

Message from the Rector

Dear People of God,

Summer heat is certainly upon us! Yet, despite the hot weather COVID-19 refuses to release its grip on us. We keep praying – “How long, oh Lord?” I still like the great one line I found three weeks ago: “Tough times never last. Tough people do.” With the help and grace of God, we will get through this pandemic. Never give up! God is with us. During this time of stress, we need to continue caring and uplifting each other.

Many years ago, I was speaking with a woman in the midst of a divorce. She made a profound comment I’ll always remember. As I was listening, she was reflecting upon her life and stated: “In life, change is inevitable, but growth is optional.” I have thought often of her statement over the years. Many times we fight change – we want things as they were – don’t rock the boat! Yet, life around and within us is always changing. I share with you some statistics that were given to me. Enjoy the following ponder pass on

The Year 1903

The year is 1903 what a difference 117 years make!

Here are some of the statistics for 1903:

- The average life expectancy in the U.S. was 47 years.
- Only 14 percent of the homes in the U.S. had a bathtub.
- Only 8 percent of the homes had a telephone.
- A three minute phone call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.
- There were only 8,000 cars in the U.S. and only 114 miles of paved roads.
- The maximum speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The average wage in the U.S. was 22 cents an hour.
- The average worker made between \$200 and \$400 per year.

- A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2,000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- More than 95 percent of all births in the U.S. took place at home.
- 90 percent of all U.S. physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as “substandard.”
- Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were 14 cents a dozen. Coffee cost 15 cents a pound.
- Most women only washed their hair once a month and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country for any reason.
- The five leading causes of death in the U.S. were: 1. Pneumonia and influenza. 2. Tuberculosis. 3. Diarrhea. 4. Heart disease. 5. Stroke.
- The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada, was 30.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer and iced tea hadn't been invented.
- There was no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- One in ten U.S. adults couldn't read or write.
- Only six percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

So as we live our life – live one day at a time centering life in God – and may our lives always reflect Gospel values rooted in Jesus Christ. Enjoy the gift of life – one day at a time!

Summer blessings,
Fr. Greg

Cartoon on next page

Humor from the Rector



“Did you hear about the Amish couple
married only one week?
He was driving her buggy!”