

Digital Missouri Message

Russell S. Hanson, PGC, Editor 107 S. Williams St., Fayette, MO 65248-1017 573-864-4434 (cell) hansonr@missouri.edu



Have a Glorious Easter!

GRAND COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Greetings Sir Knights,

As Easter approaches, so to does a transformation for our organization. We will have a new venue for our next Annual Conclave. The decision of the Grand Treasurer to not stand for reelection will also mean that the next Grand Treasurer will put his mark on our financial practices. This will mean new processes and practices. The old ways will need to make way for the new ways, and things will simply be different. Sir Knights, we are fortunate enough to be in the middle of this change, and are able to see both the old and the new as we pass the threshold.

I believe that it is easy to view new ways as inferior to old ways, but I can also think of a couple new aspects of life that I would not want to give up for the old ways. 300 sports channels on cable, a remote, and no foil covered rabbit ears for one.

It is normal to feel uneasy with change as it represents the unknown and uncertainty. But imagine what would have happened if we only passed by Birth and stopped at Death! We would have never made it to the most important change of all – The Resurrection. So, with this melancholy message about the death of our old ways, take heart that the best is yet to come.

Have a Happy Easter and be thankful for change!

Dei Gratia - By the Grace of God!

Sir Knight Michael C. Rohman, Grand Commander

AN EASTER MESSAGE FROM THE HOSPITALER COMMITTEE

Greetings Sir Knights,

"And they say unto her, Woman, why weepest thou? She saith unto them, Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him." (John 20:13 KJV)

Well, as you are beginning to read these words this month, we are right in the middle of the Season of Lent. It does not seem possible, but the "Easter Sunrise" is almost upon us all. Are you ready? It seems to me, that most folks feel that during Lent they must either give something up for Jesus, the benefit of other people, and/or to have a closer relationship with God.

Now there are many ways we can connect and become closer to God, but it does not always require us to give something of value away to get it. How about being more dedicated and diligent in our prayer life – God truly does listen to us, you know! How about we vow right now to be more helpful to other people each day as we move throughout our daily schedules. How about we vow to be more devoted in our giving to worthy causes with not only our financial resources, but also our time as well. It all really does add up!

Stop and think a minute or two about what Jesus' followers must have felt back in Biblical times when our scripture verse from John 20 took place. Mary Magdalene was weeping because she really felt someone had taken her Lord (Jesus) away. Think of the emptiness and feelings of loneliness she must have felt deep down in her soul. Have you ever felt the same way too?

I encourage you all to get up, dust yourselves off, and remember due to God's infinite wisdom we can always have hope because of what took place Easter Sunday! He has risen! Jesus is alive and well!

Do me a favor and take out your Bible and read John 20, verses 14 to 17, for the rest of the story. Look around you because He is closer than you think.

He has risen indeed! Thanks Be to God!

On behalf of the Hospital Committee, have a Happy Easter and may the Grace of God bless you all.

Sir Knight Russell A. Bradshaw, Grand Prelate

SPRING – A RENEWAL OF LIFE

"You send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground." (Psalm 104:30 NIV)

Spring awakens in us the sense of life. Nature is a symbol of the spiritual renewal of the Christian life. The goal of Christians should be the renewal of the heart, the conscience, and the will.

Spring awakens the sense of a beautiful life. What a banquet for the eye. What fragrance we sense. It is as if an angel had spread a bouquet of celestial flowers around us. The serene and tender loveliness of spiritual affections and actions is nobler than all the graces of outward beauty.

Spring is the season of growth. A parable of the spiritual life. When growth ceases, then decay begins. Material growth is spontaneous. Spiritual growth is the result of self-effort. We grow by the power of our will and purpose.

In Spring, the gardens and the fields prophesy a harvest of fruit and grain. The present life is only a prophecy of our immortal life. Our knowledge, our desires, and our powers of spiritual action; are all in their infancy. The summer glory of our being is to be reached elsewhere. The present experience of the Christian is only a prophecy of future experiences. As the bud and blossom predict the fruit and as the first ear of corn predicts the whole harvest, Spring is full of promise.