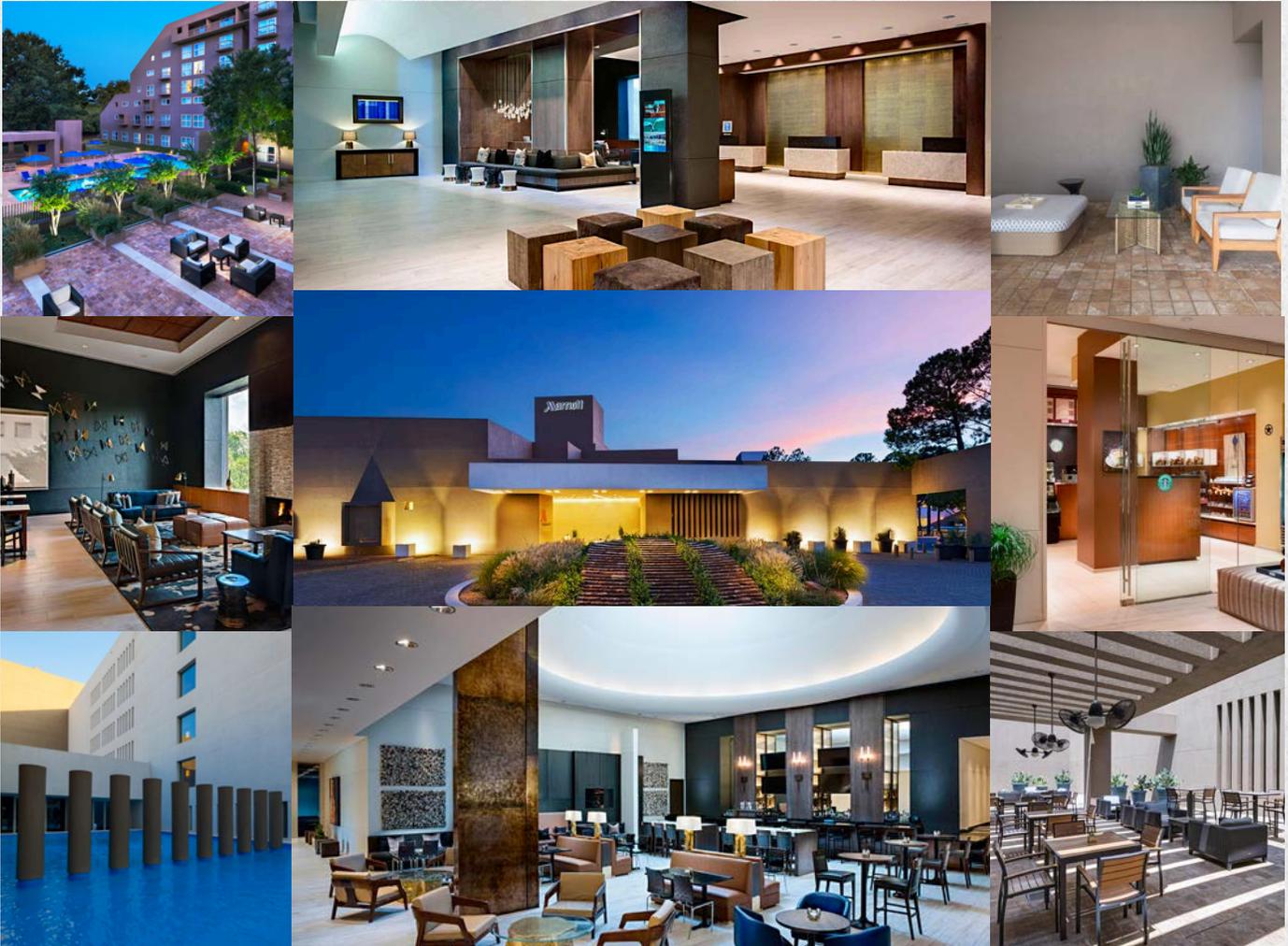
Please pray with me: **Our Father, provider of all things, as we enter into this new year, we come asking to teach us to seek You daily- not out of habit but out of love. Give us ears to hear Your voice and hearts to obey quickly. May our prayers draw us closer to You, and may our actions reflect our trust in You. Shape us, guide us, and walk with us each day that our lives and actions may honor and glorify You. In the name of our blessed Savoir, Jesus Christ, Amen.**

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SAVE THE DATE - 173RD GRAND ANNUAL CONCLAVE



Mark your calendars for **April 16-19, 2026** for the 173rd Grand Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas! Our Grand Commander and his team are excited to host the Sir Knights of Texas at the Marriott Dallas/Fort Worth Westlake. Located in Solana Plaza, the host hotel is surrounded by great opportunities for families to enjoy.

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RECORDER'S DESK



ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE EMINENT GRAND RECORDER SK RONNIE WILSON, PGC, KCT

Sir Knight Recorders,

Just a reminder that the annual returns and payment are due to the Grand Recorder by **January 15**. The annual return forms are located on the Grand Commandery of Texas website under the "Recorder Forms" tab. Please make sure you complete "all" of the required documents for your home commandery. The "Commandery Forms Packet" includes all of the necessary documentation that you need to complete your annual returns. For any questions, please reach out to the Grand Recorder.

GRAND CHAPTER / COUNCIL - RECAP

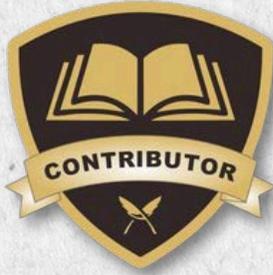


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WRITERS WANTED – SHARE YOUR TEMPLAR STORY!



We're looking for contributors to go beyond event recaps and help share meaningful stories, reflections, and insights related to Templary. Whether it's historical, personal, or inspirational—if it uplifts the Order, we want to hear it.

Interested? Contact [The Editor](#) with your idea and help us bring the Light of Templary to life on the page.

SAVE THE DATE FOR GRAND LODGE

The Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas is set for THIS MONTH (January 15-17, 2026) at the Grand Lodge Memorial Temple in Waco. You won't want to miss the fellowship, the fraternal business, and the opportunity to reconnect with Brethren from across the state. Start making your travel plans now!



EDITOR'S NOTE

SK MICHAEL COTE II, EDITOR



Thank you to all who continue to support *The Texas Templar*. Your encouragement, readership, and faithful support are what allow this publication to serve its purpose, and we are truly grateful for each of you. As we reflect on the past year and look ahead to the one before us, we do so with gratitude for the fellowship, dedication, and shared values that unite us.

As we begin the New Year, we are reminded of God's promise and blessing: ***"The Lord bless thee, and keep thee; the Lord make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee; the Lord lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace"*** (Numbers 6:24–26). May these words guide and encourage us in the months ahead, strengthening our resolve and renewing our commitment to faith, service, and brotherly love.

I wish you and your families a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year. May the year ahead be filled with purpose, peace, and continued fellowship.

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