

Templars of the Plains

A Publication of the Grand Commandery of Kansas

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Robert D. McClarty, REGC 2022-2023

A Lot Can Happen in a Week

Sir Knight Patrick C. Carr, Eminent Grand Junior Warden

The Right Eminent Grand Commander has asked his other officers to write articles for the insert, and this month's article was written by our Eminent Grand Junior Warden.

It is that beautiful time of year when we, as Knights Templar, celebrate some of our most holy and revered days. This is the month when Jesus, the Christ, returned to Jerusalem, ate with his disciples, was tried, convicted, crucified, dead, and buried before his triumphant rising from the grave!

We start with Palm Sunday. This is the day when Jesus returned to Jerusalem. He was riding a donkey. The people were so happy to see him, and he was so adored and loved by them, they spread palm branches before him so he could ride over them. These palm branches are, in some cultures, woven into crosses in commemoration of the event.

During that week, Jesus would later have a meal with his disciples. This "Last Supper" was where he would prophecy his death and announce to all his accuser, and betrayer, was eating at the table and taking nourishment with them.

Jesus would later be found in the Garden of Gethsemane by his accusers. Judas would betray him and he would be taken before the leaders of the community. One of the guards had his ear smote off and Jesus did not hesitate to heal him. He was taken before the legal authorities and accused of being God. Even though he healed the guard, they still did not believe.

Jesus was convicted in a mock trial. His sentence was death by crucifixion. This was the most horrible death known to the people of Jerusalem at the time. The crowd was given the opportunity for Jesus to be pardoned and released, yet they did not desire that outcome. They asked for the murderer Barrabbas' release instead, which they received.



Jesus was beaten and humiliated as he bore his cross to the place of his crucifixion. He was adorned with a crown of thorns and mocked. Even as he was dying on the cross, he still had mercy and compassion for both his accusers and the people who were responsible for his death. Jesus forgave all. He asked for forgiveness for those who were causing his death.

Once Jesus' spirit left his body, he was interred and prepared for burial. He was buried in the tomb where it was assumed his body would lie and return to the dust from whence it came. But this was not the case. On the third day, Jesus arose from the grave! He was victorious over the minions of Hell and death. His sacrifice made it possible for everyone to receive grace from their transgressions and to be granted eternal life.



All of this is simply to say a lot can happen within a week. What are we doing to make a difference with the seven days we have been given? Are we harboring ill will and enmity towards someone? Are we spending the time in idle prattle and not accomplishing much with our days? This is our wake up call to remember how much

can be accomplished within the short span of a week. Make your week count for something!

155th Annual Grand Commandery Conclave

The 155th Annual Conclave of the Grand Commandery of Kansas will be held on May 4, 2023, at the Bluemont Hotel in Manhattan, Kansas, and the public session will open promptly at 8:30 AM. The Past Commander's Association will hold their annual meeting and conferral of new members on Wednesday, May, 3, 2023. More information, and the registration form, can be found by visiting the Grand York Rite website at kansasyorkrite.org. Be sure to get your registration in and your hotel reservations made quickly! Time is running short and the Conclave will be upon us before we realize it. We look forward to being with you at the Conclave in May. It will be a great time!

155th ANNUAL CONCLAVE GRAND COMMANDERY OF KNIGHTS TEMPLAR OF KANSAS

Thursday, May 4, 2023

6:30 AM	Past Grand Commanders Wives Breakfast (Invitation Only)
6:30 AM	KYCH Breakfast (Members Only)
7:30 AM	Registration Opens
8:30 AM	Grand Commandery Open Meeting
10:30 AM	155th Annual Conclave Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of Kansas (closed meeting)
12:00 PM	Joint Luncheon
1:30 PM	Pictures of Grand Commandery 2023-2024 Officers
2:00 PM	Installation of 2023-2024 Grand Commandery Officers
3:30 PM	2023-2024 Gr. Commandery Officers Meeting (officers only)
4:00 PM	Kansas York Rite College
6:00 PM	York Rite Dinner (Reservation Required)
7:00 PM	Memorial Service