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NORTH CAROLINA

Greetings Sir Knights,

The month of May bring more than just flowers. It also brings two important holidays: Ascension Day and Memorial Day.

May 13 marks Ascension Day (or the Feast of the Ascension), the day that Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ arose into heaven and took His place at the right hand of the Father. It is one of the earliest days celebrated in the early church to commemorate the completion of Christ's work here on Earth and taking His place in heaven, celebrated 40 days after Easter. Let us as Knights Templar make a point to remember this holiday and rejoice in the message of salvation He brought to us.

Memorial Day (May 31) is more familiar to us as it is celebrated as a federal holiday in the United States. We observe this holiday to honor those Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country. It serves as an excellent opportunity for Knights Templar to conduct public memorial services at local cemeteries or veteran memorial parks. If you or your Commandery choose to do this dressed in uniform, make sure to request a dispensation.

As before, we continue to monitor the pandemic situation in this state in regards to plans for upcoming York Rite events. At the time this is being written, plans for York Rite Honors Day are scheduled for Saturday, May 1. As always, we will do our best to keep you informed of the latest developments with the Grand Commandery. I look forward to meeting with you in the upcoming weeks and months.

Courteously,
Ludwik J. Wodka

A Message from the North Carolina KTEF Chairman

Greetings Sir Knights,

I hope all is well with you and everyone is ready to get back to work. Today, as the KTEF Chairman for N.C., I would like to apologize for not being able to meet with your Commandery and let each of you know where you stand as far as contributions to the KTEF. As you know, the year 2020 was the year that time stood still and no one was allowed to meet and greet. However, this year is looking better as far as our being able to hold our meetings.

Once we get confirmation from Grand Encampment that we may once again meet and conduct business as usual, I intend to personally make every effort to meet with each Commandery and bring you up to date on our contributions to the KTEF. Just for your information, North Carolina ranks 16th out of 50 states and 6 countries in total contributions, BUT we rank 36th in per capita averaging only \$6.14. Even more surprising is the fact that out of all the 50 states and 6 countries North Carolina comes in at #10 with 2,162 total members.

Just close your eyes for a minute. How does the total darkness feel to you? Now think how a small child or an adult feels when they are surrounded by total darkness.

Sir Knights, it should be our number one goal, to be able to help someone see the beauty that our gracious Father in heaven has created. When I visit your Commandery, I'll explain to you how simple it is to help remedy this so all of God's children can see the beauty of His creation.

Sir Knights, I look forward to working with you this coming year, and hopefully it will be a great one for all of us. May God's peace be with you.

Fraternally,

Sparkie Travis
N.C. Chairman KTEF

"Where there is no vision, the people perish". Proverbs 29:18.