

Wisconsin Forward

Grand Commandery of Wisconsin

gkctwis.org



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Grand Prelate

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From the desk of the Grand Prelate

Easter Message 2026 from the Grand Prelate

Easter is meant to be a symbol of hope, renewal and new life. Amid the colorful blooms of spring flowers, the sounds of the church bells, and the laughter of children looking for the colored eggs and candy, Easter emerges not just as a holiday but as a reminder of hope and renewal.

This time of year, it isn't merely about bunnies and chocolates, it is a celebration of rebirth, transformation and undying hope. Easter is a reminder that even in our darkest hours there is a light awaiting us that shines brightly. We must embrace that brilliance and let it guide our pathway.

In the cycle of life, and after every end, there is a new beginning. Embrace that promise of fresh starts this Easter and make every moment count. Jesus Himself stated, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life". (John 6:47) He simply said, "believe". Salvation is based on Christ's work, not on human effort. He also tells us, "A believer may fail to grow spiritually due to carnality or disobedience (I Cor 3:1-3), but that failure does not cancel out salvation. It simply means that we haven't advanced beyond spiritual infancy.

Let us pray, "O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's resurrection may, through the renewal brought by Your spirit, rise up in the light of life, Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, forever." (Taken from Pope Francis' 2021 Easter message) Amen.

May you find peace and understanding this Easter.
Yours in the Holy Trinity,
Kenneth Bales
Kenneth A. Bales, KTCH, KCT, Grand
Prelate



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Grand Commander Jeffery Lancelle

February 9, 2026 Grand Commanders Easter Message This time of year is celebrated as hope for future salvation, eternal life and renewal. As a child, I wasn't aware of the religious significance of the Easter Holiday. I spent the day hunting for colorful eggs and eating way too much candy. My mother would bake bread, pies and normally ham for dinner. I became aware of the religious significance of the day as a young adult in the 1970's. Even then I wasn't focused on what the holiday really meant. That revelation came when I became a Mason in the early 2000's and more so as a Knight Templar. The message was clear, Christ sacrificed himself for our collective salvation. His crucifixion and subsequent resurrection hinted that there is more to his selfless act on the cross. It showed that death is not the end. That what is thought of as a tragic end to one's life is the beginning of another chapter of existence. The promise of a new beginning is offered to each of us. We must embrace the symbolism of the Easter Holiday and realize the promise of Christ's word, believe. May the light of his countenance shine upon each of us, give us peace and ever keep us from falling. On this special holiday, let each of us remember his hallowed sacrifice and embrace the hope of eternal life through his resurrection. In the lords name,

