

## Mid-Week Message

May 27, 2020

During these trying times many people are tested. Clergy are no exception. Patience, mercy and compassion can wear very thin. Throw a huge amount of fear into the mix and anything can be possible. Unfortunately fear has taken a firm grip on some. The media has promoted that in an over-abundance. I know of many that are very fearful to leave their homes or interact with others or family. This pandemic is having a profound effect on the psyche of our nation. Keep an eye on your loved ones for stranger behaviour. The wife tells me I am crazy. I know that. I respond to her with, you have known this for seven years and you are still here. Who is the crazier one?

I will tell you a tale to keep the humour going. A few weeks ago I had a strange request. Strange requests are not unusual in our profession or in Kenora for that matter. I was mailing a letter at Shoppers and I greeted a lady I know for twenty five years. We exchanged niceties at a distance. After which she asked me if I still blessed homes and did exorcisms. Without dropping a beat I confidently said absolutely yes. I was full of mischief that morning and what could possibly go wrong.

This lady had a friend whose son had a problem with an active spirit. So I was getting the story third hand from the source. Stories of this nature take on a whole other life as they get retold. My sharp mind is racing and assessing the situation as she is talking. I have my suspicions about this whole situation. I am curious to hear more.

As the story goes, the son of her friend just purchased a house in Kenora. He and his children are living with his mother. This is due to the fact that the spirit is active there. Apparently it has the ability to move objects. Me being a fecal

agitator asked do things float in the air? Are tables and chairs violently thrashed around? What actually is moved? I got no answers. However the spirit has the man and his children freaked out. So I move on with my next question. Did the people he bought the house from have similar issues? My lady friend did answer this with a resounding no. She knew the people who sold the house. So I quickly concluded that the spirit only became active after this young man purchased this home. It seemed that my answers were becoming clearer. These type of situations are never as fantastic as Hollywood makes them out to be. Continuing to be a mischievous fecal agitator I told my lady friend to have this young man phone me up. We could make an appointment and exorcise this active spirit. I informed my lady friend that I have a high success rate in such matters. In the past exorcisms I have done I used about a gallon of Holy Water and a litre of Holy Oil. Well it has been about five weeks and not so much as a call from this young man with the active spirit. Maybe they worked things out and have an agreement.

Upon further investigation, I learned that this young man with the haunted house has a long history of mental illness. He was managing it very well for years. Unfortunately the current situation brought his issues forward to the point where he could not manage. I felt bad to have my suspicions confirmed. I suspect that there are many similar situations out there. Please be vigilant and keep an eye on your loved ones. Beetlejuice, Beetlejuice,..... God Bless, Pastor D