

# 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:  
SK Gary Rock

Sir Knights,

Summer is definitely over in Texas! The days of three digit temperatures are behind us for 2023, and much colder weather is coming. Please keep collecting and donating your older clothes that are no longer needed in order to assist others who are in need. "Clothe the naked" is the responsibility and duty of all Knights Templar. Let us all keep our commitment to helping others regardless of the cause of their unfortunate situation. We hope you also have a Happy Thanksgiving with your family and loved ones!

We are almost through inspections! Several of you have completed your annual visits from the Grand Officers. They are reporting GREAT things in the Commanderies. Keep it up! For those of you still awaiting your visit, keep practicing and fine tuning your part. Make it about the candidate's experience, and it will all work out.

I encourage you to approach your Commandery to try a new event of some kind this year. This could be going to a game or movie together, bringing in a guest speaker, having a meal together before your meeting, or a family game night - try something new. Give your Commandery a purpose again, and celebrate your friendships. If you're unsure of what to do, reach out to others for suggestions.

In His Service,

T. Chance Chapman  
Grand Commander

# FEAST OF MIRACLES RECAP

The first meeting of A.P.O.A.S. Commandery, UD was held on Friday, October 13 in the beautiful asylum of Worth Commandery No. 19. Together, they hosted the Feast of Miracles - a unique experience to remember and celebrate the miracles of Jesus. It was the 716th anniversary of the raid on the ancient Knights Templar, and a special tribute was paid to them. The guest Speaker, Sir Knight Ben Williams, Right Eminent Past Department Commander of the Northwest Department, also gave a detailed presentation on the history of the Order of the Temple. Approximately 40 Sir Knights were in attendance for this first-of-its-kind event.



## GRAND COMMANDERY OFFICE



During the upcoming sessions of the Grand Chapter and Grand Council in December, our new office will be open for everyone to stop by and visit! We will have some new merchandise available along with the popular Penny-A-Day program items. Be sure to stop by, visit with us, and help support your Grand Commandery!

Sir Knight Ronnie Wilson, PGC  
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# PENNY-A-DAY CAMPAIGN CHALLENGE

**HELP US  
#FILLTHESWORD**

**T. CHANCE CHAPMAN**  
**FINISH THE RACE**  
**ACTS 20:24**

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

**54 CHIEF DONORS AND COUNTING...**

The response of this program has been beyond the imagination from when it was first planned! Because of this, we are now shooting for the stars and hoping to honor 100 chief donors! Our tag for this campaign will be #FillTheSword.

To date, over \$13,000 has been raised. Thanks to all who have participated!

Special shout-out to Stephenville Commandery No. 100 who became the first entity to collectively become a Chief Donor! This Commandery will proudly display their Coin Display within their building!

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# UPCOMING EVENTS



Grand Commandery of Texas

## Knights Templar Charity Ball

Christmas is the season of joy, of  
gift-giving, and families united

308 Orleans St.  
Beaumont, TX 77701  
December 2, 2023  
6 pm - 11 pm

All attendees are requested to bring an  
unwrapped children's toy to be donated  
to Toys from Templars

The Charity Ball is shaping up to be a great event! Come prepared for a great dinner, door prizes, and a great atmosphere. Hotel reservations are still available at the Holiday Inn & Suites Beaumont Plaza (IH-10 and Walden). Prior to the Charity Ball, the Grand Commander will install the officers of Port Arthur Commandery at 2 pm along with a special ceremony. It will be an exciting day of Templar Masonry in Southeast Texas, and we hope you will join us! Tickets are available [here](#).

## MONTHLY MENTION

Hospitality /häspə'talədē/:

"The friendly reception and treatment of guests or strangers."

Deriving from the Middle English word "hospitalite" borrowed from the Latin word "hospitālītās" the word refers to an act of "entertainment and reception of guests."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Charity Ball:** December 2 - Beaumont

**Grand Chapter and Council Sessions:** December 7-9 - Waco

**Good Friday Observance:** March 29 - Waco

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

**District Ritual Certificate Examinations:**

Information for each district's exam is forthcoming and will be posted here when received.

## SURVEY

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

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# PRELATE'S APARTMENT

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## A MESSAGE FROM THE EMINENT GRAND PRELATE

### Are you thankful no matter what?

After a long hot summer, we are finally receiving some cool fall weather. For that, I am thankful. We are all making plans for the Thanksgiving Day Holiday. Cleaning the house and planning the meal for guests and family. Or, maybe just planning a party for the big ballgame. I am sure we all will be giving thanks November 23rd for the blessings God has given us, for family and friends, and the wonderful meal set before us. It is easy to give thanks for most people on this one day each year. It is easy to give thanks when things are going well. We are told there are some benefits of giving thanks. Gratitude can help us see the beauty in ordinary things. Being thankful can remind us of the blessings we receive, both big and small. Gratitude can help people feel more positive emotions, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships. Expressing gratitude can bring a calm sense of well-being. But what about those times when things aren't going well. When things are so bad you just don't know which way to turn next. The Bible tells us of a man who had every right to be bitter - but wasn't. He was languishing almost forgotten in a harsh Roman prison. His only bed was the hard, cold stone floor, while chained. Separated from friends, unjustly accused, brutally treated. But instead of complaints, his lips rang with words of praise and thanksgiving!

The man was the **Apostle Paul** – a man who had learned the meaning of true thanksgiving, even in the midst of great adversity. Earlier, when he had been imprisoned in Rome, Paul wrote “**sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.**” (Ephesians 5:19-20)

Always giving thanks for everything - no matter the circumstances. The Apostle Paul did not give thanks once a year, but always in his daily life and it made him a joyful person in every situation. Giving thanks to God should be one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian. Not just when we are happy and comfortable; it is just as important to thank Him when times are bad.

Sir Knights, pray and give thanks daily, in good times and bad times. Remembering Colossians 3:17 “**and whatever you do whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.**”

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# MONTHLY UPDATES

## GRAND COMMANDER'S UPCOMING TRAVELS

November 8: San Felipe de Austin No. 1 Official Visit - **Galveston**

November 11: Holy Royal Arch Knight Templar Priest - **Houston**

November 13: Confer OT, Port Arthur No. 73 - **Nederland**

November 23: **Thanksgiving**

## Top 5 Knightings Ranking (April 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023)

1. Corpus Christi No. 57 - **13**
2. Alexander C. Garrett No. 103 - **11**
3. Lone Star No. 114 - **9**
4. Fort Bend No. 74 - **6**
- T. Midland No. 84 - **5**

## Top 5 Reinstatements Ranking (April 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023)

1. Ascension No. 25 - **7**
- T2. East Texas No. 104 - **3**
- T2. Lubbock No. 60 - **3**
- T4. San Antonio No. 7, McKinney No. 34, Corpus Christi No. 57, Alexander C. Garrett No. 103 - **2**
- T5. San Felipe de Austin No. 1, Ruthven No. 2, Ivanhoe No. 8, Indivisible Friends No. 13, Beaumont No. 38, Denton No. 45, Tancred No. 82. Melrose No. 109 - **1**

## 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!



## EDITOR'S NOTE

SK MICHAEL COTE II, EDITOR  
AIDE-DE CAMP



Sir Knights,

The holiday season is here. With that comes not only the festive spirit of giving and love, but also remembering the upcoming celebration of birth of our Savior, Jesus. I recently attended Stephenville Commandery No. 100 to speak on the Penny-A-Day challenge, and one of their officers asked me, "What changed to cause such an influx in Templary?" It's very simple: the Grand Commander has taken tremendous risk in multiple ways without fear of failure. Fundraising, new programs, communication platform changes, community outreach, promoting existing programs, budgetary discussions, revamped committees, and incentivizing the youth! Remember, there are so many ways to give back in the organization, and now is the most important time. The holiday season IS the season of giving.