

June 17, 2018: Priest Days Gathering and Father's Day Wishes

Dear Parishioners,

This coming week I will be away at Priest Days. All the priests of the Archdiocese will gather at Ocean Shores with the Archbishop for fellowship and spiritual renewal. We will celebrate significant anniversaries of priests and remember those priests who have passed away during the past year. Please pray for the priests of the Archdiocese as we gather.

I do not think I have ever shared with you, but about a year ago I was elected as the Dean of the Snohomish Deanery. I have the role of representing our Deanery, which includes all the parishes in Snohomish County, to the Archdiocese and working together with the parishes of our Deanery on any local issues. Please pray with me for the welfare and ministries of our Deanery.

I want to wish each father a very happy Father's Day! This is hopefully a special day on which your family can gather around you and show their love and appreciation. Fathers are certainly part of their child's formation and education. Formation in the faith can be strongly influenced by fathers and have a lasting impact on their children's faith life.

My own father was an example in so many ways. He taught me how to work with my hands and figure things out. There were always new adventures and places to go with him that offered a multitude of experiences. Over the years I enjoyed many fishing trips with my dad. My dad was about all things sports and in his later years I took in a lot of Mariners games with him; he was a faithful fan to the end.

His greatest example, however, was his faith. My dad was man of faith although he was not Catholic when he married my mom. But after so many years with my mom's good example, he decided to become a Catholic when I received my first Communion. He became a very strong Catholic and would defend the Church and her teachings to anyone. Sometimes converts make the strongest Catholics. My dad was proud of his Catholic faith.

I encourage fathers to take the role of father seriously and I thank all of you for all you do for your families, for your community and for our parish. May God bless you this Father's Day and surround you with the love of your children.

In Christ,

Father Vincent