

6.12.2021

INTO THE BREACH #3 – BAND OF BROTHERS

Men for all Seasons

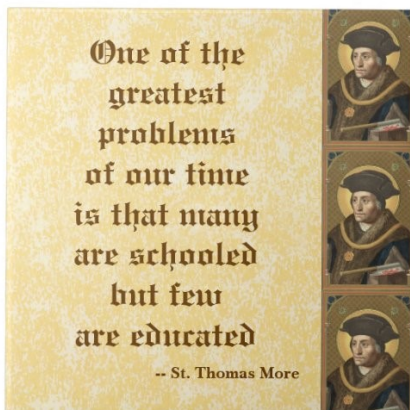
There was a man who lived a life of privilege, found favor with a king acting as his diplomatic ambassador, coined the word “utopia,” defended the Catholic faith, and was eventually beheaded for doing so. He was known as Sir Thomas More and eventually was canonized in 1935 by Pope Pius XI. In 1967, the movie *A Man for all Seasons* won the Academy Award for Best picture, Best Actor, Best Director, and Best Adapted Screenplay. Saint Thomas More’s story is about courage, conviction, and character—something every Catholic man will need during these troubling times.



Perhaps the reason there is so much discontent in society is the ninth letter of the alphabet: The letter “I”. If I am too caught up in my own world, the needs and concerns of others become insignificant. If I fear standing up for what I know a Christian man is expected to do, the courage needed to defend my beliefs will come at the expense of my faith, my family, and my community. And if I choose to walk away from what God is calling me to do, how can I expect Him to be at my side during my darkest hour? Ironically, the letter “I” is the opening salvo for Injustice, Immorality, Infanticide, Infidelity, Idleness, Intolerance, Iniquity and Ideology—a word that describes who we are and what we believe.

As brothers in Christ, do you accept the following?

- Evil exists, sin exists, and Satan exists.
- Abortion is wrong. The 5th Commandment ends the debate regardless of rape, unborn babies with Trisomy chromosome 21, or arguments’ declaring it’s a woman’s choice. God gave Catholic men life, and He expects them to defend life!
- High school football players should be allowed to say a prayer before or after the game.
- Children should be allowed to sing a Christmas carol in the school play.
- Christian men should defend the words, “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance as well as challenge any movement that Judeo-Christian teachings are undemocratic, insensitive, and judgmental.
- Men in prison who claim to be victims of gender dysphoria should not be reassigned to female prisons.
- There is no excuse for using the “freedom of speech” argument to protect organizations which advocate sex between adults and children. (e.g. NAMBLA)
- Government-funded programming encouraging schools to teach children transgender, abortion, or homosexuality choices, is immoral.



- Defunding the police at a time when crime is skyrocketing is at best irresponsible.
- Allowing educators to teach their personal ideology in the classroom is dangerous.
- Accepting pro-abortion politicians who claim to be a Catholic-in-good-standing is hypocritical.

Into the Breach: Why Men Need a Band of Brothers—is a reminder that we can't do it alone. We need Christ. We need courage, conviction, and character. And we need each other if we are to become, Men for all Seasons.



Let us pay close attention to Holy Scripture and Catechism. May God bless us with His Wisdom, His Work and the wherewithal to complete the mission He's given us. Amen.

Holy Scripture

Romans 8:5-11 – The Flesh and the Spirit

For those who live according to the flesh are concerned with the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the spirit with the things of the spirit.

The concern of the flesh is death, but the concern of the spirit is life and peace. For the concern of the flesh is hostility toward God; it does not submit to the law of God, nor can it; and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the spirit is alive because of righteousness.

If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Romans 12:1-2 – Sacrifice of Body and Mind

I urge you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

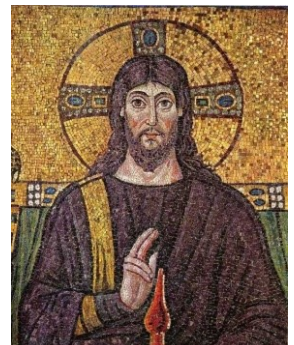
Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

The Word of the Lord

Catechism

CCC 1776 – Moral Conscience

Deep within his conscience, man discovers a law which he has not laid upon himself but which he must obey. Its voice, ever calling him to love and to do what is good and to avoid evil, sounds in his heart at the right moment. . . . For man has in his heart a law inscribed by God. . . . His conscience is man's most secret core and his sanctuary. There he is alone with God whose voice echoes in his depths.



Modern Comment

Why Men Need a Band of Brothers

YouTube Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ji9VWv0evMM>

Into the Breach: Why Men Need a Band of Brothers—is a reminder that we can't do it alone. We need Christ. We need courage, conviction, and character. And we need each other if we are to become, Men for all Seasons.

Conviction or complacency, taking a stand, or walking away...these behaviors represent the alternatives Catholic men face. Sooner or later choices must be made. Perhaps we should ask ourselves when was the last time someone's indifference gave us confidence in that individual. If they refuse to take a position on what is good or evil how can we trust the reasons for their behavior? Said another way, "Do you know any happy cowards?"

How many people are truly pleased with today's political system, education system, justice system, media, Wall Street, the entertainment industry, or cultural trends impacting our country? And can we honestly say that the great majority of today's parents have the skills to raise moral children in this immoral world?

While we weigh our answers to the above questions, it may be helpful to contemplate what the following passage means:

***"I know your works; I know that you are neither cold nor hot.
I wish you were either cold or hot. So, because you are lukewarm, neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth."
Rev. 3: 15-16***



Questions to Focus on:

1. Are there any statements in the Page 1 Bullet Points you would not be comfortable defending? Why?

2. Conversely, what three or four Bullet Points are you most willing to defend? Why?

3. As Catholic men, what can you do to set an example for family, friends, and your "band of brothers" in the fight against evil?



Men's Group Calendar

A Man who never quits is Never Defeated. We are ordinary men who labor for Christ.

JULY & AUGUST	SUMMER VACATION	NO SATURDAY MASS
8/27/2021	Leadership Meet	9:30 AM Meeting Room 1
9/11/2021	MEN'S GROUP	7 AM Mass
9/24/2021	Leadership Meet	9:30 AM Meeting Room 1
10/9/2021	MEN'S GROUP	7 AM Mass

NOTE: A Rosary starts in the Reservation Chapel immediately following the meeting.



The Memorare

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, we unto fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do we come; before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer us. Amen.

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruination of souls. Amen.



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing. Come dwell in my heart.

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.

Thank you for your tender mercies. I ask you to Bless my family, friends and those who I meet on this path. Give them your Joy, Peace and Mercy. Where there is doubt, release in them renewed confidence in the Holy Spirit. Fill their every need with your Holy Grace.

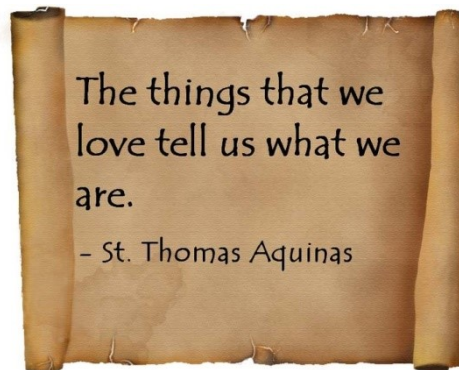
**You are indeed my Lord, God and Savior.
Amen. And AMEN.**

St. Thomas More - Forgiveness and Charity

More was persecuted and betrayed by many people who were close to him. He had served under the King in devotion and loyalty. In the end he was abandoned by his friends who chose the way of the world. More truly understood the Agony in the Garden, the carrying of the Cross, and martyrdom. Through it all he maintained a Christ-like disposition.



When his sentence was handed down, he did not yell, rant, or fight. He stood his ground in love and forgiveness. At his trial he told the judges, "we may yet hereafter in heaven merrily all meet together to everlasting salvation." He did not hold them in contempt, but continued to hope for the salvation of their souls regardless of what they were about to do to him. His countenance remained rooted in charity and forgiveness until the end.



Church of the Nativity
Bethlehem, Israel 2017

Jesus wants us to make choices that reflect His presence in our hearts.

Life constantly presents us with opportunities to choose to love & serve one another.

It is not about us, it is about reaching out in love.

Go to the Author of Life.

Go to the Sacraments of Confession & Communion often.