

Here is a good read:

"Templar Skills Working Knowledge for applied Skills of all New Templars" form Order of the Temple of Solomon

<https://knightstemplarorder.org/membership/skills-training-program/>

## The Harvest of Earth and the Glory of Heaven: A Reflection for August

### Greetings, Sir Knights and Valiant Companions of the Order.

As the sun blazes with its full intensity and the golden fields of August ripple under the summer breeze, we are called to a season of profound gratitude and celestial reflection. This month, our journey leads us to celebrate both the bounty of the earth and the ultimate promise of our eternal home. We look toward two significant observances: the ancient tradition of **Lammas** and the glorious **Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**.

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### Lammas: The Feast of the Loaf Mass

**Saturday, August 1, 2026**

Known traditionally as "Loaf Mass Day," [Lammas](#) is the wheat harvest festival that anchors our gratitude in the physical world. It marks the day of the first harvest—a time when the community gathers to thank the Almighty for the sustenance that will carry us through the coming seasons.

- **The Offering of the First Fruits:** Historically, a loaf of bread made from the first-ripe grain was brought to the altar to be blessed. This serves as a vital reminder to every Knight that all we possess—from the bread on our table to the strength in our arms—is a gift from the Creator.
  - **A Sentinel of the Seasons:** Lammas serves as a herald of the approaching autumn. For the Templar, it is a time to contemplate our own "harvest"—the fruits of our labors, our charity, and our service to the Order and the less fortunate.
  - **Spirit of the Community:** Though its origins are ancient, the spirit of sharing the harvest with the whole community remains a cornerstone of our Christian duty.
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### The Feast of the Assumption

**Saturday, August 15, 2026**

Midway through the month, we turn our gaze from the soil of the earth to the heights of the heavens. The [Feast of the Assumption](#) commemorates the bodily ascent of the Virgin Mary into heaven at the end of her earthly life—a day of great joy and pageantry throughout Christendom.

- **The Victory of Faith:** This holy day celebrates the belief that Mary, having been the vessel of the Incarnation, was taken up body and soul into divine glory. It is a testament to the victory over death promised to all the faithful who endure to the end.
  - **Historical Witness:** While early scholars once mused upon the nature of her passing, by the eighth century, the testimony of the Church—fortified by fathers like John of Damascus—established this transition as a cornerstone of our devotion.
  - **A Universal Celebration:** Observed with street processions, hymns, and the blessing of summer herbs, the day links the beauty of the natural world to the splendor of the Mother of God.
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### The Knight's Charge

Fellow Knights, as we break the bread of the first harvest and look toward the stars in honor of the Queen of Heaven, let us be renewed in our holy purpose. Let the gratitude of **Lammas** soften our hearts to the needs of our neighbors, and let the glory of the **Assumption** steel our resolve to march toward our eternal destination. We serve a Captain who has conquered the grave, and we honor a Mother who stands as a sign of hope for all mankind.

May your storehouses be full, and your faith be unshakable.

*Non Nobis, Domine, Non Nobis, Sed Nomini Tuo Da Gloriam.*

Courteously and Fraternally,

*Harry W. Jenkins II*

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Grand Commander of the Grand Commandery of New Mexico