

God the Father vs. the Godfather

Too often we look upon
God the Father
as if He were
the Godfather.

The Godfather
makes us an offer
we can't refuse;
God the Father
refuses to force us.

The Godfather's request
is a threat;
the offer of God the Father
is a gift.

The power of the Godfather
lies in punishment;
the power of God the Father
is that of persuasion.

When we do wrong,
the Godfather is out to get you;
but God the Father is for you.

The Godfather is obsessed
with revenge;
God the Father looks for
repentance.

To cross the Godfather
spells suicide;
the cross of the Father's Son
stands for salvation.

If, therefore, you regard
the Almighty with fear
and serve Him out of compulsion,
you are worshipping a Godfather.

When, however, your religion
is filled with confidence
and your service stems from love,
then your God is a Father.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*
June 20, 1985

Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com

www.fatherwaltersparish.org