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# PARTNERS NEWSLETTER

*A Newsletter for the Ann Arbor Catholic Men's Movement*

**June 2016**

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*Men of Faith, linked as brothers, growing as husbands, fathers and disciples of Jesus Christ*

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## **Why Men Need the Support of Other Men**

*By Maurice Blumberg  
from Catholic Exchange*

As Catholic men, we all know how difficult it is for men and their families to “thrive” in today’s culture. All of us have ever-increasing demands on our time and energies. It is not hard to see the collapse of traditional values and their support structures. Of course, there is a big difference between just surviving and thriving. We can be just surviving as a family, trying to keep a lid on everything, or we can be thriving as a Godly family. How many men know what it’s like to go through a difficult time when we are just trying to keep a lid on everything, so our families don’t explode? I know there are times when I have.

I believe that if we are to thrive (and not just survive), then we as Catholic men have to be willing to combat the trends of our modern society. For this to happen, we need to go deeper in our relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ. We need the power of the Cross and the Holy Spirit. Additionally we need the support of other Christian men.

**The Scriptures have much to say about why men need support of other men. In Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 and 4:12, this is brought home:**

*Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their work: If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up! (Ecclesiastes 4:9-10)*

*Where a lone man may be overcome, two together can resist. A three-ply cord is not easily broken. (Ecclesiastes 4:12)*

**Why is this true? Listen to what Proverbs 27 has to say:**

*As iron sharpens iron so one man sharpens another. (Proverbs 27:17)*

**And in Psalm 133, we hear these words:**

*How good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell together in unity! (Psalm 133:1)*

**Why is it so good and pleasant? Proverbs 17 gives one of the reasons:**

*A friend loves at all times. A brother is there to help in times of adversity. (Proverbs 17:17)*

**Listen to the words of Jesus on what happens when two or more of us gather together in**

**Get Inspired! Bring a Friend!**

**Thursday, June 2, 2016**

**Speaker: Peter Herbeck**

Vice President and Director of Missions for Renewal, Ministries, Actively Involved in Evangelization and Catholic Renewal, Co-host of “The Choices We Face” & “Crossing the Goal”, Author of “*When the Spirit Comes in Power*”, Peter and his wife Debbie have four children

**Topic: “Becoming Fearless Men  
Thriving in the Fire of the Holy Spirit”**

**Meeting Location:**

**Christ the King Catholic Church**

For more information call (734) 930-4524 or visit our web site at [www.catholic-men.org](http://www.catholic-men.org)

**Our Next Meeting: Thursday, June 2nd at**

**Christ the King Catholic Church 7:30 - 9:30 PM**

US 23 to Exit 41 at Plymouth Road, go **East** 1/3 mile to first traffic light at Earhart Rd and turn **left**. Go to next intersection and turn **left**. Turn left at the second driveway. The meeting is in the Church.

## Why Men Need the Support of Other Men (continued)

agreement, and in his name:

*“Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”* (Matthew 18:19-20)

**Here is another important reason for men to meet together and support one another.**

*“Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another — and all the more as you see the day approaching.”* (Hebrews 10:24)

**Finally, 1 John tells us what it means to “walk in the Light” as Christians:**

*“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another”* (1 John 1:7)

### Questions for Reflection/Discussion by Catholic Men

1. Do you believe that “we need the support of other Christian men” to “combat the trends of our modern society”?
2. As you read and reflected on the Scripture passages above, which Scriptures touched you the most?
3. According to these Scriptures, why is it important for men to support one another?
4. If you are part of a Catholic men’s group, how has this impacted your life?
5. If you are not part of a Catholic men’s group, have these Scriptures motivated you to join or start one? Why or why not?

We at the National Fellowship of Catholic Men are seeing these Scriptures come alive in men’s lives through the continued increase in the formation of Catholic men’s fellowships groups all across the country. In these groups, Catholic men are building relationships with one another, deepening their faith, and supporting one another through prayer.

*We gladly stand with Promise Keepers and St. Joseph Covenant Keepers.*

## The World’s Greatest Need: Men of Greatness

*By Fulton J. Sheen  
from Catholic Exchange*

There is a famine abroad on the earth, a famine not of bread, for we have had too much of that and our luxury has made us forget God; a famine not of gold, for the glitter of so much of that has blinded us to the meaning of the twinkle of the stars; but a famine of a more serious kind, and one which threatens nearly every country in the world – the famine of really great men. In other words, the world today is suffering from a terrible nemesis of mediocrity. We are dying of ordinariness; we are perishing from our pettiness.

**The world’s greatest need is great men,** someone who will understand that there is no greater conquest than victory over oneself; someone who will realize that the real worth is achieved, not so much by activity, as by silence; someone who will seek the Kingdom of God and His justice, and put into actual practice the law that it is only by dying to the life of the body that we ever live to the life of the spirit; someone who will brave the taunts of a Good Friday to win the joy of Easter Sunday; who will, like a lightning-flash, burn away the bonds of feeble interests which tie down our energies to the world; who, with a fearless voice, like John the Baptist, will arouse our enfeebled nature out of the sleek dream of unheroic repose; who will gain victories, not by stepping down from the Cross and compromising with the world, but who will suffer in order to conquer the world.

**In a word, what we need are saints, for saints are the truly great men. ... I assume without further ado that the grace of God is the one thing necessary, and that God will give that grace to those who do His will.**

### Enjoy Your Summer!



There will be no meetings of the Catholic Men's Movement during the months of July and August 2015. Join us when we resume again in the fall. If you are on our mailing list we will send a notice and advertise in many parish bulletins. Have a blessed summer!

**To get on our mailing list e-mail [cmmdesk@gmail.com](mailto:cmmdesk@gmail.com)  
or write to the Ann Arbor Catholic Men’s Movement, P.O. Box 466, Ann Arbor, MI 48106**