

TEMPLAR NEWS - OMSDT

• JANUARY 2026 • VOLUME 5 • ISSUE 1 • FRONT PAGE •

OMSDT CALENDAR

January 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 ★	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 ★	9	10
11 ●	12	13	14	15 ●	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 ●	26	27	28	29	30	31

★ **THURS JAN 1** ★
HAPPY NEW YEAR!
NO ROUND TABLE

● **SUN JAN 11 BIBLE STUDY**

● **THURS JAN 15 ROUND TABLE**

(SPEAKER - GRAND PRIOR)

● **SUN JAN 25 BIBLE STUDY**

ROUND TABLES AND BIBLE STUDIES

| 6 PM PACIFIC | 7 PM MOUNTAIN |

| 8 PM CENTRAL | 9 PM EASTERN |

ZOOM LINKS WILL BE POSTED

ON BELIEFBOOK

Happy
NEW YEAR!

TEMPLAR ACADEMIE

"CHRIST-FOCUSED IN ALL THAT WE DO"

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THESE MEMBERS FOR
COMPLETING ACADEMIE
CLASSWORK IN THE
MONTH OF DECEMBER 2025



AS REPORTED TO THE GSY
BY GT MARC BLAYDOE

NOREEN LOPEZ (SAA Classes)
[Actually in August 2025]

CHRIS FREIN
[Actually in October 2025]

CASEY BURNS (SAA Classes)
[Actually in October 2025]

JAMES STRAWN (CAA Classes)

MICHAEL BARNETT (CAA Classes)

DINAH SCIVOLETTI (SAA Classes)

THOMAS BLYTHE (CAA Classes)

FAUSTO MORILLO (CAA Classes)

DAVID WATSON (SAA Classes)

CASEY BURNS (SAA Classes)

JAMES KING (CAA Classes)

RYAN HALL (CAA Classes)

MARK TURNER (SAA Classes)

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FROM THE DESK OF OUR GP

Grand Prior Derek Nordio



Happy New Year, **OMSDT members!** I truly hope you and your families had a most blessed 2025 and are looking forward to 2026 with optimism and abiding faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2025 was a year of growth for the Order. Our footprint of membership totals 152 members and spans beyond the U.S. and Canada into Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. It seems God has put out the call to those who are His and have a heart that burns with the Templar spirit, to unite as brothers and sisters, to uplift and edify one another so that we can march out into that ever-darker world as lights for Christ. Collectively or individually, **we are making a difference** where we can. Let us raise our swords, not in war, but with excitement for the future as we serve our Risen King!

The **Academie** was a very busy place this year with a combined CAA and SAA course completion that totaled 68 certificates awarded. **Promotions** in rank were too many to count! It warms my heart that members so love their certificates that many of you share pictures of them on BeliefBook. Members know that we are merit-based and advancements are earned and this is why we believe it is important that your personal growth and commitment to the Order is recognized and I want to personally express my thanks to all of you.

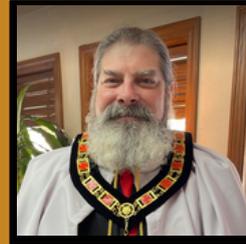
Over the past year, for varying reasons, there are **many of you** to whom I have spoken with on the phone. I want you to know that I feel blessed by any conversation I have with a member. I've always wanted to be an engaged Grand Prior that knows as many members as I possibly can despite the miles that separate us.

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FROM THE DESK OF OUR GP

Grand Prior Derek Nordio



With growth comes more responsibilities that fall upon our leadership team. I want to express my warmest thanks to our **Grand Officers** for their commitment and hard work. To all the **Priory leaders**, past and present, I offer my sincerest gratitude as it takes real dedication and oftentimes some personal sacrifice to keep your Priories organized, healthy and happy as you cultivate genuine bonds of sister/brotherhood.

I would like to share with you how thankful I am for the unwavering support of our **Grand Master, Rick Trujillo**. He built OMSDT with a solid foundation of Templar knowledge and experience and has allowed me to build on that foundation with my own unique knowledge and skills. I am honored by the trust he has placed in me to lead this Holy Order. He is our watchman, knowing fully all our actions by virtue of his daily visits to BeliefBook, quietly keeping the guard rails of our path solid and strong.

By the blessing of a few of our Grand officers, the Order has continued to support Global Christian Relief by remaining Front Line Partners in their efforts to help persecuted Christians across the globe. Locally, our Order-wide **Charitable Day of Service** in September was a great success!

Each fall brings our annual **Conclave**, held in October in Santa Fe, NM. It began at the homeless shelter, Consuelo's Place, by volunteering our labor, as well as making a large donation of food, supplies and small kitchen appliances. The following day, three members received their Accolade in a solemn Investiture ceremony held at the beautiful Loretto Chapel. It was a great time of fellowship and forging bonds of friendship.

2025 is a wrap and **2026** promises to be a wonderful year to honor God by our membership and our actions. May we all remain steadfast in continuing to fulfill our motto of being "**Defenders of the Faith**". God bless you all!

LEADERSHIP NEWS



Grand Prior Derek Nordio was pleased to announce the promotion of KLT Michael Dynak to the rank of Master Commander on December 21, 2025.

MC Michael lives in AL and will lead the Priory of the Calvary Cross. He joined the Order in the Spring of 2024 and was knighted in the Spring of 2025.

MC Michael previously served as the Priory's Marshal and has shown dedication and commitment to the Order and to the Priory.

Congratulations!

from all of
us on the
leadership team.
We're excited to
work with you in
serving God and the
Order membership.

OMSDT LEADERSHIP

ORDER LEADERSHIP

Grand Master (GM)
Rick Trujillo

Grand Prior (GP)
Derek Nordio

Grand Seneschal (GS)
Mark Snurr

Grand Secretary (GSY)
Reneé Nordio

Grand Turco (GT)
Marc Blaydoe

Grand Chaplain (GC)
Fr. (John) Kelmy Rodriguez

PRIORY LEADERSHIP

Priory of St. Luke
Grand Seneschal (GS)
Mark Snurr

Priory of King David
Grand Secretary (GSY)
Reneé Nordio

Priory of St. Sebastian
Prior Bruce Bennett

Priory of St. Michael the Archangel
Master Commander (MC)
Paul Aguilar

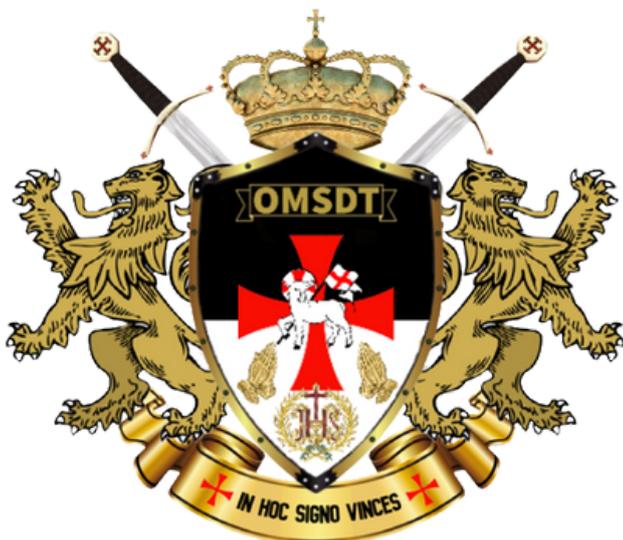
Priory of Joan of Arc
Grand Prior (GP) Derek Nordio
(temporarily until early 2026)

Priory of St. Helena
Master Commander (MC)
Amanda Moreno

Priory of the Calvary Cross
Master Commander (MC)
Michael Dynak

Priory of the Holy Trinity
Master Commander (MC)
Nicholis Ahik

All International Priories
Grand Prior (GP) Derek Nordio



✧ * **THE MOST FAMOUS** * ✧
✧ * **NEW YEAR'S DAY HYMN** * ✧

“Amazing Grace,” by John Newton, is the most famous New Year’s Day hymn in Church history. Newton wrote and unveiled “Amazing Grace” to his Olney congregation on January 1, 1773.

The entire hymn is inspired by 1 Chronicles 17, a chapter that speaks of King David’s past, present, and future. Newton does the same, reflecting on past grace, present grace, and the hope of future grace. It is a perfect way to begin the new year.



*Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*T'was Grace that taught
my heart to fear.
And Grace, my fears relieved.
How precious did that Grace appear
The hour I first believed.*

*Through many dangers, toils and
snares I have already come;
'Tis Grace that brought me safe thus
far and Grace will lead me home.*

*The Lord has promised good to me.
His word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be,
As long as life endures.*

*Yea, when this flesh and
heart shall fail,
And mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil,
A life of joy and peace.*

*When we've been here
ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun.
We've no less days to sing
God's praise
Than when we've first begun.*

*Amazing Grace, how
sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

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Ordre Militaire Suprême Des Templiers

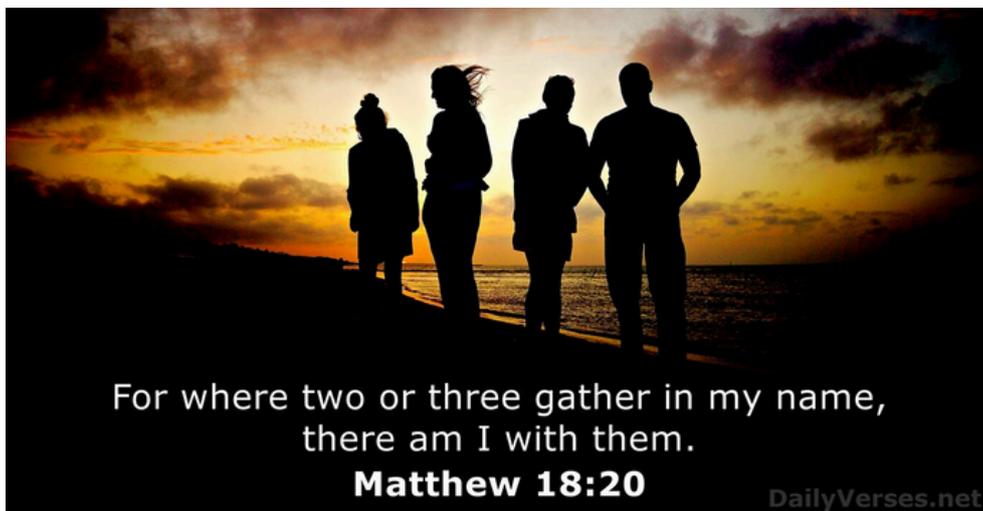
ROUND TABLE

1st and 3rd Thursday of Every Month

Although it's not required, the Order encourages all members to consider speaking at a Round Table. Our Grand Turco has a pinned post with the image at right in the Round Table group where members may review the available dates for the new year and then make a comment indicating which date they'd like to speak.



In Grand Turco's words, *"Round Tables provide an opportunity for fellowship, encouragement, knowledge, and participation. At each Round Table we feature a guest speaker to share their personal experience as to how GOD works in their life, testimony, scripture, or Templar historical insight. They may share how being a Templar has enriched and helped them to deepen and express their faith. Anyone can be a speaker regardless of rank or title. And those of you who have already participated can always sign up again! We have new members and even if your presentation hasn't changed, the audience has! And the rest of us will not mind hearing it again."*



For where two or three gather in my name,
there am I with them.

Matthew 18:20

DailyVerses.net

FEATURED BELIEFBOOK POST



Thank you, CAA Genova Spencer, from the Priory of the Calvary Cross, for your most informative post on 12-2-25 about the Jerusalem Cross. God bless you.

~GSY Renee' Nordio

My Brothers and Sisters, I purchased an engraved stone from Israel that rests on a table in my Church office. It has a profound history and purpose in my journey to one day, if deemed worthy, become a Knight Templar.



The Jerusalem Crusader Cross, often identified by its large central cross surrounded by four smaller crosses, holds deep symbolic meaning within Christian tradition and the heritage of the Knights Templar. Its design is not merely decorative—it expresses the heart of the Christian mission and the spiritual identity of the Order.

1. The Central Cross: Christ at the Center The large central cross represents:

- * Jesus Christ, whose sacrifice is the foundation of the Christian faith.
 - * The divine authority and calling that guided the Templars in their service.
 - * The truth that Christ must remain at the center of every believer's life, decisions, and actions. For the Knights Templar, the central cross signified absolute devotion to Christ as their sovereign Lord.
-

FEATURED BELIEFBOOK POST



2. The Four Smaller Crosses: Spreading the Gospel The four smaller crosses around the center traditionally symbolize:

* The Four Gospels—Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John—carrying Christ’s message into the world.

* The four corners of the earth, representing the universal mission of Christianity.

* The call for every knight to be a witness of Christ through service, charity, courage, and faith. To the Templars, these crosses affirmed their duty to protect pilgrims, uphold Christian virtue, and act as living instruments of Christ’s peace.

3. Unity of Purpose and Sacred Duty The five crosses together reflect:

* The Five Wounds of Christ, reminding the knight of the suffering endured for the salvation of humankind.

* A unity of purpose—one central truth of Christ surrounded by faithful disciples who carry out His work.

* The spiritual charge that every Templar carries: to live a life anchored in sacrifice, service, and steadfast faith.

4. The Cross as a Badge of Commitment For the Knights Templar, wearing or displaying the Jerusalem Cross signifies:

* A public declaration of loyalty to Christ.

* A reminder of their vows of humility, purity, charity, and protection of the innocent.

* A connection to the holy city of Jerusalem, the sacred center of Christian history and the geographic symbol of God’s promise.

5. A Lasting Symbol of Christian Witness Today, the Jerusalem Crusader Cross remains a powerful emblem of:

* Christian devotion

* Templar heritage

* Spiritual courage and moral responsibility

* The call to serve Christ in all things. It invites every Knight Templar to walk the path of faith with boldness, integrity, and unwavering commitment.



CAA *Genova Spencer*
Priory of the Calvary Cross
Militia Christi

PROTOCOL PAGE

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

ADDRESSING ONE ANOTHER

Properly addressing all ranks of the membership is important and shows consideration and respect. It will take some time to learn it all, but learning it should be done as soon as possible. Here's your guide:

Grand Master is always addressed verbally as **Grand Master**, without his name. You may use GM as an abbreviation in written form.

Grand Prior is always addressed verbally as **Grand Prior**, without his name, regardless of any other positions he may hold, such as a Priory leader. You may use GP as an abbreviation in written form.

Grand Officers are always addressed verbally by their Officer title, without their name. Grand Secretary is always addressed as **Grand Secretary**, without their name. You may use GSY as an abbreviation in written form. This is the same for **Grand Turco** (GT) and **Grand Chaplain** (GC).

Priory Leaders - Allowing for some familiarity in your own Priory, if John Doe is your Prior, then he should be addressed verbally as **Prior John**. There is no abbreviation for Prior in written form. If he is your Priory's Master Commander, then he should be addressed as **Master Commander John**. You may use MC as an abbreviation in the written word.

When addressing other Priors/Master Commanders in the United States Grand Priory, address them verbally as only **Prior** or **Master Commander** (MC) without his or her first name.

PROTOCOL PAGE

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ADDRESSING ONE ANOTHER

Knights - Men holding the rank of knight should be addressed verbally as Sir with their first name; i.e. **Sir John**. Women holding the rank of knight may choose the title Dame or Lady with their first name; i.e. **Lady (or Dame) Cathy**. To be sure which title she prefers, please make a polite inquiry asking her preference. There are no abbreviations for Lady or Dame.

Ranks above Knight - If a knight holds a rank higher than the rank of knight, the amplifier is used. Knight Lieutenant John Doe would be addressed verbally as **Lieutenant John**. You may use the following abbreviations in written form: Knight Lieutenant (KLT), Knight Captain (KCP), Knight Major (KMJ), Knight Commander (KC)

Sergeants - All Sergeant ranks are addressed by using their rank before their name. Sergeant John Doe would be addressed verbally as **Sergeant John**, or Staff Sergeant John, or Sergeant First Class John, or First Sergeant John. You may use the following abbreviations in written form: Sergeant (SGT), Staff Sergeant (SSGT), First Sergeant (1SGT).

Companion-at-Arms - CAAs are the *only* members that are addressed verbally by 'brother' or 'sister' and their first name. CAA Cathy Smith should be addressed as **Sister Cathy**. CAA John Doe should be addressed as **Brother John**.

We know it can be confusing at times, but we are confident you will soon be addressing all your brothers and sisters in a correct and respectful way.
