

Massachusetts and Rhode Island Supplement

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GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE – FEBRUARY 2012

In my Christmas message I asked Sir Knights and their families to consider leaving a Christmas candle lit, after they had taken all others down, to remind us of the glorious Eastertide that is to come. Lent, the 40 days before Easter, symbolizing Jesus' going out into the wilderness, is now upon us. Ash Wednesday begins this period of fasting, reflection, and repentance. The placing of ashes upon the forehead in the form of a cross serves as a reminder that we are human and therefore subject to sin. In a world that expects perfection, this simple act allows us to recognize, both in ourselves, and others, that we are not perfect. Allowing ourselves to recognize our imperfections also allows us to recognize and embrace the need for spiritual direction from God our Father and his son Jesus Christ.

We have now entered the two busiest months of our Inspection season and I commend those Commanderies who performed their work in January. I also wish to thank Calvary Commandery No. 13 and Beauseant-Palestine #10 for hosting Exemplifications and for the fine work conducted by the Exemplification team. The final Exemplification of the season will be held in Haverhill on February 18th. If you haven't had your Inspection yet and haven't attended an Exemplification, this will be your last chance to watch the work performed and ask any questions of the Inspector-Instructor. The famous beans and hot dog luncheon, provided by Haverhill Commandery, will follow the Exemplification.

We are taking reservations for our Easter trip to Washington DC for the Grand Encampment Easter Service. The bus will leave in the late evening on Thursday, April 5th and return on Sunday the 8th. Details are available at all Inspections, or on our website. Consider inviting family and friends for this memorable trip, which will also coincide this year with the blooming of the cherry blossoms.

Our Semi-Annual Conclave is coming up in Middletown, Rhode Island on Friday, April 13th. Our meetings, luncheon and banquet with the Grand Chapter and Grand Council of Rhode Island, will be at the Atlantic Beach Club and the hotel will be the Comfort Inn, directly across the street. Information is available on the website and flyers will be available at the Inspections.

Belated congratulations are extended to our Grand Generalissimo, Sir Knight Hiram Jamiel II, who was married this past October to Lady Carolina. We wish them a lifetime of happiness and welcome Lady Carolina to our Grand Commandery family.

Moving forward with Faith, Fortitude, and Unity

*"Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but **this** one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before..."*

Philippians 3:13 (King

James Version)

May God hold you in the hollow of His Hand,

David Endicott Potter
Grand Commander

From the Grand Prelate

February is About Love
What is Love? - God is Love!

Jesus tells us the most important commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is to love your neighbor as yourself.

Get to know the love of God - Read Mark 12: 28-34

God Loves You

Herb Simpson
Grand Prelate

Coming Events for your Calendar

Last Exemplification for this Year

Saturday February 18, 2012 at 9:00 A.M.

Lunch follows
At Haverhill #14

February Inspections

Saturday February 4, 2012 at Berkshire #22 in Pittsfield at 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday February 8, 2012 at Metro North #20 in Melrose at 6:00 P.M.
Saturday February 11, 2012 South Shore #15 and United #21 in E. Weymouth 11 AM
Monday February 20, 2012 at Northampton #30 in Cumberland, RI at 6:00 P.M.
Tuesday February 28, 2012 Bristol #29 and Bay State #38 in Attleboro 6:00 P.M.

Grand Council of Massachusetts' Special Assembly and One Day Class

Saturday March 17, 2012 at the Worcester Masonic Building
Massachusetts Council of Thrice Illustrious Masters at 9:30 a.m.
Grand Council Opens for business at 11:15 A.M.
Lunch at 12:15 - All Cryptic Degrees at 1:15 P.M. by the new Grand Council Degree Team!!

Semi-Annual Conclave of Grand Commandery

Friday, April 13, 2012 at 11:00 A.M.
Atlantic Beach Club (Upper Ballroom)
55 Purgatory Road, Middletown, RI
Lunch Buffet at 12:30 p.m.
Banquet with Grand Chapter and Grand Council at 6:00 P.M.
Details and Reservation information on our web site!
www.yorkrite.com/ma

Annual Assembly of the Grand Council of Rhode Island Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Rhode Island

Saturday April 14, 2012 In the Masonic Building
155 Wyatt Road, Middletown, Rhode Island

Semi-Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts

Saturday April 21, 2012 at the Milford Masonic Building
Massachusetts Convention of Anointed High Priests at 10:00 A.M.
Lunch at 12:15 P.M. - Grand Chapter opens at 1:30 P.M.

Grand Commandery One Day Class in Haverhill April 28, 2012

Grand Commandery Ball
Double Tree Hotel in Milford, Friday June 8, 2012
WATCH THE WEB PAGE FOR DETAILS ON ALL FUNCTIONS!