

July 2022 Grand Prelate's Reflection

Sir Knights;

Approximately 27% of the Netherlands is technically below sea level. Yet this same area is home to over 60% of the country's population of nearly 16 million people.

This is because the Dutch and their ancestors have been working to hold back and reclaim land from the North Sea since 1287 when the first makeshift dykes failed, flooding much of those lands.

It was not easy work, but they succeeded in their efforts. But it is a task that continues today.

It was a law at one time that each person who owned a farm or property along a dyke was required to work to maintain the dyke themselves. Should they allow the dyke to fall into disrepair, and someone else were to come along and begin working on the dyke, then that person could claim right to the property and take it from the owner who was not fulfilling his responsibility.

This may sound strict, but in a land where one failed dyke could lead to the loss of so much land and lives, it was considered to be necessary.

The moral: Everyone is responsible for taking care of their part, no matter how big or small.

We can learn a lesson from this. Each of us is called to do something. Your calling may seem a minor one, but I can assure you that there are no small jobs, and we all need to do our part to successfully fulfill the calling that God has for us as a whole. As Knights Templar, we are called to follow the example of Christ. Wherever he went and whatever he did, he gave 100%. The same should be true for us.

Whether you are an officer, a past officer, or a Sir Knight on the sidelines, there is something for you to do and ways to serve. Whatever role you believe God has called you to; do it faithfully and realize that your part is just as important as everyone else's.

If you haven't already noticed, this summer is getting busy. You can find a place to get involved. That includes in your commandery, church, or community. But don't overdo it and stretch yourself too thin. Make sure to take time to rest as well. Remember, you don't have to do it all. If you do what God has asked you to do, then you have done enough. If we all do that to the best of our ability the rest of this summer will show glorious results.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate