

# Fisch-ing Lines

by Deacon Howard Fischer

Happy Father's Day to all the Dads who have given us life  
and to all the men in our lives who have taught us how to live!

Here is some humor to lighten your celebration of Dads.  
Some years back Bill Cosby wrote a book entitled "Fatherhood."  
Here is one of his anecdotes from the book:

*Now that my father is a grandfather, he just can't wait to give money to my kids. But when I was his kid and I asked him for fifty cents, he would tell me the story of his life. How he got up at 4 A.M. when he was seven years old and walked twenty-three miles to milk ninety cows. And the farmer for whom he worked had no bucket, so he had to squirt the milk into his little hand and then walk eight miles to the nearest can. All for 5 cents a month. The result was that I never got my 50 cents.*

*But now he tells my children every time he comes into the house: Well, let's see how much money old Granddad has got for his wonderful kids." And the minute they take money out of his hands I call them over to me and I snatch it away from them. Because that is MY money.*

(Note: For years now my own children have been compiling "The Book of Howard" with all of my favorite teachings and sayings and "uphill both directions" stories. It's guaranteed to be a huge seller.)

Another story that Cosby tells is about the difference between Mother's Day and Father's Day. He insists that Mother's Day is a much bigger deal because Mothers are more organized:

*Mothers say to their children: Now here is a list of what I want. Go get the money from your father and you surprise me on Mother's Day. You do that for me.*

*For Father's Day I give each of my five kids \$20 so that they can go out and buy me a present – a total of \$100. They go to the store and buy two packages of underwear, each of which costs \$5 and contains three shorts. They tear them open and each kid wraps up one pair, the sixth pair of underwear going to the Salvation Army. Therefore, on Father's Day I am walking around with new underwear and my kids are walking around with \$90 worth of my change in their pockets.*

Then there's one of my favorite Mark Twain quotes: *When I was a boy of fourteen, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be twenty-one, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years.*

Protestant preacher King Duncan once observed: *Children go through four fascinating stages. First they call you Da-Da. Then they call you Daddy. As they mature they call you Dad. Finally they call you collect.*

Former New York Governor Mario Cuomo wrote: *I talk and talk and talk, and I haven't taught people in 50 years what my father taught by example in one week.*

Thanks to all our Dads, those here and those who have returned to their Heavenly Father. We are grateful for your sacrifices, love and example. May you enjoy the blessings and peace you so richly deserve! If you wish to contact me, please leave a note in the parish office or send an email to [deaconhwhf99@yahoo.com](mailto:deaconhwhf99@yahoo.com).