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## 2014-2015 Texas Supplement

### **To the Sir Knights of Texas, Greetings.**

At the 161<sup>st</sup> Grand Conclave in Houston, it was my privilege to be installed as Grand Commander of Texas. **I follow in the footsteps of great men and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sir Knights of Texas for the opportunity to serve our Grand Commandery this year.**

This year our preferred charity of choice is the Holy Land Pilgrimage fund. We ask that your Commandery consider including this charity in your giving and, if possible, to sponsor a minister.

Our permanent endowment fund continues to slowly grow. In 2015, the fund will be available for use. However, the fund still needs additional capital to meet its targeted goals. **Sir Knights, we ask at a minimum, that you purchase a starter badge this year to help grow the endowment and allow us to meet our charitable goals.**

Your Grand Officers are willing to assist in any way possible, but it takes each of us getting involved in our local bodies to strengthen Our Order. We ask each of you to take an active part in your other masonic bodies. **By being active, we increase our visibility and in turn, make the necessary contacts that lead to new sir knights.**

The month of May has several important holidays. On May 11<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Mother's Day and on May 26<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day, the time we pause as a nation to honor those who have given their lives in service to our country. **The most important day for us as Christians is the Ascension of our Lord and Savior JESUS CHRIST. This year Ascension Day is recognized on May 29.**

Please take this opportunity to review the 2014 Grand Commandery Ascension message.

Finally, my wife, Symantha and I invite you and your lady to the 162<sup>nd</sup> Grand Conclave that will be held in San Marcos on April 18 - 20, 2015. Please mark your calendars.

**Thanks again for your confidence and I look forward to visiting with you throughout the Year.**

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*Robert Loflin*  
**Grand Commander 2014-2015**

## Ascension Day Thursday May 29 2014

The Feast of the Ascension is always celebrated on the 40<sup>th</sup> day of Easter and dates back to at least the later 4<sup>th</sup> century; it is always celebrated on Thursday. **This year's feast falls on May 29.** As Christian Knights, we celebrate it as one of the major parts in the life of our Savior Jesus Christ as witnessed by the Apostles in New Testament scripture. After his suffering, he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days speaking to them about the Kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. **"This"** he said, **"Is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."** So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord", is this the time when you will restore the Kingdom to Israel?" He replied, **"It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive the power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."** When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took out of their site. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, **"Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."** Acts 1: 2-11 NRSV

As Christian Knights, this is some of the most profound testimony of our faith; for we are not only given further proof of the resurrection of our Lord but our faith is also strengthened by the promised coming of the Holy Spirit and the spread of our Lord's teachings "to the ends of the earth." The ascension of our Lord assures us the he is a mediator for us as he sits at the right hand of God. **"God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, ad above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come."** Ephesians 1: 17 NRSV The ascension of our Lord is the most joyful part of our Knighthood. It is part of the theological creed that makes us Christians and strengthens us as Knights and gentlemen, for if we practice the virtues our Lord and Savior we will not only strengthen our faith but those around us. **What better way to celebrate the ascension of our Lord that to emulate his teachings this day and all the days of our lives as Knights Templar.**

Message was prepared by Sir Knight Joseph Avalos, Grand Prelate.

### **Upcoming Events from the Texas York Rite Calendar**

#### York Rite Conferences

5/3/2014	San Antonio Area
5/10/2014	Waco Area
5/24/2014	Floydada Area
6/7/2014	El Paso Area, Footstone Dedication for John Temple Rice

Festivals 5/31/2014 Arlington Chapter and Council Festival

**Remember; submit festival and Commandery related items of interest to the Webmaster –SK Michael Blair at [mblair1@gmail.com](mailto:mblair1@gmail.com) .**