

ALABAMA SUPPLEMENT



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FROM THE EMINENT DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER

Sir Knights, as we anticipate a new year. Wow! We have come through a very trying year in 2020, with so many unpredictable changes in our way of doing work and business. We are looking forward to getting life back to a new normal in 2021.

Fund Raising: Please be thinking about a worthy minister that you could nominate for the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. To me, each minister I have heard, speaks differently after his return, because he has changed since he has been able to walk in some of the steps that Jesus walked. Also, remember that Saturday, July 17 the Knight Templar Ball will be hosted in Montgomery at Alcazar Shrine Temple. Tickets are \$65 per person, \$100 per couple and \$425 for a table of up to 8. We divide this money between the Knight Templar Eye Foundation and the Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

There are some special events planned for the year 2021. Be sure to mark your calendar:

- Sunday, April 4: Our Easter Service will be different this year. It will be a Virtual Ceremony, so we will all be able to attend from our homes.
- Saturday, May 15: Birmingham Metro will host a One Day Class at the Birmingham Metro York Rite Temple.
- Friday and Saturday, June 11-12: Mobile will host the Southeastern Department Conference. Leadership classes 101 and 201, along with 401 being given in Mobile.
- Saturday July 17: The Knight Templar Ball (see above).
- Saturday-Tuesday, August 14-17: The 68th Triennial Conclave in Minneapolis. The business sessions will be Monday and Tuesday.
- Saturday, October 9: Side Degrees will be conferred at Birmingham Metro York Rite Temple

With 2020 membership behind us, we need to take on a personal responsibility to recruit new members, and to speak about seeking More Light in Masonry by continuing our Masonic journey in the York Rite. We need to make ourselves known at our Blue Lodge meetings, and let others know what is going on in the York Rite.

FROM THE EMINENT DEPUTY GRAND COMMANDER (CONCL)

As Knight Templar, we are proud of our duty to espouse and defend the Christian faith. Part of that duty is to share our beliefs with our fellow Brother Masons and our neighbors across the street.

Winston Each
R.E. Deputy Grand Commander

GRAND CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

But let all who take refuge in you be glad; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may rejoice in you. Psalm 5:11 (NIV)

How unpredictable and frustrating life can sometimes be. Our best laid plans often go wrong; we are offended by an unkind word or action; we are beset by the stresses of life. We hope that things will go smoothly and pass quickly. We want to believe that we can handle the situations we encounter. But often we feel overwhelmed by events without knowing where to turn. Just where do we go to find our refuge? In such moments, we need to reach out for God, to take refuge in His unconditional love and in turn to discover that our loving God is also reaching out for us. As the old hymn says, "A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing. Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing." Let us take comfort in knowing and believing, whatever may befall us in our journey through life, God is our ever-present refuge and strength.

George Marshall, Jr., PGHP

Grand Chaplain, Grand Chapter RAM of Alabama

(Note: Companion and Sir Knight Marshall has kindly volunteered to send these messages for our Supplement for use when needed)

TWO HORSES IN A FIELD

Just up the road from my home is a field, with two horses in it. From a distance, each looks like every other horse. But if one stops the car, or is walking by, one will notice something quite amazing. Looking into the eyes of one horse will disclose that he is blind. His owner has chosen not to have him put down, but has made a good home for him. This alone is amazing.

Listening, one will hear the sound of a bell. Looking around for the source of the sound, one will see that it comes from the smaller horse in the field. Attached to her bridle is a small bell. It lets her blind friend know where she is, so he can follow her.

As one stands and watches these two friends, one sees how she is always checking on him, and that he will listen for her bell and then slowly walk to where she is, trusting that she will not lead him astray.

Like the owners of these two horses, God does not throw us away just because we are not perfect or because we have problems or challenges. He watches over us and even brings others into our lives to help us when we are in need. Sometimes we are the blind horse being guided by God and those whom he places in our lives. Other times we are the guide horse, helping others see God.

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