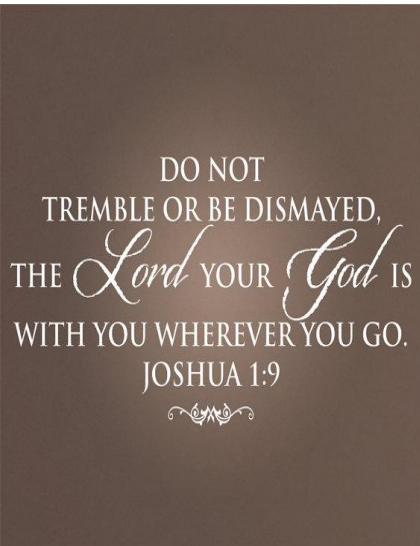


St. Hilary Men's Group 3.9.2013

Perserving in Love – Teaching our Children

No family is perfect ...except for the Holy Family. Today's typical family is not only imperfect by past standards, but by today's more permissive standards. One might say that "messiness" is the new norm with a more "traditional" family being the exception.



With this in mind, the rare gift of Forgiveness becomes even more dear because of the scarcity of it and it's rareness. Modern Culture tells us that revenge, retribution and payback are in vogue and should be achieved.

Contemporary families are far and away anything but the example of "Ozzie & Harriet" emblematic and would be more aptly described as anything goes. As such, our Jesuit Soldiers of Christ described Modern Culture as the World, the Flesh and the Devil.

With this definition in mind, how we might improve our families and the relationships within. How might we reconcile this noble and accurate identification in today's world of Moral Relativism? How does the rare gift of forgiveness come into play for our family? Is this a gift we should give to our families and therefore teach our children how to participate in forgiveness?

Let us come to know God more though Modern Comment, Holy Scripture and our Catechism.

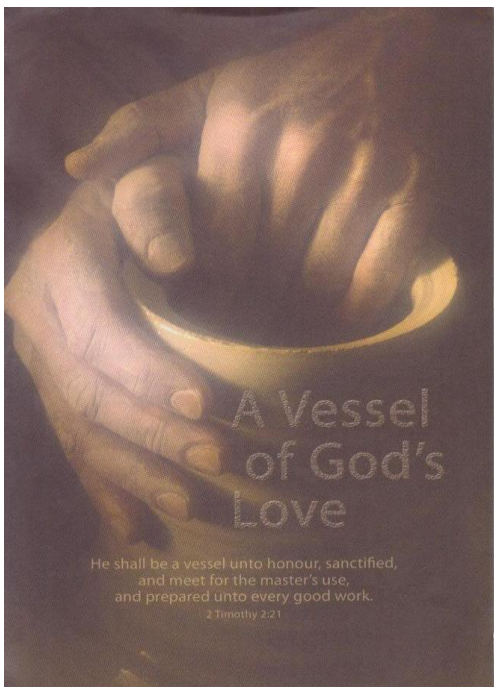
Deuteronomy 6:4-9

"Hear, O Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD alone! Therefore, you shall love the LORD, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Take to heart these words which I enjoin on you today. Drill them into your children. Speak of them at home and abroad, whether you are busy or at rest.

Bind them at your wrist as a sign and let them be as a pendant on your forehead. Write them on the doorposts of your houses and on your gates.





Proverbs 22:6

Train a boy in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not swerve from it.

Ephesians 6:1-4

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise, "that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life on earth."

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

The Word of the Lord

Catechism

2221 Babies are just the start

The richness of marital love cannot be reduced solely to the procreation of children, but must extend to their moral education and their spiritual formation. "The role of parents in education is of such importance that it is almost impossible to provide an adequate substitute." The right and the duty of parents to educate their children are ancient and absolute.

2222 Children are reflections of God

Parents must regard their children as children of God and respect them as human persons. Showing themselves obedient to the will of the Father in heaven, they educate their children to fulfill God's law.

2223 Parents are 1st Teachers

Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and fair-minded service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery - the preconditions of all true freedom.



Parents should teach their children to subordinate the "material and instinctual dimensions to interior and spiritual ones.

Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children. By knowing how to acknowledge their own failings to their children, parents will be better able to guide and correct them: He who loves his son will not spare the rod. . . . He who disciplines his son will profit by him.

2224 The family is a reflection of God

The home is the natural environment for initiating a human being into solidarity and public responsibilities. Parents should teach children to avoid the compromising and degrading influences which threaten human societies.



Questions to Focus On

#1 What are your most important duties of a parent in the raising of your children?

#2 How have you experienced the wisdom of Proverbs 22:6, either in your life or in the life of someone you know? Is the easiest way always the best way? Explain.

#3 How can fathers fulfill the instructions in Ephesians 6:1-4 to bring children up with the training and instruction of the Lord, yet without provoking their anger?

#4 The Catechism also instructs parents and children alike to be generous and tireless in forgiving. How can parents best teach forgiveness? Give an example.



A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.



Men's Group Calendar

3/23/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
4/13/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
4/27/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
5/11/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
5/25/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
6/8/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
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



ACTION PLAN: This week I will draw closer to Jesus in my life by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">† Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence.† Asking for Forgiveness in prayer for the times I have been unfaithful to God.† Asking Jesus for help to accept His forgiveness, so that I can forgive others...and teach others to forgive.† Thanking him for my life and all the people and things in it.† Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant.

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



**"Whatever thou doest, offer it up to God and pray it may be for His honor and glory."
-- St. Teresa of Avila**



St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle.

Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil.

May God rebuke him, we humbly pray,
and do thou,

O Prince of the heavenly host,

by the power of God,

thrust into hell Satan,

and all the evil spirits,

who prowl about the world

seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

**BOLD
PRAYER**

**O glorious prince St. Michael,
chief and commander of the heavenly hosts,
guardian of souls, vanquisher of rebel spirits,
servant in the house of the Divine King
and our admirable conductor,
you who shine with excellence
and superhuman virtue deliver us from all evil,
who turn to you with confidence
and enable us by your gracious protection
to serve God more and more faithfully every day.
Amen.**