

THE TEXAS TEMPLAR

A monthly publication of the Grand Commandery of Texas



Sir Knight

T. Chance Chapman, KCT

Right Eminent Grand
Commander of Texas

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Sir Knight

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Photo Courtesy:
KTEF, Sword of Merit

Sir Knights,

The holiest day of our faith, Easter/Resurrection Sunday, is the last day of this month. We take this time to celebrate our Savior conquering death and sin. Because of Him and His sacrifice, we are redeemed and given life after death. My fraters, this is the most essential part of our faith. I implore you to live your life worthy of Him every day we are blessed to be on this Earth.

While we are approaching this most special day, I encourage you to review our beautiful Order of the Temple. Read it slowly and with a fresh view. Soak in the lessons taught. Read the Scriptures presented in the Prelate's lessons. We can all find a new meaning in these lessons. Take those lessons and live their teachings.

We are quickly coming to the end of this term for the Grand Commandery of Texas. It has been an honor, privilege, and distinct pleasure to serve each Sir Knight in this jurisdiction. I look forward to seeing each of you at the 171st Grand Conclave in League City next month. Lady Lisa and I are ready to welcome each of you and hope that you enjoy every minute of it.

“Non nobis, Domine, non nobis; sed nomini tuo da glorium!”

In His Service,

T. Chance Chapman
Grand Commander

171ST GRAND CONCLAVE



Make plans to join us for the 171st Grand Conclave of the Grand Commandery, Knights Templar of Texas in beautiful League City at *South Shore Harbour Resort* on April 11-14!

Registration link is available [here](#).

Condensed Schedule:

Thursday: Joint Meeting of Jurisprudence and Purposes and Policies Committees, Ritual Competition Exemplification, Drill Competition Meeting, SPC Honorary DeMolay Chapter Meeting

Friday: Business Meeting and Elections, Knights Preceptor Meeting, A.P.O.A.S. Commandery Social

Saturday: Drill Competitions, Ritual Competitions, KYCH Meeting, Grand Banquet

Sunday: Memorial and Divine Service, Installation of Officers

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KTEF GRANT - UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



"A Masonic Charity"



"A Masonic Charity"

Last month in Austin, the Grand Commander, the Chairman of the Knight Templar Eye Foundation Committee for Texas, and an Aide-de-Camp toured the University of Texas building of ophthalmology studies with Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Ashrifa Ali. Dr. Ali was the recipient of a \$90,000 grant to continue her study to find a cure for glaucoma and regeneration of cells.

She is a cell and molecular biologist with a special interest in fluorescent microscopy and bio-image informatics. Her focus is on learning from zebrafish, which can regenerate optical cells after all forms of trauma. Dr. Ali breeds the Zebrafish and has successfully formed four generations. She also performs optical surgery on them and tracks the healing and regeneration of their optical cells. Her goal is to find a way to take this biological concept from zebrafish and be able to use it in people to eventually be able to regenerate human eye cells, ending the slow-determining disease of glaucoma.

We wish Dr. Ali the best of luck in her data collection and congratulate her on her major accomplishments thus far!

[CLICK HERE](#) (More information on Dr. Ali's Research)

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PENNY-A-DAY CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE

We've Reached The Hilt!



HELP US #FILLTHESWORD



OUR NEW GOAL IS TO PRODUCE AND HONOR
100 CHIEF DONORS!
A CONTRIBUTING DONATION OF \$225



68 CHIEF DONORS AND COUNTING...

We are growing our challenge more and more, yet we have a steep goal ahead! Our mission is to honor and name 100 Chief Donors by the Grand Conclave.

Our tag for this campaign will be *#FillTheSword*.

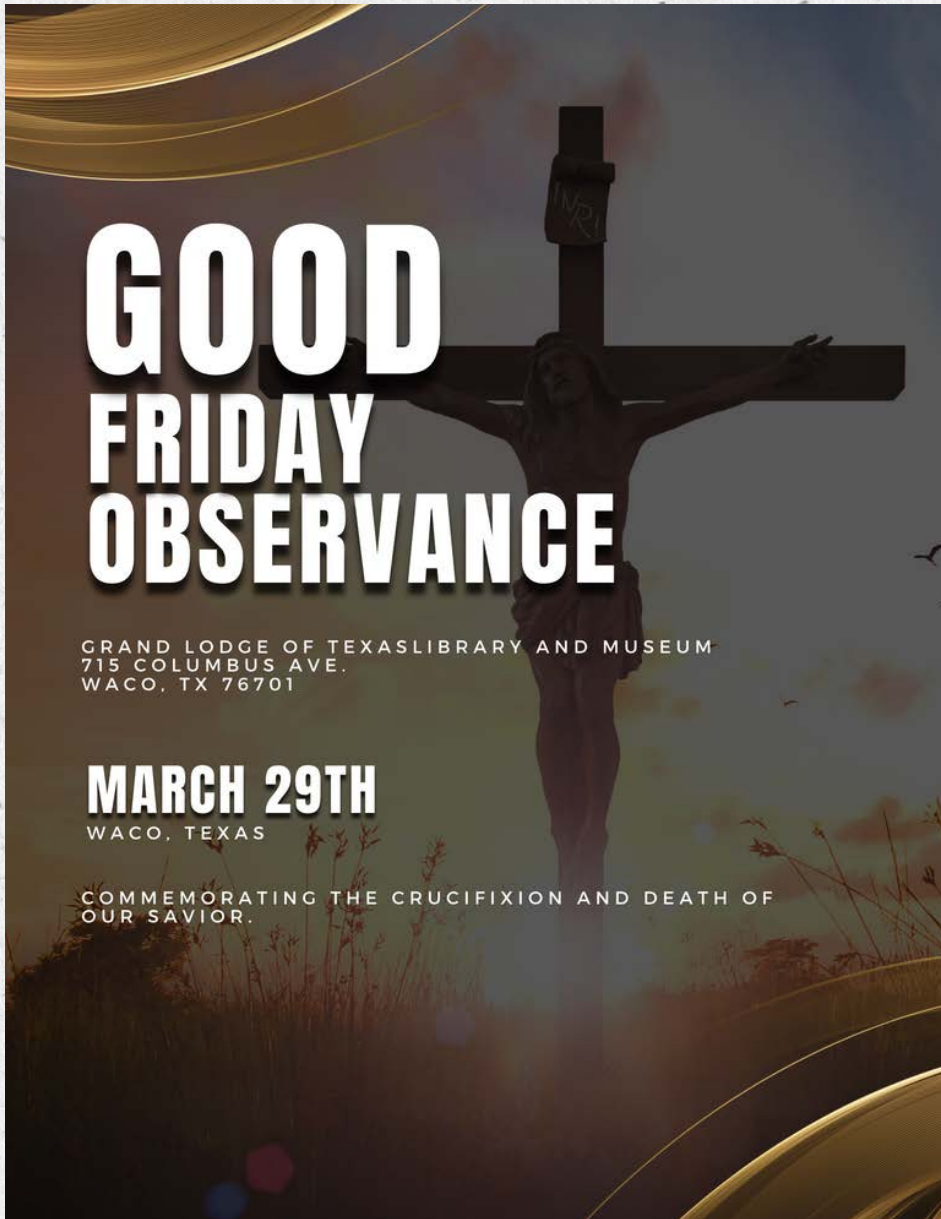
To date, *over \$17,000* has been raised. Thank you to all who have participated!

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UPCOMING EVENTS



Make plans to join us for an observance on Good Friday, March 29, 2024. We will remember the death, and ultimately the Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Dress will be Class A Uniforms for Sir Knights and Sunday dress for any guests.

Assemble at 2:00 pm. Procession into the Lower Auditorium at 2:30 pm. Observance to begin immediately following procession.

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MONTHLY MENTION

Enmity /enmədə/:

"The state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something."

Deriving from an Anglo-French word meaning enemy, it suggests true hatred, either overt or concealed. It is a synonym of hostility, animosity, and animus - all of which indicate a deep-seeded dislike or ill will.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Good Friday Observance: March 29
 - Waco; Assemble at 2:00 pm

171st Grand Conclave:
 April 11-14, 2024
 South Shore Harbour Resort
 League City, TX

District Ritual Certificate Examinations:

District 3 - March 16, 2024 at 10 am;
 Beaumont Commandery No. 38 (8175
 Gladys Ave Beaumont, TX 77706)

SURVEY

Take the [Grand Commandery Survey](#) to help grow our Order!

PRELATE'S APARTMENT



A MESSAGE FROM THE EMINENT GRAND PRELATE

Do you believe?

Easter is a time of great hope and renewal for all Christian Knights. It is a time to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and the new life that he offers us all. It is a time to reflect on the love and sacrifice that Jesus made for us and to renew our commitment to following Him. In the Gospel of John 11:25-26, Jesus says, **“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”**

That is the question each one of us must ask ourselves; Do I believe this? Truly believe this. The Bible, in all our asylums, is open to Matthew Chapter 28. Every Sir Knight has heard Matthew 28:1-7: **After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him. Now I have told you.”**

At the end of Matthew, Jesus gives the Great Commission to his disciples, who in turn pass it on to each of us. Matthew 28:16-20: **Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**

The question again Sir Knights; do you believe this, or doubt? Was Jesus crucified, dead, buried, and resurrected? You have to answer in your own heart.

As we celebrate Easter this year, I pray that you will experience the new life that Jesus offers. I pray that you will be filled with his love, joy, and peace. And, I pray that you will be renewed in your commitment to following him. Let us remember the prayer that Jesus prayed for all believers. John 17:20-25: **My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one. Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one: I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them. Amen**

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MONTHLY UPDATES

GRAND COMMANDER'S UPCOMING TRAVELS

March 9: Alamo Observance -
San Antonio

March 11: Confer OT, Port Arthur
Commandery (Cosmopolitan Lodge)
- **Port Arthur**

March 23: Goliad Observance -
Goliad

March 29: Good Friday Observance -
Waco

March 30-31: Easter Observance -
Washington, DC

Top 5 Knightings Ranking (April 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024)

1. Port Arthur No. 73 - **16**
2. Corpus Christi No. 57 - **13**
3. Lone Star No. 114 - **12**
4. Alexander C. Garrett No. 103 - **11**
- T5. San Marcos No. 56, Houston
No. 95 - **10**

Top 5 Reinstatements Ranking (April 1, 2023 - February 29, 2024)

1. Tancred No. 82 - **11**
2. Ascension No. 25 - **8**
- T3. Ruthven No. 2, San Antonio No.
7 - **5**
- T4. Ivanhoe No. 8, Corpus Christi No.
57, Lubbock No. 60, East Texas No.
104 - **4**
- T5. McKinney No. 34, Alexander C.
Garrett No. 103 - **2**

GRAND COMMANDERY SURVEY

Take the [Grand Commandery Survey](#) to help grow our Order! Click the link above or scan this QR code to access the survey and provide crucial feedback that will help the Grand Officers assist the Sir Knights of Texas to the best of their ability!



BELT BUCKLE UPDATE

By your demand, we have REORDERED official Grand Commandery belt buckles! These are unnumbered and will be gifted for your donation of \$30.00 just as the previous series!



EDITOR'S NOTE

SK MICHAEL COTE II, EDITOR
AIDE-DE CAMP



Sir Knights,

This edition of *The Texas Templar* was one of my favorites so far to publish. I was honored to travel to Austin last month with Right Eminent Chapman and Right Eminent Melear to tour the University of Texas BioLab and Ophthalmology Department. There, we saw firsthand the benefit of our support of optical research! Donating to the KTEF is wonderful, yet when you are physically standing and seeing the product of your donations, it takes a whole new meaning.

We are less than six weeks before our Grand Conclave Session. It seems just last week we were in Grapevine! I hope this publication has served you all well over the past year. It is new, and with that, there no doubt have been growing pains! It is my hope we can continue the good work of sharing and promoting information for the betterment of Texas!