



**NEWS for June 2026**  
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**Greetings Sir Knights,**

**Thank you for electing me to this esteemed position of serving Washington Templary. I am truly honored and blessed. I am committed to improving the Grand Commandery with everyone's help. This year, we will focus on three key areas:**

- 1. Membership and Retention: Increasing our membership is crucial. I challenge each of us to bring in one new member and bring back one previous member. We need to work on recruitment and retention to grow our organization.**
- 2. Education: We are fortunate to have access to the Grand Encampment Online Education Courses, which include the following: Templar Adeptus, History of the Medieval Knights Templar, Trial of the Templars, Commissioned Templar Chaplain Program, Templar Ritualist, Illustrious Order of the Red Cross, Order of**

**Malta and the Mediterranean Pass, and the Order of the Temple. This knowledge is crucial for retaining our new Sir Knights, and I encourage all Councils to include course information with their membership.**

- 3. Civility: One of our basic charges calls for us to remind a Brother, in the most friendly manner of his faults, aid in his reformation, and defend his character. We are also taught these principles extend to every human being, and that we are to do good unto all. This does not make exceptions for race, color, creed, political stance or religion. Please ensure you are conducting yourself as Sir Knights should in the Outer World.**

**By providing candidates with a quality conferral experience and educating them about our history, while showing them real world examples of our Charge, we can make their experience more meaningful and improve our chances of retaining their engagement and active participation.**

**My Official Visits will be listed in the upcoming events area of the Focus.**

**If you have any questions, or need a visit rescheduled, please let me know.**

**In His Name,**

**SK Joseph L. McAlister, REGC  
Grand Commandery of Knights Templar in Washington**