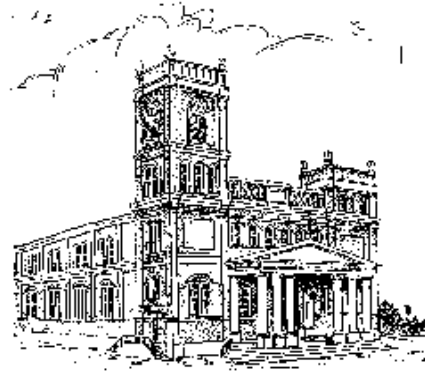


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A Little "extra" for O.L.G. parish family

January 24, 2010

**Awkward Stages** . . . . . Jack Canfield & Mark V. Hanson, *The Aladdin Factor*, p. 103

"We all have to go through the awkward stage of any newly acquired behavior...There will be more firsts that we will encounter in which we will feel awkward for a while, until we get the hang of it....So what! Do it anyway!

Any thing you want to learn, you are going to be awkward at first. Give yourself permission to be a beginner, a learner."

**An Optimist** . . . . . William Arthur Ward

"An optimist is a person who undertakes a seemingly impossible task in a spirit of immeasurable enthusiasm, unbounded determination, unbelievable excitement, indestructible confidence, uncompromising thoroughness, and indefatigable persistence...with understandable success."

**Hasten Slowly** . . . . . Anonymous

Titus, the emperor of Rome, had the symbol of a dolphin wound around an anchor inscribed on coins during his reign. The anchor represented delay and unchanging conviction. The dolphin was regarded as the swiftest and most mercurial creature of the sea. Together they symbolized the failure that comes from rushing into something, and the failure that is the result of hesitation or undue caution.

Through the years, the dolphin and the anchor have been used as his family crest, with the explanatory motto *Festina Lente*, "Hasten Slowly." It expresses moderation between two opposing ideas. It means the medium between acting too quickly and waiting too long.

**Capacity to Care** . . . . . Pablo Casals

"The capacity to care is the thing that gives life its deepest meaning and significance."

**Ray of Hope, or...?** . . . . . Anonymous, *Sunday Sermon Masterpiece Collection*

"There once was a man so despondent, his spirit was so torn up by cares and worry, that he decided to end it all. He started to walk across the city to a bridge, from which he planned to jump to a certain fate.

However, as he walked, he made another critical decision. He said to himself, "If, on the way, I should someone with a friendly disposition, someone whose manner would into my life, I will turn back."



~ End of Story ~

We don't know whether the troubled man jumped to not. But the story begs this question: If, while walking toward the bridge in a cloud of despair, that man had met you, what would he have met—a ray of hope, or...?

**A Cheerful Heart** . . . . . Anonymous



"'Tis well to walk with a cheerful heart  
Wherever our fortunes call,  
With a friendly glance and an open hand  
And a gentle word for all.  
Since life is a thorny and difficult path  
Where toil is the portion of man,  
We all should endeavor, while passing along  
To make it as smooth as we can."

**New Ideas** . . . . . Alfred North Whitehead, *The Practical Cogitator*, p. 44

"Almost all really new ideas have a certain aspect of foolishness when they are first produced, and almost any idea which jogs you out of your current abstractions may be better than nothing."

**Thoughts are Things** . . . . . Napoleon Hill, *Think & Grow Rich Action Pack*, p. 15

"All achievement, all earned riches, have their beginning in an idea....Thoughts are things, and powerful things at that when they are mixed with definiteness of purpose, persistence and burning desire..."