Forward! Into The Breach

A LEADERSHIP SEMINAR FOR MEN BASED ON

"INTO THE BREACH"

AN APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION FOR MEN Written by +Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of Phoenix

> Summer 2016 St. John Neumann Catholic Church Gaithersburg, MD

- Welcome & Introduction
- Why this is an Important Moment in the Life of the Church?
 - How does "Into the Breach" fit in?
- What is the material all about?
 - How to get the most from this Seminar
 - Steps in building YOUR personal spiritual battle plan
- Importance of fellowship
 - Small group process throughout the Seminar

- What is "Into the Breach"
 - Apostolic Exhortation Promulgated on the Feast of the Archangels, September 29, 2015
 - Video Trailer also Published on Sep 29, 2015
 - · Articles immediately start being published about the Letter

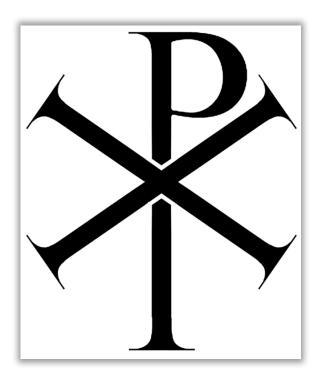


- What is "Into the Breach"
 - "A Call to Battle" A Short Film on 'Society's Crisis in Masculinity'; Published on Jan 5, 2016
 - Compendium Workbook Project begins January 13
 - 2016 Phoenix Into the Breach Men's Conference February 6
 - Purpose of the Conference was to determine strategies to encourage men to 'Step Into The Breach'
 - Compendium Workbook receives Final Approval of Diocese of Phoenix and Bishop Olmsted's written Foreword May 2016
- IntoTheBreach.org Diocese of Phoenix's website, download 'Into the Breach' pdf (English & Spanish), mp3 audio of Into the Breach, and videos
- ForwardIntoTheBreach.com Compendium Workbook & Leadership Seminar website, download pdf's of 'Forward! Into the Breach', and Seminar Guide

Why Chi-Rho?

- Ancient Christogram where the intersecting Greek letters Chi (X) and Rho (P) form the first two letters of "Christ" in Greek.
- Used as a labarum, or banner, prominently held high by Roman Emperor Constantine & his men in the 3rd century.
- It is said, that as Constantine marched with his army before a battle he looked up into the sky and saw the Chi-Rho, along with the words, "In this sign, you will conquer."

And so, it is in the cross of Jesus Christ that we will triumph. May Chi-Rho lead our way today!



"AND I SOUGHT FOR A MAN AMONG THEM WHO SHOULD BUILD UP THE WALL AND STAND IN THE BREACH BEFORE ME FOR THE LAND..."

Ezekiel 22:30

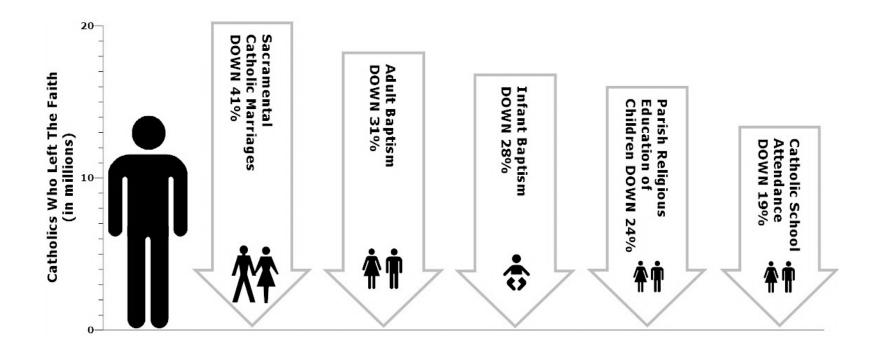
May 17th – Session 1 A Critical Moment

- Why this is an Important Moment in the Life of the Church? How does "Into the Breach" fit in?
- What "Breach"?
 - Definition: "a gap (as in a wall) made by battering"
 - Ezekiel 22:30 "And I sought for a man among them who should build up the wall and stand in the breach before me for the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found none."
- Is there a "Breach" today?
- Who? Me??

May 17th – Session 1 Format for the next 6-weeks

- What is the material all about?
 - Format for the next 6-weeks
 - Presentation, Small Groups
- How to get the most from this Seminar
 - Importance of reading ahead & Answering questions BEFORE the next meeting
- KEY: Working towards building YOUR personal spiritual battle plan each week with 'Action Plan Items'
 - Identification of plan elements; and the discernment process

What is the problem? Statistics for the church*



*Statistics from the year 2000, Into the Breach

What is the problem? Statistics for Catholic men*

- Only 26% consider themselves to be "practicing Catholics"
- Only 29% believe weekly Mass is "very important"
- Only 28% believe that Confession is "very important"
- Only 37% strongly agree that "daily prayer is important"
- 83% rarely or never participate in a parish activity outside of Mass

*The Catholic "Man-Crisis" Factsheet; NewEmangelization.com

May 17th – Session 1 Seminar Fellowship Groups

- The Importance of Spiritual Fellowship
- Small group process throughout the Seminar
- Group numbers by table number
- The role of the Facilitators
- Seminar Groups start next week
- Tonight: Sharing to the Power Men Banding Together in a Small Group

Ponder What it Means to be One Who is Sent

- Sent to do the work of Christ's soldiers in the world today
- Realize and believe that we are those men sent by Christ Himself
- Our Father calls all men to Himself, and we as His sons, can rejoice in knowing that we can participate in that mission

Please - Drop your name badge in the basket as you leave. See you next week!