

Robert Morrison, KYGCH



Most Illustrious Companion

160th Grand Master Cryptic Masons California

Sword & Trowel

November 2020

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Vision Statement

Cryptic Masonry is an organization where men of good character come together to improve themselves, their families, and their communities.

It is where the highest Masonic values are learned by it's members and applied in all their doings.

As Cryptic Masons, we learn a way of life from our ancient teachings, develop meaningful and fulfilling lifelong relationships, and grow as enlightened men. We never hesitate to go out of our way to assist a widow, or a fallen brother.

Furthermore, membership in our Cryptic Councils provides us with a place where we, and our families, can find spirituality and likeminded positive thinkers, and where members of our community can depend on us for stability, leadership, and enlightenment.



Companions,

November is normally an exciting time of year with two holidays that bring families and people together. **Veterans Day** is one that I particularly enjoy for it is a day of reflection. Having served in the military during a time that was almost as unsettled as what we are now experiencing, our veterans now are for the most part honored and respected. Such has not always been the case but that is a topic for another day. Thanksgiving is the one holiday that we can all agree brings families closer together. People travel all over the country to spend the day overeating and watching football. In this year of the Corona Virus it would be well advised to make sure we all practice social distancing for the safety of one another. I pray not one of our families or members is infected with this awful disease during the holiday season. Each of us must decide what is the best course of action for our safety and those around us.

Half of the Grand Council Cryptic year is behind us and I am pleased to say that the various Councils that have held Virtual Grand York Rite receptions have contributed more than **\$2,000.00** to Pauline and I for our designated charity. We have chosen the **Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation** as the proper recipient for all donations that are collected. If you have not done so this year, please consider donating the **CMMRF** charity. This foundation touches so many lives in the great work that they do and now are even involved in the study of the long-term effects of the pandemic virus on the heart and lungs. Dr. Michael Murphy gave an interesting and informative talk on the research work being done by the foundation during the Cryptic Masons Southwest Conference held just this last weekend. Part of his presentation was about **Abdominal Aortic Aneurism** and how this silent killer affects so many people. If possible, I will obtain a copy of Dr. Murphy's talk and make it available for our individual Councils to use as a fundraising tool. The talk runs about twenty minutes and is well done. Even this old carpenter was able to understand much of the doctor speak that he used. **Gary Wyne, Executive Secretary for the CMMRF and a Past Most Illustrious Grand Master in Indiana** spoke of the current fundraising efforts for the foundation. Sadly, possibly due to the pandemic, the 2020-dollar totals are running behind those of previous years. We still have a couple of months to try and catch up to help this worthwhile organization. **I urge each of you to open your hearts and wallets to help and make the year of the COVID-19 Virus a positive experience for our main philanthropy, Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation. The remainder of this month's Sword and Trowel article is an open letter from the first lady of Cryptic Masons here in California, Lady Pauline.**

Thanksgiving 2020

As I write I am reminded that with Thanksgiving coming upon us we all have so many things to be thankful for. I am thankful for all the wonderful people in my life. As in my favorite movie, It's a Wonderful Life, I have been given a chance and blessed to see how many lives I have touched over the years and who's lives would be different if we hadn't been brought together but for a short time in life.

Fighting cancer is hard at times but I'm always reminded that I'm not fighting it alone.

While we were in Washington during our last visit, I started having intense pain in my left hip and low back. When we returned to Chico my doctor ordered an X-ray and nothing was found. She thought maybe the packing for our upcoming move had flared up my sciatica. The pain didn't go away and slowly intensified. She ordered a CT scan and found that my cancer has spread to my left hip and pelvis. With my bones being fragile I have a hairline fracture of the hip due to my bones being compromised. I have been taking Radiation Treatments to ease the pain. Next week we will be finding the results of a Bone Scan, CT Scan and MRI to see if the cancer has spread to anywhere else.

As much as the fear is real, we have our faith and the support of so many with this journey we will not be taking it alone. We don't know what the future has in store for us and no one does, so if you take only one thing from this message it's "enjoy your life and have no regrets". Let those you love know how important they are in your lives. Tell them every time you hear from them that you love them. Mend those fences. Whatever was the issue learn a way to heal the hurt and anger before it's too late. We are all given only so much time by God. Use that time wisely.

Our move to Washington was not planned so soon, but with the news of my cancer spreading we find that it is important to be closer to our children, grandchildren and family. To be leaving so many friends here in California was a difficult decision, but with social media being what it is, we will be able to stay in touch with those we will be leaving behind. As we know more, I promise that I will keep you updated. Until then, may all your Thanksgiving plans be blessed and much love to you all!

Robert Morrison and First Lady Pauline

For now, please live smart and stay safe and we will survive these troubled times.

**As Always, Remember the Rites
Most Illustrious Companion Robert A. Morrison, KYGCH
160th Grand Master Cryptic Masons of California
I will do my best to serve you all
Thank you, Thank you, Thank you**

Donating to CMMRF is as Easy as Shopping

As of August 2020, the **Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation (CMMRF)** has received only \$1,451.68 from AmazonSmile, out of the \$216 Million the AmazonSmile Foundation has donated to other charities. Why so little? Because our companions haven't designated **CMMRF** as their charity with AmazonSmile.

With no additional out-of-pocket cost, you can increase your donation to (**CMMRF**). If you intend to make online purchases from Amazon for the coming holidays or if you have groceries delivered due to the pandemic, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to CMMRF, **AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOU**.

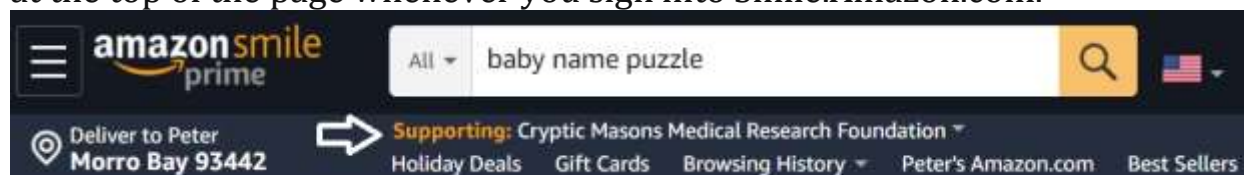
AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support our favorite charity every time you shop at Amazon. AmazonSmile is available at **smile.amazon.com** on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for Android and iOS phones. When you shop at AmazonSmile, you'll find the **exact same prices and selection as Amazon.com**, with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase price (minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, or taxes) to the charitable organization of your choice.

You use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

Here's how to sign up for AmazonSmile

1. Visit **smile.amazon.com**.
2. **Sign** in with your **Amazon.com** credentials.
3. Type in a Search box, **Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation**.
4. Select the **charity**.

Your price is identical with or without the donation, so sign up for the automatic donations to CMMRF and sign up your lady as well. Once you have chosen the charity, it will show up at the top of the page whenever you sign into Smile.Amazon.com.



Right Illustrious Companion
Peter G. Champion, KYCH, & Lady Janice
Deputy Grand Master, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
San Luis Obispo Council No. 38

Forms and Documents, are located at the Grand York Rite website: [Grand York Rite of California](#).

Scroll down and click on "**York Rite Forms and Documents**." Then click on the appropriate logo. A window opens where you enter the userid, which is "cagyr" and the password, which is "brio"

Scroll down to Officers Manual, which has information for the Secretary, and print that out. Many concepts in the Grand Chapter manual are relevant to the Councils and Commanderies. Priorities are as follows:

1. **Dues Collection:** You should send out dues' notices no later than October, with payments from members due by December 31st.

2. **Membership control:** Especially important is the very last item, "Royal Arch Monthly Report." This is relevant to you as a Secretary/Recorder if you do not yet have a userid for access to MMS – Masonic Membership Solutions. If you fill the paper report out each month, whenever you encounter changes to the membership, you will find it much easier at the end of the year to produce the year-end report, which is used to compute the amount of per capita the Chapter needs to pay. That payment is due by Jan 15th each year. Important changes to your membership include new members, demits, remits and deaths. Maintain e-mail addresses for members and you can easily then forward the monthly newsletter, **The WORKMAN & Sword and Trowel, to them.**

3. Do not cavalierly **suspend members** for non-payment of dues. There is a Constitutional process that should be followed rigorously in order that members, who may have moved and not received your dues notice, are treated fairly. See the following sections of the relevant Constitution in order to learn about this process:

Chapter: Section 201 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version of Royal Arch Constitution

Council: See Section 30-10 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version Grand Council Constitution

Commandery: See Section 347 in the [Constitution](#) then scroll down for current version Grand Commandery Constitution

4. **Per Capita:** Per Capita payment, due each Jan 15th, does not require action by the Chapter to be paid. You will need good, up-to-date membership data in order to compute the end-of-year number of active members that is crucial to computing your per capita payment. Without good data you will most likely overpay your per capita requirement. It is sensible to begin your process near the end of the CY, as soon as possible. It is also sensible, if you have access to the Grand Lodge database, to check each member to see if they are still alive. But most important is getting a userid to utilize MMS.

5. **Insurance:** Insurance payment, due each July 15th, does not require action by the Chapter, Council or Commandery to be paid. You will be billed for the payment by the Grand Secretary-Recorder.

6. Lodge **Book of Marks:** Maintain this up-to-date, or perhaps arrange for a PHP to take on the responsibility of maintaining.

7. **Minutes:** Take good minutes, but don't over-do it by trying to capture everything that is said. Focus on having a clear representation of motions made and the vote count by which they passed or failed. In addition to keeping petitions in a separate file, it is good practice to replicate the basic petitioner information in the minutes. It is also a good practice to keep the names of attendees at each meeting in the minutes. If conferring a degree, keep a copy of the cast members and the candidate(s).

8. **Grand Sessions:** Before April meeting, remind Dais officers they are responsible to attend, and arrange a stipend if your Chapter, Council or Commandery can afford it. Remind members who expect to attend to be sure to take their dues cards. If Dais Officers of Chapter and Council cannot attend, they may issue a proxy, or they may elect a representative. This is true also for Commanderies, whose members cannot issue proxies. Appropriate forms can be obtained on Grand York Rite website: Scroll to "Elected Representative and Proxy Credentials."

9. **Order of High Priesthood:** Be sure the current High Priest and Past High Priests' know they are eligible to receive this Order. In fact, it is a Constitutional requirement! Share the petition with them and send to the Grand Secretary. This requirement does not appear to be true for the Thrice Illustrious Master Degree or the Past Commander's Association. Petitions for all three bodies are available at the website.



Let's start off with a little humor I copied from Facebook "On the first day, God created the dog and said, "Sit all day by the door of your house and bark at anyone who comes in or walks past. For this, I will give you a life span of twenty years."

The dog said, "That's a long time to be barking. How about only ten years and I'll give you back the other ten?"

And God saw it was good.

On the second day, God created the monkey and said, "Entertain people, do tricks, and make them laugh. For this, I'll give you a twenty-year life span."

The monkey said, "Monkey tricks for twenty years? That's a pretty long time to perform. How about I give you back ten like the dog did?"

And God, again saw it was good.

On the third day, God created the cow and said, "You must go into the field with the farmer all day long and suffer under the sun, have calves and give milk to support the farmer's family. For this, I will give you a life span of sixty years."

The cow said, "That's kind of a tough life you want me to live for sixty years. How about twenty and I'll give back the other forty?"

And God agreed it was good.

On the fourth day, God created humans and said, "Eat, sleep, play, marry and enjoy your life. For this, I'll give you twenty years."

But the human said, "Only twenty years? Could you possibly give me my twenty, the forty the cow gave back? The ten the monkey gave back, and the ten the dog gave back; that makes eighty, okay?"

"Okay," said God, "You asked for it."

So that is why for our first twenty years, we eat, sleep, play and enjoy ourselves. For the next forty years, we slave in the sun to support our family. For the next ten years, we do monkey tricks to entertain the grandchildren. And for the last ten years, we sit on the front porch and bark at everyone.

Life has now been explained to you.

There is no need to thank me for this valuable information. I'm doing it as a public service. If you are looking for me, I will be on the front porch...

ScholarShips

Companions,

Your children, grandchildren, & for some, great-grandchildren may receive financial help for attending school. After opening up Scholarship Center website, have them go to bottom of page & find the Scholarship Manual in (PDF format – 450KB) to download.

There they will find instructions for filling out the forms.

This is the [link](#) which will take you to the public Grand Lodge web page on scholarships. All the information you need should be right there. This is a complete manual that you can download that talk about all of the scholarships available from the California Masonic Foundation as well as the [Scottish Rite](#), [York Rite](#), [Eastern Star](#), [High Twelve](#), [DeMolay](#), [Job's Daughters](#), & [Rainbow for Girls](#).

Contacts

Illustrious Grand Master Cryptic Masons:

Most Illustrious Companion,

[Robert Morrison](#), KYGCH and Lady Pauline

Grand Master Grand Council Cryptic Masons of California

Butte Council No. 50

Grand Secretary/Recorder:

[Philip Hardiman](#), OSV, KYGCH, PGHP

Grand Secretary Grand Chapter Royal Arch Masons California,

Grand Recorder, Grand Council Cryptic Masons California, &

Grand Recorder, Grand Commandery Knights Templar California

1123 J Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Assistant Secretary/Recorder & Grand Treasurer:

[Thomas Krummell](#), KYCH

1123 J Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Website:

[Richard E. Thornton](#), KYCH

Grand York Rite of California

Note: Hyperlinks or links to other pages or web sites are prevalent throughout the document.



Officers: Grand Council Cryptic Masons California

We, the officers of Grand Council of Cryptic Masons will visit you and ask "May We Help"?

Most Illustrious Companion

Robert A. Morrison, KYGCH & Lady Pauline
Grand Master, Cryptic Masons of California
Butte Council No. 50

Right Illustrious Companion **Peter G. Champion**, KYCH & Lady Janice
Deputy Grand Master
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
San Luis Obispo Council No. 38

Right Illustrious Companion **Guy M. Chalmers**, KYCH & Lady Jeanne
Grand Principle Conductor of the Work
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Redwood Empire Council No. 46

Right Illustrious Companion **Thomas A. Krummell**, KYCH & Lady Marcia
Grand Treasurer, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Sierra Nevada Council No. 13

Right Illustrious Companion **Philip Hardiman**, KYGCH, PGHP, & Lady Nancy
Grand Recorder, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Sacramento Council No. 1

Right Illustrious Companion

K. Mark Harris, KYCH
Grand Director of Ritual, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Oakland Council No. 12

Right Illustrious Companion **Michael T. Sherman**, KYCH
Grand Captain of the Guard
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Helix Council No. 58

Right Illustrious Companion **Jeffrey A. White**, KYCH & Lady Lisa
Grand Conductor of the Council
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Pacific Council No. 37

Right Illustrious Companion **Andrew B. Pippin**, KYCH, & Lady Juli
Grand Steward, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Ventura Council No. 15

Right Illustrious Companion **Richard E. Thornton**, KYCH, Lady Cara
Grand Sentinel, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Stockton Council No. 5

Right Illustrious Companion **Arthur H. Walton**, KYCH & Lady Patricia
Grand Chaplin-North, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
California Council No. 2

Right Illustrious Companion **Christian G. Marano**, KYCH & Lady Mara
Grand Chaplin-South, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
San Luis Obispo Council No. 38

Right Illustrious Companion **John L Copper III**, KYGCH, & Lady Heather
Grand Orator
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Sierra Nevada Council No. 13

Right Illustrious Companion **Thomas A. Krummell**, KYCH, & Lady Marcia
Assistant Grand Secretary
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Sierra Nevada Council No. 13

Right Illustrious Companion **Jarrold D. Washington**, KYCH & Lady Melissa
Grand Marshal-North Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Sierra Nevada Council No. 13

Right Illustrious Companion **Robert K. Geiger** & Lady Luisa
Grand Marshal-South Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Adoniram-Whittier Council No. 53

Right Illustrious Companion **Matt Hyde** & Lady Nicole
Grand Bible Bearer
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Omega Council No. 11

Right Illustrious Companion **Mike Edwards** & Lady Cindi
Grand Standard Bearer
Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Marysville Council No. 3

Right Illustrious Companion

Merrick R. Hamer
Grand Organist, Grand Council Cryptic Masons
Alpha Council No. 39

Oakland (East Bay York Rite Bodies)

**ANNUAL EAST BAY
GRAND YORK RITE RECEPTION**



HONORING



Most Excellent Companion
Richard W. Bullard, KYGCH
166th Grand High Priest
Royal Arch Masons of California



Most Illustrious Companion
Robert A. Morrison, KYGCH
160th Grand Master
Cryptic Masons of California



Sir Knight
Cirilo P. Marquez, KYGCH
162nd Right Eminent Grand Commander
Knights Templar of California

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2020
7:00 PM**

York Rite Bodies of the East Bay

Ancient Chapter #31 in Pittsburg
Oakland Chapter #36 in Oakland
Doric Chapter #66 in Lafayette
Oakland Council #12 in Alameda
King Solomon's Council #29 in Vallejo
Oakland Commandery #11 in Oakland

Join the Virtual Meeting via Zoom link or phone:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483148407?pwd=clUyTy9TVGxsTFRIWVBjMHRMOXMzdz09>

Meeting ID: 824 8314 8407 Passcode: 882802

If you have any questions, and/or to confirm the Zoom Meeting, please contact Enrico Garcia at enricobgarcia@yahoo.com or the Secretary/Treasurer Fred Baclig, Jr. at waipahu6870@gmail.com.

YOUR INVITATION



Our Companions and Sir Knights of the *East Bay York Rite Bodies* will be hosting a Grand York Rite of California Reception for the Grand York Rite Officers on Saturday, November 7, 2020 starting at 7:00 pm.

You are cordially invited to meet your Grand York Rite Officers.

The reception will be virtual (via Zoom)
and the usual presentations will be announced
Sign-in begins at 6:40 PM (see passcode)
The ceremony begins at 7:00 PM, November 7, 2020

During this Three-Way Grand Reception you are asked to dress in the appropriate Chapter, Council and Commandery attire.

From Bruce A. Rick, Editor
Siminoff York Rite Bodies Communication

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82483148407?pwd=cUyTy9TVGxsTFRIWVBjMHRMOXMzd09>

Meeting ID: 824 8314 8407

Passcode: 882802

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,82483148407#,,,,,0#,,882802# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,82483148407#,,,,,0#,,882802# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 824 8314 8407

Passcode: 882802

[Questions? Email to Editor Bruce Rick - HERE](#)

SACRAMENTO COMMANDERY No.2

The soul is protected
by the armour of
faith, just as the
body is protected by
the armour of steel.

Cordially Invites
You, Your Family, and Friends
To Attend



The Knights Templar

Christmas Observance

and

Renewal of Knightly Vows

December 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Zoom Access Link

<https://scottishrite.zoom.us/j/84288870587?pwd=dUFRYU9Zc1lkVctKMnlnCBIOXpQZz09>



Participation of:

- **REGC Cirilo Marquez, Grand Commander**
- **Reverend Sir Knight Raymond Davies, Grand Prelate**



The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

October 2, 2020 Vol 5, Issue 9

Please fill out the Mailchimp Survey you received in your e-mail if you were a Triennial Attendee. Your feedback is very appreciated. Triennial Replay Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQIOSaAPv7w&t=14589s>



General Grand Master: Fraternal Greetings [Read More...](#)



Triennial Highlights, Tech, 48th Triennial GGR Office [Read More...](#)



General Grand Council Youtube Channel [Read More...](#)

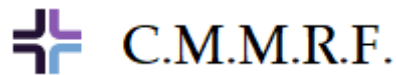


Grand York Rite Utah Educational Series: October 5 [Read More...](#)



Our Place in the Picture [Read More...](#)

Just a LATTE a Month



\$5 per Month Works Miracles!

Our Goal: 1000 Participants

Give up a coffee a month **or more** to help medical research through the Cryptic Masons Medical Research Foundation.

You can make a step to support our Masonic Charity by setting up recurring giving here:

<https://www.crypticmasons.org/cmmrf/donate-now>

CALENDARS

We have remodeled and are updating our calendaring system. Check it out!

[NATIONAL CALENDAR](#)

Rather see a listing by category (and including local events that are reported to us):

[CMMRF EVENTS](#)

[CONFERENCE EVENTS](#)

[GRAND YORK RITE EVENTS](#)

[GRAND LODGE EVENTS](#)

[FESTIVAL EVENTS](#)

Don't see your event here?

Please let us know!

(You must have an account on the website. All events will be reviewed and verified before publishing.)

[SUBMIT EVENTS](#)



Build Wisely, Build Strongly, Build Beautifully [Read More...](#)

The Decryption - News from Cryptic Masons International

October 8, 2020 Vol 5, Issue 10



Meet the General Grand Master
[Read More...](#)



North Central Region Happenings
[Read More...](#)



Nebraska's First Degree Conferral Since COVID
[Read More...](#)

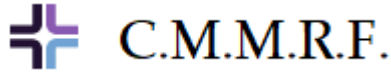


Grand York Rite Utah Educational Series: October 14
[Read More...](#)



Why We Work [Read More...](#)

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AWARDS

The following individuals have been recognized with Cryptic Awards recently. Articles regarding the presentation are linked to each name.

- [Dennis Tuttle, NH, CMY](#)
- [David Walters, NH, FRA](#)
- [Tom Tsirimokos, NH, OSV](#)
- [Ron Crane, NH, Ish Sodi](#)
- [Tom Ladd, NH, 20 Yr](#)
- [Tom Ladd, NH, FRA](#)
- [Dave Collins, NH, 20 Yr](#)
- [Dave Collins, NH, FRA](#)
- [Paul Leary, NH, 20 Yr](#)
- [Dennis Sheridan, NH, 40 Yr](#)
- [Ed Lewis, NH, 40 Yr](#)

[All Recognition News Articles](#)

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[SUBMIT EVENTS](#)



Troubles in Life [Read More...](#)



Appointments & Titles for the 48th
[Read More...](#)



Meet the Deputy General Grand
Master [Read More...](#)



Free, Easy Ways to Give CMMRF
[Read More...](#)

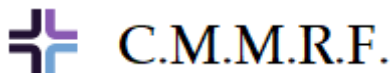


Passing of MI Kevin Christians,
PMIGM of Iowa [Read More...](#)



Arizona's Barnabas Award
[Read More...](#)

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[All Recognition News Articles](#)

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[SUBMIT EVENTS](#)



Janus [Read More...](#)



Meet the General Grand Treasurer
[Read More...](#)



General Grand Chapter Triennial
Registration [Read More...](#)



Passing of MIC Victor S. Versace
[Read More...](#)



Passing of MIC Lionel Hunter
1943-2020 [Read More...](#)

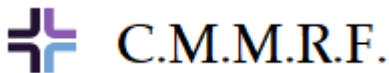


Be Part of the Buzz [Read More...](#)



The Holy Scripture [Read More...](#)

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