

Daily Message from Msgr. Dennis...

**Thursday, May 21, 2020 ~ Sixth Week of Easter
St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions, Martyrs**



Readings: Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20

Dear Parishioners:

Today the Church celebrates the Memorial of St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions. He and 21 diocesan priests and three laymen were either shot or hanged for their association with the *Cristero* uprising which opposed the anti-Catholic Mexican (Masonic) government in the 1920's. The Masonic influenced government of Mexico, supported and financed a great deal by the administration of President Woodrow Wilson, himself an anti-Catholic Mason, stripped the Catholic Church in Mexico of all of its rights and most of its schools and properties, other than church buildings. The *Cristero* movement arose to combat this virulently anti-Catholic movement but was ruthlessly suppressed. The Motto of the *Cristero* Movement was "Long live Christ the King and the Virgin of Guadalupe!" As a result, one of the government restrictions against the Church was that it became illegal for priests and nuns to wear identifiable religious garb publicly. They could only wear religious garb within the confines of Church property. This became a major issue in Mexican politics during the visit of St. Pope John Paul II to Mexico in 1979. Was the government going to forbid the pope to wear his cassock? After all, it was Catholic, religious garb. When the Holy Father wore his cassock publicly in Mexico it encouraged priests and nuns to do the same which effectively ended the ban. Masons are not friends of Catholics. In fact, by law established by the Code of Canon Law of 1918 a Catholic who joined the Masons was automatically excommunicated. That was in effect until the revised Code of Canon Law of 1983 which failed to mention this, but a subsequent amendment, while not forbidding Masonic membership to Catholics under penalty of excommunication, strongly discouraged it. To this day Catholics are discouraged from becoming Masons. Some think we have it really hard with the current restrictions against attending Mass during the COVID-19 pandemic. What we are enduring is temporary and we know it will come to an end. What we have today is nothing, *nothing*, compared to what our Catholic neighbors to the south went through in our living memory.

When Will we open again for Mass? Signs are looking good that it will be sooner rather than later. However, get ready for health protocols. Be sure you have face masks because everyone who comes to Mass will have to wear one. No mask, No Mass. Be ready for social distancing in seating and communion lines, not using hymnals and no congregational singing, communion ONLY in the hand (regardless of personal piety or custom). Again, these are temporary measures until society at large can be assured of the health and safety of everyone. Again, we don't know when will be allowed to celebrate public Mass again but we're getting ready for when we do.

A Little Humor

- The sheepdog said to the shepherd: "That's 40 sheep." The Shepherd said "What? We should only have 37!" "I know," said the sheepdog; "I rounded them up."
- Husband: "Oh no! Our neighbor died!" Wife: "Who, Ray?" Husband: "I don't think cheering is appropriate, darling."
- A harried mother said: "I am home schooling. The first day I tried to get my kid transferred out of my class."

LESSONS FROM THE SEAT OF A FARMER'S TRACTOR

"It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge."
"Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway."

COURTROOM QUOTES:

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse? WITNESS: No. ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure? WITNESS: No. ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing? WITNESS: No. ATTORNEY: So, then, it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy? WITNESS: No. ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor? WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar. ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless? WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

A RIDDLE: (From Yesterday):

What is thick at the top and thin at the bottom, grows in the winter but not in the summer? ANSWER: An icicle
(For Today) I'm essential to flight, but can't fly on my own; I move the air to make the lift, but I'm not made, I'm grown. What am I? (answer tomorrow).

Very Rev. Msgr. Dennis L. Mikulanis

San Rafael Parish

17252 Bernardo Center Drive, San Diego, CA 92128 ~ Phone: (858)487-4314 Fax: (858)487-1498
www.sanrafaelparish.org ~ Facebook: @SanRafaelCatholicChurch