Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

OCTOBER 2026

As we move through the harvest season, I am reminded that God has long used the harvest as a picture of His Kingdom. Every season of abundance points beyond the crops of the earth to a far greater harvest: the souls of people who need the hope, grace, and salvation found in Jesus Christ.

As Christian Knights, we have pledged ourselves to defend the Christian faith and to serve our Lord faithfully. Yet the battlefield of our calling is not only within the walls of our Commanderies. Christ calls us into the fields that surround us every day: our homes, workplaces, churches, neighborhoods, and communities. These are the mission fields where compassion, mercy, truth, and love are desperately needed.

In Matthew 9:37-38, Jesus looked upon the crowds with compassion because they were "as sheep having no shepherd." His response was not simply to observe the need but to call for willing laborers, saying, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field." That challenge remains today. The world around us is filled with people searching for hope, purpose, and truth. Christ still calls His followers to step into the harvest.

This means being more than observers of our faith. We are called to become willing servants. To be the hands that serve, the feet that go, the voices that encourage, and the hearts that reflect the compassion of Christ. Whether through acts of charity, words of encouragement, mentoring a young person, visiting the lonely, supporting our churches, or simply living lives that honor Christ, every act of faithful service plants and gathers for God's Kingdom.

The task may sometimes seem greater than our ability. We may wonder whether we possess enough time, strength, wisdom, or resources to make a lasting difference. Yet God never sends His servants into His harvest empty-handed. Paul reminds us in 2 Corinthians 9:10, “Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.”

What a wonderful promise! The same God who provides the seed also provides the increase. He equips those He calls. He supplies every need required to accomplish His purposes. As we faithfully sow seeds of kindness, generosity, witness, and service, God multiplies those efforts beyond what we could ever accomplish through our own strength.

As this harvest season unfolds, let this be our challenge as Sir Knights. May we ask the Lord of the harvest to make us willing laborers, not content to remain within the safety of our Commanderies, but eager to enter the fields where He has placed us. May He make us His hands to serve those in need, His feet to carry the Gospel into our communities, and His voice of hope to those searching for truth. And as we go, may we trust with unwavering confidence that the God who supplies the seed will also supply every need, enlarge the harvest, and increase the fruits of righteousness for His glory. May we answer His call with courage, humility, and faithful obedience, always remembering that the harvest belongs to our Sovereign King, and it is our sacred privilege to labor in His service.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate