

Walking with Christ

By: Deacon Rick Lawlor

LOVE MORE THAN YOU KNOW...



Recently, for my birthday my mother sent me a card wishing me a happy birthday. In it she always says: *"Love you more than you know."* I always get a little chuckle out of that comment because I indeed know how much she loves me. I always explain to her that the day I became a father for the first time with the birth of my daughter Michaela a whole new kind of love entered into my heart. Then, some years later with the birth of my son Ricky, my heart continued to fill with a love that I never knew existed. Today, after raising these two fine, young children of ours to adulthood, that love has only grown stronger over time. I often find myself filled with much joy, emotion and tears of gratitude as I contemplate the beautiful gift that God has bestowed upon me as a father. Loving our children is as natural and as great as the beauty of God's creation itself. Even in difficult times, when our children act up or are going through a particular struggle, our love for them only grows stronger. Yes, my dear mother, I indeed know exactly how much you love me, because of the love I have for my own children.

This leads me to the love of God. So many of us on this journey find it difficult to understand or embrace God's tremendous love for us. I would like to share with you some facts from Sacred Scripture, Church teaching. Each of us were created in the image and likeness of God and through our Baptism there was forgiveness of sins. Jesus himself has placed an indelible mark upon our souls, claiming each of us as a child of God. And since God is our Father, we now get a little glimpse of his love for us, in the love we have for our children. Also, remember this, for God so much-loved us, that he sent his only son into the world to die for our sins, so that we may live with him forever. Jesus did not come to condemn the world, rather he came to save it!

Therefore my friends, you are indeed beautiful children of God and God himself; the King of the Universe has claimed you as his own because a Father's love is impossible to break. So embrace the fact that God loves you more than you know.

May Almighty God Bless You Today and Always.