



Fraternity of Fatherhood

A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

Volume 3

Issue 3

Sept 10, 2014

A Real Gift To Us—Carry Your Family In Your Heart

By: **Brendan McVicker**



On December 16th, 2000 Fr. Pinto conducted the second Fatherhood Retreat at St. Ignatius Retreat Center in Portland, Oregon following the initial Woodland, Washington retreat earlier the previous year. There was a growing interest in the Fatherhood Guidelines that Fr. Pinto spoke about in Woodland and we asked Father if he would again speak on them in this second retreat as well. Fr. Pinto happily taught on the Fatherhood Guidelines to the 70 men that attended. The Holy Spirit started something then because the Fatherhood formation was underway. On January 15th 2001 Fr. Pinto forwarded his speaking notes on the Guidelines so that the building of the initial draft Carry Your Family In Your Heart Booklet could begin.

By Fall 2001 the draft booklet was ready and Fr. Pinto asked that a small pilot group of men meet on a regular basis to go through the book teachings, regularly urging ... not to rush, "There is no rush in this work. You see the Lord knows that

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CARRY YOUR FAMILY IN YOUR HEART



FATHERHOOD A CALL TO HOLINESS

A husband/father's guide to his
vocation and spiritual growth

VERSON 5.0 2014

“You know what scares me about this is that if I really step in and really do what this Fatherhood Guide teaches, I’m going to have to change my life and not just a little.”

7th Annual Real Catholic Men Conference

by Harley Talkington

”Train For The Next Life Now... Do What You Are Supposed To Do, When You Are Supposed To Do It , In The Manner It Is To Be Done.”

Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM



Fraternity of Fatherhood men have attended the annual Portland Real Catholic Men Conference for seven years now. This year's June 14th Men's Conference, held at the Proto-Cathedral St. James in Vancouver, was a blessed event for all who were able to attend. With talks from Fr. Wade Menezes, Deacon Harold Sivers, Bill Diss and music by Daniel Oberreuter, approximately 200 men in attendance found inspiration for the manhood and Catholic faith.

Fr. Wade Menezes, CPM of the Fathers of Mercy, spoke on the Seven Capital Sins, their opposite Corresponding Virtues and Extremes. Through our understanding of these and frequent examination of conscience and confession, we can come to know ourselves better as men and find a greater balance in our spirituality. Deacon Harold Sivers' main point, spoken very emphatically, was that real men in our culture are an endangered species. He spoke of the challenges in our "feminized" culture and used King David as a model for our own spiritual journey. Bill Diss is the founder of Precious Children, a Portland-based ProLife group whose mission is to oppose Planned Parenthood and promote chastity among our young people. Bill spoke briefly of his own story, how he personally and professionally has paid the price for his belief and how other men can do the same, or at least take a stand. Fr. Wade closed the conference with a talk on Saint Joseph, the Terror of Demons, and what a powerful intercessor and resource he is for us, as men and fathers.

In addition to the great talks, men were able to network, personalize the topics covered, and make plans for future ways to gather and support one another. All of us left with a sense of the urgency that we need to commit ourselves in the roles of men and fathers. Fr. Wade quoted Thomas a Kempis at the closing Mass, (my paraphrase?) "You'll wish you had one more hour, with no assurance you will get it."



WORSHIP IN SONG WITH DANIEL OBERREUTER



FR. WADE MENEZES, CPM



ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT



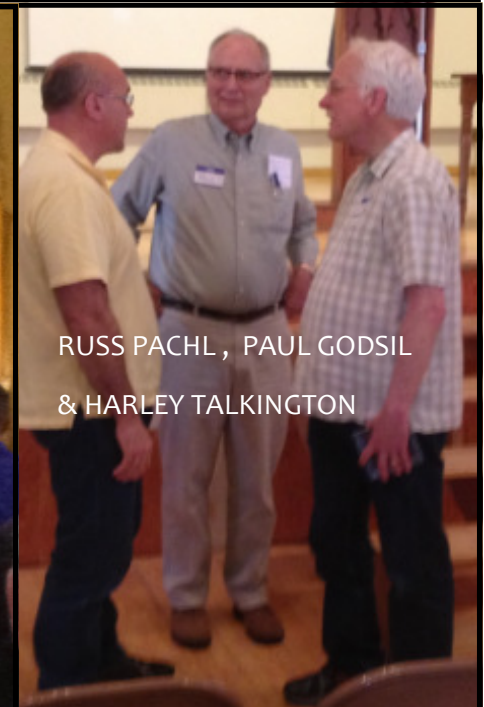
BREAK-TIME



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION



IN PRAYER



RUSS PACHL, PAUL GODSIL & HARLEY TALKINGTON



Portland, Oregon Men

....Our Fraternity meets every second Saturday of the month 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.

Come join us!

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.

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 ray@cpounltd.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



Fraternity Sacramento Men
....meet every third Wednesday
of the month.

**We meet at Denny's in Orange-
vale at 7:30 pm.**

**Please contact Mike Allison with
any questions at email address...
(meallison5@gmail.com)**

Hope you can join!

(left to right—Michael, Miguel, Mike
and Jack)

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.

ONE WHO BLESSES

As fathers, we must also be men who bless. We bless everything. We bless our wives, our children. Why? Because this shows that we care for them, that we love them.

Make the sign of the cross on the foreheads of your wife, your children before they leave the house, when they return, when they go to bed. For the older children in whom you have not done this since they were kids you can give the blessing silently in your heart. You don't even have to touch them. Although, it is not too late to start.

As a man who blesses; you also protect and ask for God's protection on those you bless.

These little signs say, "I Love You!" Make it a habit. Incorporate this into your daily program. At night bless your children with holy water and have them bless each other. God's protection is with them.

Also, bless whatever endeavor you undertake – projects at work, at home, your travels; everything. If you know you are going into a tough meeting, silently bless each member as they walk in the door. You'll be amazed at the results.

A man, who blesses, is also a man who builds. If at work, someone curses God's name, silently offer a blessing for God's name. If someone tears down, then you build up. If some destroys, then you should create.

"Let the children come to me and do not prevent them; for the kingdom of God belong to such as these." "Then He embraced them and blessed them, placing His hands on them." (Mark 10:14,16)

Fathers-to-be, daily, lay your hands upon your unborn child (or children) and pray that the Holy Spirit fill your child (or children) with light, love and wholeness.

TOUCH MY UNBORN CHILD

Heavenly Father, I praise You and thank You for deeming this life to be and for forming this child in your image and likeness. Send forth Your Holy Spirit and illuminate her womb. Fill it with Your light, power, majesty, and glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, come with Your love, and in Your infinite mercy pour forth Your healing into this child. Remove any negativity that may have been conveyed knowingly or unknowingly. Bathe this child in Your Precious Blood and fill it with Your Light and Truth.

Dear sweet Mother Mary, come and be with this child. Come with your angels and saints and intercede on this tiny child's behalf before each person of the Holy Trinity.

Thank You, Father for this beautiful child. Thank You, Holy Spirit for filling this child with grace. Thank You, Jesus for healing this child. Thank You, Mary, the angels and the saints for interceding on this child's behalf. To all of you this child is given. May all honor and glory be given to God by this Child in time and in eternity. Amen. Alleluia. Amen. *Author Unknown*

Grandfathers

A Father's Blessing

"A righteous man who walks in his integrity - How blessed are his sons after him."

(Proverbs 20:7)

A generational blessing.....

Psalm 128 6: 1-6 (A Song of Ascents.)

Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and who walk in his ways. What your hands provide, you will enjoy; you will be blessed and prosper. Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your home, your children like young olive plants around your table.

Just so will the man be blessed who fears the LORD.

May the LORD bless you from Zion; may you see Jerusalem's prosperity all the days of your life, and live to see your children's children. Peace upon Israel!

person's concept of God is greatly influenced by the sort of father that person knew as a child.

Scripture Readings

Scripture Reading Psalm 112

The man who fears the Lord and greatly delights and follows in His commands is an upright generation and is blessed by the Lord. His generosity shall endure and lavishly he gives to the poor. The blessing of the just man is that he will stand firm in the face of evil and not be moved. The wicked man does not know how to go against the just man of God.

Scripture Reading Matt 19:13-15

Jesus blesses the children and urges them to come to Him. As parents, as fathers, we bless our children that they may have the protection of Jesus Christ. As parents we have a responsibility to lead our children to Christ. To prevent them the road to Jesus goes directly against our vocation. It is failure to say that we will let our children grow up and then they can decide what and if they want Jesus in their life. As fathers we are accountable, planting the seed of faith, hope and love in our children is our responsibility.

Scripture Reading Matt 18:10-14

We should bless our children and lead them to Jesus Christ. As Jesus says, "do not despise one of these little ones, for I say to you that their angels in heaven always look upon the face of my heavenly Father". How special children are in the eyes of God that their angels constantly look upon His face. How powerful the children's prayers must be!

Scripture Reading Mark 10:13-16

Jesus said do not prevent the children from coming to Him, but bring them to Jesus. We are accountable as Fathers to bring our children to Jesus. We need to imitate Jesus and embrace them and bless them. Show them daily that they are loved. We can learn about God our Father from our Children; we can learn to be child-like in accepting the gifts of God.

Scripture Reading 1_Peter 3:8-12

If we bless our children then we are responsible to conduct ourselves properly because Jesus has blessed us. We need to be of one mind, not use bad language, not speak ill of others. Seek peace and follow it. If we do this, the Lord's eyes are on us and His ear is turned to our prayer. Not only do we bless our children but bless our wife, our jobs, our houses, the homeless man walking down the street, people at work.



A Real Gift To Us—Carry Your Family In Your Heart (continued from page 1)

you guys need some time to digest this work. So you did have the time. Know that I am praying for you always. You all are my brothers and I know how hard it is to be a real father in this world. (9/13/2001). With my priestly blessings, Fr. Pinto SOLT."

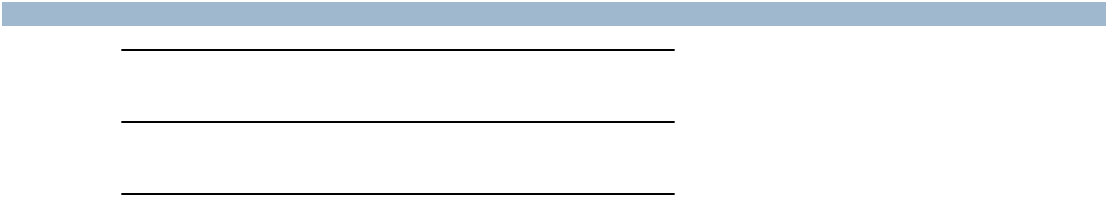
What a gift Fr. Pinto gave us in this Fatherhood Fraternity. The book includes four Areas of Growth and eighteen Guidelines for men to live by in their vocation and to grow spiritually as Catholic men. One of the men in our group said, "You know what scares me about this is that if I really step in and really do what this Fatherhood Guide teaches, I'm going to have to change my life and not just a little." Wow, men I think we have something here. It is a fork in the road just like St. Paul tells us. We can either conform to the world, or be transformed with Jesus Christ. You pick!

Multiple update versions of the Fatherhood Fraternity Book have been completed over the years. The most recent update, just completed, was specifically at Fr. Pinto's request...Grandfathers! References for Grandfathers have been added for each of the Fatherhood Guidelines. As taken from the book, "In today's world it is not uncommon to hear fathers say they are "done" when their kids have left the nest. But it just isn't so.....God has plans for fathers of older children and Grandfathers. He has plans for all of us until the day He calls us home."

I want to extend a very special thank you to Ray Emnace, Mike Allison and Stacey Hill who dedicated numerous hours to this latest update, Carry Your Family In Your Heart, Fraternity of Fatherhood Book. Books can be ordered for \$5 from Mike Allison at address meallison5@gmail.com. Please put Fatherhood Book Order in the subject.



“Old Age is the seat of the wisdom of life. Let’s donate this to the young, like good wine that gets better with the years. Let’s give the young the wisdom of life.” Pope Francis



POSTAGE

Fraternity of Fatherhood

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



St. Joseph ...Pray For Us.



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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	ray@cpounltd.com
Stacey Hill	cerrosamor@sbcglobal.net