

10.12.2013

The Our Father **A Different POV**

The Our Father can be described as the greatest Prayer to God. It contains all the necessary elements to put one in direct and constant contact with the Deity, our Loving Father in Heaven. In our quest to become near perfection, that is to be near to God, the Holy Spirit guides us as we discern the right paths to take in trials. These trials are necessary for growth of the inner man. It becomes increasingly important to resist temptation as it leads to sin and death.

The Our Father becomes not only a prayer, but a way of life that has a profound impact in our happiness. It is a font and true source of Wisdom and a perfected way to a relationship with God. Thus bringing Him to life in our lives.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven, give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil . Amen.

Just 56 small words. 231 strokes of a pen. First spoken in a culture that was largely illiterate, had no regular publications and told their history from voice to ear. There were no Rock Stars, Sports Heroes, Cultural Icons, Facebook, Twitter Accounts or Email. No one created a CD, DVD, YouTube or electronic image of the speaking of those words.

Yet, somehow these words have traversed about 2,000 years of Human History that has seen great tragedies, hopes, failures, ascents of the spirit, wars, births, literature, art, music and concepts. These words have survived air travel, boats that crossed oceans on and under the sea and flights into space.



These words speak to our very hearts in a powerful communication to God. He who is omniscient, all powerful and everywhere at once....right now, has been here forever and is infinite into the future. These tender words speak of forgiveness and mercy. They grace the lips of people who are about to meet God face-to-face and those who pray for a little more time on Earth.

It is a message from Jesus the Man, our brother, to our God. He taught us this and thus it spans Time, Space and Human History. It is the Lord's Prayer that is now given special for each one of us to cherish.

Presentation



Mathew 18: 21-22

Then Peter, approaching asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.

James 1:13-15

No one experiencing temptation should say, "I am being tempted by God"; for God is not subject to temptation to evil, and he himself tempts no one.

Rather, each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire conceives and brings forth sin, and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to death.

The Word of the Lord.

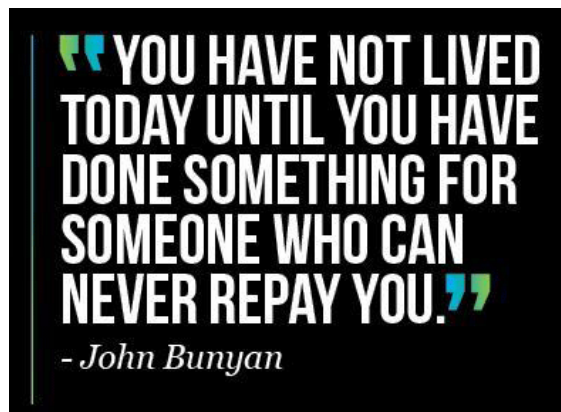
Catechism

CCC 2847

The Holy Spirit makes us discern between trials, which are necessary for growth of the inner man, and temptation, which leads to sin and death. We must also discern between being tempted and consenting to temptation. Finally, discernment unmasks the lie of temptation, whose object appears to be good, a "delight to the eyes" and desirable, when in reality its fruit is death.

CCC 2850

The last petition to our Father is also included in Jesus' prayer: "I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one." It touches each of us personally, but it is always "we" who pray, in communion with the whole Church, for deliverance of the whole human family. The Lord's Prayer continually opens us to the range of God's salvation.





Modern Comment

Scripture is full of assurances that God will hear and answer our prayers. Of course, there's a danger in taking this wonderful truth and turning God into a personal valet, ready to meet our every whim and fancy. In our praying, we have a responsibility to seek God's will. Our wish is not His command.

Perhaps the best way to avoid turning your prayer time into reciting a wish list is to remember that prayer is a real relationship. It's not magic.

God has invited us into a relationship with Him and provided us the means to reach Him, through His Son. When we ask Him for good gifts – something He encourages us to do – we should remember that we're talking to someone who loves us, wants what's best for us, and knows what we really need.

Most importantly, when we go to God in prayer, we are communing with the One who seeks a relationship of love with us.

*Lord, help me to pray not as an exercise of my will, but a surrender to Yours.
Thank You for Your goodness to me. Amen.*



Questions to Focus on:

1 What part of the Dialogue you just heard resonates with you?

2 It is said to be careful for what you ask for in prayer as God may grant your desire. Do you have any examples in your life you can share? Both positives and negatives.

3 Any ideas on how we can pray not as an exercise of our will, but as a surrender to God's will?



A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.

Men's Group Calendar

10/26/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
11/9/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
11/23/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
12/14/2013	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
12/28/2013	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
1/11/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
1/25/2014	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
2/8/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass

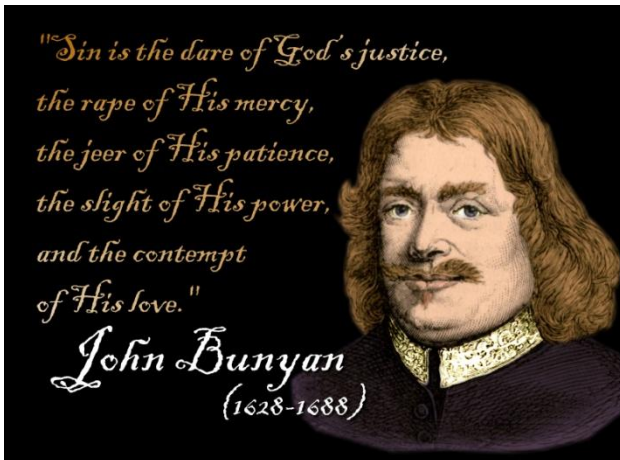
***** CMFNEO Annual Conference is March 22, 2014 *****

Reminder: Special Presentation by Harry Donovan at 9AM (see page 8)



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself, forgive me, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave. Amen

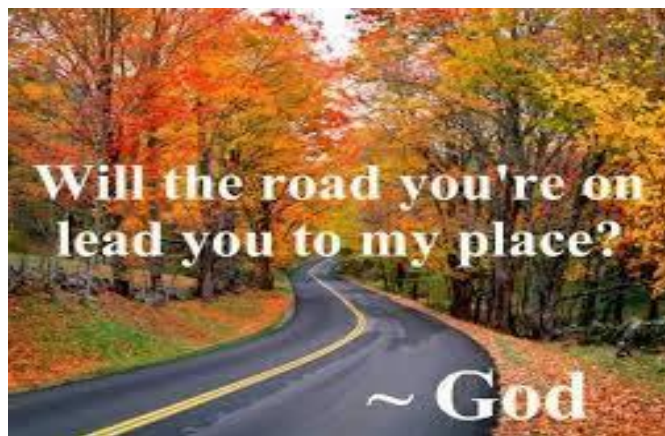


A Classic Devotional from John Bunyan

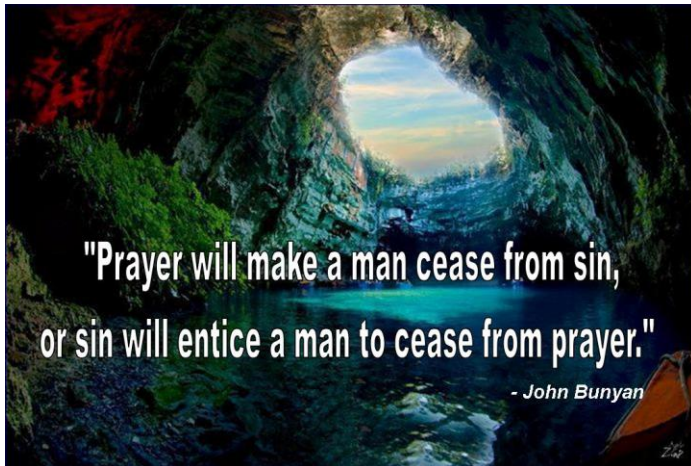
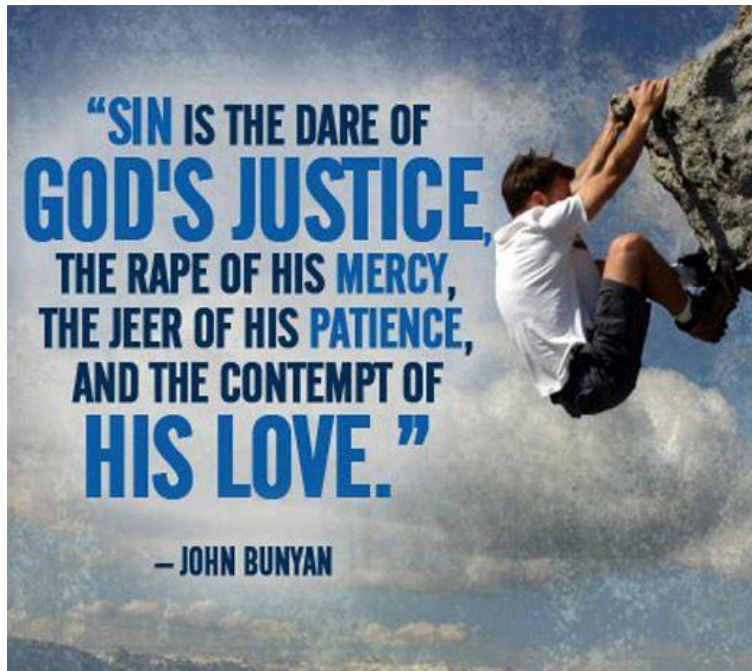
Your Will Be Done.

As Christ has taught us, prayer must say, "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (Matthew 6:10); therefore the people of the Lord in humility are to lay themselves and their prayers, and all that they have, at the feet of their God, to be disposed of by him as he in his heavenly wisdom sees best.

And never doubting that God will answer the desire of his people in a way that will be most advantageous for them and for his glory. Therefore when the saints pray with submission to the will of God, they are not to doubt or question God's love and kindness to them. But because they are not always wise, and sometimes Satan may take advantage of them, so as to tempt them to pray for that which, if they had it, would neither be to God's glory nor for his people's good.



Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
Ephesians 6:10-11



ACTION PLAN

This week I will do my best to bring God into my heart by:

Creating a daily prayer practice

Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence

Asking God for strength to resist temptation and sin

Paying more attention to Blessing those in my life as God intends

Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant

The Our Father in Different Words



Dearest Father who is everywhere at all moments in time,
Your name is Most Holy, Most Sacred.
Your kingdom is come in our Hearts and Minds.
Your will is throughout the Earth even as it is throughout the universe.
You fill our needs from day to day,
And you forgive us our offenses without reservation.
We must likewise forgive our offenders.
Let us not be lured by things of this Earth.
Have Mercy on us always, keeping us separate us from evil, error and sin.
Because yours are the kingdom, the power and the song of praise.
From all ages, throughout all ages.
Sealed in Faith, Trust, Truth and Love. Amen.

Amended from Expanded translation by Dr. RA Errico - RJ Bradner

May you embrace and invite Jesus into your heart as Lord, God and Savior.

May God Bless You.
St. Hilary Men's Group.



Dismiss all anger and look into yourself a little. Remember that he of whom you are speaking is your brother, and as he is in the way of salvation, God can make him a saint, in spite of his present weakness.

St Thomas of Villanova

UNLEASH THE POWER OF GOD'S BLESINGS IN YOUR LIVES

Harry Donovan

After the Men's Group Meeting - On Saturday, October 12th at 9AM our good friend and blessing, Harry Donovan will be spending some time with us to share his Secrets of Success. It will be an informal session with plenty of time for Questions & Answers.

Some Topics to be covered.

- Greater Material Wealth
- Freedom from Money Worries
- More Financial Discipline, the Basis of Wealth
- An enhanced reputation and wider recognition in the Community
- The Satisfaction of following God's Law
- The Sheer Joy of Giving

This is a joint presentation of the Men's Group and Knights of Columbus. There will be an Intermission from the end of the regularly scheduled Men's Group Meeting to the beginning of Harry's talk.

Feel free to attend either meeting at your convenience. Do consider beginning the morning with 7AM Mass, followed by Coffee & Donuts and a presentation on the "Our Father" at the Men's Group.

If you want God to hear your prayers, hear the voice of the poor. If you wish God to anticipate your wants, provide those of the needy without waiting for them to ask you. Especially anticipate the needs of those who are ashamed to beg. To make them ask for alms is to make them buy it.

St Thomas of Villanova

