SIBLINGS
An interview with Father Bob & Father Pat Knippenberg

It seems that siblings can be best friends or great enemies at times. The Bible shows us two examples of siblings that are quite the opposite. Cain and Abel show brotherhood gone wrong, whereas Simon and Andrew show it gone right, as Andrew introduced Our Lord to his brother, who became our first Pope, St. Peter. We sat down with Father Bob and Father Pat Knippenberg, who, thankfully had more of a Simon-Andrew relationship.

Q: What was your home and faith life like growing up?

Father Bob: I remember regular church attendance. We were baptized and raised in an Episcopalian church known as a “high church,” and the liturgy at the time was hardly discernably different from the Catholic liturgy. I remember being about 8 years of age, probably beginning to think that I would be interested in pursuing the priesthood. I just remember observing the priest and being very enamored as a youngster of the mystery of the whole thing—the music, the bells, the smells. Even though it was in the Episcopal Church, I think that’s where the seed of my vocation was probably planted. In the home we did things like have an Advent wreath and we would say the Advent prayers before every meal. At least in our earlier years, our home life was fairly connected to our faith life.

Father Pat: Bob was the leader of the siblings. I have a memory of Bob doing Mass as the priest; dressed my sister up as a nun. My own personal belief came into effect when Bob was the leader of the acolytes (servers) for the church. To be at the altar you were separate from everybody else and it was kind of a special duty. I remember...
Family Prayer: Lord, help us to be an instrument of your peace. Where there is hatred in our home, let us sow love, darkness, light, and anger, joy. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

You can hear the full interview on Wednesday, Sept. 9, at 3pm on the Diocese of Victoria Family Evangelization Facebook Page or YouTube Channel.

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