



## ILLINOIS SUPPLEMENT

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Sir Knights:

### THE TRIUMPH OF EASTER

As we approach the time of year we call “Easter”, our thoughts are drawn to a time when the world experienced the most tragic and at the same time, a most wonderful event to occur in human history.

The most tragic event was the persecution, torture and death of Christ on the ignominious cross. The most wonderful event is that on the third day, which we celebrate as Easter, the body of Christ was found missing from the tomb! On that first Easter morn, Mary Magdalene and the other women had come to the grave with spices for the anointing of His body; but, He was not there – the stone that sealed the tomb was rolled back and the tomb was empty. They saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side who made a triumphant proclamation. “Ye seek Jesus which was crucified; He is not here, He has risen! Go, tell his Disciples.”

I am sure the Roman soldiers who had known no fear before this time now knew what real fear was as they lay prostrate on the ground. The story of the event that occurred on this first Easter morning has been told and re-told throughout the Christian world for over 2,000 years. We, as Sir Knights, should humble ourselves, and bow down on our knees offering thanks for the triumph of that first Easter dawn. May this inspiration of the super natural resurrection of Christ in his glorified body be a constant reminder that because he lives so shall we if we truly believe the tidings more blessed than any other, “He is not here, He has risen”. Although this event brought both fear and great joy to the Disciples, we know that the resurrected Christ brings the promise of hope and happiness to each of us.

May God bless each and every one of you this Easter season. Our hopes and prayers are that you can continue to experience the feeling of Christ’s presence and join us at Bald Knob Cross for the Ascension Day Service at Alto Pass, Illinois on Sunday, May 17, 2009.

According to John, the Apostle, Jesus said, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

MEET ME At the CROSS Sunday, May 17, 2009, to celebrate His Ascension into heaven” HE IS NOT HERE, HE HAS RISEN!

*Jesse Lee Johns, Grand Commander*

## EASTER MESSAGE 2009

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior:

The most important topic for our time and for all time is Jesus. The Old Testament has a lot to say about Jesus. That book was written by at least twenty people over a people of 1500 years and completed 450 years before the birth of Jesus. Some three hundred prophecies were made about the coming of the Messiah. The odds of one person fulfilling even 10 of the 300 are 5.9 times ten to the twenty-fourth. Jesus fulfilled them all.

- The Messiah in Genesis 49:10 was to be a descendent of the Tribe of Judah. In Luke 3:33 it is recorded that Jesus is of the lineage of Judah.
- The Messiah in Micah 5:2 was to be born in Bethlehem. In Matthew 2:1 it is recorded that Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 7:14 was to be born of a virgin. In Matthew 1:18 it is recorded that Mary became pregnant by the Holy Spirit while still a virgin.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 9:1-2 will minister in Galilee and along the Jordan River. In Matthew 4:12-16 it is recorded that Jesus ministered In Galilee and along the Jordan River.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 53:3 was to be rejected by his own people. In John 1:11 it is recorded that Jesus was not received by his own.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 11:2 was to have the spirit of wisdom. In Luke 2:53 it is recorded that Jesus grew in wisdom and stature.
- The Messiah in Zechariah 9:9 will enter Jerusalem on a young donkey. In John 12:12-14 it is recorded that Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey
- The Messiah in Psalm 41:9 was to be betrayed by a friend. In Mark 14:10 it is recorded that Jesus was betrayed by Judas.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 53:4 was to suffer for others. In Matthew it is recorded that Jesus fulfilled that prophesy.
- The Messiah in Isaiah 53:9 was to be buried in a rich man's tomb. In Matthew 27:57-60 it is recorded that Jesus was buried in the tomb in the Tomb of Joseph of Arimathea, a rich man.

This beautiful story of how the Creator came to His creation is sadly overflowing with irony.

From the Creation Came

- Undeserved humiliation
- Unbearable mockery
- Inhumane suffering
- Unthinkable torture
- Indescribable pain

From the Creator Came:

- Immeasurable love
- Ultimate unselfishness
- Indisputable grace
- Incomprehensible mercy
- Supreme sacrifice

While we can never forget what happened at Calvary, the story doesn't end at Calvary. Many people have a mental picture of Jesus on the cross (crucifix), but Jesus is NOT on the cross! He is NOT in the tomb!

**JESUS IS ALIVE!**

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