

BATTLEFIELD LETTER ONE:  
LET THE NATIONS TREMBLE

Dear Parishioners,

In the midst of the hellish coronavirus crisis, in this sea of anxiety, tension and confusion, with the looming threat of social discord and perhaps marauding chaos engulfing us, there is still present amongst us the Living and True God and Author of Nature.

Jesus our Lord is still with us, He awaits us in the tabernacles that are nestled within our churches. He is with us when we gather “two or three together,” calling out to Him in our distress. He suffers with us and is ever near to us.

These terrible days present a profound opportunity for us to grow in holiness, to help one another, to become ever closer to God who awaits us on our last day.

We are faced with a bewildering spectacle of powers that have shown themselves capable of turning our lives upside down, cutting off our livelihoods, quarantining us, impeding our travel, controlling us, simultaneously frightening and reassuring us. The politicians and pundits never cease their contradictions and compulsive and repulsive howling and blaming and campaigning.

China, Iran, Europe, America and the world are groaning as if in some bizarre wrestling contest. Italy, loved by the entire world, is being crushed to death as we watch in horror. Russia appears eerily quiet, with nary a red dot to indicate its solidarity with the world in suffering.

Forces that are hard to comprehend are at play. Something wicked seems afoot. Have we been attacked? Is the world order about to come apart at the seams? Is this a passing pandemic soon to be defeated by our vigilance, social distancing and obsessive handwashing until our skin cracks and bleeds? Or is it something else, perhaps a chastisement and purification for our society’s acceptance of the Culture of Death, with all its blood and perversion?

Let the analysts work their charts, the scientists peer into their microscopes, the conspiracy theorists spin their webs. For this is no mere earthly crisis, it is truly a spiritual war.

In the face of it all we know that the powers of hell face an opponent that is not able to be toppled - the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. For she was founded by the God-Man Jesus Christ Whose solemn decree echoes through history: Lo, I am with you, unto the close of the Age...

Let the noxious sino-virus rage, let the nations tremble, let the principalities and powers work their evil designs. They have all been crushed by the God-Man, the True Lord of Lords and King of Kings.

Now is not the time to take flight. Now is the time to man the ramparts, to fill the breach, to take up the sword of the True Faith. We will remain standing even should the empires crumble.

May the glorious St. Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and together with her, intercede for us in this time of trial...

Father Francis de Rosa, Pastor

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