



Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

MARCH 2026

What's in your basket?

March is upon us. Spring is on the way, and around the state our commanderies will be holding elections and installation of officers. And we will be off and running again.

I encourage all sir knights to prayerfully consider where and how God wants you to serve. We all have a place, whether it be as an officer, on a degree team, or providing prayers or offerings for our brethren and our charities. There are so many ways you can help. If you haven't already done so, then now is the time to find out how and where God wants to use you.

In John 6: 9, Jesus and His disciples were confronted with the need to feed five thousand people who had gathered to listen to the teachings of Jesus. Out of that, a young boy came forward with a basket containing five loaves of bread and two fish.

In John 6: 11-13, we see what Jesus did with that small amount: *Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.*

Five loaves of bread and two fish was nowhere near enough to feed the mass of people. But that boy offered what he had. And Jesus took that offering, multiplied it as only God can do, to the point that not only was everyone fed to their limit, but they had twelve baskets left over!

Each of us has been given gifts and talents by God. Some have the ability to lead, others to teach. Or to evangelize, counsel, or comfort. Or provide any number of other skills. Regardless of what it is, each of us has something in our basket that can be used by God. We have the choice of holding on to it and using it as we see fit. Or turning our gifts and abilities over to God to be used by Him.

God uses people to minister to others. The boy in John 6:9 had little, but he gave what little he had in his basket and saw Jesus use it to feed everyone there. We may think that we have little to offer in the way of serving. And if we offer nothing to God, we will indeed have nothing to use. But if we take what we have and offer it to God, He can take what little we have and turn it into something great.

Sir Knights, what is in your basket? And what will you decide to do with it?

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate