



GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR FOR THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

MARCH 2026 MESSAGE
SK GEORGE R. SAUNDERS REGC

Sir Knights,

The groundhog has seen his shadow, giving hope for an early spring. As I write this, pitchers and catchers have already started spring training. On a historical note, on March 8, 1776, the Sandy Hook Lighthouse was attacked by colonial militia to deny its use to assist a possible British invasion of New York City. In New Orleans, carnival has passed, following Epiphany, with weekend parades until exploding into multiple daily parades and festivities. The revelry ended at midnight on “Fat Tuesday” or Mardi Gras, signaling Ash Wednesday, February 18, and the beginning of Lent.

Lent is a season of penitence, reflection, and prayer, worship during this time is solemn and restrained. For many Christians, the season of Lent typically includes some kind of fasting. In place of a food fast, some Christians commit to give up a pleasurable activity or dedicate themselves to a charitable giving. Lent is about what Jesus Christ gave up, paying the penalty for the sins of the world – His holy and innocent life.

This is also a time to contemplate on how we can improve in our relations with family, friends, other people and most importantly, with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. How can we be better men, better Masons, better Christians, and better Knights Templar?

New officers have been installed in stations in the Grand Commandery. All Sir Knights have a duty to support the Grand Commandery. The Grand Commandery has the duty to support the subordinate Commanderies as well as the individual Sir Knights because, without them, the Grand Commandery would not exist. We must also remember when we display the Square and Compass or the Cross & Crown, whether it be on a shirt or a piece of jewelry, we are representing ALL Masons or Knights Templar. Govern yourselves accordingly.

Yours in Christ

SK George R. Saunders
Right Eminent Grand Commander

