

March 2021 Grand Prelates Reflection

Sir Knights;

The Mississippi River floods every year. The tributaries that feed into the river lose the ice that covers them. As the Earth moves towards spring in the Northern Hemisphere, the ice melts and the water is carried downstream. Thousands of acres of land are covered in water and sediment. Many lose their homes. Some lose their lives. It happens every year.

During the past year and up to the present time, some might say that we are witnessing a flood as never seen before. As of this writing, five hundred thousand people, in the United States alone, have died from COVID. Many businesses have closed their doors. Many have not seen family or friends for extended periods of time. Schools have experienced things the like of which have never been experienced before. The list of things can go on and on. It would be an easy thing to do. As we have long heard, "Misery loves company".

As Christians, the challenge is to find God at a time when it appears that evil is at work in the world. When so many are affected by problems, it would be easy to throw in the towel, kick back and simply try to survive. Who could blame someone for doing that?

Imagine what Jesus thought when he entered the Temple and saw the money changers all over the building. The religious leaders were doing all they could to validate who they were and did not truly engage the believers. It would have been very easy for him to do nothing. Instead, he proceeded to overturn the tables. He set about to right the wrongs. And, he taught at a time when some were not of the mind to listen. That did not stop him. His ministry continued.

In life, we are confronted by difficult times. Granted, they may not encompass the world. But, we see problems nonetheless. Imagine if our ancestors did not move forward after the Spanish Flu Pandemic. What would life have been like if our country did not respond after the attack on Pearl Harbor or the attacks on our Allies? Have you thought about the "what-ifs" if we did nothing following the 9-11 attacks? In each case, our country took a collective breath and moved on. Life did not stop. It continued and flourished.

The Mississippi does flood every year. With the flood waters comes the nutrient rich sediment that is so needed by the farmers. If we take a look, we can see how the folk have been responding to the COVID pandemic. Many have helped to lift others up. They may have given food and shelter. In many, there is a greater sense of caring for our fellow man. Have you noticed that there has been a decrease in the cases of the regular flu this year? That may be due to the fact that we are wearing masks, keeping socially distant and washing our hands. There is good taking place in the world. We might have to take a look. It is there.

As Knights Templar, let us never stop looking for the good in our world. When we have trouble finding it, let us resolve, as our Lord did, to create our good. Keep the faith and keep fighting for the good. Until next month, may God's Love be always with you.

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