

## ***THE FATHER'S VINEYARD***



**A Quarterly Newsletter from  
My Father's House  
P.O. Box 22, Moodus, Ct. 06469  
(860) 873-1906  
[www.myfathershouse.com](http://www.myfathershouse.com)  
Winter 2007 -3rd Edition**

### ***A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS***

#### **The Greatest Thing in Life**

The greatest thing in life is to have a personal, ongoing, loving relationship with Jesus Christ who lives in our hearts. God gives us this awesome invitation to come to know, love and serve His Son who indwells our spirits. By personal relationship we mean that one can experience here on earth that Jesus is real for them; that He loves them personally; that He speaks to them often from without and within; that He heals them spiritually, emotionally and physically; that faith in Him really does heal their worries and fears; that trusting and hoping in Him really does heal their despair; that His love really does heal their loneliness, their sense of rejection and their poor self images; that His forgiveness especially received in the Sacrament of Reconciliation really does heal their guilt and sin, and the giving of the forgiveness really does heal their bitterness and hatred. A personal relationship is a relationship so close and so intimate that He no longer is a God way up there only, but a God who is right within you, loving you, speaking to

you, forgiving you and helping you. A personal relationship means that Jesus no longer is a God way back there in Biblical times who used to speak and to heal, but rather your personal friend who speaks to you often from within and without and who heals you spiritually, emotionally and even at times physically. (Fr. Bill's book and DVDs on "A Personal Relationship with Jesus" are highly recommended.)

### ***HOW TO LISTEN AS GOD SPEAKS***

The heart of Christianity is to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The heart of this relationship is ongoing communication with Him that we call prayer, for prayer is, in the words of Pope John Paul II, a reciprocal conversation. We talk to God to be sure, but far more importantly we listen as God speaks to us. Throughout the Scriptures God is revealed as speaking to men and women over 20 thousand times. To Adam He said "You are free to eat from any tree in the garden." To Eve He questioned "What is this you have done?" To Noah He directed "Make yourself an ark." To Abram He instructed "Leave your country and go to the land I will show you." Throughout the 6,000 years of Judeo/Christian history, many men and women have learned to listen to, to discern and to obey the voice of the Master. The fundamental thing in the life of Moses was that God spoke to Him "face to face" as one man speaks to another. Jesus would say of Himself that He did "only what the Father told Me." Our Blessed Mother was she who believed that the Lord's word to her would be fulfilled. All the saints have learned to hear and obey the voice of the Lord.

### **Doing the Will of God**

God has a plan for each and every one of our lives that He reveals not only generally through the Scriptures and through the official teachings of the Church, but personally, in an ongoing way, directly to our minds and hearts. We cannot, therefore, do the Will of God until we learn to listen as He reveals it step by step. His voice sounds like the insights that come to us in prayer. Yet, most people do not realize that God is personally speaking to them - all of the time. (Fr. Bill highly recommends his books and DVDs "Listening to God", "The Our Father" and "A Walk through the Catechism").

### **NEW DVDs**

Bob & Evelyn Olson are in charge of the DVD ministry at My Father's House. Each DVD contains 4 half hour talks from my TV Series "In His Name". The DVDs are available by calling Bob at (860) 873-1428 or (937) 205-0128,

### **A CATHOLIC COMPENDIUM OF INNER HEALING**

The new revised book "A Catholic Compendium of Inner Healing" will be available next month. This new edition will have 3 extra chapters, two of them written by Nurse Practitioner and Lay Evangelist Mary Alice Rossini. Call My Father's House at (860) 873-1906.

### **MARY ICON OF HOLINESS**

Dr. James Tibbits, Mariologist and Fr. Bill have just finished the book "Mary Ark of the Covenant, *an Icon of Holiness,*" showing how the patterns of holiness that God worked in Mary are being worked in us. Each one of us is called to be full of Grace to bear Jesus in our spirits and to live lives of humility, obedience, purity, love and mercy. This

will be available in March.

### **MY FATHER'S HOUSE NEWS**

#### **Upcoming Retreats:**

January 6<sup>th</sup> - Emmaus Retreat for the teens.

January 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> - Bride of Christ Retreat with Fr. Marty Jones.

January 25<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> - Presentation Ministries will present a Bible Institute and Healing Retreat. All are welcome. Four powerful tracks: How to Teach the Bible in the Power of the Spirit; To Heal as Jesus Heals; Living an Inspired Lifestyle; and Christian Community. Inspiring Retreat - sign up soon!

**ITALIAN PILGRIMAGE** - There are a few seats left on this trip. Call M&M travel (800) 773-2660.

***PLEASE CONTINUE YOUR PRAYERS & SUPPORT FOR MY FATHER'S HOUSE!***

**GOD BLESS YOU**