



The Diocese of Knoxville

Living our Roman Catholic faith in East Tennessee

MEDIA ADVISORY
October 27, 2015
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Diocesan Men's Retreat to be held at Tennessee Theatre Bishop Richard Stika, Father Larry Richards featured speakers

Best-selling author, engaging television host, and captivating speaker, Father Larry Richards will join Bishop Richard F. Stika for a day of reflection and celebration during a men's retreat sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Knoxville at the Historic Tennessee Theatre on Sat., Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The theme of the event is taken from Fr. Richard's first book, *"Be a Man! Becoming the Man God Created You To Be"* which was published in 2009. More than 100,000 copies of the book have been sold worldwide.

In *"Be a Man!"* Fr. Richards recounts his struggles to learn true manhood, as well as the inspiring stories of others he has served in his decades as a priest.

"Sometimes men are left by the wayside, in terms of what it means to be a father and to be involved in a family situation," Bishop Stika said. "Male spirituality is different from female spirituality, one is not better than the other—it's just a fact of life. What I hope this does is reinforce the idea that all of us, male or female, have to step up to the plate and be real leaders in our families and in our society," he added.

The Nov. 21 men's conference will include four presentations offering uplifting and thought-provoking insights from one of the leading preachers and retreat masters in America—Father Larry Richards, a Catholic priest who serves as the pastor of St. Joseph Church and the Bread of Life Community in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Following the retreat, a Catholic Mass will be celebrated inside the Tennessee Theatre at 4 p.m. Confessions will be available throughout the day. Tickets for the men's retreat are \$20 and can be purchased at www.tennesseetheatre.com.