

**GRAND COMMANDERY OF OKLAHOMA
Knights Templar State News for January 2024**

Web Site



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GRAND COMMANDERS MESSAGE

A New Year has begun. What it brings, is up to our Lord. How it is received and handled are up to us. Each year starts with each person defining their idea of how to make this year better than the year before. Then circumstances enter and the new ideas start to disappear.

Masonry has been a victim of circumstances. Plans and programs have disappeared into the mist. The Rites are contently looking for ways to recruit Masons into their ranks, but the number of deaths and nonpayment of dues is increasing and the number of new Masons is decreasing.

In this New Year Masons need to work around the circumstances and concentrate on making new Masons and keeping the ones we have. We have to make Masonry the desire of young men again. Masonry has to develop new ideas and the leaders need to hear them and not reply with “This is the way we’ve always done it”.

This does not mean the Masonry is to become a civic club. Civic Clubs and Churches are also in decline. Today on the news, I heard the young men are now turning to religion to satisfy their needs and desires. If this is true, they very well may look at a fraternal connection to also satisfy their needs and desires. This New Year has become critical to Masonry in Oklahoma. Please take this into your New Year’s resolutions and not let the Circumstances over ride your commitment.

I wish all a Happy New Year and may all your needs and desires become fruitful.
May Masonry prevail forever.

Yours in The Christ, Jesus of Nazareth
SK John E. King
Grand Commander Knights Templar of Oklahoma



GRAND PRELATES MESSAGE

Gracious and guiding Lord,

As we stand on the threshold of a new year, Grant us the wisdom to reflect on the past and the courage to embrace the future.

Sir Knights, take a moment to reflect on the passing year. Consider the highs and lows, the lessons learned, the growth experienced, and the blessings received. Acknowledge the challenges overcome and the moments of joy that have shaped your journey.

With hearts full of gratitude, let us give thanks for all the blessings bestowed upon us in the past year—the love of family and friends, the opportunities for growth, the strength in difficult times, and the simple joys that have illuminated our days.

As we enter this new chapter, let us set intentions for the year ahead. May we strive to be kinder, more compassionate and understanding. Let us seek to grow in wisdom, to be courageous in facing challenges and to spread positivity wherever we go. May our actions align with our values and our endeavors reflect our best selves.

Lord, guide us on this journey ahead, grant us the strength to pursue our aspirations and fill our hearts with hope, love, and peace. As we step into this New Year, may it be filled with blessings and opportunities, and may we walk in grace and purpose.

Amen.

Respectfully,
Sir Knight Steven Cox
Excellent Grand Prelate