

To the Officers and Sir Knights of the Jurisdiction,

This July, we stand at a breathtaking moment in the life of our nation. The United States of America—our beloved home—celebrates **250 years** of liberty, courage, and hope. For two and a half centuries, the flame of freedom has burned because generations dared to believe in something greater than themselves.

As Templars, we know that freedom is never an accident. It is the gift of God, the work of our Founding Fathers—many of them Brother Masons—and the daily sacrifice of the brave men and women who defend our nation. To every Sir Knight and citizen who has worn the uniform, and to those serving today: your devotion is a living testament to the ideals we cherish.

Freedom With a Purpose

Scripture reminds us that liberty is not merely a privilege—it is a calling:

“For you were called to freedom, brothers... through love serve one another.” — Galatians 5:13

True freedom is the power to serve boldly, love deeply, and act courageously in Christ’s name. It is the sacred opportunity to bring His peace, His compassion, and His truth into a world longing for light.

The Templar Spirit Lives On

The Templars of old stood as shields for pilgrims, guardians of the vulnerable, and defenders of the pathways of faith. Their mission was clear: protect, uplift, and serve.

Today, **that same spirit beats in our hearts.**

- We defend **spiritual and moral truth**
- We uphold **religious liberty for all people**
- We serve **our churches, our families, and our communities**
- We stand as **pillars of integrity** in a world that desperately needs it

Our swords are no longer forged of steel, but of character, compassion, and conviction. We fight not for land, but for the virtues that sustain a free and faithful society.

Celebrate With Joy

As we mark this historic Semiquincentennial Fourth of July, let your patriotism shine. Celebrate with your families, join your local parades, and give thanks for the blessings of liberty.

And as you celebrate, carry the Knightly virtues of caution, temperance, and vigilance. May every Sir Knight return to his Asylum safe, renewed, and ready for the noble work ahead.

May the Grand Captain of our Salvation watch over our troops, bless our nation, and guide our steps as we continue the sacred labor of defending truth and serving Christ.

In His Service,

S.K. Peter A. Randall
Grand Commander

Upcoming Events & Conclaves

- **July 18, 2026** — Annual Grand Commandery Picnic, Buttonwoods Park, Warwick, RI (10am–3pm) – Reservations requested
- **August 15, 2026** — Grand Council of Massachusetts R&SM 200th Anniversary, The W Hotel, Boston, MA (5pm) – Reservations required
- **September 12, 2026** — North Eastern Department Conference, Albany, NY – Dais officers required; others welcome
- **October 3, 2026** — Massachusetts York Rite Unity Event, Larz Anderson Auto Museum, Brookline, MA (6pm–9pm)
- **Oct 29 – Nov 1, 2026** — Massachusetts York Rite Annual Sessions, DoubleTree Hotel, Westboro, MA