You may be asking yourself why attend a men's group. Some of the best reasons are articulated by the **National Fellowship of Catholic Men** and are listed below. Not surprisingly, the feedback from men attending our programs at St. Rita's and elsewhere fully concur with the benefits described below.

"Most men who have attended a men's fellowship group quickly discover the benefits they offer. Men participating in such groups cultivate friendships among their fellow parishioners, have fun, and learn from one another how to be a better husband, father, son, employee, Christian man, and Catholic parishioner. Many men say they have grown by this experience, which has helped them to form a stronger and happier family and to cope better with the stresses they encounter at work. Another reason for belonging to a small group of men is that the men in the group can support each other on their faith journey.

It is confusing to be a man today, particularly a Christian man. There is a natural tension between the stereotypical male - the one many of us were taught to be, the male of the media - and the male that God calls men to be. Men are expected to play a variety of roles and to know how to bounce from one role to the other as the wind blows. The man of today is expected to be protective and hard working on the one hand, and gentle and supportive on the other. What is a man to do?

At Saint Rita of Cascia Parish we help men explore that question. It is here in the Spirit of the Augustinian tradition where we support each other on our journey to God through Jesus Christ. The men's group invites all men to join them on Wednesday evenings or to "pop in" any Wednesday night to see the program in action.

Below is a description of the evening.

Wednesday Evening Program

The Wednesday program meets in the church narthex and covers a variety of topics. Each program lasts from a few to several weeks each and focuses on men's faith enrichment and spirituality. The format of this group uses multimedia and is interactive. After viewing a "chapter" of the program topic on a DVD, a discussion follows on how the topic is relevant in our personal faith journey. Men are free to contribute to the discussion or just listen and reflect on the conversation.

There is a light supper with refreshments (water and soda) served at 6:00 p.m. The program begins at 6:15 and ends at 7:30pm. Although there is no charge for the program, a free will offering is asked to help defray the cost of the food and beverages.

For additional information you may call or E-Mail John Charnon at 262-681-1216 <u>jcharnon1@att.net</u>; Steve Martin at 262-909-3050 <u>9martins@sbcglobal.net</u>; or Hugh Weisensel at 262-639-3094 <u>hugh@weisensel.com</u>.