



# Missouri Supplement

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## Still Time for More Summer!

### GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

Our great nation is deeply mired in a time of sociopolitical rancor. The divisive rhetoric spewed from the gaping maws of political and religious pundits has created a chasm separating citizens into groups so apparently disparate that reconciliation seems nigh on impossible. Maltreatment and cruelty have become the order of the day for those of differing opinion or belief. False dichotomies abound; for instance Left vs. Right, Democrat vs. Republican, Liberal vs. Conservative, LGBTQIAPK (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Polygamous/polyamorous, Kink) vs. Straight, etc. Though many may see these labels as real distinctions, I would argue that these are only superficial differences.

We must look deeper to appreciate the fundamental likeness that is common to all human beings. As the great Bard of Avon pronounced in *The Merchant of Venice*, "If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we not die?" (Act III, scene I). Abraham Maslow's hierarchy of needs further elucidates our core likeness as human beings. We all require the same basic physiological necessities (food, water, shelter) and safety. Beyond these fundamental requirements all human beings feel a need to be loved and to belong. At our most basic level we are all children of the Most High God. Our Father has imbued each of us with a Divine Spark that shall never die. It is from Him whence we all came and it is to Him we shall all return. The long slumber and Great Judgment will come to each of us in turn. Contemplation of these fundamental human characteristics must compel all good men and women to set aside petty, superficial differences and treat each other with dignity and compassion.

Let us, as Knights and Christian Freemasons, remember the teachings and examples set for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The Holy Writings record His humane and dignified treatment of even the lowest of the low, the outcasts of society (lepers, tax collectors, prostitutes, etc). It is not for us to judge our neighbor for his sins and transgressions; it is our duty as Knights Templar to treat them with love, kindness, and human dignity due a precious creation of our Heavenly Father.

### Fraternity, Family and Youth!

Sir Knight K. Trent Moreland, Grand Commander

### 2017 GRAND COMMANDERY DRILL COMPETITION

#### Class A Rankings:

First - Palestine 17 .....(91.1)    Second - Ascalon 16 .....(83.5)

#### Class B Rankings:

First - Ely 22.....(95.8)    Fifth - Rolla 59 .....(84.7)  
Second - St. Graal 12 .....(94.1)    Sixth - Ascension 39 .....(83.6)  
Third - Liberty 6.....(90.2)    Seventh - Ivanhoe 8 .....(83.0)  
Fourth - Prince of Peace 29 .....(85.0)

### 2017 SOUTH CENTRAL DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE

The Companions and Sir Knights of **MISSOURI** are hosting the 2017 South-west Regional York Rite Conference for the General Grand Chapter and General Grand Council; and the 2017 South Central Department Conference for the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar. The 60th Annual Conferences will be held Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16, 2017, at the Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel St. Louis (7730 Bonhomme Ave, St. Louis, MO, 63105). **AND**, a training event for MMS has been scheduled for Thursday evening, September 14, 2017, starting at 6:00 pm. All Chapter Secretaries, Council Recorders, and Commandery Recorders are strongly encouraged to attend this training.

Registration and pre-sales of meal reservations for the event began on July 14, 2017, so don't wait to register. A registration fee of \$35 will be collected from each Companion and Sir Knight participating in the Conferences. Lunch for Friday will be Pizza Haven (cost \$20), the Friday evening banquet dinner ia a choice of either chicken entree or beef entree (cost \$35), and lunch for Saturday will be Italian Buffet (cost \$20). Ladies are welcome and encouraged to attend both lunches and the banquet. Meal reservations are required and the deadline is September 1, 2017.

Hotel reservations can be made directly with the hotel by calling 1 (888) 337-1395 and asking for the Grand York Rite of Missouri room block. We are also developing an EventBrite webpage for registration that will allow for electronic registration. All room reservations should be made prior to August 14, 2017, to guarantee the discounted group rate.

Details can be found on the web site at [www.knightstemplar.org/dc.html](http://www.knightstemplar.org/dc.html).

### BE PERSISTENT!

The parable in Luke 18 encourages us to be persistent in our praying for God is not like the unjust judge described in Verse 1 - 8. God is willing and ready to bless us. But, does the parable's view of God in prayer reflect our prayers in life? Do we see God as unjust with His hand clasped tightly on the blessings that we seek or is He truly overflowing with blessings, if only we were to ask and persist in the asking? Let us seek God's blessings with hearts of faith, believing His word, and we will not be disappointed.