

# Grand Commandery of New York

## November News



S.K. Dennis S. Davis  
Grand Commander

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Christian Greetings Sir Knights,

Autumn has come quickly and our thoughts are shifting towards the holiday season and preparation for what is on the horizon. This is usually my favorite season. The pesky bugs should have all dispersed by now and we should be contemplating the glorious works of creation and taking time to adore our great creator while giving thanks for all we have and sharing with those less fortunate.

Let me start by giving thanks first to our Armed Forces and those who have served protecting our freedoms and liberties we sometimes take for granted—not only on Veteran’s Day, but every day we breathe. Their service provides **HOPE** that our children and our children’s children will be able to enjoy the same freedoms and opportunities we have enjoyed.

I want to give thanks to those brother Knights who have oft gone before us giving our generation a chance at that same experience— evoking **HOPE** that we too can offer that opportunity to the next group of **FAITHFUL** pilgrims. The advice and lessons given by those valiant Knights, so many now long gone, have given me the **FAITH** and fortitude to travel thus far.

“Let brotherly love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said ‘I will never fail you nor forsake you’ ” . (Hebrews 13: 1, 2, 5, Revised Standard Version)

Thanksgiving is also a great time to go forth with **CHARITY** by volunteering at and supporting food pantries, shelters and community dinners for those less fortunate. One small gesture of **CHARITY** by one can give **HOPE** and **FAITH** to many in one single event. Take the time to give thanks to family and friends that are always there for comfort and support.

Last, I need to give thanks to SK Yves Etienne, PGC, those zealous and vigilant Knights of the Grand Line and the Past Grand Commanders who have pressed onward these last two years—encountering perils and dangers for the sake of Christ and our Order. Your **FAITH** and justification for both change and steadfast actions have been paramount to the safety and education of our Grand Commandery.

Courteously with Brotherly Love,  
SK Dennis S. Davis, R.E.G.C.

### Upcoming Events

Zone # 6 School of Instruction, November 5, Central City No. 25  
Zone #8 Pilgrimage, November 6, Palmyra, NY  
Zone # 1 School of Instruction, November 6, Nassau No. 73  
Zone # 5&7 School of Instruction, 11 November 11, Norwich No. 46  
Grand Commander's Reception, November 13, Utica, NY  
Zone # 8 School of Instruction, November 18, DeMolay No. 22  
Zone # 4 School of Instruction, November 20, St. Georges No. 37  
Zone #3 Pilgrimage, December 4, Rhinebeck, NY

**(Details can be found on the Grand Commandery website)**

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### Grand Prelate's Corner

**May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine on us, so that your ways may be known on earth, your salvation among all nations. (Psalm 67:1,2)**

The Apostle Paul tells his readers to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God" (Colossians 3:16). It's a reminder to live the life of a Christian in a state of continual thanksgiving towards God. Elsewhere, he calls us to "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

But what does that look like, and why is it important? It's easy to praise God in the good times, but how do we praise Him in times of suffering or temptation—and why should we? We're thankful, because of God's steadfast love for us. It's a love that we don't have to (and can't) earn, and unlike the fleeting human loves we know here on earth, it's steadfast, it's reliable. We have a God we can lean on, whose strength is inseparable from His love. So the first answer to why we should thank God is that He lovingly created us, and He loves us still, because His love is steadfast. That's a cause for great joy.

There is another reason for our thanksgiving as King David states in I Chronicles 16:8-9, "I will give thanks to thee, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to thee among the nations." In other words, we should go out "to the nations," to the world, proclaiming the good things that God has done: in creation and in salvation, and in a special way in our own lives. This call to evangelize through thanksgiving is perhaps nowhere more applicable than the modern age. We have little time for logical argument, but we love sympathetic stories. If you can share how God has changed your life, that's a powerful witness. And the more you spend time in thanksgiving for God, the more you're able to share "to the nations" just what it is that you're thankful for.

If we love Christ, who offers himself for us, we should feel compelled to find a few minutes to express that to another. And so we can see that the Christian message is one of constant thankfulness to God, and that this is how we should approach our daily living, whether in times of great celebration or great difficulty—and there is a very real sense in which the thankful are the ones who shall be saved. God promises in Psalm 50:23, "He who brings thanksgiving as his sacrifice honors me; to him who orders his way aright I will show the salvation of God!"

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**From the Editor**

Lady Debi and I would like to wish every one of you a Happy Thanksgiving. We hope you are healthy and can enjoy this holiday season with your family and friends and celebrate this glorious time of the year. We have so much to be thankful for. God bless us all.