

Good morning!

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a parishioner here at \_\_\_\_\_.

I'm here to invite the men of our parish to join me and over a thousand other men at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Tampa Bay Men's Conference presented by Suncoast Catholic Ministries.

This year's conference speakers are nationally renowned Catholic author and educator Dr. Scott Hahn, powerful preacher and frequent guest on EWTN Fr. Bill Casey of the Fathers of Mercy, and Artie Boyle whose story of faith and miraculous healing will captivate all in attendance. Our newly installed bishop, Most Reverend Gregory Parkes, will celebrate Mass to open the conference. The theme of this year's conference is "Living the Faith."

[optional text] You may be wondering why you should attend a Men's conference. If you are like me, you see a world outside these church walls that is increasingly filled with violence, hatred, and many other things that stand against Christ and His people; It is a world that is in desperate need of more men of God to stand up, men who are leading their families to virtue, imitating the heroic love of Christ.

Yet, in today's busy, high-tech world, there are few opportunities where we can take time to reflect on how to better imitate this heroic love; time to put away the smartphone or iPad and be inspired to go further in our imitation of Christ for the sake of our loved ones. This Men's Conference provides that opportunity!

**What did Men who attended last year say when surveyed about the conference?**

**Here are a few highlights from our 2016 Men's Conference survey:**

- Overall Rating - 91% Excellent or Very Good
- Spiritual Development - 90% Extremely or Very Valuable
- Value for the Money - 92% Excellent or Very Good
- Likely to Recommend to Family or Friend - 98% Likely or Very Likely

The Conference is for Men only - fathers, teenage sons, grandfathers, married, single, and divorced. For all the women of the parish, I ask you to strongly encourage the men in your life to attend and use this opportunity to grow in holiness and virtue. [end optional text]

In addition to the speakers, the Conference includes Mass, Reconciliation, lunch, and the opportunity to purchase materials from Catholic vendors.

I know from previous Conferences, this day will be both challenging and inspirational. It will be an opportunity to renew one's faith and restore a sense of hope and peace. It is my true hope that this year we will send the largest group we have ever sent from this parish.

The Conference is Saturday, February 18th from 6:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at Higgins Hall on the campus of St Lawrence Catholic Church in Tampa. The cost is \$40 per person with a special Father/Son 2 for the price of 1 discount. Look for more information in today's bulletin.

Please don't wait to register. Last year's conference was a sell out!

I will be \_\_\_\_\_(location) after Mass so you can obtain more information, including how to register.

Thank you for your attention and may God bless you and your family!