

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July Patriotic Instruction

Brothers,

Another year has come and gone, and we are again celebrating the birth of our Nation. It is a day where we look back and are grateful for all this country has given us. We are in the land of the Free, where we have the ability to speak freely about all topics without Government prosecution. Where we can practice whatever religion we wish and not be afraid that we will be prosecuted by the government. This country we live in has come a long way in 246 years, and even though the United States is not perfect it has room to grow. Today is a day in which we should be proudly rejoicing about all of the benefits that this country has given us.

I have seen a lot of people in the past few months and years who have disagreed with some things that have happened at the federal, state, or local levels of our government, some even going as far as saying that America doesn't deserve a birthday this year because they disagree with some of these decisions. This is something that is completely understandable and bound to happen within our communities as all neighborhoods are made up of people from vast different upbringings and experiences. How one person may think to handle a situation is different than others, the important thing is that we have discussions and try to come to a common ground. As American's we have that ability to speak freely and oppose a standpoint and have these discussions and to come to a compromise. Today is all about celebrating that we have the freedom to have those discussions, that we can openly agree or disagree with our branches of government without fear of being thrown in jail.

This 4<sup>th</sup> of July I want all of you, while having a hot dog, apple pie and an ice cold one, to think about how lucky we are to live in this country. That we can wake up every morning and be given opportunities to better ourselves and our communities that do not exist elsewhere. That alone is something that should be celebrated, and that we as Americans should be proud of. There is always room to grow and to get better, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't look back and see where we have come from, the progress we have made, and all the freedoms and opportunities we have as a nation and celebrate that. I wish you all a happy and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July and hope you all celebrate the freedoms and liberties that we enjoy, freedoms and liberties that were paid for by our ancestors, family members and, in some cases, our own unstinted streams of blood, shed that the blessings of a free government might be our heritage.

In Fraternity Charity and Loyalty,  
Br. Ben Frail, PDC  
National Patriotic Instructor