

Tuesday, January 31. 2017

Is This True?

Is it really the last day of January already?

What is happening?! Is time collapsing in upon itself?

I woke up and it was January 1st. I yawned and all of a sudden it's the last day of the month.

Well, the good part of all of that is my Disney vacation is that much closer. As a matter of fact, tomorrow morning, I go on line to reserve the Boardwalk for next January's vacation. I'm planning on staying down there January 1st through 12th, 2018.

Disney, here I come! (May be a bit premature, you say, but as fast as this month went, the other eleven will fly just as fast as well.)

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:41

Monday, January 30, 2017

Just A Little Humor

Just thought I'd throw a little humor into your life today. I saw this on Facebook earlier and just couldn't stop laughing:

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:53

Sunday, January 29. 2017

Catholic Schools Week Began Today

Catholic schools benefit all year long from the religious guidance, prayers and support parishes provide.

To show their appreciation, our students took a leadership role at all the Masses this weekend.

Our school invited parishioners and community members to a school open house today from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. There was also our annual Usher's pancake breakfast from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m.

A lot of people toured the school and enjoyed an excellent breakfast.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:32

Saturday, January 28. 2017

Being A Shepherd Is Not An Easy Task

I'm so glad that I did not see this video on Good Shepherd Sunday!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:35

Friday, January 27. 2017

I'm Glad He's Home!

Fr. Jordan and his brother returned from their vacation this afternoon. He got back to the house around 4:30 p.m.

I'm glad that he made it back and at the time that he did. It seems that a short time after his arrival, the winds really began picking up. With the forecast for wintry weather around our part of the country, a later flight may have led to delays for him. At least he's home and snug as a bug in a rug.

Tomorrow, slow but sure, he gets to return to reality.

Welcome home, Fr. Jordan!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:54

Thursday, January 26, 2017

I'm Intrigued

I usually praise a movie after I have seen it. Tonight, I am doing something different: I'm promoting one before even seeing it.

I have heard from several people, many who have the same tastes in movies that I do, that Hidden Figures is an absolutely fantastic movie. I'm going to go out on a limb and say, go see it. Let's see who can get to watch it first.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 21:00

Wednesday, January 25, 2017

A Sad Farewell

There have been a spate of my favorite actors dying lately.

Today took me by surprise. At 80 years old, Mary Tyler Moore passed away. I really liked her in everything that she was in.

The older you get, the more the people who were a part of your life start dying. It gets more than a little unnerving.

I'm posting the final moments of the final Mary Tyler Moore Show. I think it is a really classic episode. I hope you enjoy it.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:31

Tuesday, January 24, 2017

Another Transatlantic Cruise!

You heard me.

I'm got another transatlantic cruise booked.

This time, I think -- unless I can find a better price on Royal Caribbean when they finally advertise their transatlantic cruises for next year -- I will be trying Norwegian Cruise Line.

Specifically, I have booked a November 2018 cruise from Barcelona to Port Canaveral aboard the Norwegian Epic. I'm excited about it because it is a different cruise line and gives me a chance to try something new. It goes to the Eastern Caribbean as well (St. Thomas and St. Maarten). The price is really good and includes an ultimate drink package and signature restaurants. Now, I have to start studying up on the Norwegian Escape. You can join me in learning all about it!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:21

Monday, January 23, 2017

A Horrible Statistic

To make it even easier to comprehend, that is 125,000 murders a day, or about the number of people that can fill a college football stadium. God forgive us for allowing this to occur!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:40

Sunday, January 22. 2017

Over Sixty-Three Million

Since the legalization of abortion in our country with the Roe v. Wade decision, there have been over sixty-three million abortions. Let that number sink in. Sixty-three million. That is just in our country alone.

Saint Mother Teresa has said, "But I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child -- a direct killing of the innocent child -- murder by the mother herself. And if we accept that a mother can kill even her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another? How do we persuade a woman not to have an abortion? As always, we must persuade her with love, and we remind ourselves that love means to be willing to give until it hurts. Jesus gave even his life to love us. So the mother who is thinking of abortion, should be helped to love -- that is, to give until it hurts her plans, or her free time, to respect the life of her child. The father of that child, whoever he is, must also give until it hurts. By abortion, the mother does not learn to love, but kills even her own child to solve her problems. And by abortion, the father is told that he does not have to take any responsibility at all for the child he has brought into the world. That father is likely to put other women into the same trouble. So abortion just leads to more abortion. Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching the people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want. That is why the greatest destroyer of love and peace is abortion."

Saint John Paul II used to talk about how we lived in a culture of death rather than a culture of life. In a culture of death, we look to violence against others and the death of others to "solve" our problems. However, violence and death merely beget more violence and more death. Cultivating a culture of death is not a solution, it is a road map to the destruction of humanity. It is only when we cultivate a culture of life that we can put ourselves back on the path that leads to the Kingdom of God.

Too many people stop short, however, in decrying abortion. All they want to see is the end of the act. We need to look at the reason for the act. Many times, women go for abortions because they see it as their only viable option. We need to pray, at the very least, and support groups and actions that will provide education, financial assistance, and emotional support to mothers-to-be.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:54

Saturday, January 21, 2017

I Need A Time Warp

The hubbub surrounding the inauguration of President Trump just amazes me. So many people are showing such "bad form" in their "protests". Personally, I believe that whenever a group of people goes around burning vehicles, smashing in windows, and beating others up are not "demonstrating". They are rioting. And they should be dealt with appropriately.

All I could think of yesterday and today was, "I wish I had a time machine so that I could go back to the 60's and 70's, wear my bell-bottoms, dress in psychedelic tie-dye shirts, and sing, 'Give peace a chance'."

Whether we like it or not, the president is ours now. Let's work together and see what happens! Give peace a chance, people, instead of inciting conflict here at home. We've got enough unrest around the world without adding turmoil in the cities of our country.

Okay. I'll get off of my soap box now.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:59

Friday, January 20, 2017

Inauguration Day

Like him or not, voted for him or not, today we inaugurate the next president of our country. We've been in places like this before and we'll be in places like this again. I don't think there's ever been a time when 100% of the people liked the choice that was made. But, somehow, we always seem to pull through.

And, in all the craziness surrounding the choice of president, we seem to be forgetting the fact that MANY people have been elected to office.

Today, in a special way, I pray for all those who have been newly elected to office that they may serve the best interest of their constituencies rather than themselves and that our nation may continue to be strong, to thrive, and to prosper.

God bless America, land that I love...

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 07:49

Thursday, January 19, 2017

A Member Of Our Community Needs Your Help!

The Munster Police Department and Munster Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #147 are currently planning a number of fundraisers to support Munster Officer Joe Pacheco and his family, and encourage the members of our community to participate. Joe was recently diagnosed with stage IV, malignant, brain cancer.

Please mark your calendars for a fundraiser that will be held at McDonald's, located at 515 Ridge Road in Munster, which will be held on Thursday, February 16th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. A percentage of sales during that evening will be donated to the Pacheco family, and the event will include police officers and vehicles, K-9 "Django", Daren the Lion, a prize wheel for kids, and more.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support for Joe and his family.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 18:21

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Exhausted

Yep . . . that's about it.

Today has been an incredibly l-o-n-g day and I'm just too exhausted to do a blog post tonight.

See you tomorrow.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:54

Tuesday, January 17. 2017

Dreams Can Become Realities

Walt Disney had a dream that many people would have said was grandiose. He saw greatness in himself and he knew that it could come about even after failure. He even stated that no one can be successful unless he knew what failure was as well. He put himself back together after losing rights to Oswald the Rabbit and losing all of his cartoonists as well. He came back with a mouse.

He named his creation Mortimer Mouse but his wife told him that would not do. After some discussion, Mickey Mouse came about and the rest, as they say, is history.

Mickey, Minnie, Pluto, Goofy, Donald, Daisy and the entire gang are some of the most recognizable characters on the planet. They are a testament to endurance. If he could do it, you can, too!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 20:26

Monday, January 16, 2017

Too Pooped To Do Anything Else!

Today was supposed to be a "day off". It was a holiday. The place was closed.

But I had both morning Masses, a deanery meeting hosted at the parish, and tons of work to do.

I got back to the house forty minutes ago.

You know what, I'm finished. I've had enough. I can't take anymore. I going to do it and you can't stop me.

That's right . . . I'm going to go soak in the tub!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 16:59

Sunday, January 15. 2017

So Much To Do . . . So Little Time

Today was really busy. It began with the 6:30 and 8:00 a.m. Masses. After the Masses, I had a ton of office work to catch up on from my two weeks on vacation. That took me through most of the afternoon.

Late afternoon, I went to visit my aunt. I called her when I returned from vacation on Friday evening but this was the first chance that I had to go see her.

After that, I went with some parishioner friends to Chinatown to celebrate the 92nd birthday of Mama Kwong.

Now, I am writing a quick not and am going to hit the sack. I get up early to take Fr. Jordan and his brother to the Tri-State bus so that they can go to Disney World in Orlando tomorrow. Fr. Jordan will be gone for a two week vacation and I will be at the helm by myself. I'll get back from the bus and have both morning Masses.

After the Masses, I have to go shopping for lunch for our deanery meeting tomorrow. I am hosting the meeting at the parish.

Tomorrow is technically a holiday and the parish and school are closed; but, I will be working until at least 4:00 p.m. I'm going to be bushed tomorrow night as well!

So, with that said, I'm going to bed. g'night

Happy 92nd Birthday
Mama Kwong!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 22:01

Saturday, January 14, 2017

Happy Camper Once Again

This morning, someone from Southwest Airlines baggage handling called me to inform me that my luggage had arrived to Midway and that they wanted to arrange delivery. They said that it would be at my place between the hours of Noon and 4:00 p.m.

I told them to please note that my address was the church so that the delivery person would not think that he had a wrong address and leave without checking. I was told that would be noted on my record.

I then asked the question that was burning in my mind since early morning. I figured I knew what happened to my bag. Most of the people on the plane I flew in on were heading to Omaha, Nebraska as their final destination. I asked if my bag went to Omaha by mistake. The response?

"No. Actually, your bag never left Orlando."

I checked the bag in early yesterday and it sat at the airport all day and all night and arrived this morning. I couldn't believe that.

But, the good news, at least, was that the bag arrived and everything was intact.

I was really upset because one of the items in the bag I need tomorrow afternoon. It is a birthday gift for someone and we are going to Chinatown to celebrate her birthday tomorrow. I purchased the gift at China in the World Showcase pavilion in EPCOT. If I didn't have that gift, I would have been angry. But, all is well.

Now, I just have to ask myself why I allowed this to get me as riled up as it did. These things happen. I know that. I'm sixty years old and should know better.

Breathe in, breathe out. Wax on, wax off. Don't forget to breathe.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:36

Friday, January 13. 2017

Friday The 13th, Indeed!

Well, it's not terribly gruesome; however, Southwest Airlines Friday the 13th'd me.

I got in to Midway Airport and waited at the luggage carousel . . . and waited . . . and waited . . .

You guessed it. No luggage.

I'm tired, I'm cranky, and I had to go outside with no jacket (that was in my suitcase along with all sorts of other stuff).

They say that they will look for it.

I, for the most part, am simply not amused.

So, I have to try to let this go so that it doesn't take away my almost two weeks of vacation joy.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 21:31

Thursday, January 12, 2017

Spent My Last Night With Good Friends

My last night of my vacation was spent catching up with some good friends that I see once a year when I come down to Disney. Trish and Craig and their daughter, Christina, took me to dinner at Artist Point at the Wilderness Lodge. The meal was fantastic and the the ability to spend some time with good friends was even more fantastic.

See you next January, folks!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:51

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Lions And Tigers And Bears, Oh My

Well, forget the tigers and bears; but, today I got some great views of lions and hippos and rhinos, oh my!

After so many years down here, I was finally able to get a great picture of one of the lions. They have always been hiding out in the rocks. Today, however, the male was sunning himself on top of "pride rock". Oops, wrong movie.

The hippos were sunning themselves today as well. All the wild life seemed to be enjoying the warmer weather after our 30 and 40 degree days.

I hope you enjoy my pictures.

Tomorrow is my last full day at Disney. It's been a real enjoyable vacation. Soon, it will be back to work. I'm almost ready!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:39

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Christmas Is Gone

So many of the Christmas decorations at Disney have been taken down over the past week and a half. There are many more still up but they will go in the next several days.

This morning, when I walked to Disney's Hollywood Studios, I noticed that the Christmas tree was down. In its place were the topiaries of Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

A lot of people ask where I stay while at Disney.

I stay at Disney's Boardwalk Villas.

Here are some pictures of the "back side" of the Villas as seen from the canal that runs to Disney's Hollywood Studios. Across the canal are the Swan and Dolphin Hotels.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 20:08

Monday, January 9, 2017

I Feel Sorry For Cast Members

Cast members at Disney Parks -- okay, employees at ANY theme park! -- put up with a lot of guff from customers.

This morning, I was in the Magic Kingdom on the Jungle Cruise. When we boarded our boat, there was a woman on the left side of the boat (port side, for you nautical people) who had a son with her on her lap.

As we were going on the "cruise", there were several times when she was standing him up on the seat in front of her. The "captain" stopped the boat and reminded her, yet again, that all passengers needed to remain seated.

She argued with him stating that her son couldn't see the things off the right side of the boat and that was why she was standing him in front of her. The cast member said that the child needed to remain seated.

She responded with a lot of anger, "Well, are you going to give us another tour sitting on the other side of the boat so that he could see what he is missing?!"

I tell you, there were several of us who were ready to throw her overboard!

So, for all you Disney cast members or employees of other theme parks, there is one heart here that bleeds for you. You put up with a lot of stuff that you shouldn't have to!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:03

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Rogue One

Okay, it's time to talk movies.

It has been really, really cold down here in Florida yesterday and today. (I feel sorry for those people who ran the marathon this morning in 28 degree wind chill conditions. Yeesh.)

Because it was a bit too cold yesterday to go to the parks, we went to Disney Springs to watch a movie. What movie? What else? We went to watch the new Star Wars movie.

It is everything you have heard . . . and more!

One of the things that I had heard was that anyone who went to the movie would want to go home and put Episode IV in their DVD players and watch it. That was, if you remember, the first Star Wars movie released.

Those who said that were absolutely correct!

The movie did a great job in marrying Episode III and Episode IV. It filled in a lot of the back stories of Episode IV. It helped to explain people and actions and wars. It put flesh on to such things as "many people died so that we could have these plans".

The movie is a great movie, pure and simple. It is a wonderful battle movie. It has gone back to the "old" style of the Star Wars movies. Yes, there were a few places in the film where you said to yourself, "Huh?!" Especially in their use of CGI for some characters. But, all in all, it delivered and delivered quite well.

If you haven't seen it yet, get out to the theatre and see the film. I think you will come out of it saying, "Wow! What a movie!!!"

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:28

Saturday, January 7, 2017

Wonderful Entertainment

Last night, Fr. Brian and I went to Disney Springs (formerly Downtown Disney) for dinner at Morimoto's. It was an excellent meal. Afterwards, we went outside and listened to some of the performers on the streets. One of them was Nicholas Marks. I could not believe the energy in this guy or the talent. He put a wonderful spin on many popular songs.

Here is his version of the theme from The Godfather. I hope you enjoy him as much as we did.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:12

Friday, January 6, 2017

A Wonderful Anniversary

Today is the second anniversary of the installation of Bishop Donald J. Hying as the Bishop of Gary.

May God bless him with good health and the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:35

Thursday, January 5, 2017

A Unique View

I had a lot of fun today providing pixie dust for cast members. I figure, after all these years of providing for me, I wanted to make them feel good, especially as the marathon weekend comes upon them and they are going to be bombarded.

Earlier today, I stopped at the bakery and bought a couple of boxes of homemade cookies and took them to the front desk and to bell services. The looks on their faces was well worth it. Then, at dinner tonight, I gave our waitress a really nice tip. She was really thankful that someone would notice how hard she works and how professional and friendly she is.

After dinner, I went to China in the World Showcase to purchase a birthday gift for one of my Chinese parishioners that is going to be 92 next week. As I walked out of China, I looked ahead over the lake and saw the Star Wars firework show in the air over the American Pavilion. The Star Wars show is in Disney's Hollywood Studios. It's one thing to see them and hear the soundtrack at the Studios. It's another thing, entirely, to see them displayed from the other side of EPCOT.

The pictures are a little grainy but you get the idea of what I saw:

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 20:33

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

The Proper Use Of Drones!

We often hear about drones being used to cause mass destruction or pinpoint executions.

It is nice to see drones used for something more peaceful . . . say, a holiday show.

This was the show that we saw this evening when we went to Disney Springs for dinner.

Enjoy!

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 19:57

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

I'm Proud To Be An American!

One of my favorite attractions at Walt Disney World is in EPCOT: The American Adventure at the American Pavilion in the World Showcase.

I know that the history of our country is not very smooth. I know that there have been a number of injustices committed upon people. I know that there is still much to be done.

But, the fact of the matter is, we are still working on getting our act together and as long as we keep looking for ways to improve life for all people, we're going to do fine.

America, spread your golden wings
Sail on freedom's wind, across the sky.

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 22:39

Monday, January 2, 2017

Here!

We checked in to Disney's Boardwalk Villas this afternoon. We got here about noon. Rooms are not ready until 4:00 p.m. We went to EPCOT's Guest relations to purchase a Tables in Wonderland card (discounts on meals/drinks) and while we were there, received a text letting us know that our rooms were ready.

Went back to the rooms and unpacked and stocked the refrigerator. At 5:45 p.m., Fr. Brian arrived. We walked to Disney's Yacht Club for dinner at The Captain's Grille.

After dinner, we were walking back to the Boardwalk and, while on the bridge by the Swan and Dolphin hotels, we watched the Star Wars fireworks in the distance that were taking place at Disney's Hollywood Studios.

Tomorrow is our first full day here. Can't wait!

Enjoy the fireworks shot. For more complete pictures, go to my Facebook page.

More tomorrow

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 21:04

Sunday, January 1, 2017

Vacation!

Well, I'm beginning my post-New Year's vacation tonight. After my morning Masses, I flew to Orlando International Airport. I'm spending the night at the airport's Hyatt Hotel and then will check in to Disney's Boardwalk Villas tomorrow.

There is a view from my room balcony. I have an inside view tonight. I had requested a runway view but those were all taken. This isn't bad, though.

I hope you have a wonderful 2017, full of wondrous surprises!

Watch the blog for daily Disney posts.

For now, I'm bushed from the flight. g'night

Posted by Rev. Michael J. Yadron at 20:13