



Grand Commandery Knights Templar West Virginia



November 2022

From the Apartment of the Grand Prelate
Grand Commandery of the State of West Virginia

Thanksgiving 2022

Right Eminent Grand Commander Roy and Lady Diana and Sir Knights and Ladies all:

“America Confesses” by Peter Marshall

Our Father, bring to the remembrance of Thy people Thine ancient time-honored promise: “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

We – this company of Thy people assembled – would begin now to meet the conditions that will enable Thee to fulfill Thy promise.

May all of America come to understand that right-living alone exalteth a nation, that only in Thy will can peace and joy be found. But, Lord, this land cannot be righteous unless her people are righteous, and we, here gathered, are part of America. We know that the world cannot be changed until the hearts of man are changed. Our hearts need to be changed.

We therefore confess to Thee that:

Wrong ideals and sinful living have cut us off from Thee.

We have been greedy.

We have sought to hide behind barricades of selfishness; shackles have imprisoned the great heart of America.

We have tried to isolate ourselves from the bleeding wounds of a blundering world.

In our self-sufficiency we have sought not Thy help.

We have held conferences and ignored Thee completely.

We have disguised selfishness as patriotism; our arrogance has masqueraded as pride.

We have fritted away time and opportunities while the world bled.

Our ambitions have blinded us to opportunities.

We have bickered in factory and business, and sought to solve our differences only through self-interest.

Lord God of Hosts, forgive us! O God, by Thy guidance and Thy power may our beloved land once again become God's one country, a nation contrite in heart, confessing her sins; a nation keenly sensitive to all the unresolved injustice and wrong still in our midst.

Hear this our prayer and grant that we may confidently expect to see it answered in our time, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Right Eminent Grand Commander Roy and I wish you and all the Sir Knights of the Grand Commandery of the State of West Virginia their families and friends: A joyful time of thanksgiving and fellowship and God bless you and keep you.. We are Soldiers of the Cross! Amen and Amen.

Please continue to pray for our nation and one another.

Benny E. Gurley (PC #15), Grand Prelate



Pictured are Past West Virginia Grand Commanders in attendance at the annual Order of the Temple Inspection for Calvary Commandery # 3 with our Right Eminent Grand Commander Richard Roy. Pictured from left: PGC Lee Hadley, PGC Donald Hamrick, PGC Vincent Perry, PGC Edward Ball, PGC James Horner, REGC Richard Roy, New Sir Knight Brad Garrison, PGC Roger Linger, PGC Gregory Dotson, PGC Johnnie Sluss, Inspector General Ron Saloky, Grand Standard Bearer Greg Amlin, and Grand Sword Bearer Harold JB Campbell.