

TEMPLAR NEWS - OMSDT

• SEPTEMBER 2024 • VOLUME 3 • ISSUE 9 • FRONT PAGE •



OMSDT Calendar

THURS SEPT 5 ROUND TABLE

SUN SEPT 8 BIBLE STUDY

SAT SEPT 14

DAY OF CHARITABLE SERVICE

THURS SEPT 19 ROUND TABLE

SUN SEPT 22 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

TEMPLAR ACADEMIE

"CHRIST-FOCUSED IN ALL THAT WE DO"

CONGRATULATIONS!

TO THESE MEMBERS FOR COMPLETING
ACADÉMIE CLASSWORK IN THE
MONTH OF AUGUST 2024

IKE BARREDO (CAA Classes)
RANDALL MORRIS (SAA Classes)
DON CRAFT (CAA Classes)
KURT NAGL (SAA Classes)



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THE DAY
IS
UPON US!

SEPTEMBER

14

As well as spreading the love of Christ in our communities and making charitable monetary donations, performing works of charitable service is a very important aspect of the purpose of our Order.

Although we encourage charitable service by our members as often as is possible, the second Saturday of every September will be an Order-wide event in which all members will participate.

If you're regionally close to other Priory members, please work together on a charitable service project. If you're not close to any members, please perform a project you can do individually or by inviting friends and family to help you out.

The charitable service or volunteer work may consist of a variety of

things; generally works of service that would best serve each members' own community, for a minimum of four hours, if possible.

Please be sure to document your Day of Charitable Service project and submit a report to your Priory leader so they can submit to GSY Renee' Nordio by September 26th.

Your submission should include a couple of pictures and a description of what was done and who participated. Also, if you expended any personal expenses, please include that in your report, not for reimbursement, but so we have record for our 501c3 records of charitable projects.

All submitted project reports will be included in the October 2024 Templar News.

PROTOCOL PAGE

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

ACTIVITY AND PARTICIPATION

We are blessed to have BeliefBook as our Order's own social media platform with which the entire membership can get to know one another and create a true sister/brotherhood. With our own site, we don't have the concern of being marginalized because of our belief systems or be censored or have restrictions placed upon us. Every member on BeliefBook is a member of the Order and we can feel safe being friends with all members.

Participation on BeliefBook goes beyond answering the weekly Roll Call or clicking 'Like' on posts made by other members. Participation means making frequent posts - not just in your own Priory group, but also in the Worldwide Order group. This helps you become familiar to the entire Order membership and by visiting the two groups and reading the posts helps you to know more about your brothers and sisters.

In fact, in most cases, making posts on Belief Book is a requirement before promotions are given. Two posts per week is preferred and will really afford you the opportunity to learn more about all members.

The content of the posts can be varied; a Biblical-type meme you've come across, a scripture that resonates with you, Templar history, or even something of a personal nature, like a child's graduation, your garden, or vacation pictures. Our platform is for us to get to know one another.

Getting to know Order members can be very rewarding. Friendships forged online will only be more fortified if ever there is an opportunity to meet in person. Even if the occasion never arises wherein members can meet in person, all members will surely be edified and enriched by taking the time to get to know the entire Templar family, even if it's just online.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR GC

Grand Chaplain
(Fr. John) Kelmy Rodriguez



EMBRACING THE ESSENCE OF CHRISTIANITY AND MASTERING ITS DEFENSE AS A TEMPLAR

As Knights Templars, we are charged with defending our Christian faith. While in antiquity, we utilized swords and shields, today, we defend the faith through our virtues, actions, and service to others, reflecting the Christ within us. His will guides us through turbulent roads and unknown journeys. The only solace in the Christian life is that we are not alone on our journey. Our mission may not be clear on occasion, but we know we all play an instrumental part within the Kingdom.

Introductory Core Beliefs of Christianity

Christianity is a faith centered on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection offer salvation and eternal life to believers. At its core, Christianity emphasizes faith, love, and forgiveness, teaching followers to live by the principles Jesus exemplified.

Historical Context of Christianity

Christianity began in Judea in the 1st century AD, with Jesus Christ as its foundation. Despite early persecution, the message spread throughout the Roman Empire, becoming the state religion in the 4th century under Emperor Constantine. The faith evolved, leading to various denominations, notably impacted by the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century.

The Process of Becoming a Christian

Becoming a Christian is a transformative journey, marked by accepting Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. This acceptance means believing in His sacrifice for humanity's sins and His resurrection. It's a personal decision marked by faith and often symbolized through baptism, which represents purification and rebirth. In many faith traditions, water is a sign of cleanliness and life. This transformation brings hope and inspiration, as it

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signifies a new beginning and a life guided by faith.

The Importance of Faith, Love, and Forgiveness

Faith is the foundation of Christianity, encouraging trust in God and His plan. Love is central, as Jesus taught us to love God and others as ourselves. Forgiveness, received from God and extended to others, reflects Jesus' teachings and is crucial in the Christian walk.

Impact of Christian Beliefs on Daily Life

Christianity influences daily life through its values and moral principles. Believers are called to exhibit honesty, compassion, and humility, shaping their interactions and decisions. These principles guide Christians personally and professionally, promoting integrity and ethical behavior. Living a Christian life brings a sense of comfort and reassurance, as it is filled with the joy and peace that come from following the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Addressing Counterarguments in Christian Apologetics

Evolution Theory Many Christians see no conflict between faith and evolution, believing God's creative process includes natural selection. This view harmonizes scientific understanding with theological belief. However, caution is advised against thoroughly entertaining evolution and its creation theory, as it may lead to a shift in focus from the central message of Christianity, which is the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The Problem of Evil

The existence of evil is a challenge, yet many Christians believe it's integral to free will, the ability to make choices independent of divine coercion. They trust God's ability to bring good from evil situations, reflecting a more excellent divine plan.

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Historical Jesus

Both biblical and non-biblical sources provide compelling evidence for Jesus's historical existence. Writings from historians like Josephus and Tacitus affirm Jesus as a real historical figure, not a myth. Josephus, a Jewish historian, mentions Jesus in his 'Antiquities of the Jews,' while Tacitus, a Roman historian, refers to Christ in his 'Annals.' These historical accounts provide a solid foundation for Christian belief.

Biblical Reliability

Textual criticism and manuscript evidence support the New Testament's reliability, showing it has been faithfully preserved. The fact is, there is an incredibly high number of surviving copies of original Biblical writings. These copies are called manuscripts, and there are roughly 6,000 surviving manuscripts for the New Testament alone. Comparing the incredible amount of manuscript evidence has shown that the New Testament is 99.5% accurate.

While there are undoubtedly differences among the manuscripts, we can be confident that they stayed true to the originals because the copies are so close despite being written at different times and places. Archaeology has repeatedly confirmed the accuracy of Biblical places, events, and people. Thousands of archaeological finds have corroborated the Bible's accounts, and such evidence quickly puts an end to allegations that the history recorded in the Bible is suspect.

Regarding the New Testament, it is essential to know that the gospels were recorded relatively soon after the events they recorded. At the very latest, the four gospels were written 40-60 years after Jesus' resurrection. Many New Testament books predate the gospels. Paul's letters to the Galatians and Ephesians, for example, were likely written 15-20 years after Christ's time.

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Morality without God

While atheists can be moral, Christians argue that objective moral values, such as the inherent worth of every human life and the wrongness of actions like murder and theft, require a transcendent source, which they believe is grounded in God.

Personal Testimonies and Examples

Numerous individuals testify to the transformation in their lives after becoming Christians. Stories of overcoming addiction, finding purpose, and experiencing profound peace illustrate the impact of faith.

The Inclusive Nature of Christianity

Christianity is a faith that extends an open invitation to everyone, irrespective of background, nationality, or social standing. The teachings of Jesus Christ, centered on love and salvation, transcend cultural boundaries. Within the Christian community, diversity is not just accepted, but celebrated. All are welcomed with open hearts, and Christians are encouraged to share this love and acceptance, embodying the inclusive nature of their faith. This unity and acceptance make every individual feel included and valued within the Christian community.

By understanding these aspects, individuals can appreciate the depth and significance of what it means to be a Christian and its profound effect on one's life and the world. As a Knight Templar, remember you stand for something greater than yourself; faith and virtues keep us grounded in our mission to defend and preserve the faith in this ungodly hour; it is the Armor of God that vests us as we prepare for battle.



WHITE KNIGHT JACKET

(Only available for members who have been knighted or will be knighted at the 2024 Conclave)



Embroidery:

OMSDT

KNIGHT at

top of cross

and either

SIR (name)

below cross

for those

who've been

knighted

or

GRAND (title

and name)

for Grand

Officers.

Available only through Vista Prints, so

please

contact GP

Derek directly

to order.



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SHIRT FRONT



CONCLAVE SHIRTS

(Available for all members)

Shirts are available at our Bonfire store in 5 different styles and 5 different color.

Features the Loretto Chapel on front and our Order logo on back.

SHIRT BACK



ORDRE MILITAIRE SUPRÊME DES TEMPLIERS
KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Get the hat, too, at the Bonfire store. Bonfire store link: <https://www.bonfire.com/store/knights-templar-omsdt/>