

# Grand Encampment Knights Templars, United States of America

OFFICE OF JAMES S. BLAKE  
Grand Commander  
387 Washington St., Boston

## General Orders No. 3

Series 1922-1923

To All Knights Templars within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery:

The following sentiment has been prepared by the Committee on Christmas Observance of the Grand Encampment of the United States of America:

To Sir Leonidas Perry Newby, Most Eminent Grand Master:

The Legions of Templarism tender to you the following expression of their Knightly aspirations and their fond hopes and prayers for yourself:

"As Knights of old selected their leaders and followed them unfalteringly into battle, so today the Knights Templar of the United States look to their chosen leader to guide them aright amidst the clashing of material interests and the jarring contests of classes that the banner of Templarism may be borne aloft untarnished and the great purposes of the Order achieved; invoking for their Grand Master divine guidance in decision and spiritual strength in execution, with their prayers for his continued health and happiness, and that of those near and dear to him."

## The Grand Master sends the following response:

"Sir Knights:

"The Templar hosts, more than four hundred thousand strong within the folds of the Grand Encampment, are expected to subscribe to the sentiment expressed as they have always been loyal to the government of the Order and have acknowledged their fealty to their officers, whosoever they temporarily were.

"Yet we must not lose sight of the fact that while we select men for a time as our chosen leaders, our Great Leader, 'He Who shed His blood for many, the Blessed Immanuel, the Prince of Peace, the Captain of Our Salvation,' is not only our real leader but the leader of all mankind; and if the jarring contests and the clashing interests of the world are ever to be reconciled, it will be by putting into practical effect the teaching of Him Who leads us through the trials and vicissitudes of this life, comforts us in the hour of desolation and assures us of immortality in the world to come.

"The great question not only is, shall we put our trust in Him? but will we put into practice His precepts, one of which is Charity—charity not only for the opinions of others, but charity in administering to the physical necessities of the needy and distressed.

"Therefore, the central thought is to impress upon the minds of the members of the Valliant and Magnanimous Order of Christian Knighthood, that they should remember the injunction to 'Protect the weak, care for the unfortunate, and bind up the wounds of the afflicted.'

"Your Grand Master hopes and trusts that the membership of the several Commanderies will assemble in their respective Asylums on Christmas Day, the natal day of Jesus of Nazareth, the Saviour of the world, and take such action as will carry into effect one of the fundamental principles of the Order, remembering that 'Faith without works accomplishes nothing,' and that of the three cardinal virtues, 'Faith, Hope, and Charity, the greatest is Charity.'

Courteously yours,

LEONIDAS PERRY NEWBY,

Grand Master."

Address of the Grand Master:

LEONIDAS P. NEWBY, Knightstown, Indiana.

Sir Knights:

Complying with the request of the Most Eminent Grand Master Leonidas Perry Newby, and in heartiest sympathy with the sentiment expressed to him, and embodied in his most knightly and Christian response, it is my desire that all Templars within the jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, shall on Christmas Day assemble in their several Asylums and at twelve o'clock at noon unite with the fraters throughout our national domains in doing homage to our Most Eminent Grand Master and in pledging ourselves anew to the expression of our allegiance to the Great Captain of our Salvation in lives replete with deeds of charity and pure benevolence.

This order will be borne upon the notice of the stated Conclave next preceding December 25, A. D. 1922, A. O. 804, and will be read at the head of each Commandery at said stated Conclave.

Witness my hand and seal of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templars and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, this twenty-fifth day of November, A. D. 1922, A. O. 804.

JAMES S. BLAKE,

Right Eminent Grand Commander,

387 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

ATTEST:

B. W. ROWELL, Grand Recorder.