

Dear Friends of St. Lawrence,

Happy Memorial Day!

I understand that there isn't exactly a whole lot to be "happy" about given the current state of affairs in our world, but this holiday weekend really isn't about us per se; it's really about our soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen who laid down their lives for the sake of our beloved United States of America. We honor these brave men and women for having made the ultimate sacrifice in order that we might enjoy the many freedoms and liberties we have as Americans. God bless America, and God bless the souls of all of our men and women in uniform who died on the battlefields throughout the years and even centuries.

The Corona Virus has reared its ugly head over the last few months and has officially declared war on the world - to date, close to 100,000 Americans have lost their lives to the deadly effects of this heinous disease. Our political leaders have even gone as far as to say that we are at war with an invisible enemy - the enemy of Covid-19. This weekend, as we honor and salute our fallen heroes in the Armed Forces, it is also appropriate that we honor and salute our fallen men and women in the healthcare profession, as well as our first responders who have died as a direct result of having so courageously and selflessly placed themselves in harm's way to help the sick and the dying of this horrific pandemic. Because we are at war with Covid-19, it is absolutely fitting that we add the names of these heroic men and women to the list of our fallen brothers and sisters in uniform.

While we cannot celebrate Memorial Day as we usually would due to social distancing regulations and other state-mandated restrictions, I believe that we should still make an effort to celebrate in a way that brings reverence and tribute to the sacrifices and memories of our fallen heroes. May God bless and reward them for having protected our freedom and our way of life in the United States throughout the centuries and may they enjoy the fullness of everlasting life and splendor in The Father's precious Kingdom of Heaven!

God bless you and God bless America!

Happy Memorial Day,
~Fr. Eric