

Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



THE APARTMENTS OF THE GRAND PRELATE and THE RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Year of Our Lord 2025 to all valiant and magnanimous Knights of the Temple,
wheresoever dispersed throughout Christendom

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Salutations and Knightly Greetings

A TOAST TO OUR MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER CHRISTMAS 2025

Most Eminent Grand Master Kussman as we near the season where we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is also that time where we celebrate and acknowledge your accomplishments for this past year, and to that end we, your Sir Knights, gather to offer a toast in your honor.

Prior to Jesus' birth, both Mary and Joseph, because of a census ordered by Caesar Augustus, were required to travel from Galilee in the city of Nazareth to Judea a trip of roughly 70 miles. I can only imagine how painful it must have been for Mary, near her due date, to make that journey, and grateful we are that Jesus, our Savior, came into the world for us.

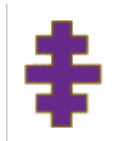
It has been my pleasure to, on several occasions, travel with you and watch your interactions with our fellow Sir Knights. You are always happy and cheerful to greet those you haven't seen for some time, fellowshiping with them, and renewing old acquaintances. When asked, you willingly set aside what you are doing to offer a prayer no matter whether in public or in private. Yours is an office well lead, and we are well served by you.

Our toast for you is to give thanks for the way in which you serve us, your Sir Knights, the way you represent our Grand Encampment, both here in the United States and elsewhere around the world, and the humility in which you do it. Our prayer for you is blessings of safe travels for you, and when she is traveling with you, your Lady Kim as well, and our Lord's protection of good health too.

So now we raise our glasses with a shout of joy and say well done Sir Knight, well done Most Eminent Grand Master!

In Jesus' Holy Name,

The Reverend Paul D. Erickson, KGC, Chairman
The Committee on Religious Activities
The Reverend Robert J.F. Elsner, KGC
The Reverend Terry L. Plemons, KGC



GRAND MASTER'S RESPONSE

CHRISTMAS 2025

To the Right Eminent Grand Prelate, the members of the Committee on Religious Activities, and all Knight of the Order wheresoever dispersed:

Knightly Greetings!

The sentiment offered is such that I am deeply impressed by its affirmation on our efforts of spiritual service to our Order of Knights Templar.

Today I make a noble appeal for Christian Knights to renew with vigor their efforts to affect the ideals of our Order.

At no time within the memory of our Sir Knights has the world and even our own country swayed as much as now and lamentably there appears to be a letting down in matters spiritual. It is a season when we are inspired by the birth of the New Light, the New Life, the New Law from which comes the New Commandment – “That we love one another”.

I trust there is cheer in your hearts as you are gathered on this Christmas Day 2025 to offer your devotions to Him who died that we may live.

Lady Kim and I reciprocate heartily your salutation and to each of you and to those in whom you are most concerned, we return our sincerest and heartiest best wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

In His Service...

Courteously,

⚔️ *David J. Kussman*

David J. Kussman, GCT
Grand Master



The foregoing toast to the Most Eminent Grand Master and his response thereto are transmitted to you with the request that you extend an invitation through the proper offices to all Sir Knights within your jurisdiction to join in the sentiments thus conveyed at some convenient hour, on or near the birthday of Christ, commonly called Christmas Day, December twenty-fifth, in the Year of Grace 2025.