

Message for the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts & Rhode Island

Sir Knights,

As Spring unfolds across Massachusetts and Rhode Island, it brings with it a renewed sense of hope, purpose, and spiritual refreshment. This season reminds us that renewal is not only found in nature, but also within our Commanderies, our fellowship, and our individual journeys as Christian Knights.

It was truly heartening to see so many of you at our Easter Saturday Observance. Standing together in faith is one of the great privileges of our Order. I extend a special and heartfelt thank-you to our Grand Prelate, **S.K. Glen Cunningham**, whose thoughtful guidance helped shape the program and whose message uplifted all who attended. His devotion to the spiritual life of our Grand Commandery continues to be a blessing to us all.

We now look forward with great anticipation to our One-Day Class on **May 2nd**, celebrating the **250th Anniversary of the Order of the Temple in the United States**. This historic milestone invites us to reflect on the legacy entrusted to us — and to recommit ourselves to ensuring that Templary remains strong, relevant, and inspiring for generations to come.

This season is a busy one for many of our Commanderies. Inspections are being completed, Reception of the Division Commanders are on the docket, and candidates are advancing through the Orders. Amid this activity, I encourage next year's Commanders to begin shaping their vision now. Put **pen to paper** and craft a plan that creates meaningful opportunities for your members to engage in the full Knight Templar experience.

As part of that preparation, I am pleased to remind you that the **Expanded School of the Knight program**, under the direction of **S.K. James Stone, PGC**, is now available to any Commandery or Division. This 2–3 hour program provides practical instruction in proper uniforms, commands, and the movements used to march Troops and Officers. It is an invaluable resource for strengthening our military precision and deepening the confidence of every Sir Knight who steps onto the lines. Please speak to your Division Commander to schedule.

And remember: **every Sir Knight has a place in our work.**

- If you love ritual, consider joining the officer line.
- If you enjoy military formality, the Troops will welcome you.
- If history inspires you, share that passion through programs and presentations.
- If standing or memorization is difficult, there are still important roles you can fulfill, such as serving as Sentinel or assisting with Committee work.
- If you are among our younger Sir Knights, your insight is essential as we improve communication and engagement for the next generation.
- If you enjoy food and fellowship, take charge of meals and hospitality.
- If you are homebound, your voice can still reach others through phone calls, mentoring, and encouragement.

Our Commanders are dedicated and hardworking, but they cannot carry the load alone. Your willingness to step forward — to offer your hands, your talents, and your heart — is what strengthens our Commanderies and keeps our Order vibrant.

As we move through this season of renewal, may we do so with unity of purpose, charity toward one another, and a shared commitment to the future of Templary in Massachusetts and Rhode Island. May our actions reflect the light of our faith, and may our fellowship continue to inspire all who walk the path of the Christian Knight.

In His Service

S.K. Peter A. Randall
Grand Commander

PS: Keep up the good work of Feeding the Hungry, Clothing the Naked, and Binding up the Wounds of the Afflicted!