

GRAND COMMANDERY KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF MICHIGAN

State News for November 2026

Web Site: www.kt-mi.org

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Greetings Sir Knights and Ladies, Companions and Brothers All!

I am seeking articles and photos for our supplement, please send to the editor, by the 21st of each month!

Welcome to the November 2026 edition of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Michigan update and Knights Templar Magazine Supplement.



Grand Commander Message

Sir Knights,

As we enter the month of November, our hearts are drawn to gratitude. This is a time to reflect on the countless blessings God has given us — the gift of faith, the love of family, the strength of brotherhood, and the privilege of serving others in His name.

So often, we move through life focused on what lies ahead, but November reminds us to pause and give thanks for all that has already been placed in our care. Every blessing, great and small, is a sign of God's goodness and a reminder that we are never alone on our journey.

As Sir Knights, we are called not only to be thankful, but to let our gratitude shine through our actions. Let us continue to serve with humility, love with compassion, and stand together in faith. In doing so, we become living witnesses of God's grace and instruments of His peace in our communities across Michigan.

During this season of Thanksgiving, may each of us take time to count our blessings, lift those in need, and thank God for His enduring mercy. May our hearts remain open, our spirits remain strong, and our brotherhood remain a blessing to all we encounter.

With gratitude and prayer,

James E.J. DeGuise Rutherford

Grand Commander

Grand Prelate's Pen

Grand Prelate's November message.

As November arrives and the autumn colors settle across Michigan, we enter one of the most meaningful times of the year—Thanksgiving. For many, it marks a day of family gatherings, familiar traditions, and well-loved meals. But for us as Sir Knights, Thanksgiving carries a deeper significance that aligns closely with our values, our mission, and the obligations we hold dear.

Thanksgiving is, at its heart, a celebration of gratitude—an opportunity to pause and reflect on the blessings we often overlook in the rush of daily life. In our work as Knights Templar, we are encouraged to walk uprightly, act with compassion, and serve with humility. It is in gratitude that these virtues find their strongest footing. When we acknowledge the goodness we receive, we become better prepared to extend goodness to others.

This season reminds us that the strength of our Commandery lies not just in ritual or tradition, but in fellowship. We give thanks for the bonds of brotherhood that unite us, for the dedication of our leaders and members, and for the shared commitment that carries our Order forward year after year. We also give thanks for our families, whose encouragement and understanding support our work within the Craft.

As we gather around our tables later this month—whether in large family circles or quiet homes—let us remember those who cannot be with us. Let us give thanks for those who serve our communities and nation, especially our first responders and members of the military, past and present. Their sacrifice and steadfast devotion allow us the peace and security to celebrate this season in safety and fellowship.

May this Thanksgiving inspire each of us to carry a spirit of gratitude beyond the holiday itself. Let it shape our interactions, strengthen our commitments, and deepen our understanding of what it means to serve with charity and courage. As we look ahead to the busy months to come, may we do so with full hearts and renewed purpose.

On behalf of the Grand Commandery of Michigan, I extend warm Thanksgiving wishes to all Sir Knights, their families, and all who labor in the vineyard of our beloved Order. May your homes be filled with peace, your hearts with gratitude, and your days with the blessings of fellowship and light.

Dean Barr, Grand Prelate

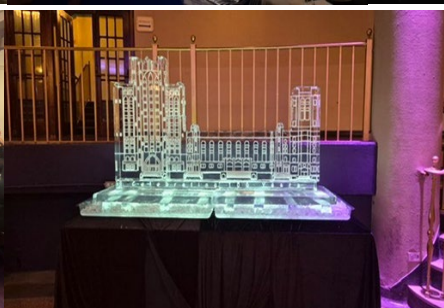
Michigan Grand York Rite Reception

On October 25, 2026, the heads of the York Rite in Michigan for 2026-27 held their reception banquet at Brookshire golf course in Williamston Michigan. We had over one hundred people in attendance. Our Master of Ceremonies was William Herlihy, Past Grand Commander of Michigan. Grand High Priest Harold Staley, Most Illustrious Grand Master John Kilborn, Most Worshipful Grand Master of Michigan Mike Roberts, and the Grand Commander James D. Rutherford, were honored. We had great fellowship, and food, the evening was filled with laughter and catching up with old friends. The ladies of the Grand Commandery were in attendance, with Becky Rutherford, the first lady of the Grand Commandery.



The Detroit Centennial Gala,

On Saturday October 17, 2026, Lady Becky, Ginger, and I attended this wonderful event, to celebrate one hundred years of the Detroit Masonic Temple. It was a black-tie event, and numerous Dignitaries' were in attendance, our Host for the evening was Detroit's own Jay Towers, a television personality. We listened to Ben Sharkey and his band during dinner. I have included Photo's from this wonderful event Celebrating 100 years of the Detroit Masonic Temple. Lady Ginger at her finest, she made herself right at home. We listened to an amazing performance by the Detroit Youth Choir they really knocked it out. If you get a chance to see this Choir perform, you really need to see them, they are amazing, and very talented.





Order of Malta

On October 19, 2026, Detroit Commandery #1, had five Companions of the Red Cross, who took their Orders and are now Knights of Malta. Congratulations go out to these five who will become Knights of the Temple very soon.



An evening with the Sir Knights at Durand Commandery in Swartz Creek:

October 26, 2026, I conducted my first inspection as Right Eminent Grand Commander. I was joined by David Heise Eminent Grand Generalissimo, and Mike Johnson Eminent Grand Junior Warden. Sir Knight Don Trumbull, REPGC traveled with Lady Ginger, first knight service dog and I. We had a great evening with the knights of Durand Commandery, and I was honored by these Sir Knights with an honorary membership in their Commandery, thank you to all the knight for this honor that I do not take lightly, honorary memberships comes from all the knights from that particular commandery, so I am truly humbled by the honor.



Inspiration message:

Sir Knights, when you were made a Freemason, you started building your temple. As a Knight Templar you reaffirmed your commitment to Christ to follow the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures.

Each day is a gift, and the next day is not guaranteed. We know not when we will render a final account to the Grand Warden of Heaven. When we hear that last trumpet sound and stand before the Great White Throne, we won't be judged by the wealth we have, not our political affiliation, not the Church we attend, nor the color of our skin.

We will only be judged by the content of our hearts. My prayer is that when your last course on earth is run and are called home by the Grand Warden of Heaven, you will hear the welcome words, Well Done Good and Faithful Servant, Enter the Joy of the Lord. May we all strive for World peace and build a future for our children and our children's children!

**God Bless,
Shawn M Bashore
Past Grand Commander**

A Funny short story about November, Author Unknown

November showed up like, "I'm here to be cozy and reflective," and then immediately turned the weather into a prank.

One morning, Frank put on a heavy coat, gloves, and a scarf the size of a sofa blanket. By noon, he was sweating so much he looked like he'd run a marathon in a sauna. By evening, the

temperature dropped ten degrees, and the wind slapped him sideways as if November had personally taken offense.

At dinner, Frank's wife asked, "How was your day?" Frank sighed and said, "I got dressed by three different seasons and none of them agreed with each other."

From the window, a squirrel stared at him with what Frank swore was judgment. The squirrel had already buried exactly one acorn and was acting very confident about it.

Then the mailman delivered a flyer for snow tires, pumpkin sales, and holiday lights—all on the same page.

Frank shook his head. "November," he muttered, "the only month that can serve Thanksgiving, ice, and retail panic before lunch." And somewhere outside, the squirrel laughed in tiny, squeaky approval.



ON THE RADAR

Hospitaller Sunday, Central Battalion is hosted knights/ladies on Sunday October 18th at the Kirkridge Presbyterian Church 8070 South Saginaw Road, Grand Blanc, Mi. at 9:30am

If your commandery has candidates, your Grand Commandery is here to help give them a special day in your asylum. We are here to fill gaps as needed or organize traveling team. Don't wait, we can help.

Early November Inspections

November 2, 2026, Jackson Commandry No. 2, dinner @ 6pm, Ten man opening @ 7:30 pm, Ladies Program

November 5, 2026, Monroe Commandry No. 19, dinner @ 6pm, Ten man opening, 7pm Ladies Program

November 7, 2026, Pontiac Commandry No. 2, chamber @ 1:30pm, 2pm opening and Order of the Temple. Reception of Grand Officers, Dinner @ 5pm, No ladies program this year

November 7, 2026, Peninsular No. 8, and Niles No. 12, Joint inspection, ten men opening at 7pm

November 9, 2026, Adrian No. 4, dinner@ 6pm, Opening at 7:30, Ladies program

November 12, 2026, Lansing No. 25 Opening Time: 7:30 pm, Dinner: 6:30 pm, Open/ Form: 10 Man, Ladies Program: Possibly depending on the RSVP, Reception of Grand Officers: No, Order of the Temple: No

November 13, 2026, DeMolai No. 5 dinner@ 6pm, Ten man opening @ 7pm, no Ladies

November 14, 2026, St. Bernard No. 16, Ten men opening @ 2pm, followed by dinner

November 18, 2026, Muskegon Commandry No. 22, dinner @6:30pm, ten men opening@ 7:30pm

November 19th, 2026, St. George Commandry No. 52, Dinner @ 5:30 pm followed by ten men opening, Ladies Program provided

November 21, 2026, Northville Commandry No. 39, ten men opening @ 8:30am

November 21, 2026, Mt. Clemens Commandry No. 51, ten men opening, Chamber @ 2:30, opening @ 3pm, Order of the Temple, dinner to follow.

December inspections

December 14, 2026, Genesee Valley Commandry No. 15, ten men opening @ 5pm

January Inspections

January 30, 2027, Detroit Commandry No. 1, Full form opening, Chamber @ 12:30pm, Opening @ 1pm, Dinner @ 5pm.