



Fraternity of Fatherhood

A Spiritual Fraternity for All Men

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THE CROSS PROVES EVERYTHING

By Deacon Ray Emnace

Ray Emnace, Los Angeles Fatherhood Fraternity member, was ordained to the diaconate on August 22nd. Congratulations to Deacon Ray!. We are happy to share his homily from August 30th.



Deacon Ray
Emnace
Ordained 8/22/20

The Cross is a sign of contradiction. Before Calvary it was a sign of disgrace – it was the depiction of **humiliation, torture, pain, and death.**

Christ made it a thing of **glory and power,** He made it our path to salvation.

Why not put scenes of Christ's **birth** above every altar, or of His **resurrection,** or **ascension?**

Because, "Whoever wishes to come after me must **deny himself,** take up his **cross,** and **follow** me." This is what the Gospel points to.

Taking up our Cross is taking up the Cause of Christ.

Christ dying on the cross was the perfect, loving act of obedience that reversed the disobedience of Adam in the Garden of Eden.

With His arms **stretched wide** and raised **between heaven and earth,** Christ **reconciled** us to God and **bridged the gulf** opened by **sin.**

In today's First Reading Jeremiah laments all the ridicule and suffering (..Continued page 4)

The Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is a sacramental if we make it with the right hand by touching the forehead showing our belief in the Cross, the breast showing our love of the Cross, and the shoulders showing our readiness to bear the Cross.

Sometimes a triple Cross is made with the thumb for example at the reading of the Gospel. It is made on the forehead, on the lips, and on the heart to ask God to enlighten our mind, be on our lips and in our heart.

The Sign of the Cross

By Marcellino D'Ambrosio PHD.

The profound origin and meaning of the sign of the cross is just one example of the depth and richness of the Catholic Tradition. It invites us to rediscover and re-appropriate our heritage.

The Mass readings for the Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) are Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalms 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20; Galatians 6:14-18; Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9.

To some, being Italian-American means overindulging in pasta and joking about tough guys. But being Italian means being heir to a rich tradition stretching back before the Caesars. Included are philosophers like Seneca, poets like Dante, artists such as Michelangelo, and saints like Francis of Assisi.

DEEP TRADITION, RICH HERITAGE

To some, being Catholic means giving up chocolate for Lent. But those who explore their Catholic heritage discover thousands of years of meaning, insight, and life-giving resources: inspiring stories about people from Abraham to Mother Teresa, practical instruction by some of the most brilliant thinkers of all time, tried and true spiritual practices that make people grow in character and happiness. (..Continued page 3)



Cramach + 1553

The Sign of the Cross
+
In the name of the Father
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen

"Let us not then be ashamed to confess the Crucified. May the Cross be our seal made with boldness by our fingers on our brow and in everything; over the bread we eat, and the cups we drink; in our comings and goings; before our sleep, when we lie down and when we awake..."
- St. Cyril of Jerusalem



All prayers should begin and end with the Sign of the Cross. Cross yourself when passing by or entering a Catholic church to honor Christ in the tabernacle and after receiving communion. Also cross yourself in times of trouble or fear, when receiving bad news, in times of temptation, when hearing an ambulance, fire or police siren, when passing a cemetery or recalling the dead, before meals (especially in public), when seeing a Crucifix and any time you wish to honor and invoke God and gain strength against evil, fear, and temptation.

The Sign of the Cross ..continued from page 2

In John 10:10, Jesus said "I came that they may have life, and have it more abundantly." That recalls Isaiah who, speaking of God's people, says: "Lo, I will spread prosperity over her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing torrent." (Is. 66:10-14).

The Catholic Church is all about preserving and enjoying the WHOLE, rich heritage of Christ. In fact, the word "Catholic" comes from the Greek word for "whole." The problem is that some preserve outward practices of this heritage, like giving up something for Lent, but have lost the connection with the meaning and power of the practice.

CROSSING ONESELF

Take for example the sign of the Cross. For some it is just a mechanical part of "logging on" and "logging off" of our time "connected" to God via prayer. For others, it seems no more than a good-luck charm to make superstitiously before stepping up to bat.

To see what it really means, we need to look where it comes from. In baptism, a cross is traced on the foreheads of the baptized. The same happens in confirmation, when it is done with sacred oil called "chrism." As the cross is traced, the name of the triune God is pronounced, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

How far back in time does this practice go? Paul says "I bear the brand marks of Jesus in my body." (Gal. 6:14-18). Notice that in the book of Revelation, those doomed to death have the mark of the beast on their foreheads while the 144,000 in white robes have been "sealed" with the name of God and the Lamb (Rev. 7:3-4, Rev. 11:1). Sounds a lot like the sign of the cross, doesn't it?

SIGN OF THE CROSS IN THE EARLY CHURCH

In the early Church, the sign of the cross was seen as the brand mark on the body of a Christian that indicated that he or she was now the property of a new master and under the protection of that master. The blood of the lamb on the doorposts of the Israelites protected them from the Angel of Death who "passed over" their homes. The sign of the cross on the Christian says "hands off!" to the power of Darkness. Note that Jesus says to his disciples "I have given you power to tread on snakes and scorpions and all the forces of the enemy, and nothing shall ever injure you" (Lk. 10:19). The sign of the cross is the sign of this power.

SIGN OF THE CROSS AS RE-DEDICATION

But this sign means even more than belonging to the triune God. It indicates how and why we've come to belong to God and to be entitled to his protection. It means that for my standing with God, I do not trust in the good deeds that I've done or the "good person" that I am. Rather, I stake my claim to heaven on what Jesus did for me on Calvary. It means that I am saved by a pure gift of His love, by grace. "May I never boast of anything but the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ!" (Gal 6:14).

Each time I make this sign, it is a renewal of my "decision for Christ," my intimate relationship of love with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit which comes as a pure gift of God's grace through faith, baptism and confirmation. In this simple little sign is contained the very essence of the gospel.

RECOVER THE MEANING – REACTIVATE THE POWER

The good news is that everything in the Catholic heritage is like this – full of rich meaning that we've forgotten. But we can recover the meaning and reactivate the power. Let's get busy exploring and unpacking the amazing Catholic tradition!

THE CROSS PROVES EVERYTHING CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

he endures for the Lord's cause.

- Jeremiah was called to be the Lord's prophet in a time when people preferred their own counsel and wished for an easy solution to their problems that didn't involve faith or sacrifice.
- He is dejected because his mission is as hard as he imagined, but he let the Lord talk him into it anyway.
- When facing the hardship of decisions made, we often ask ourselves, "What was I thinking?" Jeremiah is having one of those moments.
- Despite difficulty and dejection, he burns inside to carry on, because he knows he is heralding the truth, something no one can turn their back on.
- He knows his message will save his people.

In today's Gospel Our Lord teaches us that the cross is a part of our life whether we want it or not, and what matters is how we face it and why we face it.

There is also another cross I wish to talk about. Mass begins with something that most of us probably take for granted, and hardly think about. We do it so often...we make the sign of the cross.

Allow me to share a story about the sign of the Cross.

In April of 1945 American artillery in the town of Siegburg, Germany (south east of Cologne), was shelling a nearby village, in which there were about 20 German soldiers. The natives were in constant danger of being hit by bullets from either side. Toward evening of April 12, the people persuaded the German soldiers to cease fire.

Next morning the village priest carried a white flag to the American outpost to inform the commander that the German soldiers had gone, and the civilian population had no desire to resist further. Instructions were given to fly white flags from all the houses.

The question in the minds of the townspeople was: How will the Americans treat us? They had heard terrible tales of cruelty on the part of the Russians. How would these conquerors act?

The Americans began a thorough search for weapons and German soldiers. Two American soldiers armed with pistols came to a certain three-bedroom home. They stopped short in the living room before a hand-carved family altar. Into the bedroom they went, and there was a beautiful crucifix hanging on the wall.

The soldiers noticed the cross. They stopped, took off their helmets, and respectfully made the sign of the cross. A family member saw this and shared with the rest of the family that they would be safe - the American soldiers made the sacred sign.

Yes, the sign of the cross is made by a follower of Christ whether he is conqueror or conquered, whether he is German, Filipino, Hispanic, or American. It is the sign of the Christian. In particular, it is the special sign of a Catholic. The sign of the cross is one of the most important and one of the most frequently used of the sacraments.

Why do we make the sign of the cross? To remind us of the Blessed Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Ghost. We bless ourselves in their names. To remind us that the Son of God died on a cross for all men. And to remind us that we too must take up our own Cross.

When we make the sign of the cross and pray the sign of the cross, we make ourselves an offering, and a prayer. May God bless us all in the Name of the Father who created us, and of the Son who redeemed us on the Cross, and of the Holy Spirit who strengthens us. Amen.



WWII SOLDIER MAKES "SIGN OF THE CROSS"

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) 834-6226	meallison5@gmail.com	Citrus Heights

Mississippi

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

Nevada

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

Oregon

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

Arizona

Bill Booth	(623) 398-8950		Bbooth512@centurylink.net	Phoenix
------------	----------------	--	---------------------------	---------

Texas

Donald Lange	(210) 249-8858		dplange1990@gmail.com	Dallas/Ft.Worth
Matt Bawcum			mattbawcum1@gmail.com	Paris
Frank Drobil			frankdrobil@yahoo.com	Paris
Dustin Wall			sd wall81@sbcglobal.net	Paris
Peter Kane			pkane@dioceseoftyler.org	Tyler
Ty Jackson			tynerjackson@icloud.com	Tyler

21 Things We Do When We Make the Sign of the Cross

The Sign of the Cross is a simple gesture yet a profound expression of faith for both Catholic and Orthodox Christians. As Catholics, it's something we do when we enter a church, after we receive Communion, before meals, and every time we pray. But what exactly are we doing when we make the Sign of the Cross? Here are 21 things by author Stephen Beale:

1. Pray.

We begin and end our prayers with the Sign of the Cross, perhaps not realizing that the sign is itself a prayer. If prayer, at its core, is "an uprising of the mind to God," as [St. John Damascene put it](#), then the Sign of the Cross assuredly qualifies. "No empty gesture, the sign of the cross is a potent prayer that engages the Holy Spirit as the divine advocate and agent of our successful Christian living," writes Bert Ghezzi.

2. Open ourselves to grace.

As a sacramental, the Sign of the Cross prepares us for receiving God's blessing and disposes us to cooperate with His grace, according to Ghezzi.

3. Sanctify the day.

As an act repeated throughout the key moments of each day, the Sign of the Cross sanctifies our day. "At every forward step and movement, at every going in and out, when we put on our clothes and shoes, when we bathe, when we sit at table, when we light the lamps, on couch, on seat, in all the ordinary actions of daily life, we trace upon the forehead the sign," [wrote Tertullian](#).

4. Commit the whole self to Christ.

In moving our hands from our foreheads to our hearts and then both shoulders, we are asking God's blessing for our mind, our passions and desires, our very bodies. In other words, the Sign of the Cross commits us, body and soul, mind and heart, to Christ. (I'm paraphrasing [this Russian Orthodox writer](#).) "Let it take in your whole being—body, soul, mind, will, thoughts, feelings, your doing and not-doing—and by signing it with the cross strengthen and consecrate the whole in the strength of Christ, in the name of the triune God," said twentieth century theologian Romano Guardini.

21 Things We Do When We Make the Sign of the Cross

5. Recall the Incarnation.

Our movement is downward, from our foreheads to our chest “because Christ descended from the heavens to the earth,” Pope Innocent III wrote in his instructions on making the Sign of the Cross. Holding two fingers together—either the thumb with the ring finger or with index finger—also represents the two natures of Christ.

6. Remember the Passion of Our Lord.

Fundamentally, in tracing out the outlines of a cross on ourselves, we are remembering Christ’s crucifixion. This remembrance is deepened if we keep our right hand open, using all five fingers to make the sign—corresponding to the Five Wounds of Christ.

7. Affirm the Trinity.

In invoking the name of God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, we are affirming our belief in a triune God. This is also reinforced by using three fingers to make the sign, according to Pope Innocent III.

8. Focus our prayer on God.

One of the temptations in prayer is to address it to God as we conceive of Him—the man upstairs, our buddy, a sort of cosmic genie, etc. When this happens, our prayer becomes more about us than an encounter with the living God. The Sign of the Cross immediately focuses us on the true God, according to Ghezzi: “When we invoke the Trinity, we fix our attention on the God who made us, not on the God we have made. We fling our images aside and address our prayers to God as he has revealed himself to be: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.”

9. Affirm the procession of Son and Spirit.

In first lifting our hand to our forehead we recall that the Father is the first person the Trinity. In lowering our hand we “express that the Son proceeds from the Father.” And, in ending with the Holy Spirit, we signify that the Spirit proceeds from both the Father and the Son, according to Francis de Sales.

10. Confess our faith.

In affirming our belief in the Incarnation, the crucifixion, and the Trinity, we are making a sort of mini-confession of faith in words and gestures, proclaiming the core truths of the creed.

11. Invoke the power of God’s name.

In Scripture, God’s name carries power. In Philippians 2:10, St. Paul tells us that “at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth.” And, in John 14:13-14, Jesus Himself said, “And whatever you ask in my name, I will do, so that the Father



To make the sign of the cross is to pronounce a visible and public yes to him who died for us and who is risen, to the God who in the humility and weakness of his love is omnipotent, stronger than all the power and intelligence of the world.

— Pope Benedict XVI —

AZ QUOTES

may be glorified in the Son. If you ask anything of me in my name, I will do it.”

12. Crucify ourselves with Christ.

Whoever wishes to follow Christ “must deny himself” and “take up his cross” as Jesus told the disciples in Matthew 16:24. “I have been crucified with Christ,” St. Paul writes in Galatians 2:19. “Proclaiming the sign of the cross proclaims our yes to this condition of discipleship,” Ghezzi writes.

13. Ask for support in our suffering.

In crossing our shoulders we ask God “to support us—to shoulder us—in our suffering,” Ghezzi writes.

14. Reaffirm our baptism.

In using the same words with which we were baptized, the Sign of the Cross is a “summing up and re-acceptance of our baptism,” according to then-Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger.

21 Things We Do When We Make the Sign of the Cross

15. Reverse the curse.

The Sign of the Cross recalls the forgiveness of sins and the reversal of the Fall by passing "from the left side of the curse to the right of blessing," according to de Sales. The movement from left to right also signifies our future passage from present misery to future glory just as Christ "crossed over from death to life and from Hades to Paradise," Pope Innocent II wrote.

16. Remake ourselves in Christ's image.

In Colossians 3, St. Paul uses the image of clothing to describe how our sinful natures are transformed in Christ. We are to take off the old self and put on the self "which is being renewed ... in the image of its creator," Paul tells us. The Church Fathers saw a connection between this verse and the stripping of Christ on the cross, "teaching that stripping off our old nature in baptism and putting on a new one was a participation in Christ's stripping at his crucifixion," Ghezzi writes. He concludes that we can view the Sign of the Cross as "our way of participating in Christ's stripping at the Crucifixion and his being clothed in glory at his resurrection." Thus, in making the Sign of the Cross, we are radically identifying ourselves with the entirety of the crucifixion event—not just those parts of it we can accept or that are palatable to our sensibilities.

17. Mark ourselves for Christ.

In ancient Greek, the word for sign was *sphragis*, which was also a mark of ownership, according to Ghezzi. "For example, a shepherd marked his sheep as his property with a brand that he called a *sphragis*," Ghezzi writes. In making the Sign of the Cross, we mark ourselves as belong to Christ, our true shepherd.

18. Soldier on for Christ.

The *sphragis* was also the term for a general's name that would be tattooed on his soldiers, according to Ghezzi. This too is an apt metaphor for the Christian life: while we can be compared to sheep in the sense of following Christ as our shepherd we are not called to be sheepish. We instead are called to be soldiers of Christ. As St. Paul wrote in Ephesians 6, "Put on the armor of God so that you may be able to stand firm against the tactics of the devil. ... take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."

19. Ward off the devil.

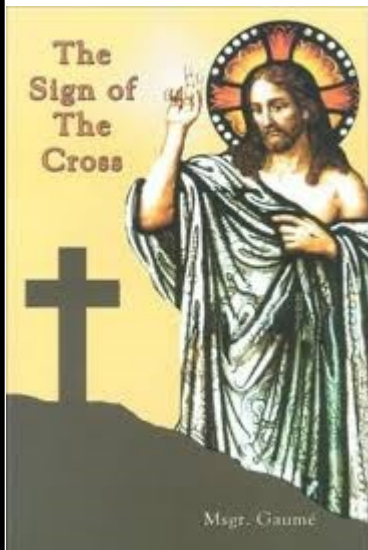
The Sign of the Cross is one of the very weapons we use in that battle with the devil. As one medieval preacher named Aelfric declared, "A man may wave about wonderfully with his hands without creating any blessing unless he make the sign of the cross. But, if he do, the fiend will soon be frightened on account of the victorious token." In another statement, attributed to St. John Chrysostom, demons are said to "fly away" at the Sign of the Cross "dreading it as a staff that they are beaten with." (Source: [Catholic Encyclopedia](#).)

20. Seal ourselves in the Spirit.

In the New Testament, the word *sphragis*, mentioned above, is also sometimes translated as *seal*, as in 2 Corinthians 1:22, where St. Paul writes that, "the one who gives us security with you in Christ and who anointed us is God; he has also put his seal upon us and given the Spirit in our hearts as a first installment." In making the Sign of the Cross, we are once again sealing ourselves in the Spirit, invoking His powerful intervention in our lives.

21. Witness to others.

As a gesture often made in public, the Sign of the Cross is a simple way to witness our faith to others. "Let us not then be ashamed to confess the Crucified. Be the Cross our seal made with boldness by our fingers on our brow, and on everything; over the bread we eat, and the cups we drink; in our comings in, and goings out; before our sleep, when we lie down and when we rise up; when we are in the way, and when we are still," wrote St. Cyril of [Jerusalem](#).



Prayer: By the sign of the Holy Cross,
O Lord deliver us from all that is evil,
In the Name of The Father and of The
Son and of The Holy Spirit Amen.
Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of
Your faithful and kindle in them the
fire of Your love. Send forth Your
Spirit and they shall be created. And
You shall renew the face of the earth.

Saints Corner - St. Paul of the Cross

saintpaulofthecross.com

Founder of the Passionist Congregation 1694-1775

Feast day Memorial: Oct. 20 in the USA

Paul's first biographer writing only 11 years after his death, stated that the Holy Spirit raised up Paul of the Cross to help people find God in their heart. Paul was convinced that God is most easily found by us in the Passion of Jesus Christ. He saw the Passion as being the most overwhelming sign of God's love for us, and at the same time our best means for union with Him.

St Paul is most notable for his fervent love for God and his special devotion to the Passion of Jesus. Inspired and led by God, Paul travelled throughout Italy, preaching missions with a particular emphasis on the passion of Jesus. Along with his preaching vocation he was also inspired by God to found a order of Priests and Nuns devoted specifically to the Passion of Jesus. Thus, by the express will of God and through Paul's continual prayers and sacrifices, he eventually became the founder and was elected the first Superior General of the "Congregation of Discalced Clerks of the Holy Cross and Passion of Our Lord", more commonly known as the Passionists.

The devil, knowing in advance all the glory that the members of the Passionist Congregation would give to God, and of all the souls that would be snatched from him through their continual acts of sacrifice and penance, sought in earnest to inspire as much opposition as possible, in a hellish effort to block its foundation. And so it was that through many years of toil, sacrifices and sufferings that Paul, with the help of God, eventually founded the Passionist Congregation of Priests, and a few years later the Passionist Nuns.

Paul often spent many hours in prayer and adoration before Jesus crucified. Throughout his many travels while preaching missions and making foundations of his Passionist Order, he always carried with him a large wooden crucifix in honor of our Lord's Passion, thus he became known by the popular name of "Paul of the Cross". Undoubtedly the two greatest characteristics of St Paul were his fervent devotion to the Passion of Jesus and also his extraordinary sacrifices and penances that he made for the conversion of sinners.

Throughout his religious life, Paul continuously sacrificed and made special penances and mortifications for the success of his preaching missions, that many souls may be converted. An example of his many penances was that he went barefoot in all his travels throughout Italy, regardless of the harsh seasons and climates. And God, Who was pleased with the heroic sacrifices and devotion of His servant, chose to perform countless extraordinary miracles through Paul's intercession and prayers. As he went about doing good, the frequent extraordinary signs from heaven that accompanied him were a sign to all that God was with him in a most remarkable way. Like his holy predecessors the Apostles, immense crowds gathered and followed him as he went about preaching from town to town. His great love for God and his devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary radiated to the crowds with remarkable unction through both his words and his actions, thereby causing countless conversions everywhere he went. His austere manner of life, full of sacrifices and penances, encouraged the people to make reparation to God for their own sins.

~St Paul of the Cross, pray for us!



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*

Fraternity of Fatherhood

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!

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.

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 every 90 days. Next edition: Dec. 2020
To submit feedback and/or suggestions for future article topics, please email the editors,

Brendan McVicker	mcvickerfamily@comcast.net
Mike Allison	meallison5@gmail.com
Ray Emnace	Raceman502@aol.com
Stacey Hill	djmstacey@sbcglobal.net