

Connecticut Men's Conference

**“Holiness, Masculinity, Defending the Truth, Faith
and Family**

by

Fr. Jeffrey “Skip” Thompson, MSA

Saturday, October 19, 2019

St. Paul's High School
1001 Stafford Avenue
Bristol, CT

Prayer: *Lord, open our **hearts** to your **Love** — and our **minds** to your **Truth** that we may become better men, better fathers, inspired and informed guardians of faith and family. Help us be **men** — after your own heart. St. Joseph patron of the Universal Church and the family, pray for us!*

It is good to be with you. I am a dad **and** a priest — *and not many priests can say that*. I was married **outside** the Church but it ended after the tragic **loss** of my son in 1983. I have **three** children; **one** in **heaven** and **two** in California. I returned to **faith** in 2002; to the **Church** in 2006; entered seminary in 2009 and was ordained a **priest** in 2015. I **love** being a priest.

But my **heart** is **heavy**— as perhaps many of yours are— about the future our kids will face — in a **culture** that is becoming **anti-Christ** and is losing its **moral compass**. Our “*one nation under God*” is crumbling. Psalm 11 **laments**: “*Foundations once destroyed, what can the just do?*” God help us. And He **will**. He promised that “*against His Church the gates of hell will not prevail.*” Amen! But in the meantime we’re in a fight.

Mortal sin has become **law** — abortion, euthanasia, gay marriage so-called, to name a few. Our **Lady of Fatima** warned us that the **final** battle would be over the **family**. According to St. John Paul II, the family, defined as a **husband, wife and child**, is “the living **icon** of the Holy Trinity.” Thus, it is no wonder **evil** hates it **and** is at work, “*to steal, kill and destroy*” **it**.

Ephesians 6:12 explains: “*We are **not** contending against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the world rulers of this*

present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.” ¹⁴ **Stand therefore.** Take up the **whole armor of God**, Gird your loins with **truth**, put on the breastplate of **righteousness**.¹⁶ Take up the shield of **faith**, the **helmet** of salvation, and the **sword** of the **Spirit**, which is the **Word** of God.” And as Jesus commands us: “**Be not afraid.**”

When G.K. Chesterton was asked: *What’s wrong with the Church?* He thought a long time, then answered: **Me**. Why? Because Chesterton knew, that **he** could **not** change **anyone** but **himself**. So before **we** can **defend** our faith or family, **WE need** to be growing **spiritually** with God.

James 4:8 promises that as we **draw** close to God, *He draws close to us*. His **divine presence** comes in **Word and Sacrament** to **transform** us. And transformation’s **goal** is our **holiness**. Holiness conforms us to the image of God’s Son. We become **holy**, *little by little*, like a good **habit**. Faithful **Mass** attendance. **Quiet-times** with the Scriptures. **Grace** at meals. **Rosary** with the **wife**. **Prayers** with the **kids** at bedtime. **Spiritual** reading. A kind word. A helping hand. Use of dental floss. Good habits!

But our **enemy** has **strategies** to derail our **holiness**. Jesus describes **one** of our **key** vulnerabilities in **Luke 11:34**: “*Your **eye** is the **lamp** of your body; when your **eye** is **sound**, your whole body is full of **light**; but—when it is **not** sound, your body is full of darkness. Therefore be careful lest the light in you be darkness.*” So the question is: What’s got **our** eye? There’s a lot out there: wealth, honor, pleasure — but let’s focus on one, **sex**, because it factors **WAY** too big in our culture and we’re immersed in it.

Men are **visually** stimulated. God built women to look **good**—so we would like ‘em —and it works! But the devil **twists** God’s good designs, which is why **porn** and **illicit sex** are his best snares. If we **act out** — we **rip up** our hearts and **damage** our relationships with women, especially **wives**.

Point: Our **masculinity** and our **self-esteem** are **wounded** when we **lose** our **self-control**. When we are **morally compromised** we **lose** our **spiritual power**. For example, **If** we are **morally compromised** that “**man to man**” talk with our **son-approaching-puberty** will be **hard** to deliver. How can we tell our son— that he must **respect** and **not objectify** women when **we still fall** into lust and sexual self-abuse? So we may duck it; and let it go.

The loss of **masculinity** *causes men to withdraw* and our **women** have to step up. It started in **Genesis**. **Eve grasped** and sinned. But what did **Adam** do? **Nothing**. Adam should have **stepped up** —between his wife and the devil — and sent him packing. But he let the woman take the **lead and take the hit**. **Adam** sinned **before** Eve— the first **sin of omission**.

The devil targets **every** man: **father, priest and prelate** “*to bind the strong man,*” as Jesus explains in his parable, “*in order to pillage his house.*” Our **families** and **parishes** are taking the **hits**. So what’s our counter? Strive for holiness. Stay in the **fight**. **When**, not **if**, we fall like Peter, seek Christ’s **Reconciliation** — and forgetting what lies behind — **press on** to our upward call in Christ. By the **grace** of his sacraments, Christ **comes to live** in us God to build the **strong man** inside us.

Remember, a **monk** on a mountaintop is not necessarily a holy man. He is simply a man who chooses for God, daily. **Hebrews 12:10** says: “*God is treating you as **sons**; for what **son** is there whom his father does **not** discipline? ...He disciplines us for our **good**, that we may **share** his **holiness**... **Strive** for the **holiness** without which **no one** will see the Lord.*” Our **striving after holiness** is **not** optional.

The essence of **masculinity** is **sacrifice** — and our **power to sacrifice** — comes from our **love** of God and our pursuit of Him manifest by a **holy life**. A **virtuous** life **avoids** moral **compromise** — and **empowers** us to **act** in accord with God’s will. This is **discipleship** — and it doesn’t happen **accidentally**. We must **intentionally** choose to be with Christ — to be spiritually **fit** for **battle**; *because ready or not; here it comes.*

Any **General** will tell you that to defeat the enemy he needs reconnaissance — to see the enemy’s positions and his movements. **Ezekiel** chapter 3 describes **his** appointment to do God’s **reconnaissance** — to be God’s **watchman** — to call out the **danger** when it approaches. Every good **pastor** is supposed to be a **watchman** to **call out** danger to his flock.

St. Augustine **explained** Ezekiel 3 to **his** pastors: “*Dear brothers, **see** how **dangerous** it is to keep **silent**. The sinner will **die** in his wickedness and sin for **his failure** to **listen to** you. [But if] **you do not warn** him [and] the **wicked** one suffers death [then] **you**, the watchman, suffers damnation.*

St. Gregory the Great explained: “Pastors who **hesitate** to say **openly** what is **right** — do so because they **fear losing** the **favor** of **men**. Such leaders do **not** protect their flocks. Rather, they are like **mercenaries** who **flee** by taking refuge in **silence** when the **wolf** appears.” Wolves prey on the weak and the **young**. Consider the **lack** of **youth** in our churches. They are being **preyed** upon — from **outside** and **inside** the Church.

To get some Ezekiel-like **recon** on the dangers we face, let’s take a poll:

1. **Please raise your hand** if — you have **children or grandchildren**.
2. Now raise your hand **if** — they go to a **Catholic school** — presently.
3. Now, if they go to **public** school?
4. How many of you have heard a Sunday **homily** on **homosexuality**?
5. How many have heard a Sunday homily on **Gender Theory**?

Why do you suppose these critical issues have not been addressed? I will venture a guess: **Fear**. We are comfortable and are afraid to rock the boat. We **go** along to **get** along. But our families are devastated because if the Church’s **shepherds** do NOT speak to this, *the **wolves’ narrative** wins*.

The Church is the “pillar and bulwark of the **Truth**” 1 Timothy 3:15 — but what good is the Truth if it is **not** spoken? And — it is **not** being spoken for another reason — **moral compromise**. As a priest, I must **apologize** to you men — for our clergy’s **moral failures**. And our **laxity** has tragically borne the **rotten fruit** of the sex abuse scandal. As **good watchmen**, let’s be honest and call out the **specific** sexual **wolf** afflicting us. Buckle up!

A tally of the clerical sex abusers in recent years revealed that **81%** were perpetrated by **homosexually** oriented priests and prelates.¹ Assuming the vast number of priests are naturally **hetero**-sexually oriented, **81%** is disproportionately high. The late Fr. Richard John Newhouse, founder of the magazine *First Things* declared the 3-fold causes of the sex abuse scandal: 1. **Homosexuality** — 2. the **grave negligence** of **bishops** — and 3. the **widespread infidelity** to Church **teachings** among the **clergy**. This happens when we neglect our relationship with Christ and holiness.

It was **good** to find in December 2016, *that* — **Pope Francis's Ratio Fundamentalis** guide for seminary formation, addressed **homosexuality**, stating: *"the Church, cannot admit to **seminary** or to **holy orders** those who **practice homosexuality**, present deep-seated homosexual tendencies or **support** the so-called '**gay culture**."* This is a good guide. We need holy, morally upright **priests** to **watch** and **guard** our people from **scandal** — priests who pursue **holiness** and remain uncompromised men, *"girded with the **Truth**."* The truth is found — **not** in our **opinions** — but in the **authority** of the **Holy Scripture** and the **Magisterium** of the **Church** and secondly from **Natural Law** and the **Sciences** that give us **honest facts**. St. John Paul II wrote: *"Convey certainties of faith; not uncertainties."* *Always communicate the **truths** that the Magisterium states not **ideologies** that come and go. To build up the Church, **live holiness**."*² **Truth** and **holiness** are inseparable.

Remember our cultural history: The **assault** upon the **family** began in the **1960's** with the **contraceptive pill** and the sexual revolution made **easy** by

it. Pope Paul VI's warning from *Humanae Vitae* was prophetic. The use of the pill **caused** men to **objectify** women and *cheapened* the **marital** act to just *fun and games*. The **Playboy** mentality **morally decimated** men's hearts — and their ensuing infidelities **wrecked** marriages and turned fornication into one more **contact sport**. As **natural** sexual **boundaries** were **breached**, Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transexual lifestyles came out in the open — and LGBT "*participants*" began to **network** into a socio-sexual movement that morphed into a **political** action movement.

Now, before we go any further, let's make an important clarification. **This is not** about **us vs. them**. **Everyone** needs God's forgiveness and **healing** from the **wounds** of sin. Christ endured the penalty of **death due to all our sins**— to give us eternal life. And He shepherds us to heaven by leading us into **holiness**, "*without which no one will see the Lord.*"

The Scriptures are clear: "*Do you **not** know that the **unrighteous** [unholy] will **not** inherit the kingdom of Heaven? Do **not** be deceived; neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor **homosexuals**,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor robbers... will inherit the kingdom of God. [Okay, so far I've been guilty of 5 of these. How you doing?] ¹¹ And **such** were some of **you**... But you were **washed**, you were **sanctified**, you were **justified** in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God... [Now listen] ...Shun **sexual immorality**. Every **other sin** which a man commits is **outside** the body; but the **immoral** man sins against his **own** body. ¹⁹ Do you **not** know that your*

*body is a temple of the **Holy Spirit** within you?... You are **not** your own; ²⁰ you were **bought** with a price. So **glorify** God in your **body**.” 1 Cor. 6:9.*

Quoting Chesterton again: *We are **all** in the same **boat** — and we are **all** seasick. Whether we fornicate, get drunk or engage in homosexual acts— what we do in our **body** matters. We glorify God —or **not** — by our body. Jesus **died *bodily*** because of **sin**. **Each** and **every sin** cost the Son of God his life. **No sin gets a pass**. Because He loves us **perfectly** we come to him on **his terms**, not **ours**. **Love** is our **rule** and **Truth** is our **guide**.*

Our **Church** gives **special** attention to certain **sinner**s who must deal with **homosexual** tendencies. *“Their **inclination** constitutes a **trial**. They must be **accepted** — with **respect, compassion, and sensitivity**. Every sign of **unjust discrimination** in their regard should be avoided. These persons are called to fulfill God's will in their lives and **if** they are Christians, to **unite** to the **sacrifice** of the Lord's Cross, the **difficulties** they encounter from their condition.” CCC 2358*

We must **distinguish** between **unjust discrimination** and right **discernment** of **behavior** by distinguishing between the **person** and their **actions**. Jesus came to save **sinner**s from **sin** — and in John 8, He **distinguishes** as he **forgives** the woman caught in **adultery**: *“I do **not** condemn you, but go and **sin no more**.”* Jesus did **not** “**judge**” her that is, “**condemn**” her. But — he told her to **justly discriminate** between **right** and **wrong actions** and choose the “**right**,” to live a morally dignified life.

At the end of the chapter Jesus explains **why**. “*Truly, truly, I say to you, every one who **commits sin** is a **slave to sin**.*” Thus, to **love** the **sinner** means to **help** the sinner **be free of sin**. The **truth** will set you **free, truly**. St. Augustine called the Church a hospital for sinners, **all** sinners. We are **ALL** invited to church. **ALL** need to be there.

Keep in mind, that **the temptation** or **tendency** to sin is **not sinful per se**. Rather, we **sin** when we **choose** to **act** in accord with the temptation, **knowing** it is wrong. **CCC 2357** explains: “[**Homosexuality**] has taken a great variety of forms through the centuries and in different cultures. Its **psychological** genesis remains largely **unexplained**. Holy Scripture presents homosexual **acts** as **acts** of grave **depravity**, which are **intrinsically disordered**.” [Note: it’s **not** the **person**, but the **act**.] “They [the **acts**] are **contrary** to the natural law. They **close** the sexual act to the **gift of life**. They do **not** proceed from a genuine affective and sexual complementarity Under **no** circumstances can they be **approved**.”

Mental health practitioner, Christopher Doyle, offers a qualified explanation for homosexual orientation in his book: *The War on Psychotherapy*. “*Same sex attraction or homosexual orientation is essentially an emotionally based, maladaptive condition caused by various **childhood** trauma.*”

Given that **half** of our marriages end in **divorce**, I submit to you that much of the “childhood trauma” Doyle refers to is from — **father wounds** — absent, negligent and/or abusive fathers. And the traumatized young man, still seeking a “father’s” approval, **sexualizes** it — and finds it in another

man, which in the **hot-house** sexual climate of our culture, is **encouraged** and tragically, even **celebrated**.

Such impulses **can and must** be **healed**, because *Natural Law* **cannot** be scorned without **dire** consequences. Homosexual acts are **contrary** to the **unitive** and **procreative** powers that exist— **naturally and only** — between a **man and a woman**. Homosexual acts are closed to **family**. They **deny** a man his sacred role as a **father** — and **end** his family line. They **disintegrate** a man's **true** identity. Homosexual acts are deadly — spiritually, psychologically and **physiologically**.

I will quote information from the **Center for Disease Control** and other professional sources that bear out the devastation of the gay lifestyle: First, keep in mind that about **1.8%** of **men** identify as **gay**.³ And the usual number of **sex partners** for homosexuals ranges b/w 101 to 500.⁴

So, that **1.8%** of men — men with homosexual tendencies accounts for:

66% of **all** AIDS cases. ⁵

82% of **all** HIV cases.⁶

83% of **all** Syphilis cases.^{7 8}

Anal cancer is **17 times** higher among homosexuals than the general pop.

A **21** year study of 1,007 young men and women found —that those with homosexual tendencies attempted **suicide** at a **rate** over **6** times normal. ⁹

Homosexual and bisexual men **lose** up to **20** years of **life** expectancy.¹⁰

If we truly **love** our friend or family member struggling with same-sex attraction, we **must** tell him the **truth in love** [Eph 4:15]. Because, to

affirm homosexual **acts** as **normative** — sends them down the path of **disintegration**. And to ascribe “**identity**” to homosexual **behavior** implies a permanent **state of being**. This destroys their **hope** to ever **re-integrate** their heart and mind — **with** their body. It takes courageous love, prayer and fasting, to care enough to confront our loved ones to save them.

The “**born that way**” claim puts a person in a box they can’t get out of — and **essentially** attributes their orientation to **genetics**. However, “identical twin” studies **refute** this. The identical DNA of identical twins means **all** their traits are identically the same. Thus, if **homosexual** orientation is **genetic**, then **both** twins **should** be the same **100%** of the time. But, the **Australian Twin Registry** study of 2000 revealed that **89%** of **identical** twins — where **one** was homosexually oriented — **the other was not**.¹¹ This **proves** there is **no** genetic basis for the orientation AND — that **environment** and **nuture** are much more **controlling**, which means, it **develops**. And, homosexual orientation is **not** an **unchangable** trait — like **race** or **sex** — which means they can be **helped**.

Doyle’s therpuetic practice affirms this. He says: “*If we successfully treat the [underlying childhood] **trauma**, the homosexual impulses **lessen** and in some cases **completely dissapate**.*”¹² I’ve met men who’ve been **healed** of their homosexual lifestyles, who are married with children.

We welcome LGBT **individuals** — who honestly desire the forgiveness and healing of Christ. **But** the “LGBT **community**” *per se* demands the Church **abandon** the **Truth** regarding Salvation, Nature and natural sexuality — to

accept Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transexual **behaviors** as **normative**.
The **community** is an **interest group** with a sexual **agenda**.

This distinction is **important** there is a **big** difference between **inviting** an “**individual**” seeking Christ— compared with — **inviting** a “**community** with an agenda.” So, we **invite** the **individual** — to save their **soul**. But we must **fight** the **agenda** — to save our **children**.

Christ came to forgive sins and heal. But he also came to **gather** and **guard** his sheep, which brings us to the latest **threat** to the psycho-sexual health of our **children** —the “**T**” in LGBT — the **Transgender idea**.

In a 2016 address to priests and seminarians Pope Francis warned us:
*“Today there is a **world war** to destroy marriage. The great enemy is the **theory of gender**... which destroys — not with weapons, but with **ideas**... Children are **taught** in school that everyone can **choose** his or her sex...”*
Gender theory is the **idea** — that **masculine or feminine** identities are the product of **social** factors. But instead, we are “**fluid**” sexual beings— **not** just **male and female**. We can be **any gender** we like — and go into any bathroom or lockerroom we like. GT takes us down a slippery slope that is contrary to Nature, Divine Revelation, science and common decency.

*“Jesus said, ‘He who made them from the beginning, made them **male and female**.⁵ For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the **two** shall become **one**’.” **Matthew 19:4***

CCC 2393 declares: “By creating the human being **man** and **woman**, God gives personal **dignity** equally to **one** and the **other**. Each of them, man and woman, should acknowledge and **accept** his [or her] sexual identity.”

The justification behind the **transgender idea** is that a person may be **born with a woman’s brain in a man’s body**. However, Dr. Michele Cretella, the Executive Director of the American College of Pediatricians, dismisses it: “There is **no** scientific evidence for a **transgender** brain. [She continues] *Human sex is an **innate**, immutable, **binary** trait*” — meaning, there **are** only **two** sexes. **Every** child is born either a boy or a girl. Girls have XX chromosomes; boys have XY — and they will naturally grow up differently, in accord with their sexual physiology.

So, regardless of drugs, hormones or surgery — **male or female** remains basic biology. And **biology** can’t be intimidated, sued, legislated, bullied, chopped off or added on to — it **is** what it is. To disagree with it is foolish.

Dr. Cretella states: “When an otherwise **healthy biological boy** believes he is a **girl**, or vice versa, an **objective psychological** problem exists that lies in the **mind**—**not** the **body**—and it should be treated as such.”

LGBT **activism** has **increased** the **distress** of pre-pubescent children about their **biological** sex and orientation. Case in point: The Tavistock Clinic — the **only** gender clinic in the U.K. — reports a **4400% increase** in girls wanting **sex reassignment** in the last **10** years as gender **theory** began to be promulgated more widely.¹³

Young children with gender confusion are given **puberty blocking** drugs as early as **age 8** and **cross-sex hormones** in later adolescence. They will become **permanently sterilized** and risk complications like: cardiac disease, high blood pressure, blood clots, stroke, diabetes and cancer.

The deadly **disintegrating** effects of Transgenderism is most evident in **adults** who proceed with **sex reassignment**. **Sweden**, one of the most “LGBT affirming” countries in the world, has recorded a **suicide rate** among transgenders, nearly **20 times** greater than general population.¹⁴

The facts are: **98%** of boys and **almost 90%** of girls will naturally **outgrow** their gender confusion ***if just left alone***.¹⁵ What is at work is the *power of suggestion* deliberately imposed on impressionable children. I watched a video of a “teacher of teachers” in the U.K. — an LGBT activist — who brazenly stated that her “bottom line is to **completely smash heteronormativity**.”¹⁶ Those who demand **tolerance, offer none**.

She and her teachers, state unabashedly that they **target** primary school kids because they are more easily **groomed** to accept LGBT **propaganda**. Dr. Cretella concludes: “Schools and groups that **push** transgenderism are committing a serious and **unethical** form of **mental child abuse**.”

Transgenderism is ruining **women’s sports**. In Cromwell, CT a few **boys** in the high school **decided** they were **girls**. So they **competed** in the **girl’s state** track meet — and **took** the gold and silver medals in their

events. They were **celebrated** by the pro-LGBT school administration — as they **wrecked** the hopes of **real girls** who had trained and competed for **years** in the hopes of winning a track **scholarship** to go to college.

The *Olympic Committee* is facing a similar **trainwreck** on an **international scale**—with the prospect of **trans-men** entering **women’s** events, dashing the hopes of **REAL** women athletes and **ruining** the Olympics for all of us.

Amidst this confusion the **Church stands** as the pillar and bulwark of the Truth. But, unfortunately, there are **voices of ambiguity *inside*** the Church that **undermine** and twist her moral teachings to accept the LGBT agenda. They are congenial. Tthe “world” loves them — ***always a yellow flag!*** And they are sincere about helping LGBT persons. But they are sincerely **wrong about how to do it.**

We **will help** LGBT persons — when we **love** them **enough** to **tell** them the **truth**. Love without the truth is a charade of false compassion that endorses sexual acts that **disintegrate** the person. **Real** love chooses the **highest good** for the other — which means telling the **truth** about the **danger** and **disintegration** of persons in an LGBT lifestyle.

Real **justice** should not create **new *injustice*** — *like* the ruination of women’s sports, as just noted. Or, the more **grave injustice** foisted upon our children by an LGBT agenda that **grooms** them for a life of abberant sexual **behavior** — *before they reach 3rd grade!* **True justice** requires **truth** as its foundation — **truth** that affirms our natural identities as **men**

and women — and has the decency to let our *children be children*, under the guidance of their **parents** — **not** the **LGBT community**.

Jesus issued us a grave warning: “*Temptations to **sin** are sure to come; but **woe** to him by **whom** they come!* ² *It would be **better** for him if a **millstone** were hung round his neck and he be cast into the sea, than that he should **cause** one of these **little ones** to sin.*” Luke 17:1

The **voices of error** in the Church were anticipated: “*For the time is coming when people will **not** endure sound teaching, but with **itching ears** they will accumulate **teachers** to suit their own likings, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the **truth** and wander into **myths**.*” 2 Timothy 4:3

The **LGBT community** has **bridged** some Christian denominations, which have **surrendered** to their demand for “normalcy.” Like a **conquering army** they plant a **rainbow flag** on their soil — with a phrase that claims: “*God is still speaking.*” Yes, God still speaks to all who will listen, **but:** God does **not change his mind** about what is **true** and **right** and **good**. Hebrews 13:8 declares, “*Jesus Christ is the **same** yesterday, today and for ever.*” ⁹ **Do not** be led astray by **diverse and strange teachings.**”

The **bridge** to the **LGBT community** is *Trojan horse* — **not** a bridge. And it has proven to be an **assault ramp**. I invite you to stand with me and say: **Not in my family, not in my parish, not on my watch!**

On a practical note: this is **very important:** If your child **seems** at **risk**,

you MUST take the handout from our MSA table: **Guidance for Parents of Children with Gender Identity Distress**. It will help you select a **good** counselor from **our** perspective. Because there are “bad ones.”

Why do I say that? Because in 14 states, including CT, LGBT lobbying has made it **illegal** for counselors to **help** a same-sex-attracted minor who **requests** help to “go straight.” In other words, if kids **think** they are **gay**, there’s **no going back**. The agenda to “smash hetero-normativity” is here. You must work to find a “good” counselor — as opposed to one that is **legally LGBT biased**. Correct counseling is **now criminal** and **only** available **underground**. **Evil** is called **good** and good evil. [Isaiah 5:20]

From our table, take a copy of: **Select Teaching Resources regarding “Gender Theory.”** It is quotations from the Catechism, encyclicals and Papal pronouncements — coupled with findings from doctors with the American College of Pediatricians.

Finally, consider how **our sense** of God is **influenced** by our **earthly** fathers — and how many social and family **crises** are due to a crisis of **fatherhood**. Now consider how **St. Joseph** is the most powerful **father example** and **intercessor** that ever lived. He will aid us to be good and holy **men and fathers** to protect and raise our families.

Think about it: **God the Father** chose Joseph to protect **God the Son** and His virgin Mother. Remember, when **Gabriel** approached Mary, she was **already betrothed to Joseph**. In reality, God chose **both** — Mary **and**

Joseph together. Joseph was **chosen** to be the **earthly model** of **fatherhood** to God's Divine Son. If **God** could trust him, so should we.

Joseph has been hidden for centuries — like a **spiritual secret weapon**, saved for the **ultimate battle** of our time. He was finally placed in the Litany of Saints in **1726**,¹⁷ made patron of the **Universal Church** in **1870**,¹⁸ and in **1962** was inserted **ahead** of **all** other saints right after Our Lady in the **First Eucharistic** prayer which had not been changed in **1000** years.¹⁹ St. Joseph is found **penciled** in the margins of the **2011** Roman Missal.

Let us pray through the patron and protector of our **Church**, our **Archdiocese** and our **families**.

O God, you chose St. Joseph as the protector of your only Begotten Son, Jesus — and the chaste spouse of our Blessed Mother. We ask his prayers and powerful assistance in our spiritual battles — to defend the Truth, the Faith and our families, You, who reign forever and ever. Amen.

Saint Joseph, chaste guardian of the **Virgin** Mother of God, **pray for us**.

Saint Joseph, Virginal **foster-father** of the Son of God,...

Saint Joseph, **Head** of the Holy Family,...

Saint Joseph, **Protector** of Holy Church,

Saint Joseph, **Pillar** of families,

Saint Joseph, **Terror** of demons,

Amen. God **bless** — **guide** — and **strengthen** you all.

¹ *The Nature and Scope of Sexual Abuse of Minors by Catholic Priests & Deacons in the U.S. 1950-2002*, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, New York; February 2004. p. 6; Quote: “Overall, **81%** of victims were **male** and 19% female. Over 40% of all victims were males between the ages of 11 and 14.”

Dr. Paul Sullins, “*Is Catholic clergy sex abuse related to homosexual priests?*”; Ruth Institute, Catholic University of America, Washington D.C., 2018; disputes a later report on the issue by the John Jay College (JJR2) that **declined** to find a **causal** relationship between homosexuality and the disproportionately high number of incidents of male-on-male sexual abuse. Dr. Sullins criticizes the poor methodology in JJR2. He counters with his own findings and stated “...The abuse of children by Catholic priests is strongly associated both with the proportion of homosexual men in the priesthood and with the prevalence of homosexual subcultures in Catholic seminaries.” In his research Sullins found a **.96** correlation comparing homosexual subcultures in seminaries with homosexual abuse incidence between 1955-1999. Dr. Sullins concludes, “...[There is a] very strong probability that the past surge and present incidence of abuse is a product, at least in part, of the past surge and present concentration of homosexual men in the Catholic priesthood.”

² *The Private Prayers of Pope John Paul II*, Editors: Simon & Shuster, New York, 1994. p.79

³ Washington Post, “*What percentage of the U.S. population is gay, lesbian or bisexual?*” Eugene Volokh, July 15, 2014. Based on 2013 NHIS data collected in 2013 from 34,557 adults

⁴ Matt Slick, *Statistics on Sexual Promiscuity among Homosexuals*, Christian Apologetics and Research Ministry. On-line: <https://carm.org/statistics-homosexual-promiscuity>. Citing: Paul Van de Ven et al. Journal of Sex Research,

⁵ [HIV.gov website: U.S. Statistics, https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics](https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics). Data taken from Center on Disease Control. 2016.

⁶ [HIV.gov website: U.S. Statistics, https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics](https://www.hiv.gov/hiv-basics/overview/data-and-trends/statistics). Data taken from Center on Disease Control. 2016.

⁷ “Sexually Transmitted Diseases, Center for Disease Control. 2014 data. <https://www.cdc.gov/msmhealth/STD.htm>

⁸ Earlier CDC data offered a different perspective; from a press release dated: March 10, 2010, entitled: *CDC Analysis Provides New Look at Disproportionate Impact of HIV and Syphilis Among U.S. Gay and Bisexual Men*. Quote: "...the rate of new **HIV** diagnoses among men who have sex with men (MSM) is more than **44 times** that of other men and more than 40 times that of women... rate of primary and secondary **syphilis** among MSM is more than **46 times** that of other men and more than 71 times that of women, the analysis says. The press release also quotes Kevin Fenton, M.D., director of CDC's National Center for HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention; "While the heavy toll of HIV and syphilis among gay and bisexual men has been long recognized, this analysis shows just how stark the health disparities are between this and other populations," "...the risk of HIV transmission through receptive anal sex is much greater than the risk of transmission via other sexual activities..."

⁹ Fergusson DM, et al. (1999). Is sexual orientation related to mental health problems and suicidality in young people? *Arch Gen Psychiatry*, 56, 876-80. Cited in the on-line article: Child Healing; Strengthening Families, Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons, <http://www.childhealing.com/articles/ssayouth-if-imh.php>

¹⁰ John Diggs, *The Health Risks of Gay Sex*, Catholic Education Resource Center, On-line: <https://www.catholiceducation.org/en/marriage-and-family/sexuality/the-health-risks-of-gay-sex.html#04>

¹¹ J. Michael Bailey, et al. (2000). Genetic and environmental influences on sexual orientation and its correlates in an Australian twin sample. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 78:524–536. Cited in the on-line article: Child Healing; Strengthening Families, Dr. Richard Fitzgibbons, <http://www.childhealing.com/articles/ssayouth-if-imh.php>

Special note: The Witherspoon Institute just released on October 14, 2019 [too late to include in this talk], *"Born That Way" No More: The New Science of Sexual Orientation* that "...adds to a growing body of evidence demonstrating that the dominant narrative about sexual orientation—that it is genetically determined—simply cannot be true." They refer to the landmark study from Harvard-MIT of over a half million persons investigating genetic possibility of homosexual orientation. On-line: <https://www.thepublicdiscourse.com/2019/09/57342/>

¹² Doyle, Christopher, "The War on Psychotherapy," Institute for Healthy Families, Manassas, VA, 2019. p. 339.

¹³ Ibid. Doyle, Preface.

¹⁴ Gender Theory Harms Children, quoting Dhejne, C., "Long term follow-up of Transsexual persons undergoing sex reassignment surgery. Cohort study in Sweden, 2011.

¹⁵ "Gender Theory Harms Children," American College of Pediatricians, 2009, quoting the APA's Diagnostic and Statistical Manual, 5th Edition, p. 455.

¹⁶ “*LGBT Activist Reveals Goal...*” From: *Activist Mommy* website; On-line at: https://activistmommy.com/lgbt-activist-reveals-goal-to-completely-smash-heteronormativity-through-education/?mc_cid=4ba9147853&mc_eid=f7c3c9d208. Video comments by Elly Barnes, director of “Educate and Celebrate” a non-profit organization in the U.K.

¹⁷ by Pope Benedict 13th

¹⁸ by Pope Pius 9th

¹⁹ St. John XXIII Note: The first official action of the 2nd Vatican Council.