

11.13.2021

INTO THE BREACH #6 – FATHERHOOD

Reviving Men's Family Role

We are being called as Men of Christ to embrace wholeheartedly masculine virtues in an imperfect and broken world. The gravity of our duty as Men of Christ, offers us an invitation to renew Christ-based Masculinity.



Today we will discuss Fatherhood in the Immediate and Extended Family and how we can develop it into a Blessing for all concerned. Fathers must be the guards in the doors of children's souls. Part of this mission includes being Humble and asking for Forgiveness when needed.

The Prince of Darkness is currently waging an open attack against the concept of Fatherhood in our country. 41% of children are now born into unmarried homes versus 6% in 1950. Father absence is common at every level of society. Avoidance of fatherhood has resulted because the culture has downgraded the traditional importance. This has a direct impact on a child's understanding of family life, conjugal love and our Heavenly Father.

Current culture has devolved to show little interest and expectations from fathers. There are those in our culture who promote the concept that a male's only needed participation in the family, is as a sperm donor. They wish to erase all distinctions between mothers & fathers, ignoring traditions that reach back into prehistoric and Biblical times.

Truth be told, the presence of men in a healthy family is irreplaceable! It is vital that fathers, grandfathers, uncles, brothers, nephews, etc. step up and lovingly, patiently assume their God-given role as protector, provider and spiritual director of their home and/or extended family.



This is never to be a role of tyrant, bully or oppressor but a role as loving leader and gentle guide for family members. Such fatherhood, in its own, humble way reflects, the Fatherhood of God, the Father to all children ever born.

This morning we are going to view a video outlining what action is needed today to restore Fatherhood to its Scripture inspired position. May God Bless us and all men with the strength and energy to do what is needed to restore traditional Christian Family Values. Amen.

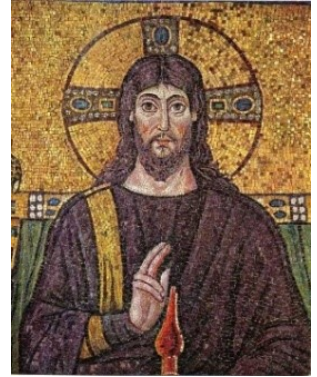
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

YouTube Video <https://youtu.be/5-1fk5Eux34>

Holy Scripture

Proverbs 4:1-5 – Fathers Lead in Wisdom

Here, O children, a father's instruction, be attentive, that you may gain understanding! Yes, excellent advice I give you; my teaching do not forsake. When I was my father's child, the darling of my mother, he taught me and said to me: "Let your heart hold fast my words: keep my commands and live! Get wisdom, get understanding! Do not forget or turn aside from the words of my mouth."



Luke 11:11-13– A Father's Protection

What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?

Ephesians 6:4– Remove the Burden of Anger

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

CCC 2223 – Parental Guidance

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 service to others 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 for 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 able better able to guide and correct them.



Modern Comment

Reviving Men's Role in the Immediate & Extended Family

Jim Kilcoyne

Freedom

As I watched this month's video, I was struck by how these apparently average looking men are filled with so much energy to protect their families from the cultural poison around them. They embrace lovingly and patiently their God-given role as protector, provider and spiritual leader of their home.



As noted earlier, a father's role as spiritual head of the family must never be understood or undertaken as domination over others, but as a loving leadership and a gentle guidance for those in his care.

When we work at performing our fatherhood role in hidden, humble ways, it reflects the Fatherhood of God the Father, to those whom the Lord has given us to Lead, Nurture and Father.

Men, your presence and mission in the family is irreplaceable.
Let's look at How Men Can Make a Difference



Make yourself relevant to your family:

Strive to keep a healthy balance between family involvement and work involvement.

Ask for forgiveness when appropriate:

It is easy to make misjudgments that can lead to anger, speaking unkindly to children and their mother, breaking promises or displaying some other bad example.

Protect children and grandchildren from our secular society:

Avoid exposure of young people to harmful social media, television and internet material.

Lead a virtuous life:

Be a model and pass on these virtues to children and grandchildren. Children learn to mimic adult's reactions to disappointment & set-backs. Anger never solves a problem. Calm judgment is always a better choice.

Assume responsibility for educating and forming children and grandchildren to lead a Catholic Christian life:

This includes attending weekly Mass; Leading the family in daily prayer, grace before meals, the Holy Rosary, etc.; Ensuring children and grandchildren are educated in the authentic teachings of the Church; and regular use of the Holy Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Questions to Focus on:

1. As a father, grandfather, uncle, husband, friend, teacher, coach etc., what steps have you taken to help a young person learn to live a Christian life? Explain.

2. Based upon what you have seen this morning, what changes in your life style and things of this world, do you think would help you become more successful as a Christian role model for a young person you know?

**Men's Group Calendar**

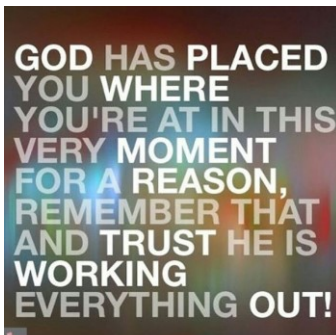
A Man who never quits is Never Defeated. We are ordinary men who labor for Christ.

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|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 11/26/2021 | Leadership Meet | 9:30 AM Meeting Room 1 |
| 12/11/2021 | MEN'S GROUP | 7 AM Mass |
| 12/17/2021 | Leadership Meet | 9:30 AM Meeting Room 1 |
| 1/8/2022 | 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.

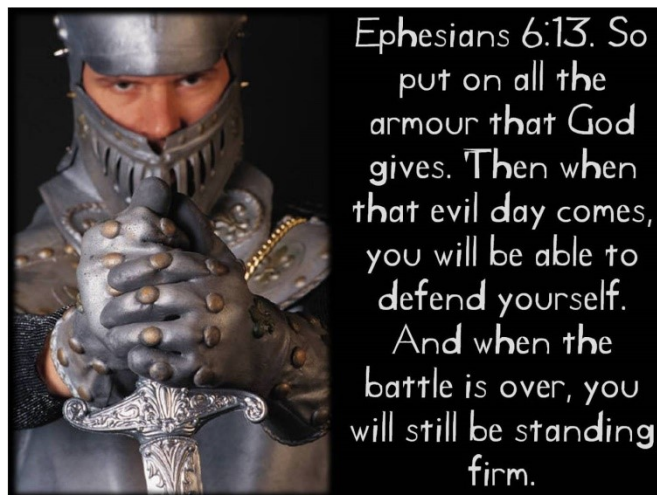


Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself. Forgive me – the sinner that I am, and fill me with every good thing. Come dwell in my heart.

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.**



Ephesians 6:13. So put on all the armour that God gives. Then when that evil day comes, you will be able to defend yourself. And when the battle is over, you will still be standing firm.



Church of the Nativity
Bethlehem, Israel 2017

Foregiveness is a Gift that we give first to ourselvesm then to the other.

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.

