



## *Essential Evangelization*

### Happy Father's Day!

Today we hopefully take the time to appreciate our fathers. If they are still around it is a great opportunity to gather in appreciation and share in a family meal or barbeque. It is also a great opportunity to say, "I love you Dad - thanks for all you have done for me." And if our dads have gone before us, it is a good chance to pause and remember, and to pray for him who provided for us and for our family and who gave us the gift of a very unique life and heritage.

If you are a father, it is also a great time to pause and celebrate life with your family and children. As dads, the greatest thing we can do for our children is to pass on the importance of our Catholic faith and hope. What better gift is there but to be a reflection of Jesus in their lives, perhaps the only reflection of Him, and to show them the eternal Way to His everlasting kingdom, so in time we will all be united again. Hopefully too, we are the spiritual leaders of our family, and by our example, we show our children what true love and sacrifice is by our example and by our unconditional love for them and for our wives.

Sometimes our children disappoint us by not heeding our advice or by not taking the time to spend with us. We all lead very busy lives. There is a very good chance however, that this is no different than how we treat our heavenly Father. In our hectic lives, we too seem to find little time to spend with Him in prayer, we don't always heed His advice on the best way to live our lives, or we fall short in living our life completely in His will. Even yet as we may squander our lives chasing unholy goals, like the father of the prodigal son, He is still waiting in perfect and unconditional love, looking down the road for us and for our eventual return. And again if our earthly dads are no longer with us, we can look to our Heavenly Father instead and also say, "I love you Dad -thanks for all you have done for me." In any circumstance we must all celebrate the gift of fatherhood today, because without both of our fathers we would not even be here to celebrate our very precious gift of life.

Happy Father's Day from the Evangelization Committee!

*This is one of a series of articles on  
Evangelization from the  
Evangelization Committee*