

March 23, 2020

Dear Alberto, Emma, Brian, Claire,
Grace, Brady, Will, Emily C,
Orlando, Macy, Sam, Megan,
Ajay, Ramu, Katie, Brandon,
Julia, Macy, and Shannon!

I write this with a heavy, yet hopeful heart. Each of you are experiencing the ripple effect of this global crisis in your own ways. You are each going through this differently, but we are all in this together.

I think about high school seniors with no prom, to our own seniors who won't get that Department Senior dinner and award celebration.

Then, I think of those who never had those opportunities to begin with. So many high school seniors never get to go to prom. Maybe due to being too poor or perhaps they are "too odd" or "not cool enough" to feel comfortable even going. So many kids don't even get to college due to their position in life - the kind that were dealt - maybe too poor or they have to care for their siblings or parents.

Silver lining

Life is complex and full of sadness. Yet, we must train our minds to see that silver lining. See, blessed in the midst of uncertainty - I try to find that lining. Suddenly, we are blessed with being told to literally be home with our family. No where else will we go. We're being called to remain diligent, resilient and responsible - for the common good.

I wish that Senior college student who never got to attend that Senior dinner. I was the high school student who grew up being poor and was teased. I was "odd" I recall many, many dinners where my

Mom never ate because after four kids had our meat, nothing was left. Sacrifices are being made around the world. My daughters have fathers who can't sleep then right now. And babies grow faster than the speed of light. We can't see a way not seen for the past. I can't do this for my kids because I can't see the way. *Manana* page.

Who are you praying for? I pray for those who are laid off and can't provide - their world is crumbling. The poor are suffering even greater now. I wish that you pray for those who are suffering the most. Pray for medical workers and delivery drivers and grocery store employees who are extending themselves and scared too. Many have NO CHOICE but to work.

This time gives science the endless hours of needed to research this novel virus and provide solutions to the world. Science is incredible.

May you see this time as one of reflection. We will recover, but we won't ever be the same. Yet, we have one mission. We have the ability to create change and give hope. We have the power of education and hot meals, comfy beds and water. Take this time to love yourself. To be grateful for life and what you have to offer - and for each of us that calling is different. So practice social distancing and remain home. If you go out, be protective of others. See that the

Create change

remain home

silver lining too. Life is about others, not just you.

You are young. Blessed to be without a ton of responsibilities. Stay focused on those positives while remaining sensitive and empathetic to those negatively.

I will miss your faces so very much. I hold a deep interest in your success and personal well-being. Let's continue our relationship via cyber world and embrace it with positive thoughts. We will accomplish the rest of the year so much. And we will remain positive. Our education is that provided to us by God and understanding.

positive thoughts

Sincerely,
Macy