



# 1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAY DEVOTION NEWSLETTER

June 2018

## FATHERS: REPRESENT THE HEAVENLY FATHER

[www.presentationministries.com](http://www.presentationministries.com)

*"...to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers..." — Malachi 3:24*

Many earthly fathers don't have hearts for their children. In today's culture, there is an epidemic of fatherless children whose father is still alive. Sadly, too many children are "fatherless" even though their dad lives in the same house. Many fathers also do not have a heart for their possible future children. The job of a father is difficult, and is greatly under attack by Satan and his pawns who shape the modern, secular culture.



However, God calls fathers to one of the greatest causes in history: to represent Father God to their wives and children. This is an irreplaceable role in a child's life. God the Father loves all people with an everlasting love; fathers are called to teach this truth to their children through their constant fatherly love (see Jer 31:3). God the Father knows what His people need and provides for them without fail; fathers are likewise called to faithfully spend their lives trusting in God's provision for their family and working diligently to provide for their children (see Mt 6:32ff).

Fathers, do you have more faith in God's ability to provide for all the children He will send you, or do you have more faith in the constraints of a difficult economy, a rising cost of living, and soaring costs of education and health care? Do you use your tongues to bless God (Lk 1:68) or speak of all the reasons you shouldn't have children?

By their trust or fear, fathers teach their children to trust God the Father or not. Fathers, God has put the future of the world in your hands. Therefore, trust in God at all times (Ps 62:9).

**Prayer:** Father, raise up many godly fathers to transform this culture of death into a civilization of life.

**Promise:** "The friendship of the Lord is with those who fear Him." - Ps 25:14.

**Praise:** "O Emmanuel, King and Lawgiver, Desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God." □

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# FEASTS FOR JUNE

The feasts on the General Roman Calendar celebrated during the month of June are:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 Justin, Memorial                               | 21 Aloysius Gonzaga, Memorial  |
| 2 Marcellinus and Peter, Opt. Mem.               | 22 Paulinus of Nola; John Fisher and Thomas More, Opt. Mem.                              |
| 3 Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, Solemnity  | 26 Josemaría Escrivá de Balaguer, Opt. Mem.  |
| 5 Boniface, Memorial                             | 27 Cyril of Alexandria, Opt. Mem.  |
| 6 Norbert, Opt. Mem.                             | 28 Irenaeus, Memorial  |
| 8 Sacred Heart of Jesus, Solemnity               | 29 Peter and Paul, Solemnity   |
| 9 Immaculate Heart of Mary; St. Ephrem, Memorial | 30 First Martyrs of the Church of Rome, Opt. Mem.  |
| 10 Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday         | The Solemnity of the Birth of John the Baptist on June 24 supersedes the Sunday liturgy. |
| 11 Barnabas, Memorial                            |  |
| 13 Anthony of Padua, Memorial                    |  |
| 17 Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday      |  |
| 19 Romuald, Opt. Mem.                            |  |

## SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT RECOMMENDED

### SEEKING INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS THROUGH THE BIBLE

#### NO OIL IN THEIR LAMPS

*By Victor Araneta*

They that were foolish took their lamps of an outward manifestation. They would go to church, say over manuals of prayers, come perhaps into a field to hear a sermon and give at a collection, and receive the sacrament constantly even more often than once a month. But then here lay the mistake: no principle of grace and forgiveness, no faith and love in their hearts, in simple words, they had no oil in their lamps.

Let us ask the Lord to give us the strength to open our hearts (lamps) and fill them with honest acts that will get our lamps burning with oil of graces and love from Him as we enlighten others with the same love and acts of mercy and forgiveness.

**Matthew 25:2-4**

**2** And five of them were wise, and five were foolish.

**3** They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them:

**4** But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.

#### OUR CENACLE CORNER

*Seeking a deeper relationship with God  
through meditation of passages from Holy Scriptures*

#### THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES AND HOW WE MUST PREPARE

DANIEL 7:4

# THANK YOU

*... a small and simple phrase that comes from a grateful heart!*

*Psalm 106:2*

## THE 800 OUR FATHER DEVOTION

The Spiritual Army of God the Father acknowledges with thanks our generous June sponsors of the 800 Our Father Devotion. We are grateful that we have merited their partnership and support in providing a venue of spirituality and fellowship for the devotees of God the Father.

### Las Vegas, Nevada

June 23, 2018

Tony & Vangie Velasco

### Los Angeles, California

June 16, 2018

Abraham Baines | Marinella DeLeon  
Norma & Franco Gamboa | Norma Fuentes  
Alice Ng | Marie Nguyen

## FOR PRAYERS HEARD AND PETITIONS GRANTED

THANK YOU, ETERNAL FATHER, FOR YOUR WILL THAT TRANSFORMED OUR SORROW INTO JOY, OUR TEARS OF ANGUISH INTO TEARS OF THANKSGIVING. OUR PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL RE-CREATION, THROUGH YOUR HEALING HANDS, KEPT US ENCLOSED AND REVIVED IN OUR HOPE FOR OUR RENEWED LIVES AS WE LOOK UP TO THE HEAVENS PRAISING YOU, IN JESUS' MOST HOLY NAME, THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MARY, OUR BLESSED MOTHER, AND OF THE ANGELS AND SAINTS.

*We thank you, Lord, for the safe and peaceful travel we had this past month,. We thank you, too, for the wonderful vacation we had, for allowing us to see the place which we had always dreamt of going to. For allowing us to be with our family during our visit. Thank you for everything.*

*- Robert & Evelyn*

*When I talked to my co-worker, Debbie, about my son who was very ill and was hospitalized, she told me that she will ask the prayer group she belongs to for prayers. My son has diabetes and was unconscious. They prayed for him and included him in their masses and in their devotional prayers. He regained consciousness and is now walking. I am thanking God because my son is on the road to recovery. And I thank God for the prayer warriors of The Spiritual Army of God the Father.*

*- Mother of Lawrence Agcaoili*

*.... I am your Mother Mary*

*The changes you will see when prayers become part of society.  
Resist the evil one through your faith and prayers and  
his (evil one) influence over family, children and the unborn will dissipate.*

*Our Lord God is about to shower the graces and blessings to  
America and to the world. This will happen when humankind's  
righteousness comes back to ALMIGHTY GOD!*

*ALL must be instruments of these graces.  
Pray and fight for God's blessings of change.*

*Mary, Your Lady of Fatima*

*05192018*

# GOD TOUCHED ME

## AN EARTHLY FATHER'S LOVE PROMPTS REFLECTION ON THE IMMENSE LOVE OF A HEAVENLY ONE

*By Bailey McBride*  
[www.christianchronicle.org](http://www.christianchronicle.org)

The coming of June always reminds me of Father's Day. My dad has been gone for many years, but he is on my mind more than ever.

He was a very good man and loved my mother, my sister and me unconditionally. I was never close to him when I was growing up: He was a doer, and I was a reader. An amazing jack-of-all-trades, Dad could build or repair anything. He always invited me to work with him, but I was so disinterested in "projects" that I could not remember what steps he had just taken. He never lost patience with me, but soon he realized I was a hopeless case.

The memorable part of our relationship developed when I had a family of my own. We had given up on our political and religious conflicts. He was never strong-willed, but I was always trying to convince him to change politics or become more open to new ideas.

When we settled down to simple conversations about life and family, we enjoyed a wonderful camaraderie. Through all the years since his death, I have come to appreciate his devotion to family and to making the most of every minute of his life. I regret that I never told him how indebted I was to him for his selfless and endless work to provide his family what he never had.

Thinking about my earthly father fills me with love and admiration, and it is a short move to thinking about my heavenly father. Both gave me life — one physical and the other spiritual — that has enriched my existence.

Like my relationship with my dad, my relationship with my God has become stronger, more powerful as I have grown older and shed many of the concerns, ambitions, goals that filled my heart and mind when I was young. I have an intense desire to know God. I want to be able to embrace him — his love, his power, his majesty, his humility, his compassion, his creativity, his being.

God's power is beyond comprehension. The vastness of the universe stretches the image of God's creative power because it is finite compared to his infinite nature. Nothing can measure the height, the depth and the

breadth of his being. His majesty is so intense that devils tremble, spiritual beings cry, "Holy, Holy, Holy," humans bow knees and hearts.

God's creativity reveals itself in the complexity of our solar system, the galaxy, the endless other galaxies man has discovered, the vast spaces making up the universe we know. How amazing that in regular cycles the moon waxes and wanes, controlling the tides of the oceans on the earth. The cycle occurs in the bird nest in the tree outside my study, where a mother bird is keeping four tiny brown eggs warm until tiny birds emerge to be fed until they can fly and seek their own food. In another year those tiny birds will be creating their own nests where the cycle will continue.

The material evidence of God's nature overwhelms the sense and imagination. God's love would be only conjecture if he had not willed that his son become man so that we could view the fullness of God. Jesus shows us divine humility as he comes into the world as a baby, grows as infants do and eventually walks the hills and valleys of Israel to teach and serve.

Jesus is baptized by John so that he can fulfill all righteousness even though he has nothing to repent of. He is completely caring: He embraces and blesses children, he holds conversations with a foreign, sinful woman in Samaria, he makes himself available to the touch of a woman made unclean for years, he calls Lazarus from the tomb, and he loves his disciples and prepares them for spiritual leadership in his Kingdom.

Our God is so pure and good that anything evil is totally abhorrent to him. Yet our God was so loving that he rebelled against his nature and sent his son into the world to become sin and die on the cross for sin, all the sins of all mankind, and offer forgiveness and redemption for all of mankind. God loves.

I never fully knew or understood my dad, but he evoked in me immense love. And even though I struggle to know and understand Father God, my love for him grows, and I hunger to know him fully. □