

Message from State Chaplain Father Steven Hoffer

Brothers, one of the most important things about being a practical Catholic man is our Catholic faith. How do we practice our Catholic faith? Do we practice the precepts of the Catholic faith? Do we know what the precepts are? The precepts of the Catholic Church are:

- Attend at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- Confess serious sin at least once a year
- Receive Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season
- Observe the days of fast and abstinence
- Provide for the needs of the Church

How are we doing living the precepts? Whether we are new to the Catholic faith or have been a Catholic for some time, I challenge you to grow in your relationship with God and others.

- First we need to be men of prayer. This means we must pray daily and attend Mass and receive the Holy Eucharist as often as we can.
- Second, we need to be men who seek and give forgiveness. When was the last time you went to the Sacrament of Reconciliation? We need to do it regularly and encourage our family and friends to do the same.
- Third we need to grow in our knowledge of God and the Church. So read the Bible regularly, participate in Cor, and other Bible studies, retreats, parish missions, catechetical instruction, etc. Do we talk about Jesus at our meetings, with others and in our daily lives?
- Fourth, how do we support our priests and seminarians and encourage vocations?

Let us be practical Catholics living our Catholic faith always. I am praying for all of you! If I can help anyone, please let me know.

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Pastor of St. Anthony of Padua, Las Vegas, NV