

HOLY CROSS CHAPEL

AND CATHOLIC RESOURCE CENTER



Schedule:

6:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
Opening Prayer
Topic Presentation
Small Group Discussions
Closing Prayer

Topics:

February 12 Week 1
Fatherhood, Through God the Father
Rev. Michael J. Barrett

February 19 Week 2
Strong Fathers, Strong Children
Dr. Bill Hogan, M.D.

February 26 Week 3
Pitfalls and Blind Spots of Fatherhood
Dr. Michael Johnson, Ph.D.

March 4 Week 4
Families in Crisis
Panel of Fathers

March 11 Week 5
Theology of the Body
Rev. Msgr. William H. Stetson

March 18 Week 6 Holy Week
*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament,
Benediction, and Reconciliation*
Rev. Michael J. Barrett

Men's Downtown Study Forum

Fatherhood, Through God the Father

Tuesday mornings during Lent at 6:30 a.m.
Starting Tuesday, February 12, 2008

The Men's Downtown Study Forum is a
six-week Lenten journey to study
God the Father and Fatherhood.

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“The natural family, founded on marriage between a man and a woman, is the cradle of life and love and the first and indispensable teacher of peace.”

*Pope Benedict XVI
Mass on January 1, 2008*

The greatest adventure a father can have in his life is the raising his own children. God calls each one of us by name to participate in his work of creation, each in his own way and circumstance of life. We all have vocations. Marriage is a vocation. Parenthood is a vocation. Good families do not just happen. It is no accident that most well adjusted, happy, and productive citizens emerge from faith-filled families with parents who love each other, and respect the fundamental dignity of each person in the family.

The foundation stone, which every Christian life comes from, is that love between the mother and the father. Strong faith filled fathers make for strong marriages, which makes for vital, joy-filled families. The opposite is also true. Fathers who are lukewarm in their love for God, indifferent in their worship, and selective in the teachings and the Doctrine of the Church weaken every other dimension of family life. That is why the Church so urgently needs men and women who can provide a good example, to be that leaven in society that is so desperately needed today.

Make a good resolution this Lenten season, by joining your peers in this study forum. You will certainly find the subject matter informative and the speakers articulate, joyful, and absolutely passionate about Jesus Christ and the Gospel.

How is it possible for a business person, a lawyer, an engineer, a computer expert, or any other busy professional to achieve holiness under the pressures of family responsibilities and work?

Surely one requires considerable support for the spiritual life and the faith of a member of the lay faithful in such circumstances. Holy Cross Chapel is a place where one finds God in the tabernacle, but it is also a place for Catholics to encounter the support that working persons need to integrate their faith and professional work.

Chapel hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with two Masses offered each day during the lunch period - one at 11:35 a.m. and one at 12:15 p.m. On Holy Days of Obligation and Ash Wednesday there are 6 Masses. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available throughout the day except during Mass. A priest is available for counseling from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, or by appointment.

Classes on the teachings of the Catholic Faith and afternoons of recollection are also available activities to the faithful of Downtown Houston. In addition, a bookstore provides spiritual reading and religious articles to expand one's piety and understanding of prayer life.

