

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Sunday was Mother's Day and what a blessing to still have my 91 year-old mother. She's healthy, happy, has a sharp mind and is still active. My middle brother and his wife are back in Santa Rosa and were here to help Kathie and I celebrate "mom's" day. It almost feels normal to have family around. My younger brother called, wished the mom's, Kathie, Candy and Peggy, a happy Mother's Day and filled us in on what is going on with his family in Dallas, Texas. Like, every one of their plans are on hold, but are determined not to let that get them down.

Sunday, as I sat here and looked forward to our weekly Zoom meeting with the elected Grand Officers, I thought of those others who were dedicating a portion of their mother's day to meet and discuss our options to move our beautiful order forward. Their selflessness is truly inspiring!

Then I thought of all the families whose lives have been turned upside down and can't be with their mothers, and those families whose mothers are no longer with them except in fond memories. I sent up a special prayer asking the Lord to bless these families. Then I thought of sister Sabrina, who is giving so much of herself, not only for our order, but the several communities she assists with, then her own mother, our wonderful sister Sabra PGM, barely home from the hospital with pins in her hip, after a horse accident and, so I sent up another prayer for that family. These were private prayers and were not included in the prayer I wrote for our zoom meeting.

Private prayers are not necessarily thought out, but are more a feeling, a reaching out. They are not what you would ordinarily consider in your daily devotions, but come more from the heart, what you felt. Perhaps more powerful than words, thoughts, or expressions. It is said God is more a tuned to what is in our hearts and minds than to our thoughts and words.

In closing, sisters and brothers, as all Masons are admonished, "be ye' all of one mind, go in peace, and may the God of Love and Peace delight to dwell with and bless you".

Don Sultemeier WGP

