
Pastor's Journal...

Fr. William P. Felix



17 June 2018 + Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Happy Fathers Day!!! I want to wish all of our fathers and grandfathers best wishes on your honored day. In preparation for this weekend I have been reading several things about the importance of fatherhood in our families and cultures today. One of the most common things mentioned is how important good fathers are to form a solid and stable foundation for the family and for society. Weak men, abusive men, men who have lost their sense of spiritual leadership contribute to the decay in family life and culture. This is not meant to be a putdown to women, wives, and mothers. The fact is that so often when there are problems in the family, it is the women who step forward in the nurturing nature to care for children. They are strong, but the poor example of a father sends a message, especially to sons, that one can continue to be irresponsible and self-centered without any concern for the effects it has on generations to come. I know this as a priest and pastor. Young people, especially young men, are looking for male figures who are leaders and examples of spiritual virtue and human values. This is an important task for us men today. I know how important the men in my life were in the formation of my own spiritual virtues and human values (my father and grandfather). It was not so much what they said but how they lived that made the greatest impact. It was important to me that they had real expectations about what kind of man I became. The first thing they taught me was the importance of being a man of God, secondly, how important it was to truly love and respect women. Let us pray to St. Joseph, one of the greatest examples of these two virtues, that he will help us become the men God has called us to be!

Thank you for your kindness... Several commemorations take place in my life all at once, my anniversary as a priest, my birthday, and Father's Day, usually all within a two week period. I want to thank so many of you who sent greetings and best wishes as I celebrated these days. As a priest and pastor it is so wonderful that my "family" remembers them and celebrates them. I pray that these blessings may be returned to you in your life. Next Sunday our seminarian intern, Timothy Reither, will be with us for all of the Masses. I look forward to his time with us, and that I can introduce him to a loving and supportive parish family. This is a powerful and important experience for a young seminarian looking towards his own life as a priest and pastor.

Have a great week and a wonderful summer!