



Fraternity of Fatherhood

A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

Volume 2

Issue 2

June 10, 2013

Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT — “Letter to Men”



Dear Fathers:

I pray that this journey on the path of holiness will be exciting for you. You have a great desire to be formed after the heart of God, who is our heavenly Father! The world and much more the evil one, does not want you to become a father.

Being a father means understanding that it is a call. When you see fatherhood as a gift you will accept it in

humility and gratitude. Humility comes from the fact that you are weak. The pressures of the world are strong and flesh seems to have its way. Gratitude come from the fact that the Lord is your Shepherd and He is with you always. With Him all things are possible. As you allow Him to guide your steps in holiness you will witness His wonders. In this vocation there are certain demands, challenges, struggles and
(continued on page 5)

A Love Letter for The Father, on Father’s Day

by Aaron Bull

Dear Father, Daddy, God, Jehovah:

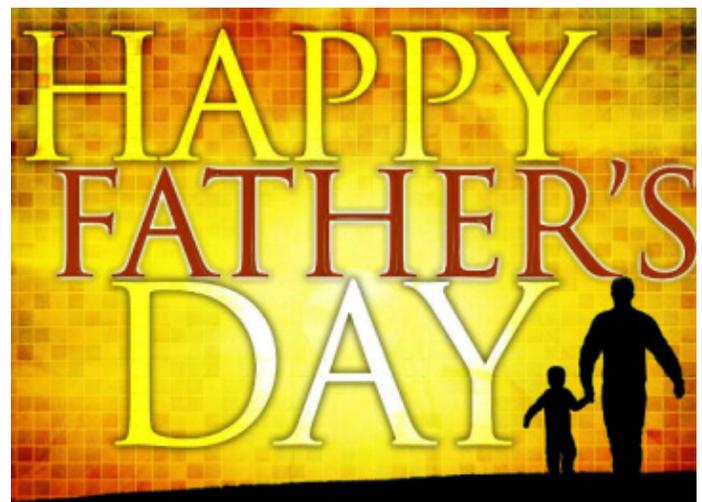
What a Day!?! A day to remember who has taught me, guided me and instilled wisdom in me my entire life. You have promised countless times that You love me. You have promised countless times that You will never leave me. You even went so far as to show me how much You love me by sending your only Son. Can I ask for anything else? Of course I can, and I always do. As any good father would do, You do what You feel is right in whether or not I should get what I ask for.

I hope one day to be even half or even a quarter of the Father You’ve been to me. I hope that when my kids need something, I’m there for them as You have been for me. I hope that when my kids have questions, that I’m there for them as You have been for me. I hope that when they are going through good times or bad that I’m there for them, just as You have always been there for me.

So I end this letter by thanking You for being my Father and by writing that I have been VERY blessed by being one of Your children! Furthermore, I want to thank You for your undivided attention for me by treating me as Your only child when I’m talking, even though You have countless children.

Happy Father’s Day! Love your son

Aaron



Men's Retreat in Sacramento—June 8, 2013

The men of the Fraternity of Fatherhood, men from the parish Center building committee and Cursillo, collaborated at St. Mel Parish in Fair Oaks, California (a suburb of Sacramento) to host a One Day Men's Retreat. The theme of the retreat was men's day of Faith Renewal. We were inspired by the call to a Year of Faith by Emeritus, Pope Benedict. Our response was to have a Day of Faith renewal. Men were invited to renew the fire The Lord places in their hearts through the gifts and truths of the Catholic faith. The retreat was held on Saturday, June 8 in our new Parish Center. We had 202 men and 6 Priests join us that blessed day. Dozens of men went to confession. We are very grateful to our dear Priests.

We were very blessed to have as our retreat master for the day; **Deacon Harold Bourke Sivers (below)** of the Diocese of Portland Oregon. The Deacon is one of the most sought after speakers in the Church today. He hosts several shows on EWTN and gives lectures, conferences and retreats all over the world. One day prior to arriving at St. Mel's, the deacon was in Australia and Rome taping a show for EWTN on the early Church. The Deacon gave incredibly strong teachings. The men were truly inspired this day. Some said that "it was a day that changed my life."

Our day began with the Holy Rosary and Mass. We had some social time after Mass praising God with the band and enjoying a continental breakfast. We then had the teachings and all shared in an amazingly good catered lunch of BBQ Chicken, Pulled Pork and Tri Tip! One talk was called:

Seeing Christ in the light of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The second talk was:

Living each day with a Eucharistic Heart



Men's Retreat in Sacramento—June 8, 2013



The purpose of this retreat was to bring men closer to Christ.

Our desire was to draw many men from throughout the Diocese to join us as we look to Jesus as our strength, and for men to take their rightful place in The Church, their homes, community and workplace as Catholic/Christian leaders and servants.

Our hope from this retreat was that men:

- Are encouraged
- Are inspired
- Are challenged and reassured in their faith
- Realize they are not alone
- Grow in Holiness

Re-focus on the most important things in their lives

- Grow in virtue
- Bond as men in Jesus Christ
- Are strengthened in constant vigilance



Please pray that all of us men may continue on a path to holiness and service to Christ our King. May we truly be the men God calls us to be.



CARRY YOUR FAMILY IN YOUR HEART - A CALL TO HOLINESS

A husband/father's guide to his vocation and spiritual direction. Each Newsletter focuses on one of the Guidelines or Areas of Growth from the "Carry Your Family In Your Heart" book. These guidelines to our Fatherhood Vocation & Spiritual Formation have been formatted based on the Fatherhood Retreat Guideline Teachings & under Spiritual Direction of Fr. Santan Pinto, S.O.L.T.

Guideline: FORGIVENESS

Men, most often, have great difficulty with forgiveness. By being able to forgive we show our greatness; we have to be able to let go. After all, we really don't have power to forgive anyhow. By letting go, we can ask God to forgive. We give it to Him and don't take it back.

"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do". By letting go, giving the problem to the Father, we ask for His forgiveness. By doing so, we come to better understanding of God's mercy.

God's forgiveness starts with us. Often times we believe in God's mercy and forgiveness but are not able to let go of our selfness. We hold the hurt to us tight. Without forgiveness we don't allow ourselves to make mistakes, we become critical of others, we lack compassion and understanding, we become miserable and bitter. Without forgiveness we destroy the relationships that God has given us; relationships with our brothers, sisters, wife, parents and children. Peace cannot be in a family without forgiveness.

God's mercy and forgiveness are infinite. Don't limit God working through you by not letting go. Let go. Healing our pain begins with forgiveness.

- Scripture Reading Matt 5:38-48

Love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you. You must do this to be a child of your heavenly Father. We are no different from the sinner if all we do is love those who love us or help those that help us. The real child of God is one who helps another because that person is your brother or sister in Christ. We have not grown in Charity at all or performed an act of Charity if all we do is help the one we are close to or the one that helps us in return. How often do we find ourselves not helping someone move or help out on a project because we say to ourselves that they never help us. Jesus says what is unusual about that! Don't pagans do the same?

- Scripture Reading Matt 18:21-35

Forgive from the heart. There is no limit to times we should forgive. Not forgiving leads us to bitterness; we are miserable. Look at the unforgiving servant. He seized his fellow servant, choked him and had him put in prison. Not to mention he did this right after his master had forgiven him for an even bigger debt. Jesus forgives us for all. Don't limit God working through us by not forgiving. Why would we risk eternal life by not showing the same mercy that God shows us.

- Scripture Reading Luke 6:27-36

Be merciful just as your Father is merciful. Love your enemies and perform acts of charity; not just to those that can return the favor. In fact, be anxious to help those that cannot return the favor. That is a real act of charity. Jesus tells us that your reward will be great and you are a child of the most high.

Fr. Pinto SOLT - Letter to Men (continued from page 1)

responsibilities. It is the grace that counts. All we have to do is open our hearts to the graces God gives us.

This training program is a journey. You discover your identity and recognize your dignity. In understanding your vocation you grow in holiness. You learn to serve as St. Joseph did and realize that God has entrusted His children to your fatherly care!

With my priestly blessings,

Fr. Santan Pinto, SOLT
Society of Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity



**“YOU LEARN TO SERVE AS
ST. JOSEPH DID AND
REALIZE THAT GOD HAS
ENTRUSTED HIS CHILDREN
TO YOUR FATHERLY
CARE!”**

Fr. Santan Pinto SOLT

Fraternity Sacramento Men

Meet every third Wednesday of the month.

We meet at Denny's in Orangevale at 7 pm.

We have been reviewing and discussing the Catechism for the year of faith. Please contact Mike Allison with any questions at email address... (meallison5@gmail.com)

Hope you can join!

Fraternity of Fatherhood—Group locations & Area Coordinators

Fr. Pinto has encouraged us to grow and expand the Fraternity of Fatherhood all over the world. He has granted us his permission, his blessing and he guides us spiritually. It is with this confidence that we now move forward with humility, obedience and docile hearts. If you are interested in joining a Fraternity of Fatherhood group or if you would like to start a group in your city contact Ray Emnace, Mike Allison, Stacey Hill or Brendan McVicker.

Arkansas

Steve Osborn	(501) 664-5379	(501) 529-5615	SteveO@oca-actuaries.com	Little Rock
--------------	----------------	----------------	--------------------------	-------------

California

Ray Emnace	(661) 513-4216	(213) 531-1999	Raceman502@aol.com	Los Angeles
Mike Allison	(916) 436-4049	(916) 834-6226	meallison5@gmail.com	Fair Oaks

Mississippi

Don Brewer	(662) 253-5146	(901) 299-1989	don@memphis2u.com	Olive Branch
------------	----------------	----------------	-------------------	--------------

Nevada

Stacey Hill	(775) 787-6275	(775) 762-5217	cerrosamor@sbcglobal.net	Reno
-------------	----------------	----------------	--------------------------	------

Oregon

Brendan McVicker	(503) 657-0484	(503) 358-4963	mcvickerfamily@comcast.net	West Linn
------------------	----------------	----------------	----------------------------	-----------

Texas

Donald Lange	(210) 404-1330	(210) 875-7869	LangeDP@BV.com	San Antonio
--------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	-------------

**“Ask Jesus what
He wants from
you and be
brave!”**

- Pope Francis





Fraternity Portland, Oregon Menmeet every second Saturday of the month.

We meet at St. Mary's Cathedral for 7:30AM Mass followed by our breakfast meeting at the Kingston Grill. We conclude at 9:30AM.

Our group consists of single and married men. Right now we are studying the "Carry Your Family In Your Heart" Fatherhood Guidelines. Contact Brendan 503-358-4963.

Hope you can join!

A Fraternity for All Men

The Fraternity of Fatherhood is for men of all ages. Our desire is to serve the Lord in all areas of our lives and to especially model our gift and responsibilities as fathers after the example of God the Father and His goodness. We support men; meeting them where they are. We engage in one-on-one friendships and provide opportunities for group activity, support and formation.

We entrust the Fatherhood Fraternity to the patronage of Saint Joseph.

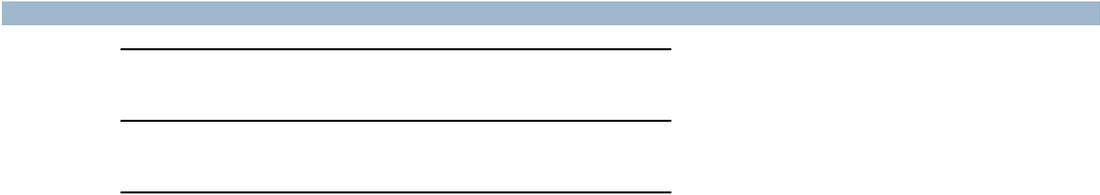
Our Mission

To serve as men dedicated to the Lord in all aspects of our lives. To encourage and support men / fathers throughout the world in their gift and responsibilities as fathers. To encourage and support fathers "to respond" to their vocation, to protect and remain strong carrying their families in their hearts. Our desire is to be united to The Lord and fulfill our holy mission as fathers.

What is it we hope to do?

Bring men / fathers, closer to God by inviting them to learn their faith, challenging them to live their faith and encouraging them to love and share their faith. In addition, we invite those not married as this is a time to discern their vocation and calling in the Church.

As Fraternity of Fatherhood members, we are committed to grow and be formed spirituality, to support each other, to be active and supportive in our parishes. We are committed to learn who we are as Catholic men, to be discovered through our life experiences, prayer, studying Scripture and the documents of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, obedience to the Holy Roman Pontiff, our Roman Catholic Bishops and our parish Pastors. The formation of "Fatherhood" takes place in our hearts. Being a father means understanding that it is a call. When Fatherhood is received as a gift, it is accepted in humility and gratitude. Humility comes from the fact that we are weak. The pressures of the world are strong and flesh seems to have its way. Gratitude comes from the fact that the Lord is our Shepherd and He is with us always. With Him all things are possible.



POSTAGE

Fraternity of Fatherhood

Happy Father's Day

We entrust the Fatherhood Fraternity to the patronage of St. Joseph.



St. Joseph ...Pray For Us.



This Fraternity of Fatherhood Newsletter is published every 90 days. Next edition: Sept. 2013

To submit feedback and/or suggestions for future articles, please email the editors,

- Brendan McVicker mcvickerfamily@comcast.net
- Mike Allison meallison5@gmail.com
- Ray Emnace raceman502@aol.com
- Stacey Hill cerrosamor@sbcglobal.net