



# The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the Philippines

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**S.K. Xerxes S. Coronado, KCT**  
Right Eminent Grand Commander

**S.K. Manuel Liam C. Garcia, PGC, KCT, KTCH**  
Grand Recorder

September 27, 2023

To: All Subordinate Commanderies within the Jurisdiction of the Philippines  
Subject: Program to Revitalize Membership in the York Rite

Sir Knights,

Coming from the pandemic, we have seen a huge decline in our membership. While York Rite conferrals resumed, it is still a struggle to regain the passion of our members to regularly meet in the desired number of attendees. With this in mind, it becomes a quest as your Grand Commander to devise a plan for our Grand Commandery to help in its own little way of revitalizing York Rite Freemasonry in our Jurisdiction.

First we must set an example to others. It is therefore ordered that all Grand Commandery Officers should attend at least four (4) meetings of their York Rite Body, preferably when they open in the Commandery. This will be part of the evaluation whether to further rise in office, to be retained in current position or to forfeit their rank. Grand Officers who are away geographically from their York Rite Bodies should attend to a nearby York Rite Body in his current location. For longer stay, away from the mother York Rite Body, it is highly recommended to affiliate with the host York Rite Body without demitting from the mother York Rite. It will be the duty of all Grand Officers to secure proof of attendance that can be attested by the York Rite Body Recorder to be submitted to the Grand Recorder for consideration by the recommending Committee for advancement. Extreme cases to excuse a Grand Officer from this attendance rule can be secured from the Grand Commander.

Next is to purposely supervise the Subordinate Commanderies. The Grand Commander will be in charge of NCR, Deputy Grand Commander will handle Luzon, Grand Generalissimo will take care of Visayas while the Grand Captain General to look after Mindanao. In collaboration with the assigned Supervisors and Eminent Commanders, the Grand Officers acting as Area Supervisors should monitor and track the planned activities in their areas. Any help needed should be discussed with the Grand Commander who can form a team from the other Grand Commandery Officers to assist in conferrals or reviving dormant Commanderies. A special mandate is hereby directed to the Grand Captain General as a Special Envoy to new Chapters formed in our jurisdiction. It is of our interest that these Chapters progress to have a Commandery in their area.

The Deputy Grand Commander will take an active role in overseeing conferral activities. He will ensure that Commanderies performing in the conferral will have a designated Conferral Director. The Conferral Director will provide the names of the Sir Knights who are performing during the conferral. This will form part of the minutes of the conferral for documentation of the Commandery. Joint conferrals would



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require all participating Commanderies to prepare their individual minutes. This can also be the basis for recognition from the Grand Commandery for those who are participating in conferrals.

The Grand Generalissimo is tasked to look into the possibility of reviving dormant Commanderies. In coordination with the Grand Recorder, they need to trace members of dormant Commanderies. Grand Officers who are members of Dormant Commanderies should assist the Grand Generalissimo to plan for a possible re-activation of the Dormant Commandery.

Last but not the least, all Subordinate Commanderies should meet four (4) times a year. Eminent Commanders should file a Dispensation to cancel a meeting in lieu of opening in another York Rite Body (Chapter or Council). Five Hundred Pesos (P500.00) Dispensation Fee will be assessed except if the reason is due to Acts of God which will not be charged (Dispensation for emergency cases should be filed before the next York Rite meeting). Unexcused meetings will require the Commandery to donate P1,000.00 (One Thousand Pesos) to the Knights Templar Eye Foundation.

It is highly recommended that Subordinate Commanderies to dig into their records and encourage suspended members to reactivate. Amnesty program can be employed.

I am requesting all Eminent Commanders to schedule at least one (1) visitation to another Commandery. They can start partnering with the nearest Commandery in your area or from those they have worked with during joint conferrals. This is one way of rekindling the camaraderie experienced during conferrals.

This program is envisioned to run for a four (4) year cycle which aims to revitalize, stabilize and realize to double our current membership base.

Courteously,

  
**S.K. Xerkez S. Coronado, KCT**  
Right Eminent Grand Commander  
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