

Grand Commandery of New Mexico State News for March 2023



SK James Overfelt, REGC

www.nmyorkrite.org

Editor: SK L Roughgarden lenrough@gmail.com

Sir Knights,

February 22nd was Ash Wednesday so we are now in the season of Lent and Easter will be here soon. In 2023 Easter falls on April 9th. Easter is the first of the three required Commandery observances, followed by the Ascension observance and, at the end of the year, the Christmas observance. It is expected that each Commandery will have a special Easter program in the month of April to honor this very important Christian holiday. It is also acceptable, even encouraged, for a Commandery to visit a local church and attend the Easter service. Last year, my local Commandery, Pilgrim No 3, attended the Easter service at the church ministered to by the Grand Prelate at the time, Sir Knight Ed McBride. We attended dressed in our class A uniforms, sans sword and chapeau, and really stood out.

The sermon for that service was recorded and is available for use by any Commandery that would like to stream it as part of their service this year. Look for "Grand Commandery of Knight Templar of New Mexico Easter Service 2022" on youtube and you should find it. You can even subscribe to the "Grand York Rite of New Mexico" youtube channel to be notified of any future videos the Grand York Rite of New Mexico might drop. Pastor McBride has quite a lot of interesting things to say so the sermon is about an hour long.

Make your plans now to attend the York Rite Grand Sessions, April 13th, 14th and 15th, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. This year will be Grand Chapter on Thursday, Grand Council on Friday and Grand Commandery on Saturday. The Holy Land Pilgrimage fundraising dinner will be on Thursday night, as it always is, and Friday night is the Grand Banquet and awards ceremony. Registration is not quite ready but the dates have been set. Plan on packing all your York Rite jackets and hanging out with us at the Shrine Center in Albuquerque. It is a great time to meet your York Rite Companions and Sir Knights from all over the state and the many out-of-state dignitaries who attend. More details coming soon.