

MESSAGE FROM THE LAP TOP

LIVE JESUS IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER!

Greetings Family of HNOJ:

As we continue to get used to “Phased Openings” and “Levels of Parish” reopening, we have been exposed to something else that has gripped our nation over this past month. The tragic period of time, that we have been witness to, all started in Minneapolis with the sad event of George Floyd. I will admit, I have not seen the video of the situation but have heard various media descriptions of what took place. I can venture a guess that you who are dedicated and hardworking police officers have your own opinions about the situation but should agree that the amount of restraint was beyond the norm for a person who has been restrained with cuffs and other means. Much ink has been spread across the nation in comment and protest. What has been taking place recently has gone way beyond the norm of public order and décor. I am a student of history. I enjoyed it all throughout my education, US and World history and I relish the courses that we received in the seminary that taught us the vast wealth of Church History, both local and across the world. I am having a great problem with this “blood lust” desire the present generation has in seeking to **ERADICATE** all representations of past and history because of the “perceived” notion that these images, and other representations, personify glorification of evils that this generation seems to think we have risen above.

What is the focus of history? I am of the opinion that it allows us to look back to events that have formed the world and nations according to the standards of the time as perceived. It happened; we cannot stand at this point in time and rip away the story of our past. This move by the uneducated mobs of today in bringing down statues, renaming offending facilities and more is completely ridiculous in my opinion. If I can put a scriptural tinge to this whole situation, I believe Jesus has taught us a valuable lesson from Matthew’s gospel in the 8th chapter which records the incident of the woman caught in adultery. What did Jesus say to the gathered crowds when they pressed Him for a determination on the woman’s fate; “**Let the one who is without sin be the first to cast a stone at her.**” What makes our age so different from the past ages to justify the lawless desecration of public and private symbols of this nation’s past. This ultra-liberal, secular and irrational approach to the issues of today is misguided and illogical. The great leaders of the Civil Rights movement, Martin Luther King Jr and his associates did not attack statuary and the likes. He preached, he marched, he dialogued, he taught to change the heart of the nation, not desecrate as the unguided mobs do today.

The problem with today’s movement is that there is not one level head that is seeking to guide the response to the situation of Minneapolis and the whole race issue it has sparred. There seems to be an up swell of emotion without any rational reflection upon the actions thus far. This is what happens when you throw history out the door and come up with perceived reasons that are unguided by a voice and leader of reason. History Matters! If this insanity continues, how are we to going to be able to avoid repeating mistakes from coming around to bite us in future generations? Right now, there is another situation of slavery that no one is rallying against. **HUMAN TRAFFICKING** is the new form of slavery that is the dirty issue of our time. The **GENOCIDE OF THE UNBORN CHILD** has been the black mark upon the past decades that has prevented **MILLIONS OF UNHEARD VOICES** that may have lent some sanity to this time of insanity. **ERRADICATE THE PAST; RIDICULOUS! LET’S DEAL WITH THE PRESENT AND MOVE FORWARD TO MAKE OUR OWN PLACE IN HISTORY!!!!**

Quick word in support of this year’s Annual Cardinal’s Appeal. We are within reach of our \$23,000.00 goal. 64 families have pledged roughly \$20,000.00+. I know these are difficult times. All I can do is encourage your support when the mailing comes. Thank you to the 64; can you add your family to this number?

That is all for now. **GO FORTH AND ANNOUNCE THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. MANY BLESSINGS FOR THE WEEK!!!!**

Fr. Mike