

Brother Knights and Families,

Lent does not begin until February 28th, so my Lenten message will be in March. It seems “climate control or change” is a very debatable topic nowadays. In April of 2015, Pope Francis issued a famous encyclical on environment entitled “Laudate Si” or “Be Praised.” He asked not just Catholics but all people to have more respect for the environment. He reminded everyone that we are caretakers of God’s creation, not dominators. May this “tongue in cheek” article cause some reflection.

I must give credit where credit is due. This has been adapted from a Facebook posting by Larry Lenhardt. * Back then, we returned milk bottles, soda bottles and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed, sterilized and refilled, so they could use them over and over. So they could be recycled. But we didn’t have the “green thing” back in our day. * Grocery stores bagged our groceries in brown paper bags that we reused for numerous things. * We walked to places and didn’t climb into a 300horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn’t have the “green thing” in our day. * Back then we washed the baby’s diapers because we didn’t have the throw away kind. * We dried clothes on a line, not in an energygobbling machine burning up 220 volts. Wind and solar power really did dry our clothes in our early days. But the young girl is right, we didn’t have the “green thing” back in our days. * After a large family gathering such as at Christmas and Thanksgiving we hand washed and dried all the dishes. Now in the dish washer they go. * Back then we used a push lawn mower that ran on human power. We got our exercise that way. We didn’t need the health club. * Back then people took the streetcar or bus and kids road their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their parents into a 24-hour hour taxi service in the family’s gas guzzling SUV or van. * We didn’t need a computerized gadget in order to find the nearest burger joint. But we didn’t have the “green thing” back then But isn’t it sad the current generation laments how wasteful we old folks were just because we didn’t have the “green thing” back then? None of us like getting old. I get EXTREMELY ANGRY...especially from a tattooed, multiple pierced, whipper snapper who is unable to make change without the cash register telling them how much is needed.

(Taken from the Fabulous Fifties)

God be with you, Fr. Dick