Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

SEPTEMBER 2026

The Labor That Lasts

As September ushers in Labor Day, we are given an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of work and service. While our nation honors the dedication of workers whose labor builds and sustains our communities, God's Word reminds us that there is a labor with eternal significance. The work we do for Christ—whether seen or unseen, celebrated or unnoticed—will never be wasted.

In 1 Corinthians 15:58 Paul writes, “Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”

Because Christ has conquered death and secured our eternal hope, we are called to remain steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord. Our confidence is not rooted in immediate results or worldly success, but in the certainty that God honors every act of faithful service performed in His name. The world may discourage us, disappoint us, or even oppose us, but nothing can diminish the eternal value of work done for Christ.

For us as Knights Templar, this truth speaks directly to our calling. Our labor extends far beyond the walls of our Commanderies. It is demonstrated in our commitment to Christian witness, our support of one another as Sir Knights, our devotion to our families, our faithful participation in our churches, and our willingness to serve our neighbors and communities. Every encouraging word, every act of charity, every visit to a brother in need, every hour spent strengthening our faith or mentoring another becomes part of God's greater work.

Paul echoes this thought in 1 Thessalonians 1:3, where he commends believers for their "labor of love." Their service was not motivated by obligation or recognition, but by hearts transformed through Christ. Love became the driving force behind their labor. That same principle should define us today. Our service is not simply about maintaining traditions or fulfilling responsibilities; it is about allowing the love of Christ to flow through us into the lives of others.

There will be seasons when our efforts seem unnoticed. There may be times when fatigue, discouragement, or the challenges of this world tempt us to believe that our work makes little difference. Yet Scripture assures us otherwise. Every faithful act of kindness, every sacrifice made for Christ, every expression of compassion offered in His name contributes to His eternal Kingdom. God wastes nothing that is surrendered to Him in love.

As we reflect this Labor Day season, may we remember that our greatest accomplishments are not found in titles, honors, or earthly achievements, but in lives faithfully lived for Jesus Christ. The legacy we share as a Christian Knight is measured by steadfast faith, enduring service, and love put into action.

Rather than simply offering thanks for the work already accomplished, let this month become a renewed commitment. May each of us prayerfully accept the challenge to remain steadfast and unmovable, continuing to labor faithfully wherever God has placed us. Let the love of Christ be the purpose behind every duty we perform, every hand we extend, every brother we encourage, every family member we cherish, every church we strengthen, and every community we serve—knowing with confidence that our labor of love in the Lord is never in vain.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate