



Brothers in Christ,

It is with great joy that I welcome you here to St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Orange, Texas. For 138 years, there has been a Catholic presence in Orange, and since 1978, St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church has been a place with where the light of Christ, and the treasure of the Catholic faith has been preached and lived out.

In our contemporary western world, the dominating principle of life is radical individualism in all things, and to throw off all forms of oppression so that, having no authority to judge me, I alone determine truth, what is good, and what is best for me and my life. The consequences of this philosophy or new freedom has been children raised without fathers, traditional marriage becoming just one option among numerous other and "equal" lifestyle choices, child pornography, abortion, broken marriages, and opioid addiction.

We as men have certainly been told what we should not do:

1. We should not be physically abusive to women
2. We should abandon hierarchies that dominate others
3. We should abandon patriarchy because of its oppression and its violence
4. We should stop our innate misogyny against women

In a nutshell, the culture tells us that as men, we just need to go into a corner, become something different, and then stay in the corner so that the above abuses do not manifest themselves again.

Well, if we as men do not work on becoming good men, then, except for the very few men who choose to stand in the corner, many men will revert to their very base selves, and becoming either eternal boys sponging off numerous "mothers," or they will become predators, preying on the physically weaker, women, and children.

Since the western world does not inform us of what we should be as men, but only what we must not be, we must look to God, His Son Jesus Christ, and His Holy Catholic Church to guide us to be the men that God has called each and every one of us to be.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Fr. Sinclair Oubre, J.C.L.