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2015-2016 TEXAS SUPPLEMENT

To the Sir Knights of Texas, Greetings:

It's Christmas time once again, and as we pause to remember the wonderful times we all have spent with family and friends, we are really blessed by, not the material gifts, but by the fellowship we encountered with others. Lately, I have been blessed to work on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day with several individuals within my community in cooking and serving a Christmas meal to feed the hungry within my community. This has been a very rewarding experience to me. As Kinghts Templars, we are also faced and reminded with the fact that we should be ready and willing to care for our widows and orphans and the many others who are in need.

"Remember the challenge that has been presented to each of us to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted."

SERVICE TO THOSE IN NEED-Isn't this the real reason for the season instead of the many glittering lights and material gifts.

'REMEMBER THAT JESUS IS THIS REASON FOR THE SEASON.'

This year I challenge you to take a few moments from your family's Christmas celebration-the eating and unwrapping of gifts-to help someone not as fortunate enjoy the Christmas holidays.

I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year – 2016.

Remember also that Grand Lodge is December 3-5, 2015 in Waco, Texas.
Hope to see you there.

**"LET YOUR LIGHT SO SHINE BEFORE MEN THAT THEY MAY SEE
YOUR GOOD WORKS AND GLORIFY YOUR FATHER WHICH IS IN
HEAVEN!"**

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jerry Pingle

Grand Commander 2015-2016

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Christmas is a time to rejoice in Christ's miraculous birth and its marvelous message to all mankind. It is also a time to rekindle the spirit of good will.

The message of Luke-

"And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace, good will toward men."

Luke 2:13,14 KJV

This is as valid today as it was 2000 years ago. Jesus Christ's earthly ministry changed human history. His ministry of mercy and compassion continues to change our lives every day. Jesus Christ's advent makes Christmas a sacred and special season. The annual celebration of His birth is a fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy.

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Isaiah 9:6 KJV

The birth of Christ took place in a common manger in a small village in an obscure country of the world. He nevertheless, with a small group of disciples, was able to preach a gospel that changed the world in a most basic way and thus created a remarkable Christian community of which we are all members.

Why was this possible? What makes Christ's birth so special is, that it was a divine act of God. Jesus Christ's birth was not like any other birth in the history of the World.

From the beginning of time, it is the grandest expression of God's love, grace and mercy upon mankind. God could have turned His back on sinful mankind saying that it was not worth the sacrifice of His beloved Son, but He didn't. He chose to send Jesus Christ into the world as a ransom for our sins.

This Christmas we may receive many wonderful gifts, but none can compare with that greatest of gifts, when God sent his Son into the world.

Peace, Joy and a Merry Christmas to all.

THIS MESSAGE WAS PREPARED BY :

**SIR KNIGHT JUDGE RISLEY,
GRAND PRELATE 2015-2016**

Remember to submit festivals and Commandery related events/items of interest to our Webmaster-Sir Knight Michael Blair at email address: Mblair1@gmail.com