



Apartment of the Grand Prelate



**Rev. Lewis E. Burgett
31 Greenfiled Dr.
Carlisle, Pa. 17015**

December 25, 2017 A.D., 899 A.O.

Sir Knight and Commanderies:

We are now approaching the end of our calendar year, a time to look back and a time to look forward. To look back and see what has happened in the world and in our lives. How could we have done things differently? To look forward to see how we can make our lives better and, hopefully, make this world better.

December is also the month all Christians celebrate the birthday of Jesus Christ. We need to pause and ask ourselves “what are we celebrating.” For the last several months stores have been filled with merchandise of all kinds. If you just entered our planet you would have to wonder what we are celebrating. Churches

have just celebrated “Christ the King Sunday” a time set aside to ask ourselves who is the “King” we are honoring.

Isaiah said, ***“for to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*** Seven hundred years later, the angel announced the birth of Jesus to the shepherds out in the fields of Bethlehem. It was a message of few words. ***“Be not afraid; for behold I bring you good news of great joy which will come to all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”***

Alton F. Wedel, a Lutheran minister, said in his Christmas message that Christmas is a simple wonder, a marvel of simplicity. When we lose the wonder of this holy season, we lose it because we look in the wrong direction. Let us not forget the simple manger and the simple swaddling clothes. When we find the Christ child there, then our lights will glow brighter and the Christmas music will have a beauty we have never heard before.

This Christmas let us seek the real Spirit of Christmas. Recalling the words of that Christmas Carol, let us have ***“Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth receive her King. Let every heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing.”***

To you and yours a ***Merry Christmas***

Rev. Lewis E. Burgett

Eminent Grand Prelate

