

Small Talk – March 10 2021
Required Facial Covering When in Public – Day 231
By Michael Small

Please note: Small Talk will be taking a short break – it will return during the last week of March.

To continue receiving messages for inspiration I would encourage you to go to several websites.

1. UCC Daily Devotional – sign-up at <https://www.ucc.org/daily-devotional/>
2. Richard Rohr *Center for Action and Contemplation* – sign up at <https://cac.org/>.
3. Michael Piazza *Liberating Word: Equipping progressive people of faith to be champions for peace and justice* – sign-up at <http://liberatingword.com/>.
4. Sign-up for Anne Brady Cronin’s occasional *Meanderings* by sending a note requesting that you are added to her mailing list – anne@annebradycronin.com.

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Many almost have it memorized! *“But those who wait for God find a renewed power: they soar on eagles’ wings, they run and don’t get weary, they walk and never tire.”* (Isaiah 40:31) Every time I see an eagle soaring in these north woods – this scripture crosses my mind. We are so lucky, when out walking, there isn’t a day that goes by when I don’t see an eagle. And . . . they are marvelous!

I celebrate with my twin sister our birthday, which happens on December 12th . As children, growing up with joy and wonder, patience was not one of our strengths. December 12th became the trigger in our family for the anticipation of Christmas. Every day, after 12/12, the excitement built up, the waiting became more painful, the speculation was beyond imagination, and we drove our parents crazy, until we finally reached Christmas morning. Waiting was hard, but on that 25th day of December, we would soar like eagles.

In the classic movie (an odd movie) “The Rocky Horror Picture Show” there is a song that has the line in it “I see you shiver . . . with . . . ANTICIPATION!!!” We are in a time when we are all waiting, waiting for things to return to normal. We are anticipating and dreaming about what the future will bring. We want to gather again, safely and without fear eat out in restaurants with friends and family, see the smiles of friends without masks, stand closer than six feet – we want to hug and be hugged. It has been a year, one whole year! Enough is enough we say!

Yet, the science says, we still must mask, keep our distance, only hold communal gatherings outside. For our health, and the health of others, and the health of our communities – masking, distance, and caution are the watchwords. Even after having done the protocol of receiving the vaccines – we still must be careful and make good decisions – we still must wait.

When seeing the doctor, he or she will tell us how to live long, eat healthy, exercise, get plenty of sleep, and make good decisions. If we respond appropriately, it works – if we don't, the quality of life is impacted. The diminishment of this infectious virus is near, the victory almost won. In the days to come we all must persist with patience! In our waiting may we find a renewed power: so that we might soar on eagles' wings, and that we might run and not get weary, that we might walk and never tire.

Blessings be upon all of you.

In the spirit and agape love of Jesus, Michael

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