

Dear MD LAOH

In this season of faith and heritage we usually gather to celebrate our Homeland and spent months planning special events to raise money to show our love to our charities.

This is one of the reasons I love our Order. Is it easy for you to understand what loving yourself means? Loving yourself, giving grace, forgiveness, treating your body kindly, and resting are just a few ways to love ourselves. Loving ourselves may come naturally for some but loving someone else the same way may be more difficult. This is the foundation of our motto: friendship, unity, and Christian charity.

In a world where hurt and pain exists at every turn and words can be carelessly thrown around, the need for loving our neighbors is extremely high. That is the lesson we must take from these cancellations. We are showing faith and fellowship in the only way we can this season. We are loving our neighbors by being cautious in the eye of this storm.

We don't always know one another's stories or motives, but we can't let the shields that we may have built upkeep us from getting close to our neighbor and staying open to loving everyone. We must look in on our sisters to insure health and happiness of all. How can we love? Offering peace, giving grace, caring for others' needs, and forgiving each other. The need for love is now.

When this crisis is over, we will come together and thank God for bringing us through safely. We will gather to sing and celebrate our heritage. We will dance to the tunes of our favorite singers and raise funds for our charities as a strong Order. I look forward to those glorious days.

Be safe.

Stacie Guerin, President, MD State LAOH

