



“Honoring Our Special Heroes”

May 2021

Honoring Mom's and Remembering the sacrifice of our brothers and sisters in Law Enforcement.

The month of May has a special day in it called 'Mother's Day', honoring those special women of our lives who proudly wear the title of Mom, AND all those special women in our lives who care for us and love us as our "Mom". I dedicate this month's column to these honored and special people with this lighthearted poem called,

"Why Moms Are Special"

Mom and Dad were sitting on the couch one evening, watching TV when Mom said, "I'm tired, and it's getting late. I think I'll go to bed." She went to the kitchen to make sandwiches for the next day's lunches. Rinsed out the popcorn bowls, took meat out of the freezer for supper the following evening, checked the cereal box levels, filled the sugar container, put spoons and bowls on the table and started the coffee pot for brewing the next morning.

She then put some wet clothes in the dryer, put a load of clothes into the washer, ironed a shirt and secured a loose button. She picked up the game pieces left on the table, put the phone back on the charger, and put the telephone book into the drawer. She watered the plants, emptied a wastebasket, and hung up a towel to dry. She yawned and stretched and headed for the bedroom. She stopped by the desk and wrote a note to the teacher, counted out some cash for the field trip, and pulled a text book out from hiding under the chair.

She signed a birthday card for a friend, addressed and stamped the envelope and wrote a quick note for the grocery store. She put both near her purse. Mom then washed her face with 3 in 1 cleanser, put on her Night solution & age fighting moisturizer, brushed and flossed her teeth and filed her nails.

Dad called out to Mom, "I thought you said, you were going to bed".

"I'm on my way," she said.

She put some water into the dog's dish and put the cat outside, then made sure the doors were locked and the patio light was on. She looked in on each of the kids and turned out their bedside lamps and TV's, hung up a shirt, threw some dirty socks into the hamper, and had a brief conversation with the one still up doing homework.

In her own room, she set the alarm; laid out clothing for the next day, straightened up the shoe rack. She added three things to her 6 most important things to do list. She said her prayers, and visualized the accomplishment of her goals.

About that time, Dad turned off the TV and announced to no one in particular. "I'm going to bed." And he did...without another thought (sounds like me, lol).

So If you are blessed with having a Mom in your life, please take a moment give her a call and tell her how much she means to you and how special she is, and how grateful you are to have her in your life! You are both blessed.

The month of May is also dedicated as being Police Memorial month. When we memorialize and remember those who served and lost their lives in the line of duty. We also honor and give our gratitude to all our men and women who go out every day under the most difficult of circumstances to do your holy work "To Serve and Protect". Please let me share with you the following thought.....

The story of "The Starfish"

An old man had a habit of taking early morning walks on the beach. One day, after a storm, he saw a human figure in the distance moving like a dancer. As he came closer, he saw that it was a young woman and she was not dancing but was reaching down to the sand, picking up a starfish and very gently throwing them into the ocean.

"Young lady," he asked", "Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?"

"The sun is up, and the tide is going out, and if I do not throw the starfish back in the ocean they will die."

"But young lady, do you not realize that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it? You cannot possibly make a difference."

The young woman listened politely, paused and then bent down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves, saying, "It made a difference for that one."

The old man looked at the young woman inquisitively and thought about what she had done. Inspired, he joined her in throwing starfish back into the sea. End of story.

Yes, to throw back all the starfish would be a monumental if not impossible task, but rather than being overwhelmed by the task, she took action. She threw one back, and then another, and another. That young woman made a difference to each and every starfish she threw back, even though they may have added up to only a tiny percentage of the washed-up, dying starfish. She did what she could.

How often do we look at some of our problems and feel paralyzed because it seems overwhelming? How often do we detach ourselves and think it is not our problem? Bureaucracy, politics, war, violence, poverty...the list goes on. It is so easy to get stuck in helplessness, passivity, cynicism, but yet it's OUR world.

So instead of thinking about what you can't do, consider what you can do. What is the smallest action you can take? It might even be just a small act of kindness to a friend or stranger as simple as bringing a smile to someone who desperately needs one. Maybe it's a personal challenge that you need, to rock yourself out of complacency.

Look at a problem in your life, one that seems insurmountable, and think of the tiniest action you can take, and just do it. Because YOU DO MAKE a bigger difference than you think, to those whom you assist in time of need. Remember the quote "to the whole world you might be one person, but to one person you might be the world".

As we honor our brothers and sisters who have given the ultimate sacrifice and all our disabled officers. Let us also remember and be proud of all the men and women who go out every day and put their lives on the line and proudly wear the badge of honor 'The Proud, The Few, The Men and Women in Blue". Especially now in these unprecedented times, each of you ALWAYS respond to the calls for service regardless of the nature of the call, and for that we are MOST grateful.

On behalf of the Chaplains Unit (312-746-8458). May G-d bless you today and always. Amen.

Should you need a shoulder to lean on, an ear to listen or perhaps have some good humor to share, please do not hesitate to give us a call. All our contact information is your FOP book or on our website: www.chicagopcm.org

Compliments of your Police Chaplain

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