

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