

Fraternity of Fatherhood A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

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Fatherhood Rosary

By Miguel Lizzaraga, Michael Hummer & Mike Allison

Recently, I began to take early morning walks for my health. I found myself with a perfect opportunity to say the rosary but was puzzled to experience that, try though I might, I was unable to say it, not even a decade. Thanks be to God, I was able to do so on subsequent days, but I later thought to myself, "Am I the only one with this problem?"

I am certainly not as diligent as I need and want to be in saying the Rosary. I know that, as a sacramental, it is spiritually powerful; that it has been credited with winning great military battles during Medieval times, for Godly causes, and that it constantly keeps the devil in check.

We all experience distractions. They are a part of our fallen nature, but by God's grace, He permits them. How do we deal with them? What can we do when we suddenly realize we went missing in action on the last two decades thinking of everything except the mystery we are praying? It seems that we lose our single-mindedness. If when praying a rosary, we offer the mysteries for a specific singular intention—just one thing; when we catch ourselves being drawn "off-course", we can pause, share the distractions *(continued on page 2)*

The rosary is the weapon for these times.

aint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina

The power of the rosary is beyond description.

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen-

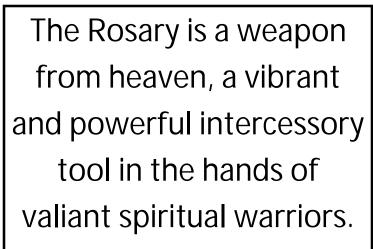


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with the Lord (He cares what is on our mind and heart, and even our distractions have a purpose so don't beat yourself up), then use our GPS, "God Positioning Satellite" to re-route. Ask God to direct us back to our prayer intention destination and return to the mystery and the specific intention for which we are praying.

The Rosary is a weapon from heaven, a vibrant and powerful intercessory tool in the hands of valiant

spiritual warriors. The Blessed Virgin Mary joined her will perfectly to God's will when she agreed to be the mother of His Son. So, when we pray the Rosary, we link our wills with the will of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and all of us saying to God, "Thy Will be Done." It is an indispensable weapon in the hands of intercessors, and those who actively resist the workings of the devil. As St. Peter tells us, "Your opponent, the devil, is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8). Through the centuries, the Rosary has proven a powerful weapon against the forces of evil. The root cause of today's ills is spiritual. That is why the Mother of God is calling for



spiritual weapons such as the Rosary. The evil enemy is superhuman, both in strength and intelligence, against whom only spiritual weapons will prevail (Eph. 6:12). In this materialistic culture, so many rely on material means, and ignore God with his laws. Scripture testifies (Psalm 81:12) God leaves man to his own devices and self-destruction.

The power of the Rosary. The celebration on October 7 of Our Lady of the Rosary, also known as Our Lady of Victories, is a feast that commemorates the 1571 victory of Christian armies against the Turks at the Battle of Lepanto. It is a tremendous example of spiritual warfare. Through tireless efforts of Pope Pious V, buttressed by the spiritual sustenance of thousands who incessantly prayed the Rosary, the Holy League's victory at the Battle of Lepanto was not only a miraculous military victory, but a moral and spiritual victory. When we pray the Rosary, a kind of spiritual chain is established, involving millions of Catholics, the angels and the saints all joined together in prayer. This corporate act of the will establishes a powerful presence in the world and acts as a spiritual buffer and antidote to the poison of evil.

Pray the Rosary each day, pray with your family, pray with the men in the Fraternity of Fatherhood. God bless you.



Fifteen Rosary Promises

Our Lady of Fatima

Our Lady, the Virgin Mary, made the following 15 promises to those who pray the Rosary daily:

1. To all those who shall pray my Rosary devoutly, I promise my special protection and great graces.

2. Those who shall persevere in the recitation of my Rosary will receive some special grace.

3. The Rosary will be a very powerful armor against hell; it will destroy vice, deliver from sin and dispel heresy.

4. The Rosary will make virtue and good works flourish and will obtain for souls the most abundant divine mercies. It will draw the hearts of men from the love of the world and its vanities and will lift them to the desire of eternal things. Oh, that souls would sanctify themselves by this means.

5. Those who trust themselves to me through the Rosary will not perish.

6. Whoever recites my Rosary devoutly reflecting on the mysteries, shall never be overwhelmed by misfortune. He will not experience the anger of God nor will he perish by an unprovided death. The sinner will be converted; the just will persevere in grace and merit eternal life.

7. Those truly devoted to my Rosary shall not die without the <u>sacraments</u> of the Church.

8. Those who are faithful to recite my Rosary shall have during their life and at their death the light of God and the plenitude of His graces and will share in the merits of the blessed.

9. I will deliver promptly from purgatory souls devoted to my Rosary.

10. True children of my Rosary will enjoy great glory in Heaven.

11. What you shall ask through my Rosary you shall obtain.

12. To those who propagate my Rosary I promise aid in all their necessities.

13. I have obtained from my Son that all the members of the Rosary Confraternity shall have as their intercessors, in life and in death, the entire celestial court.

14. Those who recite my Rosary faithfully are my beloved children, the brothers and sisters of Jesus Christ.

15. Devotion to my Rosary is a special sign of predestination.



Men of the Eucharist—Unite in Prayer for Healing in the Church

As members of the one holy Catholic Church we find ourselves again in crisis as the Abuse Crisis is exposed. As we talk to our family members, to our parish brothers and sisters, to our Fatherhood Fraternity brothers, there is a deep hurt in our heart. There is a very real anger present. Our hearts hurt for ongoing pain suffered by the victims. There is an anger that this has happened again, we thought we were past this! There is an anger for the bad light this puts on the Church that we love very much. There is anger that our good priests and bishops, and there are many, have to once again live through the public secular masses that pile on painting them all as hypocrites and evil.

I have found myself at a loss. Where is the accountability? Is it over or is there more? How will healing ever be possible? Then I had to come back to my senses and remember the gift of my own formation, the gift of my faith and the gift of the Church that Jesus Himself told us the gates of hell would not prevail against. Jesus showed us that there will be problems with our own people in the Church, big problems. He showed us even within his own twelve apostles, there will be problems. I am ready to separate the fact that yes, we have some bad apples within the Church, but those bad apples are not the Church. The Church will stand until the end of time.

In my heart, I was ready to stop looking for the answers myself and give the problem to Our Lord. We know how the story ends. We also know that Our Lady of Fatima tells us that her immaculate heart will triumph. We will come out of this crisis stronger. I believe Our Lord is testing us....do we trust in Him? Is our faith deep enough to persevere. I am reminded in the gospel of Mark, chapter 9, where the disciples asked Jesus "why they could not force out that demon?" Jesus answered, "Only, prayer and fasting can force out that kind of demon". I believe we are asking that same question of our Lord today and we are receiving the same answer. Will you join us in prayer and fasting?

We must implore Our Lord through His Mother to heal the deep wounds that exist in our culture and in the Church.

We have a deep sorrow for the horrific wound inflicted on The Church by some of the priests who were overcome by the evil one. We seek healing for those victims who fell prey to their evil desires. We pray for healing in the hearts of all the faithful.

We know the Church remains Holy because Jesus is Holy; Jesus is our rock and our foundation. He has overcome the world.

Merciful Jesus, we trust in You.

A Call to Personal Holiness

From the Sunday readings on August 19, 2018

"Brothers and sisters: Watch carefully how you live, not as foolish persons but as wise, making the most of the opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not continue in ignorance, but try to understand what is the will of the Lord".

Ephesians 5: 15-17

"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him".

John 6: 54-56

Our Action: Immerse Yourself in the Eucharist

As men of the Church, as Catholics, many will watch us and observe the life we lead. Many will be (.... Continued on page 5)

Men of the Eucharist—Unite in Prayer for Healing in the Church

looked upon with question and scrutiny. Can we trust him? Can we trust the Church? Can we trust anything or anybody?

This is the time when we draw strength for ourselves and for others by entering deeper into The gifts of the Church that Christ Himself has given us. Spend your life preparing to receive Him and continually thank Him for the gift of the Eucharist. Believe He is truly present in the Eucharist because He said so.

- Avail yourself regularly to The Sacraments
- Make a monthly Confession
- Receive the Life of Jesus Himself into your body as strength for the journey. Receive and take great care of Jesus in your heart, in the Holy Eucharist.
- Read/consume The Word of God in Sacred Scriptures.
- Be quiet. Listen.
- Seek forgiveness wherever necessary and be quick to forgive.
- Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary & reparation to Her through the Communion of Reparation on the First Saturdays
- Pray the Rosary daily
- Pray constantly. Offer your day, your work in morning, offer your entire day to the Lord
- Invitation as men of the Fraternity of Fatherhood to join together in action:

Fast from lunch on Fridays

Offer your Friday rosary

Morning offering on Fridays

The Rosary guides us on our journey to holiness.

St. John Paul II wanted the faithful to pray the Rosary in order to grow in holiness, conformation to Christ, and to change the world. It is a prayer of great power and importance in the Christian life. It is one that is capable of healing the wounds in our world, whether caused outside or even inside the sanctuary of Holy Mother Church. The Rosary is a prayer that focuses on Christ by seeing through the eyes of His Mother who is also Our Mother.

(... Continued on page 6)

Men of the Eucharist—Unite in Prayer for Healing in the Church

From our Fatherhood Book- A CALL TO HOLINESS

"We are all called to holiness. Holiness is your right and the right of your children as citizens of heaven. As fathers, as Catholic Christians, we are accountable to God to do our best to build, direct, give example, teach and pray for the spiritual development of our children". (and our own personal Holiness)

"God calls each of us to be holy. Answering this call requires courage and strength. We must be open to God's graces, His blessings, and what His Plan of Life is for us as fathers".

My Brothers, beg the Lord of heaven and earth to use you to prepare souls for His coming. Do not be afraid! Sincerely, Fraternity of Fatherhood Editors



PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense 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, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.

The Memorare- asking our Lady for her help in us being faithful to saying the prayer of the Rosary.

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, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



Saints Corner

St. John Vianney-August 4th

A man with vision overcomes obstacles and performs deeds that seem impossible. John Vianney was a man with vision: He wanted to become a priest. But he had to overcome his meager formal schooling, which inadequately prepared him for seminary studies. His failure to comprehend Latin lectures forced him to discontinue. But his vision of being a priest urged him to seek private tutoring. After a lengthy battle with the books, John was ordained.

Situations calling for "impossible" deeds followed him everywhere. As pastor of the parish at Ars, John encountered people who were indifferent and quite comfortable with their style of living. His vision led him through severe fasts and short nights of sleep.

His work as a confessor is John Vianney's most remarkable accomplishment. In the winter months he was to spend 11 to 12 hours daily reconciling people with God. In the summer months this time was increased to 16 hours. Unless a man was dedicated to his vision of a priestly vocation, he could not have endured this giving of self day after day.

Many people look forward to retirement and taking it easy, doing the things they always wanted to do but never had the time. But John Vianney had no thoughts of retirement. As his fame spread, more hours were consumed in serving God's people. Even the few hours he would allow himself for sleep were disturbed frequently by the devil. Who, but a man with vision, could keep going with ever-increasing strength? In 1929, Pope Pius XI named him the patron of parish priests worldwide.

St. John Vianney, pray for the holiness of priests and bishops.

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.

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Fraternity Sacramento Men ... Meet every third Wednesday of the month. We meet at Denny's in Orangevale at 7:30 pm. Please contact Mike Allison with any questions at email address... (meallison5@gmail.com) or Text 916-834-6226



CARRY YOUR FAMILY IN YOUR HEART - A CALL TO HOLINESS

A husband/father's guide to his vocation and spiritual direction. Each Newsletter focuses a piece of 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.

Carry Your Family In Your Heart Introduction

Dear Husbands, Fathers, and Grandfathers,

It is our hope that this Fatherhood Fraternity Apostolate helps you see the beauty of your vocation as fathers and the important role that our spirituality plays in helping us become strong as fathers. Spirituality has so much to do with being a father. It is in our spirituality that the Holy Spirit helps us to become strong fathers.

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

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



St. Joseph ... Pray For Us.



This Fraternity of Fatherhood Newsletter is published quarterly. Next edition: Dec. 2018 To submit feedback and/or suggestions for future article topics, please email the editors,

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