

Extracted from St John Vianney Bulletin on March 21, 2010

Rambling 3 by Carl E Beyer

Hello fellow parishioners. If only there was enough time to produce more thoughtful write-ups. Sometimes the write-up that seem so grand while bouncing around in my head loses its glamour when it leaves my fingertips. One of the important lessons in life is to know when to throw in your cards, or shall I say throw in the dribbling that come from the fingertips.

It is time to get out and start the early vegetables planting. I am thinking specifically about planting the radishes and early peas. I had the opportunity in one of our earlier warm spells to get some of the garden beds cultivated. We still need to get out and pull the rest of the carrots so we can cultivate those beds. Carrots are amazing plants with their tops already showing green leaves. I ended up tilling under the turnips because no matter how many people say they taste good I have to disagree. No turnips this coming year.

The tomatoes and peppers are growing inside waiting for the garden beds to warm for them. Right now they are just skinny little stems with a couple of leaves but they are dreaming of contributing to this coming fall's salsa. Last year salsa went quite fast, so we hope to be able to have a much larger batch this coming fall. I have learned my lesson and will be wearing gloves when making salsa this fall. Last year anywhere and I mean anywhere I touched myself burned for hours. I am very excited about the strawberries being in their second year. The first year is so they can send their runners out knowing the following year they can expend all their energy for their sweet fruit. The grapes last year covered the fence so we hope this year to harvest some of their fruit. I have no clue how the blueberries and raspberries are going to turn out this year. About the best I can say is that most of them stayed alive last year. The horseradishes had large leaves last year but we left that to multiply with the anticipation of grinding some up this coming fall for that different kind of hot.

Last spring we planted a large batch of tulips that failed. This was certainly on a large part due to the 80lb Border Collie thinking it was a place to trample while telling the neighbor dog how much more powerful he is. So, I had planned on planting the tomatoes there but to my surprise the tulips are all coming up this year. There should be quite a colorful display of tulips since I bought a large variety of them. My daughter and I have taken the time to trim back the roses knowing that they, in their fourth year, are going to be an amazing colorful display. Our St. John Paul II commemorative white rose has high hopes this year. Being a pure white rose, it is lagging behind the others but each year it grows a little bit higher.

Last year we had some very delicious cherries and peaches but the rest of the trees were lacking. Hopefully, this year our plum tree will not blossom too early and therefore forfeit its fruit. The mixed apple tree may recover this year from our rottweiler thinking it was chewy stick and bear fruit. We planted a Granny Smith apple tree last year so their fruit will be nice. The fruit trees especially make you wish for more than a small community lot. If we were able to plant a dozen cherries trees I know my wife would be happy. But how much do you want to turn your yard into a forest?

Sometimes, I look at our early pictures of the yard which seemed so large before all the planting and concrete pouring. I am considering some grass this year for our granddaughter. Not much since I hate mowing. Our granddaughter, Tera, is sitting up by herself and is starting to crawl a little. It is incredible how fast they change. Not being responsible for their every need is why I believe having grandchildren is so wonderful. We get to enjoy all the baby fun while sleeping like a baby ourselves at night. I can remember wondering how many years it was going to be before we would be able to sleep through the night without being awoken by the kids.

Before we know it Good Friday will be upon us. This year I hope to do the complete pilgrimage walk from St. Ann's Catholic Church in Albuquerque to Tome Hill in Tome, NM. This pilgrimage walk is about twenty two miles. There are always large crowds though most are starting their walk closer to the Hill than in years past. If anyone is interested in participating in this pilgrimage walk you can eMail me at carl@bncinc.com or stop by and speak to me. Somewhere along the line we seem to be forgetting about doing penance during lent. I am not sure why except in our own selflessness. Remember to fast on Good Friday. I personally am so looking forward to that Easter Pepsi. Is that not what penance is all about? Our Lenten sacrifice makes our pleasures so much sweeter when it returns. And that Pepsi will be so sweet.

God Bless you All. Go forth and keep up your Lenten Penance. It is not too late to start a Lenten penance with two weeks left of Lent. Thank you all for listening to my rambling.