

From the Pastor
June 20, 2021
Twelfth Sunday Throughout the Year
Fathers' Day

The Fourth Commandment

From my grandfather I learned good morals and how to govern my temper.

From my father I learned modesty and manly character

From my mother piety and beneficence...and a simple way of living.

Thus wrote the great Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius in his book *Meditations*. In ancient Roman society the elderly were held in the highest veneration. Respect for the elderly is still embedded in every culture, and that is all the more the case when the elderly are our parents. And so should it be with all of us.

When Moses returned from Sinai's height he brought with him the Ten Commandments. These had been given to him by God himself. Of all the Ten Commandments only one has a blessing attached to it – the fourth commandment which is honor thy father and thy mother.

This commandment of God is the sweetest of the commandments because it commands us to do something toward which our nature is ordered. We honor our parents by always doing their will on earth and seeing that they depart this world with Christian burial. We continue to honor them when we have Masses offered for them

Yes, we owe our parents everything and we will be blessed by God if we fulfill the precepts of the fourth commandment.

A Blessed Fathers' Day.

COVID NEWS: The general dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation Masses will end the weekend of Saturday / Sunday August 14 / 15, 2021 Please do not wait until then to return to Mass. Let us all begin once more along the path of holiness as we return to the practice of the Faith. It is no accident that the dispensation will end on Our Lady's principal feast in the Church's Year of Grace, the Assumption. The news of the dispensation ending should not be the cause sadness but rather the cause for celebration and motivation to venture forth along the path of holiness.

In Jesus and Mary,
Monsignor James F. Pereda