

## GONZAGA FATHERS CLUB

### Events/Meetings/Retreats

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

#### Fathers Club Meetings

These monthly meetings are not for a small clique of dads – they are structured and intended for all dads to attend. Some of the meetings have themes such as the most popular Steak and Ale night to start off the year, the Beer and Brat meeting and the International Beer Night.

**Why go?** This is your inside track to what's going on at Gonzaga and a great chance to meet and network with other dads. Our faculty moderator starts us out with a prayer and is our most direct connection to what is happening at the school. The school President Fr. Allen Novotny provides an update of what is happening at Gonzaga from sports, academics, awards, and some inside scoops (when interims and report cards are coming home). A **guest speaker** from the school is part of the Agenda. At our Steak and Ale the Athletic Director, Joe Reyda will come and speak about the Fall sports and football team prospects for the year. Joining Joe, a representative of the Fine Arts and Music Department will provide a preview of all drama and musical performances for the year. The GFC apprises the dads of upcoming events and provides an opportunity to volunteer for an event or activity. Put these meetings on your calendar – they are **“Your Connection”** to Gonzaga.

#### Gonzaga/Visitation Family Mass and Picnic

This event includes a Mass and picnic for Gonzaga and Visitation families on the grounds of Georgetown Visitation. An outdoor Mass, a cookout and a few competitive games between the girls and the boys (including the very competitive tug a war) rounds out what is a very popular event. **Bring your entire family.**

#### Joint Fathers Club/ Mothers Club Membership Meetings (GFC/GMC)

Two of our monthly meetings (one in the fall and one in the spring) are joint meetings with Mothers Club. These meetings are held in the Theatre and follow a similar format to the above except an **outside guest speaker** provides a presentation. In the past we have had a psychologist who specializes in teen issues, Paul Warren author of a recent book showing links between Lincoln Assassination and Gonzaga, and Danny Costello author of *The Ragtree* as well as many others.

#### “God on Eye Street” Membership Meetings

Two of our monthly meetings are substituted for a mini retreat type meeting (one in the fall and one in the spring). Our moderator starts out the night by offering **mass**. After mass there is a casual **dinner** – normally sandwiches. Our moderator then presents some discussion ideas for large group and small **group discussion**. There is also an opportunity to go to confession if one desires. These are popular nights that allow a break from the rush of our personal lives.

### **Freshman Father/Son Service Project**

For Freshman Father and Sons only, this event was added in 2008 and was extremely successful. This is a great way to introduce our new fathers and sons to service at Gonzaga. The chair of this event is a sophomore father who participated in the project the previous year. This is usually a **half day project** either on or off campus.

### **Father/Son Pep Rally and Hall of Fame Night**

This is a **Must attend** for all Fathers and their Sons. It is the first of three all inclusive (i.e., Freshman-Senior) Father/Son activities that should be attended by all Fathers and sons. There is a pre-pep rally ballgame style buffet dinner in the lower commons. A great place to grab a hot dog, chips, soda and desert and mingle with other fathers and sons. After something to eat, the fathers and sons are guided to the theatre for the pep rally and hall of fame induction. This is a long-standing Gonzaga tradition (always the night before the Gonzaga –St. Johns football game) and major Father/Son event.

### **Gonzaga Fathers Club DC Classic Invitational Basketball Tournament**

This is the **major fund-raising activity** of the Fathers Club that has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for Gonzaga service activities. The tournament takes place in December and includes both local and out of state teams. For more information regarding the tournament visit: <http://www.gonzagadcclassic.org/home.aspx>. Support Gonzaga by attending the DC Classic games over the course of the three day tournament, sponsor an ad in the program, and/or contribute your time by being a volunteer.

### **Father/Son Service Project**

This is the second of three Father/Son events. It is a great opportunity once again to be with your son and **serve the community**. It is a day long project and volunteers are accepted for all day, just the morning or just the afternoon. Traditionally, we have upwards of 200 fathers and sons participate in this event.

### **Bull and Oyster Roast**

Although the Fathers Club does not sponsor this event it helps the development office the night of the event. It is a great night for husbands and wives to enjoy great music, food and drink. Watch for notices from the school.

### **Father/Son Communion Breakfast**

This is the third of three Father/Son events. Most fathers were initiated into this event when their sons were accepted into the Gonzaga. This is a **premier event** of the Gonzaga Fathers Club with between 1100-1200 attending. Mass is at 8am followed by the traditional walk to the Hyatt for breakfast and a guest speaker. Watch for the invitation in the spring.

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