



Pennsylvania Crusader

Since 1948

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA
pagrandcommandery.org

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May 2026

Greetings, Sir Knights.

First and foremost, I offer my congratulations to all those Sir Knights who were recently elected and installed as officers for the coming Templar year. Thank you for stepping up to serve your commanderies! I wish you all an enjoyable and successful year ahead.

You've likely already heard by now but as a reminder, the 173rd Annual Conclave of our Grand Commandery will be held May 29-31, 2026, in King of Prussia, PA. It is shaping up to be a great weekend, and I hope you can join us. For more information, to see the schedule for the weekend, review proposed changes to the Grand Commandery Constitution, find information on making hotel and meal reservations, and more, see the [Call for the 173rd Annual Conclave](#). Our hotel room block is nearly sold out so don't delay in making your reservations!

I realize not everyone will be able to attend the Annual Conclave so I will take this opportunity to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your Grand Commander this Templar year. It has been a wonderful year, thanks in large part to the kindness and hospitality you have shown Lady Kathy and me in our travels. I have seen firsthand how much effort you put forth to ensure we are creating and cultivating positive, meaningful experiences for our fraters and for that, I am truly grateful. I will leave this office knowing that our Grand Commandery has a bright future and I have every confidence that we will continue to grow and prosper under the leadership of the Sir Knights of the Grand Line with whom I've had the pleasure of serving over the last few years.

Courteously,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua J. Nay".

SK Joshua J. Nay
Grand Commander

Mark Your Calendars

May 29-31, 2026 – 173rd Annual Conclave, King of Prussia, PA

July 11, 2026 – Testimonial for S.K. Troy A. Mock, Bedford, PA

August 15, 2026 – One Day Conferral of Orders, Stroudsburg, PA

Commandery Anniversaries in May

Allen-Beauceant No. 20 – May 2, 1860

Hermit No. 24 – May 23, 1867

Nativity No. 71 – May 25, 1892

Lorraine No. 87 – May 27, 1909

Bethel No. 98 – May 27, 1925



Associate Grand Prelate's Message

To all valiant knights of Pennsylvania wherever dispersed:

From the fourth chapter of the first letter of Peter: "Beloved: The end of all things is at hand. Therefore be serious and sober-minded so that you will be able to pray. Above all, let your love for one another be intense, because love covers a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without complaining. As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."

As I consider the scriptures appointed for the time when we will all be gathered in conclave, this passage stands out as most fitting. We are often relieved when we come to the end of a term of office, commitment, or duty. I'm sure that our REGC Nay will have a similar experience this month, knowing confidently that he has made a great impact on Templary in Pennsylvania. However, it is very different to consider simply passing the mantle of leadership at the end of a term, as opposed to taking the time to deeply consider the true impact of an ending. Endings are sure in this mortal life, filled with many emotions, and laden with the burdens of the journey. But, endings have great value when we consider that each small ending is preparing us for the ending which stands before all mankind, and the even greater ending at the return of our Savior Jesus Christ. St. Peter reminds us of that end which is at hand, and lays out for the faithful a few helpful preparatory measures, to guard our hearts, minds, and souls! He calls to mind the seriousness of endings, I think, so that we might not just be relived, but in our minds re-live the experience through memory. Moreso, he leans heavily on that seriousness to be prepared to pray. I can think of no better way to prepare one's self for prayer than to call to mind our thoughts, words, and deeds as we approach any ending. And, endings lend themselves very well to this kind of preparation.

Congratulations, Right Eminent Sir Nay! You have, in all seriousness, kept our Grand Commandery in a wonderful spirit of prayer and service. Most of all, however, you served this great commandery with a love for others that was visibly intense (with a true smile, a heartfelt handshake, a brotherly hug, and so much more). Despite the long travel evenings, I never heard a complaint, as with great hospitality you met the good Sir Knights of Pennsylvania in nearly every corner of the state.

I hope each Commandery and Sir Knight in our jurisdiction would join me in recognizing that we have all received a gift from the Holy Spirit, and use that gift, whatever form it may manifest, to serve one another ever showing just how varied the grace of God can be when it flows from stewards like those who have pledged themselves at His holy altar!

The grace of God is visible in our stewardship, and in that service may we all prepare for whatever ending is on the horizon, near or far. Know with great assurance Sir Knights, wherever you may be on that journey, that when your end approaches, a new beginning awaits! That is the

promise upon which our faith rests, and for which we should all proclaim... “AMEN... Come Lord Jesus!”

Blessings to you in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit! AMEN.

The Rev. Dr. S.K. Nathan Corl Minnich Honorary Past Grand Commander & Associate Grand Prelate



On April 2nd, Maundy Thursday, candidates from Damascus Commandery No. 95 and Mizpah Commandery No. 96 received the Order of the Temple conferred by SK Richard Evans, PC.



Mountain Commandery No. 10 continued their longstanding tradition of conferring the Order of the Temple on Good Friday. Congratulations to the new Sir Knights!



A strong contingent from Pennsylvania traveled to Virginia for the Grand Encampment's Easter Weekend and on Saturday, April 4th, we laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery.



Led by S.K. William D. Johnston, EC, Pittsburgh No. 1 performed a stellar conferral of the Order of the Temple on Saturday, April 11th. Congratulations to the new Sir Knights and to all who played a part in making the day so memorable.

Many commanderies across Pennsylvania installed new officers for the coming Templar year. Here are photos of just some of them:



Oriental No. 61, Johnstown

Samuel S. Yohe No. 81,
Stroudsburg



Mizpah No. 96,
Doylestown

Kensington-
Kadosh No. 54,
Bristol





Reading No. 9, Reading



Mary No.
36,
Philadelphia

(with visitors from Union Commandery No. 1, United Grand Commandery, M.K.T. of PA, Prince Hall Affiliated)



St. John's No. 4, Philadelphia



Hugh DePayens No. 19,
Easton



Allegheny No. 35, Wexford