



ILLINOIS SUPPLEMENT

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John Michael Sansone
Grand Commander
Pro Deo et Patria

Greetings Sir Knights,

Assuming all went as expected at the Annual Grand Conclave, I was elected as Grand Commander of Illinois. I would like to thank all the Sir Knights and their Ladies who were able to attend our Grand Conclave this year in person and those who could not attend due to health concerns for your support. Our hope is all Sir Knights, and their Ladies will be able to attend next year, and the concerns of the Pandemic are behind us. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my Fellow Officers and the Past Grand Commanders for the support I have received, and I hope to continue to receive, in my journey to, and time in, the office of Grand Commander. I would like to Congratulate the Sir Knight who was elected to the office of Grand Junior Warden. At the writing of this article the election has not occurred, but we had at least three worthy candidates announce their desire to run, and I would encourage those fine Knights who were not elected to consider running again next year.

The Corona virus has had an impact on every aspect of life over the past year and a half. We were not able to meet and break bread together for almost 14 months. I look to this year as a rebuilding and rebirth of our Commanderies. I would like to thank our Junior Past Grand Commander Auston E. Smith for all the effort he put in to begin our rebirth with the opening of the Commanderies in May.

As you read this article the Grand Officers and Past Grand Commanders are preparing to attend the Triennial Conclave in Minneapolis MN. Aug 14th through the 18th. The Grand Encampment is planning on voting on a Legislation Package drafted by the Preserving

Templary 2021 Committee. Be sure Illinois will be part of the decision to adopt any new changes. One change that may come from the next Triennium that will affect all Sir Knights is that this may be the last state supplement printed in the Knights Templar Magazine. I am assured the Supplements will continue, most likely online on the Grand Encampment website and we will link the Illinois website to make it as convenient as possible.

In September and October, we will be holding Schools of Instruction. These schools will include along with the usual instruction, the performance of the Open Inspection/Evening Work on a Division Scale. Participation in the Schools is required of all Commanderies in the Division and will have an impact on your inspection score. The final Division school will be for the 1st Division and will be held in Joliet, on Oct 23rd, and will include a rededication of Joliet Commandery #4.

Inspections will begin starting the First week of November and run through the end of April. The Focus this year will be on Families, Participation, Quality of the Work and Duties of a Templar.

My reception will be held on September 12 in Orland Park, IL. Information will be sent to each Commandery and can be found on the Illinois website at www.kt-il.org.

I encourage all Sir Knights to support our charities. The Grand Encampment KTEF, is funding research for the prevention and treatment of the diseases of the Eye. Our own State Charity, The Illinois Knights Templar Assistance Outreach, IKTAO, has funded relief of Illinois Knights Templars and their families through a partnership with the Grand Lodge IMOS program. Additionally, the IKTAO has allocated money to each Commandery for charitable use in the local community. Additionally, the IKTAO is contributing money to the Illinois Masonic Hospital Eye Clinic and the seven Children's Dyslexia Centers around the state.

Thank You again in placing your faith in me and let us all pray for a Great Year and Bright Future.

Bless you all,

John M. Sansone, Grand Commander