The Bible contrasts two main ways to live: The way of foolishness and the way of wisdom. Whichever way we choose will determine our destiny, our future. We are responsible for our choices. Foolishness will lead to lack and eventual death/separation from God. Wisdom leads to prosperity, abundance and life. You would think it would be a simple, obvious choice for people. Choose life and live! Yet, a read of the daily newspaper reveals people everywhere choosing wrong ways. We read about drugs, human trafficking, threats of war, strife, murders and lawsuits all the time.

As followers of Jesus, we learn right ways of living from the lips of the Master himself. Jesus’ teachings as well as our own practical experiences (successes and failures) can teach us wisdom. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. His life and teaching reveal to us the ways of God. In fact, Paul writes that for us, Jesus is the wisdom of God. (1 Cor. 1:30)

I have just written a new book about wisdom titled *Windows of Wisdom*. I was led to write this book so that you can lead an even more prosperous, happy life now as you journey towards eternal life with God.

In this book I explore several “windows” that reveal and teach us wisdom. Some of these windows include: prayer, your own mortality, Mary, the Saints, the Bible, hope, and even money as a means of gaining wisdom.

*Windows of Wisdom* is my 21st book to date. This book will not only teach you about the jewel that is wisdom, but will help you to “receive” understanding, insight, and the knowledge you need to live well. The practical information shared in this book will lead you to greater abundance. Wisdom is a chosen lifestyle that leads to friendship with God and eventually a crown of glory. Fools wait for a lucky day…but everyday is a blessed day for the wise! Why wait? Ordering information is included to receive this brand new book today!

**Wisdom Vision**

by Mary Dierich

My former boss who was a Catholic priest and the pastor of our parish, had wisdom-vision. Although he is highly educated, holds a doctorate degree, and has taught at the university level, he never came across as a know-it-all. He knew the value of encouraging people to work together to solve problems and that everyone had something to offer for the good of all. While he could often do something better and was more qualified, he empowered others to learn a skill and gave them a chance to grow and develop their gifts. He believed that the Holy Spirit works through everyone, not just clergy.

I was stretched by this man to learn and grow, and become a better minister on many levels when I had the privilege to work with him. I never thought that I would be able to preside at a prayer service let alone give a reflection. Yet, he asked me to take on that responsibility, gave me the guidance I needed to get started, and treated me with gentleness and patience. He was never negative. I could easily tell when he was pleased.

Contact Fr. Cedric: Fr. Cedric Pisegna, C.P., 430 Bunker Hill Rd, Houston TX 77024

*Live with Passion!* airs on Trinity Broadcasting Network, Sunday 8am ET/ 5am PT.
The Wisdom of Replenishing Your Life Bucket

By Luciano Del Monte

Recently my wife and I spoke to 200 health and fitness practitioners in Orlando on the theme of Replenishing Your Life Bucket. Our assumption is that people who spend their lives helping others can tend to overdo their efforts, consequently leading to burnout.

I like to say that these passionate people helpers have ‘leaks’ in their life bucket that need replenishing. To maintain our passion for any endeavor in life requires keeping our life buckets as close to full as possible.

We like to draw out a bucket. As a life coach I often will have a client draw out a bucket, and then ask them how full their life bucket is.

I like to ask people, ‘What is life like when you’re living it with a full bucket?’ I find as people make time to think about what replenishes, hope is born.

In my own life there are clear indications of when my bucket is close to full or fulfilling. Here are some of the marks of a full life bucket:

I’m at my best when I am filled up.
I feel that I’m in the presence of God often.
I love my spouse and family well.
I love perfect strangers who are different than me in race.
I make better decisions about my schedule.
I’m careful not to over commit.
I deal with relational conflict in a healthy way.

I make better food choices, rest choices, and fitness choices.
I feel more creative, soulful, and mindful.

How about you? ‘What is life like when you’re living it with a full bucket?’ Take a minute to write down what fills you up.

Then to have a little fun and to drive the life bucket theme home, I like to ask, ‘what is life like when your bucket is empty?’

Here are just a few marks of empty or near empty life buckets:
Growing distance from God,
Family riffs that continue to go unresolved,
One’s body feels sluggish and unnecessarily overweight.
Irritability.
Isolation from people.
Boredom.
Apathy.
Anger.

When people are depleted, the consequences could be lethal.

So, the question becomes — whose responsibility is it to make the kinds of choices each day that keeps your bucket full? My suggestion is it’s my responsibility and yours.

We make the choices on a day-to-day basis to either live filled up, or we make the choices that result in living depleted lives.

I encourage you to take an honest assessment of your life and live with wisdom.

Happy Life Bucket Filling!

Luciano Del Monte is a certified life and leadership coach with the International Coach Federation.
Contact him at: www.coachdelmonte.com

We all know that wisdom is one of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Our Pope Francis defines wisdom as seeing with God’s eyes, listening with God’s ears, loving with God’s heart, judging things with God’s judgment. These are the things that the Holy Spirit gives us.

Wisdom is one of those qualities difficult to define—because it encompasses so much—but which people generally recognize when they encounter it. And it is encountered most obviously in the realm of decision-making, and deep understanding.

Wise people generally share an optimism that life’s problems can be solved and experience a certain amount of calm in facing difficult decisions

As co-administrator of Father Cedrie’s Facebook page, I witness the optimism shared by our members when they become prayer warriors for someone who is having a difficult time, whether it be a health issue, a job issue or any other problem they are facing at the moment. Here is where the deep understanding comes in! Our members offer prayers and most of all, encouragement to those in need, without hesitation, as they become angels of mercy in order to support those who are in need of physical and spiritual nourishment. Compassion is
Becoming a wife and mother was quite daunting for me in the beginning as I realized how much I lacked in the way of wisdom. I found several sources to help me: scripture, inspirational books, older Christian women, and times of quiet prayer where I invited the Holy Spirit to teach me. I believed that God had the answers I was seeking, so I learned to listen to His “still, small voice.”

It’s actually very difficult to find “quiet” time when you are raising four small children. Many times I would wake up in the middle of the night to pray and seek God. Getting up earlier than your spouse and children can also provide that precious time with the One who knows and loves you and your family best. Don’t worry about how much sleep you lose. God will give you the energy you need for each day. He is so faithful! Along with daily prayer, going on a yearly retreat is very beneficial. It gives a much-needed break from daily responsibilities to really slow down and get closer to God.

God can give us wisdom even for family concerns. One of our children wet the bed when he was little. Our pediatrician suggested we try a special new device. It was very overwhelming for me and expensive, so I asked God if He could help me find a solution without the contraption. As I prayed I realized that each time my child wet the bed, I heard him talking in his sleep. Maybe if I got up and took him to the bathroom whenever I heard him talking, he wouldn’t have any more accidents. I gave it a try, and it worked! We didn’t have to waste money on the device, and he didn’t have to wake up in a wet bed anymore – praise God!

Spending time in God’s Word is one sure way to grow in wisdom. I have been blessed so much by going to Bible study groups over the years, but also by reading the Bible for myself, inviting the Holy Spirit to teach me. We read in James 1:5 “If any of you is without wisdom, let him ask it from the God who gives generously and ungrudgingly to all, and it will be given to him.” We can learn a lot from Bible teachers and priests, but we also can trust that God will teach us directly when we take time to read and ponder scripture for ourselves.

Faith-sharing groups can also help us grow in wisdom. God inspired me to start a women’s group for prayer and fellowship. I can’t tell you how much we are blessed by seeking God together studying inspirational books, sharing our lives, and praying together. We were never meant to live a Christian life alone. We need each other!

Wisdom doesn’t usually come quickly. We need to take time to seek wisdom, time to be still in God’s presence, and at times ask a trusted friend to help us.

I encourage you to turn to God for the wisdom you need for your families, and to grow in holiness. Seek wisdom, share wisdom!

Janice Carleton is an inspirational speaker, musician, and author who has worked with Fr. Cedric and his ministry for over 20 years. Contact her at www.janicecarleton.com.

Pearls of Wisdom
* Fortune favors the brave.
* Don’t be sore, rather soar!
* You can cope through hope.
* Don’t give up, get up!
* Live courageously!
* Create your own opportunities.
* Push your limits.
* Life is tough. Be tougher.
* Nothing ventured, nothing gained.
* Keep the momentum.
* Our disabilities lead to new abilities in the Lord.
* Set goals and pursue them.
* Don’t focus on what you can’t do, focus on what you can do.
* Learn from the past, long for the future and live in the moment.
* Your sufferings tether you to your true self.
* The darkest hour is just before dawn.
* Life is magnificent and significant.
* Love is stronger than death.
Update

I preached the EWTN Mass live on August 22nd. Afterwards I met with the programming managers and discussed their airing some of my episodes. Look for my episode about St. Paul of the Cross to be aired on Oct. 19/20th. I have also produced other episodes exclusively for them: One about Mary and one about three young Passionist saints.

I continue to reach out nationally and internationally on the Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN) Sundays at 8 am. Additionally, I have initiated television outreaches in several cities locally including Los Angeles, Houston and Indianapolis. See below and www.frcedric.org for more information.

I receive many letters and emails from viewers. I rejoice that my programs are touching and impacting people. Some are returning to church. Others are deepening their relationship with God. Even people in prison are watching. My motto is: Touching lives, Saving souls.

My 21st book is now available! Windows of Wisdom will help you to live according to God’s will and experience abundance. In addition, my latest TV series is 415 Live Passionately! This is an 8 episode series where I talk about living with enthusiasm, purpose, passion and hope. Available in DVD or CD in HD and Closed Captioned.

You will support my Gospel ministry financially by ordering these inspiring resources. See the enclosed envelope for ordering information. Any additional donations are gratefully accepted. Thank you for your encouraging support. Know of my prayers and love for you.

Sincerely,
Fr. Cedric Pisegna, C.P.

Wisdom Vision
cont. from page 1

and if he gave a compliment, I knew it was genuine.

We worked together on a large parish-wide project called Church Touches Home. We gathered and trained a team of parishioners to meet with all parish families in their homes. Their task was to glean information about what needs were and were not being met by the parish. This information was then compiled and written up for the parish council to evaluate and set goals and visions. My boss, as the pastor, could have dictated the vision of the parish. We, as staff, could have set the goals. The parish council could have made all the decisions based on their own ideas. Instead, we listened to what everyone had to say before evaluating where changes needed to be made. This was using wisdom vision, seeing the big picture and viewing from all sides.

Mary Dierich is the faith formation director for Corpus Christi Parish in Bay City, MI.

TV Schedule:

TBN: Sundays 8 am ET/5 am PT
Houston: KUBE 57 Sun 8:30 am
Los Angeles: KDOC 56 Sun 8:30 am
Orlando: Good Life 45: Sun 3:30 pm
Indianapolis: WHMB Sat 8 pm
New Orleans: WLAE Sun 10:30 am, Mon 9 pm; WHNO Sun 10 pm
Tulsa: KWHB Sun 9 am
Colorado Springs/Denver: KWHS Sun 8:30 pm
Sacramento: Comcast 20 ATT 14 Consolidated 19: Sun 9 pm, Tues 8 pm
EWTN occasionally and Catholic affiliates in many cities

To order resources or donate: 844-FATHERC (844-328-4372)
To view episodes: www.frcedric.org/youtube
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