

South Dakota



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Herb Cook
Grand Commander

Greetings to all Sir Knights in SD:

I was hoping that by now everything would have calmed down somewhat. As you all can see that has not happened. I think it accelerating in the worst direction.

We, as Christian Knights Templar, can help to narrow the divide in the people of our country, show them the love of our Lord Jesus Christ, and make 2021 a most excellent year for everyone.

The vaccine is finally being distributed in all states. It is a slow process, but it is getting done, and is looking like later summer or early fall most of us can have received the vaccine. I would ask that we, as Christians, give the President and military a chance, and support them in doing the task they have been given.

If a majority of SK get vaccinated, and tell others that it is no big deal, society will begin to normalize. Seventy to Eighty percent of the population need to be vaccinated to slow the virus. I don't know about everyone else, but I was born in the late 40s and we received every vaccination you can imagine. Except for a sore arm, and maybe a little twinge, everything was all right. I would be pleased if all who are able get the vaccine so we can put this Covid 19 in our past.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the KT Eye Foundation. Remember that each person doesn't have to give lots, but every bit joins together to become substantial support. Thank you, again.

Don't forget membership recruitment. "Every Christian Mason should be a Knight Templar."

Take care of yourself and each other. Remember to still wear your masks, even after vaccines, wash your hands more than it would seem to be needed, and maintain social distancing. I hope to see everyone soon.

Herb Cook

Grand Commander Knights Templar of South Dakota

This month in Templar History...

On March 22, 1312, Pope Clement V issued another Papal Bull, *Vox in excelso*. This effectively removed papal support of the Knights Templar and revoked any mandates given to them. This follows several years of persecution of the Templars after the fateful day, Oct 13, 1307.

"In view of the suspicion, infamy, loud insinuations and other things which have been brought against the order ... and also the secret and clandestine reception of the brother of this Order; in view, moreover, of the serious scandal which has arisen from these things, which it did not seem could be stopped while the Order remained in being, and the danger to faith and souls, and the many horrible things which have been done by the very many of the brothers of this Order, who have lapsed into the sin of wicked apostasy, the crime of detestable idolatry, and the execrable outrage of the Sodomites ... it is not without bitterness and sadness of heart that we abolish the aforesaid Order of the Temple, and its constitution, habit and name, by an irrevocable and perpetually valid decree; and we subject it to perpetual prohibition with the approval of the Holy Council, strictly forbidding anyone to presume to enter the said Order in the future, or to receive or wear its habit, or to act as a Templar."

— *Vox in excelso*