



Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons

The Grand Lodge of Saskatchewan

To be the Fraternal Organization of choice for men in the Province of Saskatchewan



January was named after Janus, a two-headed Roman god. The temple of Janus was situated at the city gate of Rome, where his statue had one face looking towards the city, and one beyond the gate. January stands at the gateway of the year, with one face looking towards the past and one towards the future.

Brethren:

This is the time of year that we look forward to what the new year will bring us. It is also the time of year to reflect on the year that has just passed. The year 2020 was unprecedented to say the least. It brought about new challenges to all of us as individuals and challenged governments around the world with balancing the social and economic well being of society while trying to curb the spread of COVID 19 with lockdowns. What we considered normal practices had to be changed and a new way of life developed. It was a year when we were unable to celebrate weddings, graduations, birthdays face to face. We as Freemasons were unable to meet in the usual manner: no handshakes, festive boards or social gatherings. Yet, although there are many negatives about 2020, we should reflect on the positives. It taught us to look at life through a different lens and to overcome the challenges of working from home with kids and pets. The year taught us not to take things for granted and to appreciate the small things in life. It taught us to look inward to our souls and to reach out to our families and friends.

We can learn a lot by looking into the past, but if we solely focus on the past we become stagnant and unable to move forward. Instead, we can look to the future for our lodges, to opportunities that exist to improve our lodges and our fraternity.

Brotherly Love:

Is one the three principal tenets of Freemasonry. I have already written about the other principles, "Relief and Truth," in previous musings. Brotherly Love is not only to be exercised between brothers of the fraternity but to all people no matter their status in life. We are all one big family upon this earth and we must respect each other's opinions, beliefs or religion. It is important in this present time to exercise Brotherly Love to all around.

"Freemasonry unites men of every country, sect and opinion; and causes true friendship to exist among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance." Encyclopedia of Freemasonry

"Brotherly love is not a tangible commodity. We cannot touch it or weigh it, smell it or taste it. Yet it is a reality; it can be creative, it can be fostered, it can be made a dynamic power. The Master who has it in his Lodge and his brethren will find that Lodge and brethren give it back to him. The Master too worried over the cares of his office to express friendliness need never wonder why his Lodge seems too cold to his effort."

Carl H. Claudy



I hope the best for you and your families, stay safe, and may the New Year bring you prosperity and happiness!

MCW Bro. Dan Olmsted, Grand Master, 2020-2021