



Pennsylvania Crusader

Since 1948

GRAND COMMANDERY OF PENNSYLVANIA
pagrandcommandery.org

S.K. Troy A. Mock, Grand Commander

ramrod.tam4@gmail.com

Editor: SK Mark G. Mattern, PGC email: grandrecgcktpa@gmail.com



June 2026

Greetings, Sir Knights.

First, I want to thank everyone for allowing me to serve as Grand Commander for this upcoming Templar year and thank the Officers that are serving along with me. Together, we will continue to promote the meaningful values of the Knights Templar and help bring forth to those around us, the hope and faith in Jesus Christ, that is so vital to our lives. The beginning of the Templar year will bring both challenges and triumphs, both in our personal lives and in our Masonic lives. Ensure you are keeping your brethren in your daily prayers.

As we will soon be taking a break from our Masonic schedules for the summer, plan on spending time with your families and friends. Also, remember the service men and women who are deployed throughout the world, and keep them in your daily thoughts and prayers, as they are in harm's way keeping us and the world safe.

July 11, 2026 will be my Testimonial / Central Section Reception, which will be held at the Bedford County Historical Society, 6441 Lincoln Hwy, Bedford, Pa. 15522. The One Day Conferral of Orders will be on Saturday, August 15, 2026 at the Rimrock Masonic Center, 2720 Rim Rock Dr, Stroudsburg, PA 18360. Please come out and support both events.

Courteously,

SK Troy A. Mock
Grand Commander



“Spes Mea in Deo Est” or “My Hope Is In God”

Grand Prelate's Message

Who or What Is First in Your Life?

In everything you do, put God first, and he will direct you and crown your efforts with success. (Proverbs 3:6)

What role should God have in your family? Do you relegate God to an insignificant influence; do you allow him to have preeminence over all things? The correct answer should be obvious, but sometimes the life we lead suggests that we have gotten our priorities mixed up.

Do you talk about God with your family in the context of your everyday circumstances? If God's name is only mentioned as an expletive, then you should not be surprised if God seems nonexistent.

Do you and those you love only turn to God when you are suffering, ill, in crisis or in a state of emergency? God is there in times of difficulty, but because you only contact God so infrequently, God may seem distant and even uncaring.

Do you treat God like a wishing well, or a holy rabbit's foot, looking to Him only for protection, good luck and material gain? This attitude leads to a lack of faith in God when you don't get what you want, or your luck takes a turn for the worst or something bad happens to you.

Do you come to God only as a religious ritual? Do you have God in a box and bring Him out for display only on Sundays and religious holidays? If that is the case, then the rest of the time you probably have God in a box on a shelf or hidden away somewhere so he won't interfere with your daily activities. If this is your attitude, then you find God as cold and impersonal.

God deserves a place in your family and life, and it is first place. You and your family deserve to know that God is real and personal. BUT God won't intrude on you or your family. He waits to be invited as a guest into your life.

You and your family can experience the real living God, but you need to approach this relationship like the others that you value. You don't develop a close friendship with someone whom you totally ignore. You need to acknowledge God's presence, recognize His activity in your life, and appreciate his blessings. In short; You need to make room for God in your life. When you do, you will be amazed at the difference. You will see God's hand directing you, you will hear His voice, and you will sense His spirit. He will be real to you.

Although God deserves to have priority in your life and in the lives of your family, don't do it just for his sake. Put Him in first place for your sake and your family's sake.

Think about these sayings; “ Before God will do something for you, He usually wants to do something In you. If you keep God outside of your life, there will be problems inside your life. Let God have control in your life. He can do more with you than you can.”

God’s Blessings
SK. Rev. Robert A. Witmyer
Grand Prelate

Pictures from around the Realm



Sir Knights of Hermit Commandery No. 24 including SK Jerry J. Hamilton, REPGC, who was the speaker at an Ascension Service prior to the conclave.

Annual Conclave 2026



The Elected Grand Officers and Division Commanders 2026-2027



The Elected Grand Officers and Appointed Grand Officers 2026-2027



SK Joshua J. Nay with representatives of Rainbow Girls, Job's Daughters and PA DeMolay who each presented rituals or meanings behind their flag. It was very interesting.

SK Nay with SK Scott Zimmerman who provided musical accompaniment on the keyboard during the Annual Conclave sessions, the Devine Service and at the Grand Commander's Banquet. Well done SK Zimmerman.



The view of one half of the Asylum after the reception of dignitaries.



Brother Robert D. Brink, Right Worshipful Grand Master, -resenting SK Nay with his medallion.

SK Nay giving his Final Report to the Sir Knights assembled.





SK Joseph P. Tolen being presented with his Sword of Merit from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for his very generous donations. And then doing his best Thundarr impression.



SK Jeffrey A. Bolstad, R.E. Deputy Grand Master, of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar USA, representing SK David Joseph Kussman, M.E. Grand Master, provided an inspirational message. "How are you doing today?"



Two Grand Prelates walk into an Annual Conclave, and they are both holders of the Knights Templar Cross of Honor. SK & Rev. Robert A. Witmyer, Eminent Grand Prelate, KTCH 2017, and SK & Rev. David A. Eichelberger, Associate Grand Prelate, received the KTCH at the Grand Commanders Banquet. Congratulations SK David! Well deserved.

The 2026-2027 Officers to be installed with SK Daniel J. Price, Jr., Installing Marshal.



SK Troy A. Mock newly installed as Right Eminent Grand Commander. SK Harry J. Smith, REPGC, serving as the Installing Officer.



SK Troy A. Mock, REGC on his first official visit to Constans Commandery No. 33. Accompanying him were several Grand officers, some newly elected/appointed. In the front row (right to left) SK Christopher D. Reed, GJW and SK Ronald F. Rearick, Grand Trustee. Behind them SK Christopher M. Alexander, Associate Grand Prelate, all three Central Section Division Commanders, SK Brenden R. Hunter, Div. 14, SK Gregory P. Pappas, Div. 11, and SK Chet J. Barron, Div. 6, along with a great showing of the members of Constans Commandery.