



THE SUPREME COUNCIL

(MOTHER COUNCIL OF THE WORLD)

ANCIENT & ACCEPTED SCOTTISH RITE OF FREEMASONRY, SOUTHERN JURISDICTION, USA

April 2, 2026

To: The Orient of North Carolina
From: A. Gene Cobb, Jr., SGIG
RE: Remembrance and Renewal

Brethren,

It is no secret that this is a holy time for many people of faith. Freemasons around the world remember their faith story and from it proceed to live lives that are faithful and true.



Times have changed since I first joined the Scottish Rite. At that time, we extinguished lights on the Thursday before Easter and relit them on Easter Sunday morning in Greensboro. Clubs hosted similar events in their area because the drive to Greensboro was a bit long if they were going to attend a worship service in their location. I struggled with the fact that I could not attend these ceremonies because of my duties as a pastor. One of my mentors, Illustrious Bill Simpson, 33° PGM, reminded me that what I was doing with the Church “had me covered.” I always took comfort in Bill’s counsel.

Some Valleys around the country still schedule their ceremonies like that. Others have found a variety of options that work for them. Greensboro became one of those that changed. Some Clubs still perform the duty of every Knight Rose Croix because we are people who keep our word. North Carolina has multiple opportunities offering the Ceremony of Remembrance and Renewal. The point is more that we do it, than exactly when or where we do it. North Carolina has it covered!

However, and wherever you celebrate this holy season of life, opportunity, and blessing, my prayers are that each of us will remember our vows and renew our efforts “not to be better than the brethren, but to be better than ourselves.” My hope and prayer for each of you and for the world is that the law of love is recovered and lives in each of us. Let us proclaim it wherever we may be and in whatever context opportunity avails itself.

In so doing, we will spread the cement of brotherly love and affection so that the world may come to know the God of peace and love who delights to dwell in us and bless us.

May you and yours be blessed this holy season!

 *Gene Cobby* 
Sovereign Grand Inspector General
in North Carolina