

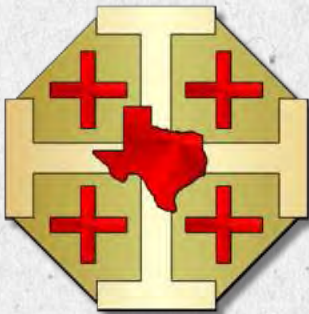
THE TEXAS TEMPLAR

A monthly publication of the Grand Commandery of Texas



Sir Knight
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Photo Description:
Tarrant County Festival Knighting 13 New Knights

Sir Knights,

Texas is heating up - both in temperature and our activity! Last month, I wrote the importance of engagement to our organization. We have opportunities to be engaged in our commanderies. We have three opportunities to create engagement - and enthusiasm - for Chivalric Masonry in our Lodges, Chapters, and Councils this month.

First, I encourage you to organize a flag presentation team. Flag presentations are a great way to show support for our fraternal organizations - and a great way to drive interest in our order! We love to see you out in your regalia supporting our other masonic organizations. Please post pictures to Facebook and feel free to send them to our editor, Michael Cote, for inclusion in next month's newsletter. I would also love to hear how many installations you have performed. I may even have a surprise for the most active Sir Knights!

Second, on June 15th, we are gathering to celebrate the new incoming officers in our Lodges, Chapters, and Councils. Join us in Dallas at Medieval Times to celebrate! Tickets are available on our website. Come show your support, bring your family and show them how much fun we have in Chivalric Masonry!

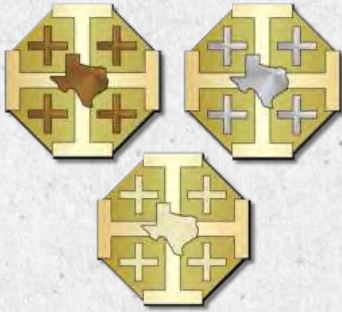
And third, on June 20th and 21st, we are gathering in Waco for the statewide York Rite Festival. If you have any candidates for the festival, please send the proper paperwork to our organizing bodies, Southside Chapter and Council and Alexander C. Garrett Commandery.

In His Service,

Justin C. Bauer
Grand Commander

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE UPDATE

The Grand Commandery is now offering, for a donation to the Texas Holy Land Pilgrimage Foundation, a Holy Land Pilgrimage Badge. The design bears Texas in the center either bronze, silver, or gold to denote the value of the contribution:



- Bronze Crosses in each quadrant - \$250 donation
- Silver Crosses in each quadrant - \$500 donation
- Gold Crosses in each quadrant - \$1000 donation

This Badge may be worn by contributing Sir Knight purchasing the same as a part of his Templar Uniform. It may be worn on the left side of the uniform above the pocket and the name tag and veterans ribbon, if applicable. **The first 100 Sir Knights to purchase a full badge shall receive a sequentially numbered badge, which shall designate them as one of the Charter Donors.** The Holy Land Pilgrimage Badge may be worn on All Texas Templar Uniforms except the cap and mantle.

Pledge your support today on the website!

GRAND COMMANDER'S RECENT ACTIVITIES



Lubbock



Richardson



Fort Worth



McKinney

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Find us on Facebook!
[@GrandCommanderyTexas](https://www.facebook.com/GrandCommanderyTexas)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MASONIC CELEBRATION OF LEADERSHIP

CELEBRATING THE OFFICERS OF
LODGES, CHAPTERS, AND COUNCILS AT
MEDIIEVAL TIMES

2021 N. STEMMONS FWY
DALLAS, TX 75207

JUNE 15TH
DALLAS, TEXAS

4:30PM - 6:30PM

THIS MONTH - Celebrate the officers of our Lodges, Chapters, and Councils as they kick off the new year. The event is at Medieval Times in Dallas on June 15th at 4:30 pm-6:30 pm. Families are encouraged to attend!

[Link to Details and Registration!](#)

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PRELATE'S CORNER



A MESSAGE FROM THE EMINENT GRAND PRELATE SK BRAD BILLINGS, KCT

Have you ever experienced a setback or obstacle in your life? It is almost a rhetorical question as anyone who has minute experience in life will have certainly suffered what they perceive to be a setback. We've all had difficult times in our lives whether it be a personal struggle, professional obstacle or simply having to deal with a circumstance beyond our control.

Adversity is a universal experience that touches each of our lives at different times and in different ways and, while adversity is never fun to deal with, it can lead us to the next chapter of our story as it presents us with an obstacle to overcome by growth, resilience or transformation.

Remember the story of Joseph, the baby of the family; the twelfth and favorite son of Jacob. I don't know your story but I would hope that the adversity you've endured was far less than what Joseph experienced. Being sold into captivity by his own jealous brothers only to be imprisoned for false accusations. From favored son to prisoner in a foreign land – I can only imagine, at that moment, the level of anguish Joseph must have felt.

But unbeknownst to even Joseph himself, God is using this adversity to shape him into the man he will become. Through betrayal, slavery, and even imprisonment, Joseph becomes a new man, very different from the spoiled son he was, and begins a new story. So that when his brothers are brought to Egypt by divine providence, he has grown enough to say...

And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. 6 For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. 7 But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. 8 "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt. Genesis 45:5-8

Adversity builds character and the things we experience can make us more patient, tolerant, empathetic, and understanding. If we look at our lives as part of the overall plan from God, we should look to learn from every experience. Especially those we perceive as the bad times.

By embracing adversity with faith and trust in God, believers can learn valuable lessons that shape their character and strengthen their walk with Him. Whatever life throws at you next, instead of just going through it, grow through it.

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MONTHLY UPDATES

GRAND COMMANDER'S [UPCOMING TRAVELS](#)

JUNE

1 - Texas Allied Masonic Degrees Association
Ingathering

1 - El Paso York Rite Conference

15 - Masonic Celebration of Leadership

21-22 - Statewide York Rite Festival

20-23 - Texas Grand Assembly

JULY

11 - 13 - Texas DeMolay Conclave

SAVE THE DATE!
Information Coming Soon!



172nd Annual Grand Conclave
4/10/2025 - 4/13/2025
Embassy Suites - Grapevine



EDITOR'S NOTE
SK MICHAEL COTE II



Sir Knights,

I would like to send special congratulations and best wishes to the new 2024-2025 Aide-de-Camps who recently received their cords. Unlike other grand bodies, Grand Commanders do not get to appoint many officers. Serving as an ADC was an unbelievable experience, and I hope the worthy Sir Knights will get equal enjoyment out of their duties this year. Also, let's be sure we support the new Holy Land Pilgrimage Foundation fundraiser! That beautiful badge will be a wonderful insignia of support for our blessed clergy to be able to spread the word in the Holy Land!