

Grand Commandery of New York

October News



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Grand Commander

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Faith

I want to offer my appreciation to all Knights Templar who support me now and in the future. I am extremely humble in being elected to the prestigious Grand Commandery and promise to do my best with your help. We want to thank S.K. Yves Etienne, REPGC and S.K. Dennis S. Davis, REPGC who led and guided the Grand Commandery of New York through the Covid 19 Pandemic.

Our theme this year is “Faith”. “God’s word says that we are saved by grace through Faith in Christ Jesus and not by our own efforts or works.” Ephesian 2:8-9. We are not saved by good works, but we are saved for good works. Those different prepositions make all the difference in the world. Good Works are evidence of salvation, not the cause of it. If there are no works or change of life to follow salvation, then it should be questioned whether the person or knight is truly saved.

What are the good works of our Grand Commandry and our Constituent Commanderies? There are many. We seem to be out of the Covid Pandemic which allows us the opportunity to get back to work. In our Constituent Commanderies we need to be proficient in opening and closing and have a program or reason to attend our local Conclaves.

We as Constituent Commanderies need to start conferring the Orders, but the first step is to read the ritual. Grand Commandery stands behind you in any help you need. Grand Commandery has its work to do also with expanding on the Constant Contact email program which you will receive each month on the 5th and 20th day of the month. Also, we need to update our new website. If your Commandery or Zone did anything special please let us know so we can showcase you—don’t forget photos.

October’s “Good Works” for a Knight Templar and his Constituent Commandery is to gather information about his Commandery by researching old Commandery journals, minute books and submit a paragraph or two to S.K. Ron Brown, REPGC, our Grand Commandery’s Historian as soon as possible. The 3rd book of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar State of New York will be completed this year and available for sale at the 2023 Annual Conclave. We need your help. Two Volumes have already been written and published. The history of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, State of New York 1814-2013 Volume 1 and Biographies of Grand Commanders, Grand Commandery of Knights Templar, State of New York 1814-2014 Volume 2.

“It’s not something we do it’s something we are” is a saying I picked up from being a FDNY (NYC) Fireman and I believe it fits Templary as well. We are not only Knights Templar when we are in uniform in a Conclave of Knights Templar event, but we are always a Knight Templar in everything we do and should live and act accordingly.

Upcoming Events

Otsego Commandery Rededication, October 1,2022 6 PM in Cooperstown, NY.

Zone 8 Pilgrimage is scheduled for November 5, 2022 in Palmyra, NY.

(Details can be found on the Grand Commandery website <https://nygckt.org/> and on Facebook -Official Grand Commandery of New York-Knights Templar)

Courteously with Faith,
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Grand Prelate’s Corner

At the end of this month, child and adult dress up for Halloween. They pretend they are something they are not. Did you know the word “hypocrite” in the NT means “stage-actor?” Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance defines “hypocrite” this way: “an actor; stage-player; pretender; a dissembler.”

Jesus took this word from the Greek and Roman theater and used it in pretending to be what they were not. They were “stage-acting” in a spiritual sense. In the case of the Pharisees, they were portraying themselves as spiritual-minded men, when really they were not spiritual at all. They were just putting on a show. They sounded spiritual on the outside, and maybe they “dressed like they were spiritual,” but in reality, they were not spiritual at all. They were wearing a mask. Jesus had strong words of condemnation for those who were hypocritical “mask-wearers.” Check out some of these scriptures: Matthew 6:2,5,16; 7:5; 22:18; 23:15,23,25,27,29; 24:51; Mark 7:6; Luke 12:56; 13:15. It appears that those who act like they’re a Christian, but really they are not, are in for a terrible awakening.

Jesus wants us to be sincere in our faith, and real. He wants us to be true. Don’t be that person who is a “Sunday Christian,” but has nothing to do with Him through the week. Don’t be that person who sings praises on Sunday morning and curses your neighbor on Sunday evening. “My brethren, these things ought not to be this way” (James 3:10). May we all take off the masks and be what God wants us to be.

