

# NEW HAMPSHIRE KNIGHT TEMPLAR NEWS



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April 2026

*Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?*

--Hebrews 9:12-14

Sir Knights,

We reverently approach the end of Great Lent, the period of preparation for Easter. Hopefully we have made profitable use of the time, strengthening our spirits and relationship with God through prayer, self reflection, and kindness to others.

This year the first session of the Annual Conclave falls on Holy Saturday for the Western churches, which follow the Gregorian Calendar, and on the Saturday of Lazarus for the Eastern churches, which follow the Julian Calendar. It is unseemly for our Christian, Chivalric Order to engage in such mundane activities during the holiest period in the Christian calendar. Our Grand Commandery Regulations do not mandate that the session be held on a particular date and afford us the flexibility to avoid such conflicts. The Easter holidays are known years in advance and ought to be accommodated.

March was busy for our Grand Commandery. On the 14<sup>th</sup>, the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross was conferred upon fifteen Companions in Portsmouth by Sir Knights of Trinity Commandery No. 1, Manchester, DeWitt Clinton Commandery No. 2, Portsmouth, and Saint George Commandery No. 8, Nashua.



The cast and candidates for the Illustrious Order of the Red Cross.

The following Tuesday, March 17, our Right Eminent Grand Commander, Sir Knight Arthur W. Stauff, K.T.C.H., was pleased to install the new officers of Mount Horeb Commandery No. 3, Concord, which next month will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Speaking of which, New Hampshire Grand Commandery will celebrate its own Bicentennial Anniversary June 13, next, in the New Hampshire Masonic Center, Manchester.



The Eminent Commander and Officers of Mount Horeb Commandery No. 3.

Saturday, March 21, the Order of Malta was conferred upon Companions of the Red Cross by Sir Knights of Mount Horeb Commandery No. 3, Concord, North Star-Saint Gerard Commandery No. 4, Lancaster, and Palestine Commandery No. 11, Rochester.



Members of the cast for the Order of Malta with the new Knights of Malta and one very well behaved, honorary Knight and mascot.

As previously noted, the Annual York Rite Business Sessions will be Saturday, April 4, 2026 in Concord, the Grand Chapter opening at 8:30 a.m. and Grand Council and Grand Commandery following in order. A proposed Amendment to the Grand Regulations will be presented, which clarifies that the Council degrees are a prerequisite for the Orders in Commandery in New Hampshire. The latest draft of the Uniform Manual will also be presented for adoption.

The Annual Grand Conclave is May 9, 2026, in the New Hampshire Masonic Center, Manchester, with the Grand Banquet the evening before, again in Manchester. The room and banquet reservation form is available on the New Hampshire York Rite

website, [www.nhyorkrite.org](http://www.nhyorkrite.org). For those requiring hotel reservations, please note that the cutoff for hotel reservations at the group rate is April 8, 2026.

The monthly Grand Commander's Officers Call will be Sunday, April 5, at 8:00 p.m. The Grand Commandery drill practice is Friday, April 17, at 6:30 p.m., in Concord.

Lady Virginia joins me and our Right Eminent Grand Commander and Lady Linda in wishing you and yours a blessed Easter.

Courteously,



Thomas X. Tsirimokos, K.G.C., P.D.C., P.G.C.  
Assistant Grand Prelate  
Grand Commandery of New Hampshire

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York Rite Calendar -- <https://nhyorkrite.org/calendars>