

The Saint Raphael Link

Some Periodic Ramblings of the Prior

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Dear Members,

There was once a sales representative, an administration clerk, and the company manager who left their office together for

lunch. On the way to the restaurant, they found a battered old oil lamp, which had been discarded. They decide to rub it – when lo and behold a Genie came out.

The Genie said, “I’ll give each of you just one wish” “Me first! Me first!” said the administration clerk. “I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world.” –

Poof! The wish was granted.

“Me next! Me next!” said the sales representative. “I want to be in Hawaii, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas and the love of my life.” –

Poof! The wish was granted.

“OK, you’re next,” the Genie said to the manager. So the manager said, “I want those two back in the office immediately after lunch.” –

The moral of this short story then could also be applied to today’s scripture in Saint Matthew’s Gospel.

As a youngster, one of my favourite Bible stories was the gospel account of Jesus walking on the water ^(Matthew 14:22-33). It

took place just after the five thousand had been fed.

Jesus sent His disciples away, aboard a small sailing craft, to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. He sent them away, because He knew that the people would not leave him as long as the disciples were still around. The disciples didn’t really want to leave without Jesus, but they eventually left out of pure obedience. Then He dismissed the crowd and went alone up into a mountain to pray.

Jesus knew that the crowd wanted to make Him their king, because they believed that He was the Messiah. They wanted a Messiah that would be a conqueror, assume political leadership, and release them from the yoke of Roman rule. Jesus understood the situation, so He slipped away to the mountains to pray.

Scripture reveals that when Jesus prayed, He prayed alone, and He prayed often and for a long time. That should be an example for each one of us; we also need to find a secret place of prayer.

In the meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble at sea, but it was only a small sample of the hardships, that lay ahead for them. In the future, when they went out to preach the Gospel, they would be met with hostility and persecution. Each one of us should be comforted by the knowledge that when we are

experiencing a storm in life, the Master is in Heaven, interceding for us.

Jesus remained alone in prayer for quite some time, because it was not until the following morning; the “forth watch of the night,” we are told, that He was next seen by the disciples. By this time, the boat was about three miles out on the Sea of Galilee when they encountered a sudden and quite a violent storm.

So it was then, that during the early hours of the morning they saw Jesus walking towards them; walking on the water. He had seen their desperate situation, and He was concerned for them, like a father who always cares for his children. So he came to them, walking on the water

What a great show of power and supreme control Jesus displayed over all nature; the water was under His feet and at His command. The disciples were nearly exhausted from rowing all night, and when they saw Him, they were afraid, because they thought they were seeing a ghost; but Jesus reassured them; He said, “It is I.” He didn’t have to identify Himself, because they knew His voice, which immediately calmed their fears.

And then, we can see Peter’s great love for Christ; because he desired to go to Him. Did you notice that Peter didn’t say to Jesus, “Let me walk on the water with you,” as if he wanted to be part of a miracle; No, he simply asked, “Let me come to you.”

Here we can see Peter’s strong faith and utter determination, because he stepped out on the water when Christ said, “Come.” He left the safety of the boat, even willing to slip into the depths of the sea, which he had just a few minutes earlier dreaded. Those actions by Saint

Peter demonstrated a very strong dependence upon the power and Word of God.

Christ didn’t ask Peter to come to Him just so he could walk on water, it was in fact, because Jesus knew that Peter would sink. So, Jesus had calculated that Peter needed to know Christ’s power and his own weakness, and through this, Peter’s faith would be increased.

The cause of Peter’s fear was the wind and waves, which he didn’t see until he took his eyes off Christ. When he kept his eyes on Christ, it was easy for him to walk on the water; but when he looked away and saw that he was in danger, he was afraid and began to sink. And it was only then when he cried out, “Lord save me”.

Even though the disciples were in trouble at sea; it would only be a small sample of the hardships that lay ahead of them. In the future, when they went out to preach the Gospel, they would be met with hostility and persecution.

Never fear, God keeps a tight hold-on to His own even though Peter was scolded for his lack of faith.”

When Christ came into the boat, Peter came with Him, and very shortly afterwards they found themselves safely at the shore. Without even speaking a word, the instant Jesus stepped onto the boat, the storm immediately ceased. What a sharp contrast this was from His previous encounter with nature, where He spoke to the elements, “Peace, be still.”

Sometimes as Christians, we can forget that Christ has the power to still the storms in each of our lives, particularly when we avert our eyes or turn our backs

on Him. But what we should never forget is that we should always let God have the last say.

The clerk, the sales representative were both quick to make their wishes, but the manager waited for the appropriate time to make his wish.

Perhaps we too should be prepared to be less hasty and wait for the many storms of life to cease. Then when all is peaceful, we should welcome Christ back into our lives.

I will try to let "MY BOSS" have the last say in my life – How about you?

Amen.

+Geoffrey – GRAND PRIOR

SICK: Paul Shaw / Sheila Hogarth / Ruth Barr / Lesley Fudge / Thelma Thompson / Charlotte Park / Nicole Vendettuoli / Ivor MacFarlane / Clarice Shaw / Tony Kirby / Sally Hayes / Bishop Gerard & Pam Crane / Brian & Brigitte Duffett / Archbishop Norman & Dorothy Dutton / Eileen Duffy / Marjorie Hooley / Harry Shaw / Ian Weatherall / Lilian King / Luish Sao / William (Bill) Collier / Geoff Lamb / Bev & Barrie Chester / Chris McKenna / Barbara Lee / Johnny & Pat Williamson / Lesley & Mick / Alice Beer / Joan & David Howe / Mary Ayrton / Alison Marshall / Janet Illingworth / Shelley Coulter / Una Kirby / Graham & his father (Coward) / Bro Adrian / Thelma Dunkley / Joanne Corbett / Irene Solley / Linda Webster / Jackson Amick / George Fitzwilliam / Sylvia Holgate | Mary Reuben.

Please note that the above list has undergone a recent revision. If you would like anyone adding, please let the Prior know.

Guess the Locations

1. The British Museum | 2. Westminster Abbey Quire

Cook's Corner:



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 boneless, skinless turkey breasts
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 4 tbsp. butter
- 1 c. panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 c. thyme leaves
- 3 tbsp. sage
- 2 c. parsley leaves
- 6 clove garlic
- 1/2 tsp. red pepper flakes
- 1/4 c. vegetable oil

METHOD

1. Butterfly breasts crosswise, being sure not to cut all the way through. Place a piece of plastic wrap over one open breast, and pound to a rectangle about 12" x 14" (1/4" thick). Season with salt and pepper. Repeat with remaining breast. You want your turkey to be uniform in thickness, this will make it easier to roll.
2. Melt butter in a large skillet, add panko and toast until golden brown. Transfer to a food processor, then add thyme, sage, parsley and garlic and process until finely chopped. Season with red pepper flakes, salt, and pepper.
3. Pat the turkey breast dry, sprinkle half of the garlic-herb mixture evenly over the breast and begin to roll up tightly like a

jelly roll. Secure the roll with kitchen twine. Repeat with the second breast.

4. Rub the roulades all over with vegetable oil and transfer to parchment lined baking sheets.

5. Bake at 375° until an instant read thermometer inserted into the thickest part of the roulade reads 160°, about 1 hour. Let cool 20 minutes before slicing.

Why do Churches have Gargoyles?



Gargoyles came into gothic architecture in the early 13th century and are defined as "a waterspout, projecting from an upper part of a building or a roof gutter to throw

water clear of walls or foundations." The origins of the word 'gargoyle' are derived from the old French word 'gargouille' meaning throat. In Architectural terms only the creature serving as actual water spout is called a Gargoyle, otherwise is it known as a Grottesque. A grotesque may function solely as decoration.

Gargoyles were usually carved in the form of a grotesque face, figure or frightening creature projecting from a roof gutter. Gargoyles were painted and some were even gilded. Gargoyles might depicted any number of grotesque images including: Ugly human faces, Animals, Mythical creatures, Imaginary creatures.

The materials used for the earliest Gargoyles were made of wood or even terracotta but early Medieval Gothic gargoyles were made of stone. Later gargoyles, especially in churches, were predominantly limestone and marble, although metals such as lead were also

used in fashioning some gargoyles. Stone gargoyles were carved on the ground and then put into place when the building was almost at the point of completion.

Stone Gargoyles in Medieval Architecture

Gargoyles are a fascinating element of Medieval Architecture. These frightening, grotesque sculptures are most often associated with Medieval Churches and Cathedrals but they were also used to great effect in English Gothic castles.

Gargoyles are frightening and intimidating sculptures - perfect for the likes of great lords who built elaborate fortresses and castles in order to crush and intimidate the indigenous population. However, whilst gargoyles were included in the construction of many medieval buildings, they seem to be most prevalent on churches.

The first is a practical purpose - gargoyles provided a method of drainage which protected the stones and the mortar of churches, cathedrals and castles from erosion. The number of Gargoyles added to buildings were numerous because dividing the flow of water minimized potential water damage. The second purpose of gargoyles was as 'guardians' of the buildings in the form of abstract symbols designed to represent, and to ward off evil.

Gargoyles all have a common theme, they are carved with big wide-open mouths. Whilst this was a practical, functional and necessary requirement of gargoyles creatures and images with mouths wide open are symbolic of devouring giants. And lets be honest, how could Medieval stone masons make anything look beautiful when it has to be displayed with a big wide-open mouth!

Gargoyles History dates back to antiquity. Gargoyles can be found in Ancient Egyptian, Ancient Roman and Ancient Greek architecture although they are most commonly associated with Medieval Gothic architecture. Ancient history, myths, legends and pagan religions abound with stories of frightening and fantastic creatures.

Perhaps the Medieval church wanted to convey a terrifying impression of hell and enforce that there was safety and sanctity inside the church.

Facts about the Church

Saint Ignatius of Antioch first used the word "Catholic" around the year A.D. 110.

It is from the Greek word *katholikos*, which means "toward the whole." Ignatius was suggesting that the Church is a gift offered by Christ to all people.

The incense used in the Church symbolizes prayers rising to heaven. It is also used to bless and purify

A Saints Day in September



According to the untrustworthy life of Ninian by St. Aelred, he was the son of a converted chieftain of the Cumbrian Britons, studied at Rome, was ordained, was consecrated a bishop and returned to evangelize his native Britain. He had his own church built by masons from St. Martin's Monastery in Tours, which became known as The Great Monastery and was the centre of his missionary activities.

From it Ninian and his monks evangelized neighbouring Britons and the

Picts of Valentia. Ninian was known for his miracles, among them curing a chieftain of blindness, which cure led to many conversions.

His feast day is September 16.

Guess the Locations



1.

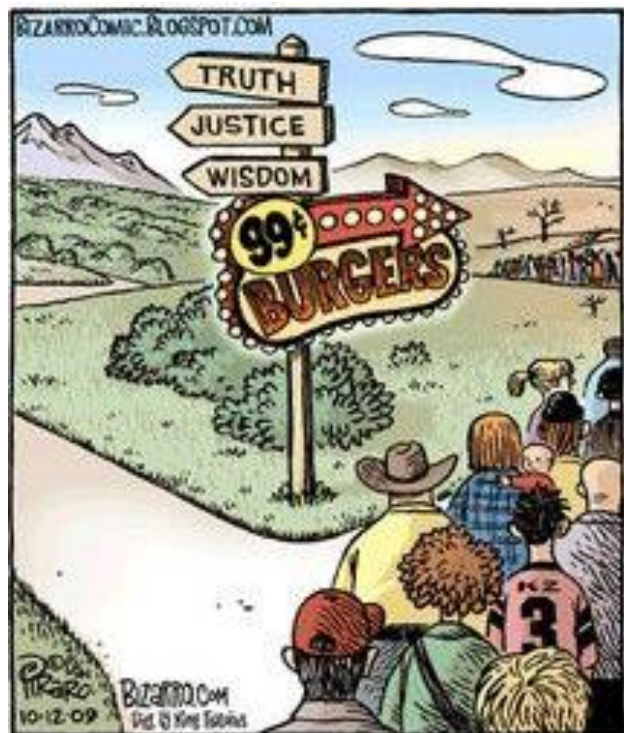


2.



Do you not know? Have you not heard?
 The LORD is the everlasting God, the
 Creator of the ends of the earth. He will
 not grow tired or weary, and his
 understanding no one can fathom.
 He gives strength to the weary and
 increases the power of the weak.
 Even youths grow tired and weary, and
 young men stumble and fall;
 but those who hope in the LORD will
 renew their strength. They will soar on
 wings like eagles; they will run and not
 grow weary, they will walk and
 not be faint.

Isaiah 40: 28-31



Humble yourselves, therefore, under
 God's mighty hand, that he may lift you
 up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on
 him because he cares for you.

1 Peter 5:6-7

“Dear brothers and sisters, when any kind
 of trouble comes your way, consider it an
 opportunity for great joy. For you know
 that when your faith is tested, your
 endurance has a chance to grow. So let it
 grow, for when your endurance is fully
 developed, you will be perfect and
 complete, needing nothing.” –

James 1:2-4

The Rule of Six

The rules on who you can meet will
 change on Monday 14 September. –
 Please remember in your prayers all who
 will find this new legislation difficult to
 cope with.

Stay safe



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 Chivalric Order of
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