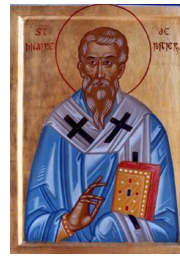


St. Hilary Men's Group 6.8.2013



What is Your Role as Father...Brother, Son, Uncle...Man

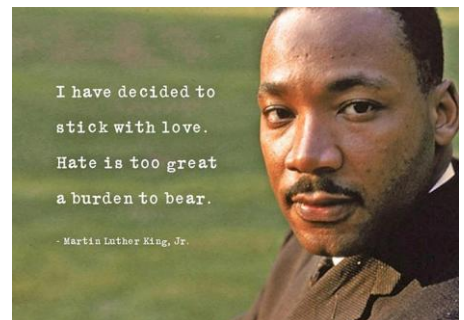
God calls us to many roles in life and specifically, to grow beyond so called "traditional boundaries" in order to fulfill our mission as Men. Explicitly, there is a certain Art to being a Father. In fulfilling our vocations as Men, and Father in particular; we elevate the word from the Mainstream Media Culture which defines and relegates "father" to of one being a donor of ½ of the DNA of an offspring...to a word of Greatness. What gets lost in the secular humanism of modern culture, is the greatest earthly gift we can give those whose lives we touch.



More so, just because a man has raised his children and they are grown, he cannot retire from the vocation of Father. It is a lifetime endeavor. This role applies to ALL Men. We have a Duty and Mission to fulfill our Role as Father in whatever capacity we have been called to carry out.

We may forget God, but He never forgets us. He has given us rules, guideposts and examples to follow to fulfill our Mission as a Man. The key here is to remember that we have a Father in Heaven who is at His best when we are at our worse.

How do we successfully connect with that source of Hope? How do we share that source? Let us come to know God more thoroughly using Modern Comment, Holy Scripture and our Catechism.



Modern Comment

A Father's As Well As a Mother's Love

by Henri Nouwen

The father in the story of the prodigal son is mother as well. His running out to welcome his son, his embrace and kisses; his offering of the best robe, the ring, and the sandals; and his throwing a party are not the typical behaviour of a distant patriarch. They express so much tenderness, nurturing care, and self-effacing forgiveness that in them we see both motherly and fatherly love fully present.



The perfect love of our heavenly Father includes as well as transcends all the love that a father and mother can have for their children. We may think about the two hands of God embracing us as a mother's hand and a father's hand: one caressing, consoling, and comforting, the other supporting, encouraging, and empowering. We too are called to be father and mother to those who want to come home.

A Dad's Greatest Gift

by Charles R. Swindoll

*Hear, O sons, the instruction of a father,
And give attention that you may gain understanding.*
—Proverbs 4:1



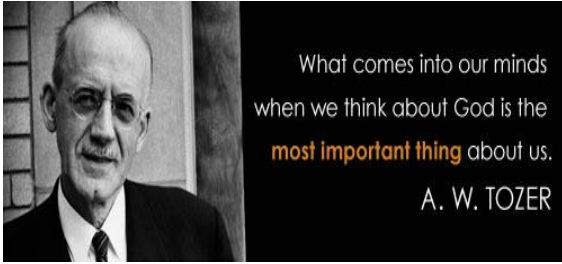
Dad, is it possible you've gotten overly committed, so involved in your work or some away-from-home project or hobby that it is draining your time and energy with your family? I understand, believe me, I do. . . .

Instead of challenging fathers to give of themselves, our cultural system encourages them to give the stuff their increased salaries can buy—a better education, a membership at the club, material possessions, nicer homes, extra cars. . . . But what about dad himself? And that priceless apprenticeship learned in his presence? . . . It's gotten lost in the shuffle. . . .



C'mon, dads, let's lead a revolt! . . . Let's refuse to take our cues from the system any longer. Let's start saying no to more and more of the things that pull us farther and farther away from the ones who need us the most. Let's remember that the greatest earthly gifts we can provide are our presence and influence while we live and a magnificent memory of our lives once we're gone.





Scripture

Proverbs 22:6 *The Rule of Training*
Train the young in the way they should go; even when old, they will not swerve from it.

Ephesians 6:4 *The Directive of Instruction*

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up with the training and instruction of the Lord.

Deuteronomy 4:9-10 *The Command to Edify*

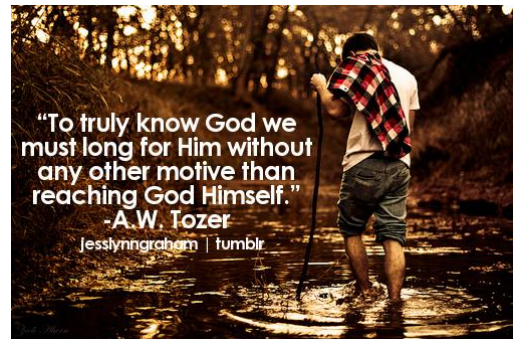
However, be on your guard and be very careful not to forget the things your own eyes have seen, nor let them slip from your heart as long as you live, but make them known to your children and to your children's children, (just as on) that day you stood before the LORD, your God, at Horeb, when the LORD said to me: "Assemble the people for me, that I may let them hear my words, that they may learn to manifest reverence and awe in me (your God) as long as they live in the land and may so teach their children."

The Word of the Lord

Catechism

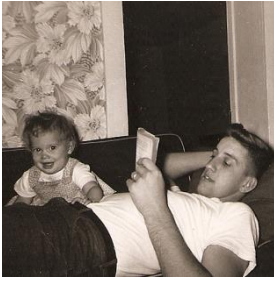
2367 We have been Called

Called to give life, spouses share in the creative power and fatherhood of God. "Married couples should regard it as their proper mission to transmit human life and to educate their children; they should realize that they are thereby cooperating with the love of God the Creator and are, in a certain sense, its interpreters. They will fulfill this duty with a sense of human and Christian responsibility."



What one word comes to mind when you think of a Father?

LEADERSHIP	DIRECTION	EXAMPLE
MODEL	QUIET WARMTH	FRIENDSHIP
GUIDANCE	COMPANIONSHIP	NON-JUDGEMENTAL
SUPPORT	BELONGING	TEACHER



Questions to Focus On

#1 What one word Best describes your Duty as a Father? As a Man?

#2 What part of today's presentation was most meaningful to you? Is there anything you might apply to your life from it?

#3 What can you be doing today to fortify your Role as Father? Role as a Catholic Christian Man?





Aide Memoire

We are congenial, respectful and attentive Men of God. The primary goal is to learn good examples and techniques on how to survive and thrive in today's modern world. We begin by sharing in a Christ-based Community. All Men are received in an atmosphere of unconditional acceptance ...and as such forgive each other's faults and foibles as we strive to attain abundant life.

"Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words."
St. Francis of Assisi

A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.



Men's Group Calendar

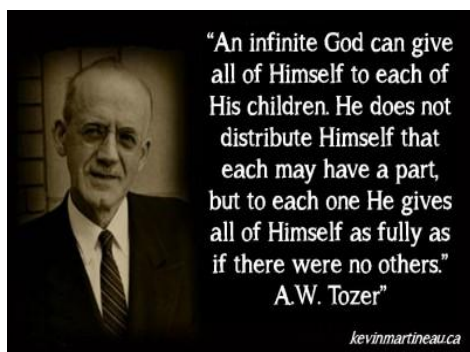
6/22/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
7/13/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
7/27/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
8/10/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
8/24/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
9/14/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
9/28/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
10/12/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
10/26/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
11/9/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass

CMFNEO Annual Conference is March 22, 2014



ACTION PLAN: This week I will draw closer to Jesus in my life by:

- † Seeking God in Prayer and being Quiet in His presence
- † Asking for Forgiveness for the times I have been unfaithful to God
- † Asking Jesus for Help to accept Obedience to His Work
- † Asking Jesus for Help in becoming a better servant



"An infinite God can give all of Himself to each of His children. He does not distribute Himself that each may have a part, but to each one He gives all of Himself as fully as if there were no others."
A.W. Tozer"

kevinmartineau.ca

Stop hating yourself for everything you aren't. Start loving yourself for everything that you **are...**

A Prayer to Bless One's Life

Lord, I love you and need you, Come into my heart, and Bless me, my family, my home, and my friends, in the Sweet and Holy Name of Jesus Christ. Amen

Studying the wisdom inherent in the Word has unexpected benefits and pays tremendous dividends. What happens to our lives when we make such a shift in our prayer approach to God? What does the Wisdom of God tell us in terms of expectations, and thus in



"Attribute to God every good that you have received. If you take credit for something that does not belong to you, you will be guilty of theft." *St. Anthony of Padua - Feast day is June 13th*

How to Avoid Purgatory

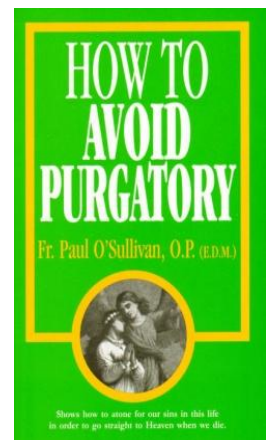
The Fifth Means of avoiding Purgatory is simply asking God for this Grace.

Wise Catholics have a really great secret that is well worth our learning and using for our benefit:

God promises us in the most solemn and deliberate way that He will give us everything we ask in prayer, if it is good for us.

Every time we say the Hail Mary, let us say with all the fervor of our hearts the words: "Pray for us sinners now and *at the hour of our death*. Amen."

Fr. Paul O'Sullivan, O.P



BOLD PRAYER

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee and I detest all my sins, because I fear the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.

