

Testimony highlights by Paul Ponce and Family

1. To catch the attention and awe of all present, I Paul Ponce will start my participation with a fast paced juggling show, this usually is for 15min. Once finished and the audience is cheering, I grab the microphone and usually amaze even more the audience with my Catholic witness.
2. My witness starts mentioning how difficult it is to learn how to juggle, and all the hours of practice needed, which leads to the *virtue of perseverance* that we all need to reach our goals in life.
3. I then explain how I was misled as a young boy in thinking that I would find happiness and fulfilment in *money, fame, travel and women*, all of which I was able to achieve but none gave me the desired peace and happiness my heart was searching for.
4. Everything changed when after my Catholic Confirmation at age 21 I found God, which led me to live coherently my Christian calling and actually gave me that desired peace and happiness I was always searching for in the wrong places.
5. I continue with some powerful anecdotes to my conversion and beginning of my apostolic life in show business, and how the HOLY EUCHARIST was there for me from the beginning:
 - a) I was most surprised to learn that Christ was truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar, and that He waited humbly there for me, always. I never learned this as a child.
 - b) I started to attend daily Mass wherever I was in the world, and needed to be with the Eucharistic Christ at a daily basis.
 - c) This daily need for the Eucharist became a difficult cross to bear for me when I was performing in a very small town in Japan, that had me do a 3 hour trip to reach Sunday Mass, which in total was 7 hours of my day just for that 1 hour with the Lord in Mass.
6. Being open to doing God's will in my live lead me to understand that God could call me to the consecrated life or a married life. And so I started to consecrate my future wife to the Lord, just in case He was calling me to form a family. And it took 10 years of perseverance in that daily consecration of my future wife that lead me to Lia.
7. I continue now with the surprising story of how God guided Lia (from Brazil) to me, and how she spent 2 years discerning her vocation before meeting me. She will then come on stage and say a few words. Then I introduce my eldest son Pablo (9) with an amazing story of faith when he was born in Berlin, Germany. Then comes Jose (7) born in Amsterdam, and finally the little girl Lia María (6) born in Lisbon. We then give the surprise that we are actually expecting our 4th baby in August 2016! Our 3 kids give a small witness of how important it is to forgive each other and our daily evening prayer as a family.
8. The children will then do a 2min juggling show, and then the 5 (well actually 6) of us give a small final message of hope to all present to end.