

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,  
Give me the grace to see a joke,  
To get some humor out of life,  
And pass it on to other folk.

## BROTHER JUNIPER



By Fred Mc Carthy, SFO

## CLEAN UP! FIX UP! PLANT UP!

By Dolores Cullen, SFO  
Humor Editor

*The time for spring-cleaning is upon us.*

*Thought these snippets might get you in the mood.*

Gals, did you know that the best way to get a man to do something is to suggest he is too old for it?

The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement.

Question: Why are retirees so slow to clean out the basement, attic or garage?

Answer: They know that as soon as they do, one of their adult kids will want to store stuff there.

Gardening Rule: When weeding, the best way to make sure you are removing a weed and not a valuable plant is to pull on it. If it comes out of the ground easily—it is a valuable plant.

On a Plumber's truck:

"We repair what your husband fixed."

*The following is inserted to help you keep a proper perspective:*

Dusting: A house becomes a home when you can write, "I love you" on the furniture. I can't tell you how many countless hours I have spent CLEANING! I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect, "in case someone came over."

Then I realized one day that no one came over; they were all out, living life and having fun!

Now, when people visit, I find no need to explain the "condition" of my home. They are more interested in hearing about the things I've been doing while I was away, living life and having fun. If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice. Life is short. Enjoy it!

Dust If You Must:

Dust if you must...but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter, bake cookies or a cake, or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need? Dust if you must...but there's not much time, with rivers to swim and mountains to climb, music to hear and books to read, friends to cherish and life to lead.

Dust if you must...but the world's out there with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair, a flutter of snow, a shower of rain.

This day will not come around, again.

Dust if you must...but bear in mind, old age will come and it's not kind.

And when you go—and go you must—yourself will make more *dust!*

My sister Darlene has the courage—but not always the skills—to tackle any home-repair project. For example, in her garage are pieces of a lawn mower she once tried to fix. So I wasn't surprised the day my other sister, Jesse, and I found Darlene attacking her vacuum cleaner with a screwdriver.

"I can't get this thing to cooperate," she explained.

"Why don't you drag it out to the garage and show it the lawn mower?" Jesse suggested.

Junk is something you've kept for years and throw away three weeks before you need it.

I've learned . . . that the less time I have to work, the more things I get done.

I've also learned . . . that the Lord didn't do it all in one day. What makes me think I can? And while you're in the throes of making everything spic and span, remember that the most important things in your home are the *people*.