



**ILLINOIS SUPPLEMENT**

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Wendell E. Walch  
Grand Commander

*Pro Deo et Patria*

Sir Knights:

As we prepare ourselves and our hearts for this most important of Christian Holidays we must remember that Easter is the celebration around which the Order of the Temple and the creation of each new Knight Templar are celebrated.

Unlike most holidays, Easter does not have a fixed date. In the West, Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the full moon after the vernal equinox which occurs on March 21st. Thus the Easter observance is observed between March 22nd and April 25th. In contrast, the Eastern (Orthodox) Churches use the old Julian calendar to calculate the date which typically falls one or two weeks later, but can fall on the same day as the Western celebration of Easter.

The Easter Season begins with the celebration of Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent, forty days prior to Easter, which celebrates the forty days that Christ spent in the wilderness prior to the beginning of his earthly ministry. The Week prior to Easter Sunday is considered as Holy Week and includes Maundy Thursday, the day of the Last Supper, Good Friday, the day on which Christ was crucified, Holy Saturday, which focuses on the transition between the crucifixion and the resurrection and Easter Sunday when Christ broke the bands of death. This is followed by a fifty day period referred to as the Eastertide which is the time between Easter and the time of Jesus ascension into heaven.

For without Christ there would be no Knights Templar. Each

celebration of the conferral of the Order of the Temple rededicates each and every Knight Templar to the Christian experience.

This year, as we gather with our family and friends and attend the church of your choice to celebrate this holiest of Christian Holidays may I, on behalf of the Sir Knights and Ladies of the Grand Commandery family, wish for you a Happy and Joyous Easter.

*Wendell E. Walch, Grand Commander*

*March Inspections*

**Saturday 3 Evanston Commandery No. 58 (1st Division)**  
**1453 Maple Avenue, Evanston**

**St. Omer Commandery No. 30 (5th Division)**  
**903 South Main Street, Hillsboro**

**Saturday 10 *East Central Conference Weekend***

**Saturday 17 Bethel Commandery No. 36 (1st Division)**  
**455 West Dundee Road, Palatine**

**Beauseant Commandery No. 86 (5th Division)**  
**1115 Chestnut, Murphysboro**

**Saturday 24 Mizpah Commandery No. 53 (1st Division)**  
**9420 South 52nd Avenue, Oak Lawn**

**Crusader Commandery No. 17 (2nd Division)**  
**4524 Charles Street, Rockford**

Sir Knights, Please remember to support the Commanderies in your Division or at a Commandery near to you. Each Commandery will appreciate your help in serving as an officer, in the lines or as an escort. Your participation will add points to your Commanderies Inspection Grade