

Friday, May 29th - Coping with Covid - Morning

Laugh it off: Sylvester Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger are talking about their long careers as action heroes. Arnold says, "I wish I could be taken seriously as an actor." Stallone says, "We should do a serious film and music really moves people. Can we do something about music?" Schwarzenegger agrees. "We could do classical music. You're Italian; you could play an Italian composer." Sylvester says, "I'll play Vivaldi!" Schwarzenegger says, "I'll be Bach."

God's Comfort: Prov 27:20-22 20 Death and Destruction are never satisfied, and neither are human eyes. 21 The crucible for silver and the furnace for gold, but people are tested by their praise. 22 Though you grind a fool in a mortar, grinding them like grain with a pestle, you will not remove their folly from them. **Psalm 143:1-6** 1 Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief. 2 Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you. 3 The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground; he makes me dwell in the darkness like those long dead. 4 So my spirit grows faint within me; my heart within me is dismayed. 5 I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done. 6 I spread out my hands to you; I thirst for you like a parched land.

Pray Daily – God is easy to talk to:

Dear Lord, not to us, not to us, but to you goes all the glory for your unfailing love and faithfulness. I don't let people say, "Where is your God?" I know you reign in the heavens and do as you wish. Their gods are idols. They have mouths but cannot speak, and eyes but cannot see. Thank you that you bless those who fear you, both great and lowly. Amen.

National Day Today (May 29):

Composting Day, Heat Awareness Day, United Nations Peacekeepers Day, Coq Au Vin Day, Pink Flamingo Day, Digestive Health Day.

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Question Mark (*Polygonia interrogationis*). A silvery question mark on the underside of its mottled hind wings gives this member of the Anglewing group of the Brush-footed Butterflies its name. The edges of its wings look ragged and often have a purple hue. Able to lay its eggs in

any number of trees, particularly elms, the Question Mark is able to thrive in many places east of the Rocky Mountains, from Canada to Mexico. The adults frequently feed on fermented fruit, leading sometimes to the butterflies' becoming intoxicated!

Friday, May 29th - Coping with Covid - Noon

Laugh it off: I was on the table for my surgery. As I felt the anesthetic start to kick in, I said, 'I have a joke'. 'Better be quick!' the anesthetist said. 'Do you know what the key to comedy is?' Then I smiled and passed out. When I woke up a couple of hours later, I asked the nurse to tell the anesthetist my answer: 'timing'.

God's Comfort: Matthew 14:34-36, 15:10-14 34 When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret. 35 And when the men of that place recognized Jesus, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought all their sick to him 36 and begged him to let the sick just touch the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed. ... 15:10 Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen and understand. 11 What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them." 12 Then the disciples came to him and asked, "Do you know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this?" 13 He replied, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be pulled up by the roots. 14 Leave them; they are blind guides. If the blind lead the blind, both will fall into a pit."

Historical Perspective (May 29): 1453 - Byzantine Empire ends as Constantinople falls. **1736** - Patrick Henry born. **1848** - Wisconsin - 30th state. **1874** - G. K. Chesterton born. **1903** - Bob Hope born. **1910** - Pilot Glenn Curtiss wins race with train - Albany to NYC. **1917** - JFK born. **1953** - Edmund Hillary/Sherpa Tenzing Norgay conquer Mount Everest. **1962** - Buck (John) O'Neil - first black coach MLB - Chicago Cubs. **1913** - Igor Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring" premiered. **1942** - Bing Crosby/Ken Darby Singers record "White Christmas." **1956** - LaToya Jackson born. **1958** - Annette Bening born. **1959** - Ray Charles, B.B. King, and Jimmy Reed perform one of the first outdoor rock festivals. **1982** - "Eye of the Tiger" released by Survivor.

Writing for Fun: Limericks and light verse are fun. You get to rhyme and be clever and silly all at the same time. Start your limerick by having someone else give you the first line.

| Sample Limerick/Light Verse: | Your Limerick/Light Verse: |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| There once was a man named Jake Whose predilection for cake Made him large and round Producing a smacking sound Whenever he fell into the lake. | |
| There once was a girl with a curl right in the middle of her forehead. And when she was good, she was very good, and when she was bad she was horrid. – Shel Silverstein | |

Friday, May 29th - Coping with Covid - Supper

Laugh it off: There was a comedy club called "The Joke" that was amazing popular, but it wasn't because of comedians on stage. It was due to the extremely delicious fruit punch that the place sold. It was so popular that people would queue around the block just to try the stuff. After a while, however, people stopped coming because of the crowding, and the club went out of business. If only the Joke's punch line hadn't so long...

God's Comfort: Genesis 6:7-13 7 So the Lord said, "I will wipe from the face of the earth the human race I have created—and with them the animals, the birds and the creatures that move along the ground—for I regret that I have made them." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord. 9 This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. 10 Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham and Japheth. 11 Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight and was full of violence. 12 God saw how corrupt the earth had become, for all the people on earth had corrupted their ways. 13 So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth."

Quotes/Other Wisdom:

"Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see." - C. S. Lewis

"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose." - Jim Elliot

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