



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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**Prayer with Surprising Results in '40 Hours'**  
***Latest Faith-Based Short Film from Family Theater Productions***  
***Helps Families by Linking Modern Life with Scripture***

**HOLLYWOOD, Calif.**—Sometimes all we can do is pray! In “40 Hours,” Family Theater Productions’ newest faith-based family film, the characters find out how important prayer is when they face difficult circumstances in their lives.

“40 Hours” follows the continuing story of Cristina, a 16-year-old high school student who was first featured in “Family Dinner,” released by Family Theater Productions last year. In the most recent film, she must volunteer for 40 hours at a charitable organization for one of her classes.

Cristina hopes to just put in her time but becomes close to people she would normally never meet. She quickly makes friends with other volunteers and homeless guests, especially, Kat, a girl about her age. When Kat starts relapsing into old and dangerous habits, Cristina tries to help her. Kat resists and Cristina soon learns that sometimes the only thing you can do is to pray – and then let God do the rest.

"This story helps all of us remember prayer is important in any situation, but particularly in situations where we need hope," said Father David Guffey, C.S.C., the writer and directors of "40 Hours."

"Prayer helps us have hope in the ways God's grace works so that we can see the resurrection moments in our lives every day."

This powerful drama relates to scripture and the First Glorious Mystery of the Rosary, *The Resurrection*, and is inspired by Father Guffey's experiences at a previous assignment as a priest of the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“40 Hours” stars Paulina Cerrilla, who played Cristina in “Family Dinner.” She was a contestant on NBC’s “The Voice” in 2012 and was cast in the short film “String Theory.” Cerrilla is also a Covergirl makeup model for the Hispanic market. As a singer, her music videos have been seen by tens of millions of viewers.

It also features veteran actors Sharon Munfus as Rose, coordinator of the soup kitchen; Julian Curi, who reprises his role as Carlos, Cristina’s brother; Michael Harvey as Father Bill, priest at the soup kitchen; Josh Thrower as George, a longtime volunteer; and Franklin R. Ruehl as Pops, a frequent guest at the homeless center; along with newcomer Leksi Bell, who portrays Kat, a volunteer with a dark past.

“40 Hours” was written and directed by Father David Guffey, C.S.C., National Director of Family Theater Productions in Hollywood, and is inspired by many events and many guests at the André House, a soup

kitchen and homeless center in Phoenix.

“The drama is based on various experiences that occurred when I managed André House,” he said. “These powerful moments continually showed us the power of prayer and God’s love. I knew my experiences would make a great story someday.”

The film is ideal for families looking to deepen their faith while exploring the spiritual side of topical issues and how they relate to the life of Christ. It is part of a DVD series for teens and families and can be used in faith formation programs.

A trailer for the new film is available for viewing ([click here](#)).

“40 Hours” is produced in English, dubbed in Spanish, and subtitled in French and Portuguese on one DVD and includes a multi-lingual study guide. It sells for \$12.95, plus shipping and tax. It can be ordered online at [www.HCFMstore.org](http://www.HCFMstore.org) or by calling 800-299-7729.

Family Theater Productions, which celebrates its 68<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is a member ministry Holy Cross Family Ministries. The production company was founded by Servant of God Patrick Peyton in 1947. A candidate for sainthood, Father Peyton was one of the most influential American Catholic priests of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Known as the “Rosary Priest,” he encouraged millions of people to pray the Rosary daily.

In the spirit of its founder, Servant of God Patrick Peyton, Holy Cross Family Ministries helps families pray together, especially the Rosary. For more information, call 800-299-7729 or visit [www.FamilyTheater.org](http://www.FamilyTheater.org) or [www.FamilyRosary.org](http://www.FamilyRosary.org).

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- Personal interviews with: Father David Guffey, C.S.C., Executive Producer.
- Hi-res JPGs from production and product shots: Available upon request.
- Trailer available at: ([click here](#)).