

# Grand Encampment of Knights Templar



**THE APARTMENTS OF THE GRAND PRELATE**  
*and*  
**THE RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE**

Year of Our Lord 2018 to all Valiant and Magnanimous Knights of the Temple, wheresoever dispersed throughout Christendom ~ Salutations and Knightly Greetings:

**A TOAST TO OUR MOST EMINENT GRAND MASTER**  
**CHRISTMAS 2018**

We offer a toast to you, our Most Eminent Grand Master, at this Christmas season in the year of Our Lord 2018. On behalf of the Chivalric Masons of this Grand Encampment of the United States of America and of the Fraters in all countries where Knights Templars dwell and serve who bear allegiance to you, we raise our glasses in your honor as you begin your years as our servant leader.

We and our families celebrate with you and yours the nativity of the child Jesus, born to his Virgin Mother Mary in the humility of a stable, surrounded by sheep, oxen, and donkeys. We remember his bed of hay in a manger carved from the living rock of Bethlehem. We uncover ourselves as did the kings and shepherds as we worship the Savior of the world who is smiling in sleep. We ponder the knowledge that He is born to teach, heal, suffer, die, rise again from death, and finally ascend in glory to the Father. We echo the words of the prophet Isaiah (6:6-7)

*"6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

*7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this."*

To you, Grand Master, we raise our voices in the most profound expressions of our fraternal love. We lift our hearts in humble prayers for the prosperity and happiness of your house. We ardently invoke the Almighty's blessings upon your governance of our order, your oversight of our ministries, and your administration of our charities. With gratitude we look forward to the next three years of your leadership with certainty of your capabilities and vision as you have amply demonstrated to us these last years. We look forward to seeing you in our asylums, and we know you will represent our order before Masons and non-Masons with dignity, humor, and eloquence.

We pledge to you and your lady, Lisa, our faithful support throughout your term in office. May the light and peace of Christ perfect in your heart the eternal virtues of faith, hope, and love. May our Lord enable you to bring joy, healing, wisdom, and challenge wherever you journey. We toast you, Sir Knight Jeffrey Nelson, our Most Eminent Grand Master and wish for you a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

*A toast to you, Most Eminent Grand Master!*

In His Name,

The Reverend Sir Knight Kenneth D. Fuller, P.G.C., Chairman

***The Committee on Religious Activities***

The Reverend Sir Knight Arthur F. Hebbeler, III, Grand Prelate

The Reverend Sir Knight Terry L. Hensley, P.G.C.

The Reverend Sir Knight Paul K. Reckamp, P.G.C.

The Reverend Sir Knight Paul D. Erickson, KCT

The Reverend Sir Knight Edward J. Craig, KCT