

Traveling Companion: What is Katrina teaching me?

Fr. Michael Tracey

Katrina is teaching me never to take anything or anyone for granted because some day, that “anything” or “anyone” might be wrenched from your inner being.

Katrina is teaching me to value friendships more than things because things can be replaced and friendships which are taken for granted may not.

Katrina is teaching me that I am never in complete control of life; that I have no choice but to live it as a mystery, not a problem to be solved.

Katrina is teaching me more about myself, a self that is constantly in process, a self that is always in transition.

Katrina is teaching me that perspective is determined by my willingness to grow through adversity.

Katrina is teaching me about the inherent goodness of people who unselfishly and without the need for recognition shine at the darkest hour.

Katrina is teaching me that just as it is darkest just before dawn; that our greatest potential surfaces in seemingly hopeless situations.

Katrina is teaching me that hope, coupled with faith and a generous supply of love, can move us even through the worst disaster.

Katrina is teaching me more about myself than any book could ever as I become an open script for the book of life that the Author of life is writing through me.

Katrina is teaching me I can never really know myself fully until I am stretched on an ongoing basis.

Katrina is teaching me that if I use the raw materials that the Lord has blessed me with, then he will provide me with the blueprints that will guide me on life’s journey.

Katrina is teaching me to love surprises, as big as a hurricane or as small as a morning greeting.

Katrina is teaching me that the Lord, who knows me most intimately, believes in me enough to take me through the darkest moments to new life, new growth and new possibilities.

Katrina is teaching me that weakness is a special gift because it allows me to lean more on the Great Architect of my life.

Katrina is teaching me that tears are a gift which can cleanse not only the eye but also the insight which comes from deep within.

Katrina is teaching me that a few minutes of fame may be fleeting, but can become a stimulant to impact lives behind the scenes.

Katrina is teaching me that it is okay to accept a compliment if I am willing to use it as an extra incentive.

Katrina is teaching me that time is not necessarily chronological but instead is programmed by my own gifts, opportunities, courage and determination.

Katrina is teaching me that life is cyclical; that everything has its seasons; that there is a time for everything under the heaven and under the deep recesses of my heart.

Katrina is teaching me that life is a journey that is sometimes disrupted by a pebble in a shoe or a hurricane in a Gulf Coast bottleneck.

Katrina is teaching me that interruptions are really opportunities, some times in sheep’s clothing and other times, in wolves clothing.

Katrina is teaching me that often the most scenic as well as the most difficult part of the journey’s terrain is the richest and most life-giving as well as life-changing.

Katrina is teaching me that I will never be able or should I be able to put a period where in fact there is simply a pause.