

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ June 2020
A Ministry of the Marianites of Holy Cross

Potatoes, Eggs, and Coffee Beans

Once upon a time a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it. She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed that just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed. Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot. He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter, moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing.

As he turned the fire off and looked in the pots, the daughter asked: "Father, what does this mean?"

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity – the boiling water. However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and tender. The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard. The ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new. "Which are you," he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? Perhaps you will be each one at different times. Life happens all around us; what matters most is what happens within us."

This story offers us the opportunity to pause and reflect as we make our journeys in the midst of Covid-19. Life is, indeed, happening all around us; however, what is happening within us. Are our hearts becoming more tender and compassionate toward ourselves and others or is there a hardness of heart causing us to be selfish and self-centered? Are we striving to create something new and life-giving in the midst of these challenges? What is happening within us?

Celebrating Birthdays in June

Sr. J DeLoach	6/03
M. Johnson	6/05
J. Lafleur	6/15
M. Langlois	6/25
M. Montelaro	6/18
M. Myers	6/20
H. Roger	6/11
J. Roth	6/29
N. Stelly	6/27
B. Zachary	6/06

Father's Day – Sunday, June 21st

The first known Father's Day service occurred in Fairmont, West Virginia, on July 5, 1908, thanks to the efforts of Grace Golden Clayton. The service was to honor all fathers, especially those hundreds of men who were killed the previous year during a devastating mine explosion in Monongah (just a few miles from Fairmont, West Virginia). However, the observance did not become an annual event, and it was not promoted as very few outside the local area knew about it.

In 1909, Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington, also was inspired to create a holiday honoring our fathers. William Jackson Smart, her father, was a farmer and Civil War veteran who raised Sonora and her five younger brothers alone. His wife, Ellen, died giving birth to their youngest child in 1898. While attending a Mother's Day church service in 1909, Sonora, then 27, came up with the idea.

Within a few months, Sonora had convinced the Spokane Ministerial Association and the YMCA to set aside a Sunday in June to celebrate fathers. She proposed June 5, her father's birthday, but the ministers chose the third Sunday in June so that they would have more time after Mother's Day (the second Sunday in May) to prepare their sermons. So it was, that on June 19, 1910, Sonora delivered presents to handicapped fathers, boys from the YMCA decorated their lapels with fresh-cut roses and the city's ministers devoted their homilies to fatherhood. The history of the celebration continued –

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson and his family personally observed the day.

Eight years later, President Calvin Coolidge signed a resolution in favor of Father's Day "to establish more intimate relations between fathers and their children and to impress upon fathers the full measure of their obligations."

In 1966, President Lyndon Johnson signed an executive order that the holiday be celebrated on the third Sunday in June.

Under President Richard Nixon, in 1972, Congress passed an act officially making Father's Day a national holiday.

Six years later, Sonora Dodd died at age 96. Thank you, Sonora Dodd, for gifting us with this special day to honor all fathers living and deceased.

Prayer for Fathers –

Dear Heavenly Father we entrust into your loving hands all those we call "father" --

We pray for fathers who strive to be a faithful and wise presence in their families; for fathers who keep vigil at the bedside of a sick child; for fathers who search for a lost child; for fathers far away from family and friends; for fathers in the military; for fathers who search for employment; for fathers who are in danger; for fathers who are homeless; for fathers who are in prison; for men who yearn to be a father and have no children; for fathers who have died and who we continue to hold close in our hearts.

Happy Father's Day to all!

Recently Deceased Residents

Ann Marie Savoie 5/05/2020

Sr. Martha Joan Herpin, MHS 5/07/2020

Frances Venable 5/09/2020

May they be embraced in the Lord's peace and joy!



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