

The Grand Commandery of Knights Templar of the State of Iowa

Series 2025-2026
General Order No. VI



Jason W. Delzell, REGC
June 6, 2025

St. Johns Day Message

To be read to your next conclave

To: All Past Grand Commanders, current Grand Officers, Committee Members, Officers and Sir Knights of all Constituent Commanderies within the Jurisdiction of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Iowa

Right Eminent Grant Commander Sir Knight, Jason W. Delzell, has ordered that this observance of St. John's Day be written and subsequently read in tribute to St. John the Baptist in each Iowa Commandery at your next conclave.

As Masons we were first taught to seek light. In the Royal Arch the Master's word was uncovered and thereby 'brought to light'. As Royal Masters we were supported in our search by hearing, 'With the light of this faith beaming upon me, O death, where is thy sting?' As Sir Knights we have learned that 'light' and 'The Light' are in many ways synonymous.

St. John the Evangelist described St. John the Baptist as 'being sent by God to witness to The Light, who is Jesus'. And so he did, in remarkable measure. He dedicated and devoted his life to God. To The Light.

The birth of St. John the Baptist is traditionally celebrated on June 24, the date in 1717 when the first grand lodge in England was founded. It is also closest to the summer equinox, the day of the calendar year where the day-long light is the longest, e.g., Friday, June 20, 2025, the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, the sun's most northerly point in the Earth's sky. The day of great light!

Are covered by this Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Iowa Seal

This man who gave up his life for his God, for The Light; a man who put his trust in God; who followed God's mandate to point to The Light for salvation. Can we find another, a better only-human example?

It is right that our lodges, erected to God, be dedicated to the Holy Saints John – St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist (*whose feast we will celebrate in November.*) It is right that we as Masons – as York Rite Masons, follow in his footsteps. *And point to 'The Light'!*

Amen:

Sir Knight Jons Olsson

Most Excellent Grand Prelate

Chivalric Regards,



Jason W. Delzell
R.E. Grand Commander



Attested:



Scott A. Schabacker
Grand Recorder