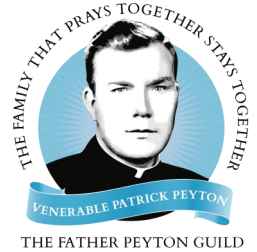


For Members of the Worldwide Father Peyton Guild

United in Prayer for a Spiritual Cause



From the Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Ash Wednesday we heard the words: “A clean heart create for me, O God, and a steadfast spirit renew within me.” (Ps. 51) In this plea, we acknowledge our need for God’s help to purify our hearts from everything that gets in the way of loving God, our family members, and friends.

Recently, I was reflecting upon the way that family prayer allows us to see the good in each other, even when there may be disagreements among family members. Father Peyton’s family was like yours and mine in the sense that each person, beginning with John and Mary Peyton, his parents, needed God’s help to grow in virtue and holiness.

They set an example for their children through humbly professing their faith (through the Apostles’ Creed) each evening after dinner as they began the family Rosary. Each member of that family also prayed: “Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.” In those few words, we hear ourselves say that we need God’s grace to repair our hearts and minds. We also recognize our role in helping others, beginning with our family members, through granting forgiveness as God has forgiven us.

Father Peyton learned this lesson through prayer and practice at home. He brought this understanding of God’s mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation into his priestly ministry. Perhaps God is prompting you to share this gift of forgiveness within your family this Lenten Season.

During this holy season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we acknowledge the reality that we are all works in progress, and at the same time, there is a reason for hope. May our spiritual exercises bring us closer to God and our family members and friends through mercy, sacrifice, and charity.

In Jesus and Mary,

Father David S. Marcham

Father David S. Marcham
Vice Postulator/Guild Director

Holy Days in March

St. Patrick’s Day,
March 17

St. Joseph’s Day,
March 19

Annunciation of the
Lord, March 25

Reflection Questions:

“What needs to be purified in the way my family lives?”

“How can I seek God’s help?”

“The Family Rosary is the practical way to strengthen the unity of family life, so easily weakened by the modern way of living.”

- Venerable Patrick Peyton -