

A Happy Father's Day to All,

Thanks be to God for all our Fathers. The one's who built this Church—our forefathers—and the ones who now maintain it and continue to give it life. God bless you. I wish to thank each of you who take this obligation seriously. In our lifetimes we have seen the decline of Fatherhood in many ways in our culture, but we have also seen a great resurgence in the hearts of many men as of late to serve as Christ served—by exerting their headship by laying down their lives for their families. In our day and age, this call to be leaders is essential to the survival of the family, which is so often under attack. We should renew our commitment to Fatherhood each day, all you Fathers! And wives and children, help these heads of the family be the men that they need to be by supporting them in this difficult culture, that they might support you also.

What does it mean to be a Father in our culture? It means to generate, and to continue to generate the love of God within your families. Anyone can generate—that is, have children. But not everyone chooses the sacrificial road of continuing to generate in their children the love of God that comes through raising them in the faith. That is true Fatherhood. It is true, sacrificial love to try to educate and bring up your children in the ways of God within this culture—and you might feel that you don't always have the answers—but you can always love and within that love obey the teachings of the Church.

We pray especially for our new spiritual father this year on Father's Day—our Bishop—that he might continue to lead us well. We are so blessed to have him. He visited St Rita's parish last Thursday (the 10<sup>th</sup>) and talked with their advisory board there. He is one who really cares about all the people involved. He then celebrated the anticipated mass of the Sacred Heart—that heart, which is truly the heart of the Father, expressed through the son—Jesus Christ. In this month of June where we continue to honor the Sacred Heart all month, let us Fathers take it for the model of our Fatherhood. The heart that was held out to all to be pierced out of love for us. In consecrating our homes to the Sacred Heart we bring the Father into our lives through His Son in a special way. We agree to spend our lives in imitation of Him and in doing reparation to Him.

I want to thank each of you who have given out of your funds to support CSA. Congratulations! We have reached our mark, and even surpassed it by a little. If you haven't gotten in your last year's pledge, PLEASE make every effort to do so. I am very proud of you all, as your spiritual Father, speaking of Fathers, for this great effort, and a special thank you to Tammy Flores and Nancy Piche who did the lion's share of the work of calling and coordinating.

Thanks to all who made Rita's retirement party such a blessing, and to all who showed up for it. And a special thanks to Rita, once again for her constant gift of self to our parish. Remember that we shall see her this week at Vacation Bible School! If you haven't yet signed up, there is still time, but it helps tremendously if you do so in advance. What a delight it is for me to see Rita preparing for this. She is like one of the children herself.

Finally—a thank you to you all for putting up with me as your spiritual Father. What a blessing you all are to me.

God Bless

