

# Be A Man!



BECOMING THE MAN  
GOD CREATED YOU TO BE

FR. LARRY RICHARDS

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IGNATIUS

**Press Release**

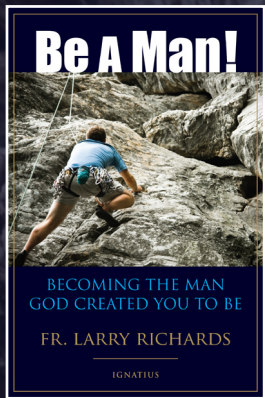
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### MAN-UP or Perish says Catholic Priest to Other Men

*Fr. Larry Richards Releases New Book on Becoming the Man You Were Meant to Be*

**San Francisco, November 5, 2009** – In the past forty years, society has seen a shift in gender roles. Men have become more feminine and women have become more masculine. So says Pennsylvania based Catholic priest, Fr. Larry Richards. He has made it his mission to clear up this gender confusion and issued a specific challenge to men in his new book, ***Be A Man: Become the Man God Created You to Be.***

*“There is a difference in the way men and women were created,” Fr. Richards says. “Men are not called to be women and vice versa. We are different – not better, but different – and men are called to be fully men. This needs to be dealt with up front because it’s a problem – in the Catholic Church and in the world itself.”*

In ***Be A Man***, Fr. Richards recounts his own struggles to learn true manhood and he shares inspiring personal stories from men he has counseled and served in his decades of being a priest. The book encourages men to appreciate the differences between men and women, to focus on the right goals in life, to acknowledge one’s faults and admit weaknesses and limitations, and to be masculine without being “macho”. Fr. Larry asks: “*Would you take a bullet if someone was raping your wife?*” He thinks the answers might surprise people.

Fr. Richards does not apologize for where he gets his worldview. ***Be A Man*** looks at the biblical male role models of King David from the Old Testament, St. Paul from the New Testament, and “Jesus – the Alpha and Omega of all men.” “*Jesus Christ Himself reveals to us what it is to be a man,*” Fr. Richards said. “*It is about taking the one life that God has given us and give it away. When men are invited to die for others, they put others’ needs above their own. To be like Christ, and like all great men, will cost men their very lives.*”

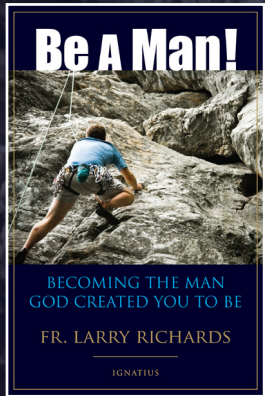
Published by Ignatius Press, ***Be A Man*** helps men to rediscover the importance of the spiritual life and encourages men to be a man of true love and wisdom. Fr. Richards also encourages men to pursue holiness and to find strength in faith and in genuine love. Each chapter of ***Be A Man*** ends with tasks that must be accomplished and questions for discussion and reflection.

Even though Fr. Richards is a celibate priest, he does not ignore the issue of sexuality and directs men to have a proper attitude in their given state of life: single or married. He says that the deepest need in a man’s heart is to be loved and that is exactly where God wants to meet him. According to Fr. Richards, true holiness is a by-product of love.

Fr. Richards offers a guarantee with his book, especially for those who are skeptical. “*Read the book. Accomplish the tasks at the end of each chapter, no matter how hard or how “hokey” you may think them to be,*” says Fr. Richards. “*I guarantee that if a man commits himself to each task and challenge, in the end his life will be changed forever!*”

For more information about ***Be A Man: Become the Man God Created You to Be*** or to schedule an interview with Fr. Larry Richards, please contact Christine Schicker with The Maximus Group at 404-610-8871.

# About the Book



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*Be A Man: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be* is the first book by Fr. Larry Richards. He draws from his years of ministering to men as a Catholic priest and his personal experience and struggles to learn the meaning of true manhood. *Be A Man* encourages men to live as a beloved son of God, to be men of true love and wisdom, to find faith and pursue holiness.

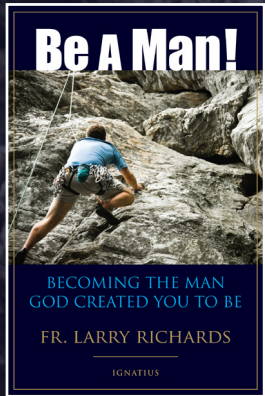
Fr. Richards speaks directly to men in *Be A Man* and challenges them to acknowledge their faults, admit their weaknesses and limitations and to be masculine without being macho. He inspired men to be the true heroes they long to be—men of authentic courage, deep compassion and fierce integrity. *Be A Man* helps men to appreciate the real differences between men and women.

*Be A Man* is about men giving their lives away. As Fr. Richards points out, Jesus Christ Himself reveals what it is to be a man. He was a man for others, He challenged people, He was strong and He gave Himself away by dying for others while commanding His disciples to do the same. Each chapter ends with tasks that must be accomplished as well as questions for discussion and reflection.

To read excerpts from *Be A Man*, please visit the website [www.BeAManBook.com](http://www.BeAManBook.com).

Title:	<i>Be A Man: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be</i>
Author:	Fr. Larry Richards
Publisher:	Ignatius Press
Release Date:	October 2009
Price:	\$14.95
Pages:	196, paperback
ISBN:	9781586174033

# About the Author

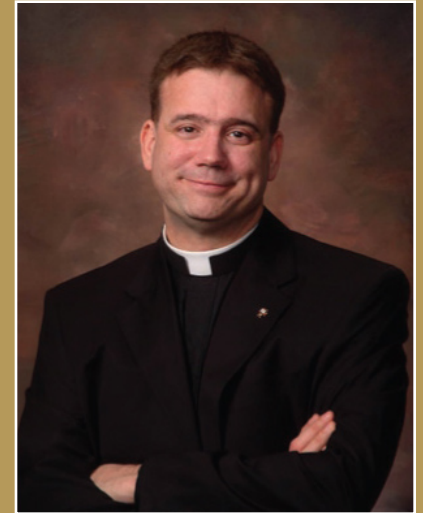


## Fr. Larry Richards

Fr. Larry Richards is a popular, captivating preacher, and a favorite speaker at Catholic men's conferences. He also serves as the pastor of an inner city parish, St. Joseph Church/Bread of Life Community in Erie, Pennsylvania. Fr. Richards has been a high school chaplain, a counselor and an evangelist. He has directed hundreds of retreats and parish missions around the United States. His inspirational and challenging talks have changed the hearts, minds and lives of millions world wide.

Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Fr. Richards attended college seminary at Gannon University where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Mental Health Counseling in 1983. He continued his studies at the major seminary at St. Vincent in Latrobe, Pennsylvania, and received his Masters of Divinity degree in 1987. He will soon complete his Master of Arts degree in Liturgy from the University Of Notre Dame. Fr. Larry Richards was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Erie in 1989.

He is the founder of The Reason for Our Hope Foundation and the Spiritual Director of TEC (To Encounter Christ) Retreat Program for the Diocese of Erie.



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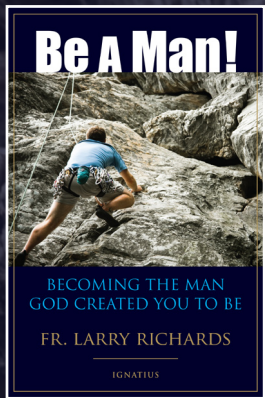
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# Endorsements



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“Fr. Larry talks straight to men in his own manly style. He pulls no spiritual punches—I don’t think he knows how to! He pokes, pushes, and sometimes verbally slaps men into being God’s men, all with an obvious love for them and faith in their ability to persevere to Heaven.”

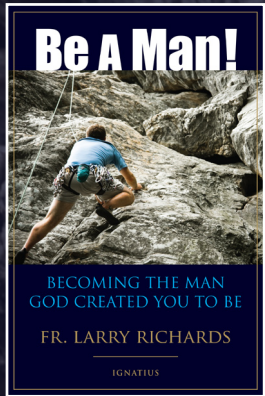
– Dr. Ray Guarendi, author and syndicated radio host and columnist

“*Be a Man* is a must-read for all men who are serious about strengthening their relationship with God. This exceptional book speaks clearly and directly, challenging men to live their faith with courage and conviction. *Be a Man* is a spiritual wake-up call that offers a refreshingly honest presentation of what it means to be a man of God. With a unique blend of humor, passion, and frankness that has become his trademark style Fr. Larry Richards explores how a Christ-centered male spirituality fosters growth in holiness, and inspires men to become loving servants of their wives, families, and the Church.”

– Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Diocese of Portland, OR and founder of Aurem Cordis

To read more endorsements for *Be A Man: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be*, please visit [www.BeAManBook.com](http://www.BeAManBook.com).

# Interview Questions



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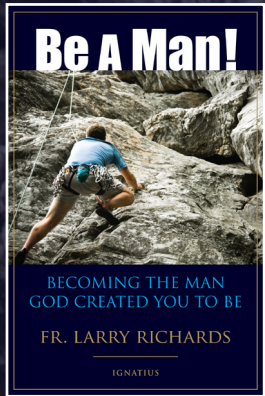
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1. *Be A Man: Becoming the Man God Created You to Be* is your first book. Why did you feel the need to write it?
2. In the introduction of *Be A Man*, you talk about women becoming more masculine and men becoming more feminine. Why do you think this has happened and why do you think this has caused so much confusion?
3. You share a number of personal stories in *Be A Man*. Do you think this will help men to relate better to the message you want to share with them?
4. *Be A Man* focuses on the biblical perspective of what it means to be a man. You look at King David from the Old Testament, St. Paul from the New Testament and Jesus Christ, whom you call that Alpha and Omega of all men. What qualities can men learn from these role models?
5. You encourage men to seek holiness and wisdom in *Be A Man*. How do men accomplish this and how will holiness and wisdom impact their lives?
6. At the end of each chapter of *Be A Man*, you list tasks that men must accomplish. What is the purpose for these tasks?
7. What do you want men to take away from reading *Be A Man*?



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[www.MaximusMG.com](http://www.MaximusMG.com)

Christine Schicker  
404-610-8871 (cell)  
678-990-9032 (office)  
[CSchicker@MaximusMG.com](mailto:CSchicker@MaximusMG.com)

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