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To the Sir Knights of Texas,

It is indeed an honor and privilege to be elected as you Grand Commander! I

pledge to do my best to serve you, and to help move the Grand Commandery of Texas forward in a manner that you see best.

During this coming year, **you will be given the opportunity to complete a survey to let us know those things you like, don't like, and would like to see done better in your Commandery and in the Grand Commandery.** This survey will be done during the Inspection process later this year, and I look forward to having as close to 100% response rate as possible.

You will also have the opportunity to work alongside your Grand Commandery Officers at special locations throughout Texas during the conferral of the Chivalric Orders. If you are having a **Festival/ Conferral of the Orders** and would like to have the **Grand Commandery Officers fill their stations during the Order of the Temple**, please contact me as soon as possible so that I can place this on our schedules. Your Grand Officers believe that it is important to get out and about our Great State, and to work alongside each of you while conferring the Order of the Temple.

Your Grand Officers also believe in **the importance of York Rite Unity**, and we will be meeting regularly throughout the year with the officers of both the Grand Chapter and Grand Council.

We all want to do our best to serve you, and to ensure that we are all working together to keep Texas York Rite great!

Finally, if there is ever anything that I can do to assist you or your Commandery, please do not hesitate to contact me – I am here to serve you. Thank you again for the confidence you have reposed in myself and your other Grand Commandery Officers.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

Jack

Jack M. Harper II
Grand Commander 2017-2018

Ascension Day Thursday, May 25, 2017

What a glorious account is recorded in the Bible about **the ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ!** We read about this in **Luke 24:50-53.**

After Jesus had opened the minds of his Disciples by having a meal with them and saying to them, "...**here are my hands and my feet. Why are you troubled, are you still doubting I am the Christ? Touch me to remove your doubts.**"

There are many times that our doubts crowd in upon us, and we lose sight of the objective. **Christ asks us to focus upon the task at hand and we fail to grasp the true meaning of remaining faithful to our fellow Knights.**

Can you imagine how startled the disciples were, when being locked in a room, and suddenly the Master appeared and asked, "...do you have anything to eat?"

What would you have thought if it happened to you today?

Would your reaction be the same as the Disciples? I can only imagine what mine would have been- amazed!

After this all happened in the locked room, **Jesus led them out on the road to Bethany, and while on the road, He lifted up His hands and blessed them. While He was blessing them, Jesus departed from them by being taken up into Heaven. The Disciples then worshipped Him, and returned to Jerusalem praising God.**

What a good time for us to stop and praise our risen Savior, who does all things well. All we have is His and all we are is because He made us well. Let us meditate upon those verses in the Word to accomplish the objectives which lie before us.

This message was prepared by:

Sir Knight E. Dixon Toney,
Grand Prelate 2017-2018

Editors note: Please send any upcoming degree work to Texas York Rite
Remember to contact Michael Blair to add any upcoming events for the

Texas York Rite Calendar

His email is: mblair1@gmail.com

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