

TEMPLAR NEWS - OMSDT

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OMSDT Calendar

AUGUST 03 ROUND TABLE

AUGUST 17 ROUND TABLE

ALL ROUND TABLES ARE HELD AT

| 6 PM PACIFIC | 7 PM MOUNTAIN |

| 8 PM CENTRAL | 9 PM EASTERN |

ZOOM LINKS WILL BE POSTED ON BELIEFBOOK.

(BIBLE STUDIES ON SUMMER BREAK)

SAVE THE DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

OMSDT ORDER-WIDE DAY OF CHARITABLE SERVICE

THE PARTICULARS OF THIS EVENT WERE SHARED IN THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE *TEMPLAR NEWS-OMSDT*. AN INFORMATIONAL SHEET IN .PDF FORMAT WILL BE SHARED ON BELIEFBOOK IN EARLY AUGUST AND PROVIDED TO EACH PRIORITY LEADER SO THAT ALL MEMBERS CAN BEGIN MAKING PLANS FOR THIS SPECIAL DAY.

TEMPLAR ACADEMIE

"CHRIST-FOCUSED IN ALL THAT WE DO"

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO MEMBER
KELMY RODRIQUEZ
FOR COMPLETING
THE SAA CLASSWORK
IN THE MONTH OF JULY 2023



Often, the only training or period of instruction that new Templar recruits received was a recitation of the Templar Rule. Brothers who could read were given a copy to read and in case anyone forgot, over many meals, the Rule would be read out as the monks ate in relative silence. Once a man had joined the Knights Templar, solidarity, support and discipline were paramount. It was a cohesive, efficient and innovative confraternity, with everyone working towards its collective aims.

Congratulations!

Sir Michael Glenn



OMSDT is proud to announce that on Saturday, July 29, 2023, Sir Michael Glenn, from Pennsylvania, a member of the Priory of St. Michael the Archangel, received his Accolade of Knighthood.

It was a momentous occasion for the Order, as Sir Glenn has the honor of being the first member knighted since the inception of the Order. Aside from our Grand Master, Sir Glenn also has the distinguished honor of being the longest-standing member of the Order.

Grand Prior Derek Nordio presided over the Investiture Ceremony via Zoom, with SSGT Kelmy Rodriguez, GML Marc Blaydoe, and GSY Renee' Nordio, also participating in ceremonial duties. The Investiture Ceremony was blessed by the attendance of several Order members.

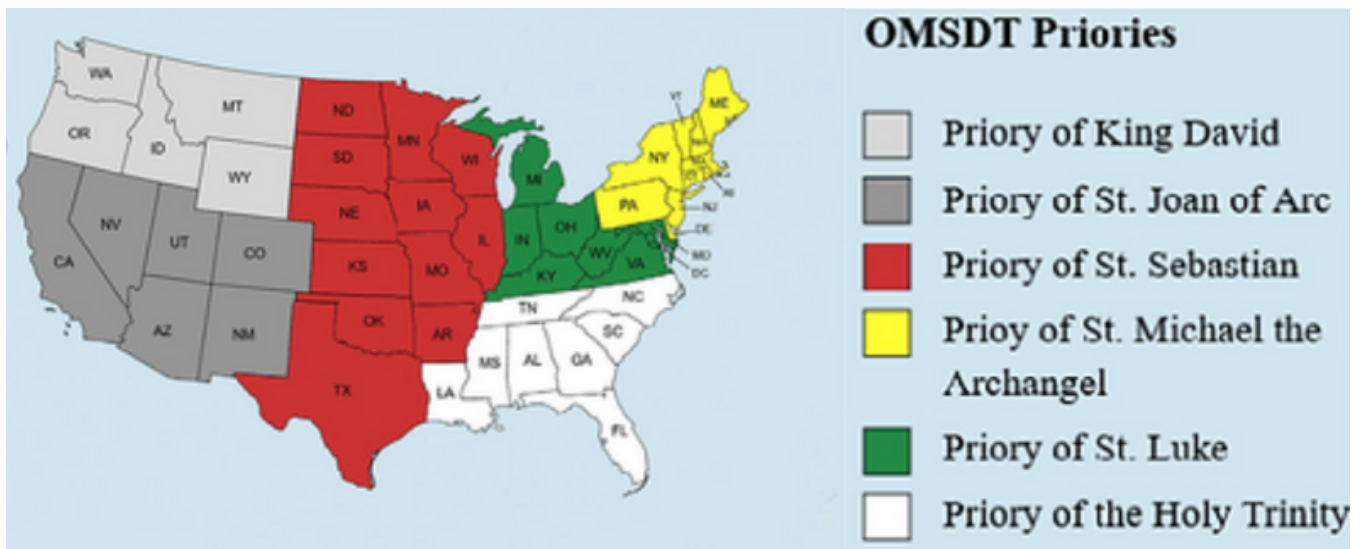
GSY Renee' Nordio, as the Interim Master Commander for the Priory of St. Michael the Archangel, commends Sir Glenn for being dedicated to his Templar journey. He is active on BeliefBook and has made genuine efforts to cultivate a brotherhood among the membership. As well as submitting his Knight Quest to his Priory leader, he completed all the required coursework in the Templar Academie and has expressed his desire to begin his Knight courses very soon.

Congratulations and may God continue to bless you, Sir Michael Glenn!

Moving About the Country

In mid-July, Grand Marshal **Marc Blaydoe** purchased a home in North Carolina, but has not yet sold his home in Maryland. Although having a foot in each state for a time, once his home does sell in Maryland, his relocation to North Carolina will be complete. We are thankful that even through all the challenges that moving brings, he has continued with his duties as the Order's Grand Marshal and leading the Priory of the Holy Trinity.

In the third week of July, Prior **Bruce Bennett**, relocated to South Dakota from Texas. Having shipped their belongings ahead of time, Prior Bruce drove one of their cars with their three dogs, while his wife, Donna drove their second car with their three cats and their guinea pig to their new home. Prior Bruce will continue to lead the Priory of St. Sebastian, as the Order has now annexed the states of North and South Dakota to his Priory region.



After the early days, for most of their existence, the Templars numbered approximately 300 knights and 1,000 sergeants based in the Kingdom of Jerusalem. When Jerusalem was lost, this main contingent moved to their new headquarters in Acre and then Cyprus. In Europe, chapters were considerably smaller, although a fairly large number was based in the Iberian Peninsula, and from the time the huge preceptory was built in Paris, a large number of men lived and worked there.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR GC

August 2023 featured
Guest Column writer,
Sir Michael Glenn



THE PROBLEM OF SECTARIANISM

When Martin Luther developed his 95 theses, he did so to address some issues that he perceived within the church. It was never his intention to start a new denomination, nor to cause the Protestant Reformation. Unfortunately, his actions began events that have been repeated over, and over again throughout the history of the church resulting in multiple denominations.

Our Lord Jesus forbid sectarianism or the division of the church. In Mark 9:38-41, Jesus addressed John when John brought up a group of people that were not among the disciples but were doing works for the Kingdom, *"Now John answered Him, saying, "Teacher, we saw someone who does not follow us casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow us." But Jesus said, "Do not forbid him, for no one who works a miracle in My name can soon afterward speak evil of Me. For he who is not against [a]us is on [b]our side. For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in My name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."*

Many Christians have heard of the Apostles Creed, but I have encountered many that have never read or heard it.

APOSTLES CREED

"I believe in God the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,

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APOSTLES CREED continued

died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic *(Universal) Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen." *(annotation mine.)

I annotate that Catholic refers to the universal church, because that's precisely what it meant. It really wasn't until after the Protestant Reformation that Catholic became a denomination. Until that point it was just THE church.

Which brings me to our Order and one of the many reasons why it has a special place in my life and heart. We function as the church was meant to! Although we all hail from different backgrounds, walks of life and Christian denominations, we are one body.

If we gather a group of ministers from multiple churches (whether all from the same denomination or from several), they will all have the same basic doctrinal views, but, they will all vary from the others in their theology, even if slightly. I know this from my own life within the church. I grew up in Assembly of God congregations. I'm a Pentecostal. Yet, I have met other Pentecostals that have a different view on theology than I do. Even within the congregation I'm a part of now, people have different views and opinions.

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Even in the early church, Peter, James and Paul had differing opinions. This is documented in Galatians 2:11-14. Peter would eat with the Gentiles, until people from James came to Antioch. Then Peter separated himself from the Gentiles. Paul, basically called Peter out on it.

Any that would visit the website of the Order would find these words on the homepage: “Our Order vows to hold to the virtues of Honesty, Loyalty, Perseverance, Charity, Humility, Courage and Honor. We take our vows seriously and hold each other accountable as our ancient statute prescribes: “Each day we must help our brethren for whom we are responsible, for one day God will say, ‘Where is thy Brother?’ In contrast to much of today’s society, with people moving from place to place and from relationship to relationship, this Order calls Knights and Dames to live a committed life of purpose under the Godhead Trinity of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.”

Imagine how much more effective the church would be in the world, if all Christians worked together as we do, without bickering over denominational doctrine or how or when sacraments are observed. Imagine if the church held to the Gospel and the principles observed and taught by the Apostles and Christ Jesus.



Unlike other orders, Templar Knights generally did not practice self-denial through fasting or abstaining from certain foods (although they were only allowed meat three times a week and never on Fridays), However, the ordinary monks in the Order did. Generally, for most of their existence, the Poor Fellow-Soldiers of Jesus Christ were recognized by outsiders as being particularly devout and abstemious, true followers of Christ who adhered to the asceticism of the Cistercians.

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PROTOCOL PAGE

THIS PAGE WILL SERVE AS A REFRESHER COURSE TO HELP US ALL REMEMBER CERTAIN PROTOCOLS AND PROCEDURES OF THE ORDER

RANKS OF THE ORDER

PAGE (no abbreviation). The child of an existing member ages 7-13.

SQUIRE (no abbreviation). The child of an existing member ages 14-17.

COMPANION-AT-ARMS (CAA). The entry level rank all new members have for a minimum of six months, which is considered a probationary period.

SERGEANT (SGT). The entry level of Sergeant rank a member receives once the CAA classes are complete and a period of six months from their join date has passed.

STAFF SERGEANT (SSGT). Preferred rank of Sergeant who leads or operates a ministry in the Priory.

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS (SFC). A Sergeant who has demonstrated leadership skills and the desire to assist in the Priory.

FIRST SERGEANT (1SGT). The lead Sergeant of other Sergeants in the Priory.

KNIGHT (KT). The entry level of knighthood.

KNIGHT LIEUTENANT (KLT). The preferred level of knighthood to lead a ministry in a Priory.

KNIGHT CAPTAIN (KCP). The lowest rank a person can lead a Commandery. A Commandery must consist of 6 members; a Commander leader and five other members.

KNIGHT MAJOR (KMJ). A knight at this rank may also lead a Commandery.

KNIGHT COMMANDER (KC). A person serving at this rank leads a Commandery and is the preferred rank to lead a Commandery.

MASTER COMMANDER (MC). Leads a Priory and must stay at this rank for one year while leading the Priory.

PRIOR (no abbreviation). A promotion given to a Master Commander after the fulfillment of leading a Priory and serving as a Master Commander for one year.

All promotions, except for MC and Prior, are given at the sole discretion of the Priory leader.
