

**Gary Freedman**

**R: E: Grand Commander**

8611 Tule Dr.

Amarillo, TX 79108

Cell: (806) 584-1418

Email:

gary.freedman@hotmail.com



**Jeff S. Bennett**

**Texas Page Editor**

3208 Hyde Park CT

Arlington, TX 76015

Cell: (817) 372-3399

Email:

jeffbtturbine@yahoo.com

## 2020-2021 TEXAS SUPPLEMENT

He is Risen, Sir Knights! Easter is the season for renewal and new beginnings. As our Grand Conclave approaches, I find myself looking at the past year with mixed feelings. Serving as a Grand Commandery officer for the last decade has been one of the most satisfying, yet also humbling, educational, and rewarding experiences of my life. At the same time, as my year as Grand Commander comes to a close, many of my plans have been thwarted by the Coronavirus pandemic that begun shortly before I took office. While I feel some disappointment, I cannot find it in myself to be sad.

We have all been somewhat consumed by this pandemic, and unavoidably so. Seeing the world change so abruptly, and before our very eyes, had prompted me to return to my original program of Service – service to God, to our fraternity, and especially in such a time of need, to our fellow man. After being under lockdown for so long, we all became weary of the toll being taken on our lives, and on our fraternity.

My wish, like most other Sir Knights, was only to get back to normal and to meet with our brethren again, as it was before we were stricken by COVID-19. When the time came to plan for re-opening Texas Templary, I had to put my personal feelings aside, and concern myself only with the health and safety of my fellow Sir Knights. While this approach was not popular with some of our brethren, including me, it was the only logical and safe choice to make under the circumstances.

It is clear that, while progress has been made in the fight against COVID, we still have a long road ahead until it is defeated. As it has, as of yet, been proven inadvisable to hold large-scale meetings, our Grand Conclave will be once again held virtually, hopefully for the last time.

I thank everyone for their calls of support and encouragement, and especially my wife, Jeanne, for her constant support for the past 30 years, and particularly during the last decade of my tenure here. I leave you with the hope offered by His resurrection, that we may live by the Golden Rule as Christ did, and that we may once again safely meet as before, so we may continue our Service to God and to our fellow man.

**May God bless you and keep you forever in his heart. In His Name,**

***Gary H. Freedman*, Grand Commander 2020-2021**

## Easter Program: Have Faith Every Day

Sir Knights, Easter is upon us again, and I hope and pray that it will be a day filled with family and friends, old and new. Easter is important for it marks Christ's resurrection.

Sir Knights, our faith has been tested over and over again in 2020, and now 2021. It was our faith that has guided us and kept us intact. This was made possible through Christ's sacrifice.

### 1 Peter 3:18

**“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit.”**

Easter Sunday marks the day when Jesus rose from the dead, symbolizing the renewal of faith and providing hope for eternal life. It shows us that He conquered sin and death. He is the only Son of God, who, through his resurrection brings us closer to our God. Easter also gives us peace, restores our souls, mends our brokenness and helps us to conquer our struggles, especially when we are overwhelmed.

Our faith, Sir Knights, should be about setting aside our doubts, and knowing that we are not broken in His eyes, through His love for us, and through the light of the world that is Jesus.

### Luke 24:50-53

**“And he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.”**

This Easter let us remember Christ's sacrifice, strengthen our faith in Him, and treat everyone with kindness and love. We can face uncertain days with the certainty that, greater is He that is in us, than he that is in the world. We can repeat with Paul that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that will be revealed in us, surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our life. We can be confident that our God shall supply all our needs according to His riches in glory.

Sir Knights, let us celebrate Easter while we are ever mindful of His sacrifice and resurrection. So, enjoy your time with family and friends, and say a prayer for our fraternity, our nation, our military, frontline workers, and everyone. God bless you all.

**Prepared by:**

**Sir Knight Alberto Urbina, Excellent Grand Prelate 2020-2021**