



# Pennsylvania Crusader

Since 1948

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA  
[pagrandcommandery.org](http://pagrandcommandery.org)

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## April 2025

A repeated step forward, however small, is still progress. It may take a month, a year, or more than a year, but if you want it bad enough, you will make it happen. As long as you are making consistent efforts directed toward your goal, you are making progress. It is up to you to make progress, and progress is a simple equation where the amount of effort put into a goal determines the distance toward the goal. The distance between the current situation and successfully achieving your desired goal is determined by your attitude, discipline, and determination:

**Attitude:** Is how you approach challenges mentally and spiritually, believing in your ability, having faith in yourself, and remaining motivated to consistently move forward, adapting to and accepting changing conditions by staying positive. Adopting and maintaining a “Can-Do” approach.

**Discipline:** Requires you to maintain control over your actions, emotions, and responses while remaining focused and committed to your goals and avoiding distractions.

**Determination:** Attitude, discipline, and determination are crucial if you want to achieve your goals. Attitude is the motivation behind action. Discipline is your ability to remain focused and take action. Determination is a steadfast resolve and dedicated commitment to achieving your goals despite any challenges.

As this Templar year concludes and a new year begins, now is the time to reflect on what progress you have made toward your current goals, adjusting those goals as required, and, if necessary, creating new goals. As new officers are elected and installed, develop a plan for the upcoming year, including ideas and programs that contribute to your Commandery’s goals and objectives. Together, we all have the common goals of recruitment, retention, and reinstatement. Beyond these, we must address improving our efforts in providing educational opportunities, improving our communications, and confirming our values. Consult with your Eminent Commander, Division Commander, and Section Officer about setting achievable goals and determining what resources are needed to achieve those goals while assessing what resources are available. Conduct a workshop or planning session on setting achievable goals, bringing with you that attitude, discipline, and determination vital to being successful. Be vision-focused on what you want to accomplish and be clear on how you expect to achieve your vision. Yes, there are and will be challenges. However, together we can and will be prepared to face any challenge. You can either find a way or make one. Once you have a positive attitude, discipline yourself, and determine what it is that you want to achieve, success becomes just a matter of time.

The Call to Conclave has been distributed and is available on the website. Lady Rebecca and I hope you have had time to review it. We look forward to hosting you in Pittsburgh on May 30-31 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Pittsburgh - Greentree. The Grand Encampment of Knights Templar Easter Sunrise Service will again take place in Alexandria, VA on Sunday, April 20th. I invite and encourage all Sir Knights and their Ladies to join Lady Rebecca and me in representing Pennsylvania's Grand Commandery at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Details of the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery and the Easter Sunrise Service are available on the Grand Commandery website. ([www.pagrandcommandery.org](http://www.pagrandcommandery.org))

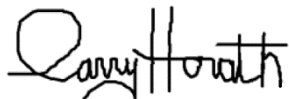
Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday which occurs on the Sunday before Easter and is a significant day in the Christian Calendar. This year it is April 13th. Also known as Passion Sunday, Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' arrival at the city of Jerusalem as shared in the Holy Bible in all four gospels of the New Testament: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The name refers to the occasion where Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem by crowds of people waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna", expressing their adoration and celebration while praying for salvation. In the ancient world, palm branches were used to symbolize victory and peace. By waving palm branches, the crowds welcomed Jesus as a hero and savior who would bring peace and salvation into the world.

Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday (April 17th) celebrates Jesus' Last Supper with his apostles. It marks the beginning of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Following this, Holy Scripture informs us of the events that led to Jesus being arrested, put on trial, and crucified on Good Friday. Good Friday observes the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and concludes with his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. This year, Easter is later than usual because it is determined based on a lunar calendar and falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox, which occurred on March 20th. The first full moon after that equinox is on April 12th, making Easter Sunday, April 20th. Let us all join together in the recognition of His life, sacrifice, and triumph over death, by recognizing and celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May God's Grace be with you all.

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Anniversaries: Melita Coeur DeLion No. 17 – April 28, 1858  
Prince of Peace No. 39 – April 26, 1871  
Continental No. 56 – April 3, 1876  
Holyrood No. 100 – April 9, 1983

Yours in Templar Service,



SK Larry D. Horath, Grand Commander

## Associate Grand Prelate's Message

Dia duit,

This month we come together with all of Christendom to celebrate the Resurrection of our Savoir. We have a rare occasion with both Eastern and Western Christian Traditions celebrating Easter on the same day. April 20 th is when we come across the world to remember this most important of days.

It is this day on which we remember the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is on this day that we remember that all of the mistakes and sins we have ever made have been washed away. It is on this day that we remember that Jesus came from Heaven to live and die as a human for each of our sake.

Holy Week is only a few short weeks away and across the globe, billions of people will come together and walk with Jesus through the final week of his ministry. We will start at his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, when the people cheer and praise. We go through the week and see him eating one final meal with his disciples. And not just any meal but a meal that reminds the Jewish people even to this day about God's redeeming power and His deliverance of them from bondage and slavery. That night immediately takes a dark turn of betrayal, which should remind us of our own acts of betrayal and disloyalty to our Savior and God. All these acts of sin lead to the false trial and conviction of Jesus Christ, that took him to the cross. While Jesus could have called down angels to save him or even just walked away from the cross, he went to it. Why? To save us. Jesus went willingly to the cross to die, for us.

And three days later, he rose again. This is the kicker, this is the miracle, this is the part of the story for celebration. Christ's resurrection is the precursor to our own resurrection. Through Christ's Resurrection we are given new life. While we are going to lay our swords down one day, in Christ, we are going to live again. Colossians tells us that Jesus Christ is the first born of the dead, and we will be like him.

Is it not the most amazing thing that the Creator of all existence would come down to be with us. To live with us and to ultimately sacrifice for our eternal life.

This month, this year, as you go through Holy Week and Celebrate Christ's Resurrection may you appreciate the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and may you celebrate Christ's Resurrection deep within your heart and soul, and not just on the surface like to many people do today.

Courteously,  
SK Joshua A. Yorks, AGP