



Fatherless by Brian J. Gail

A Reading Discussion Guide

- 1. What is *Fatherless* saying about America's late 20th century culture?**
- 2. What role has the Catholic Church in America played in the formation of that culture?**
- 3. What are the principal factors which have affected the Catholic Church's "voice" in America over the past 50 years?**
- 4. What were the decisive influences in the transformation of Fr. John Sweeney's priestly ministry?**
- 5. What are the implications of the personal choice Joe Delgado made between his family and his career.**
- 6. Would you have handled Michael Burns' professional moral dilemma any differently?**
- 7. On balance, was Maggie Kealey justified in taking the Pill in an attempt to save her marriage?**
- 8. How did the shocking end of Moia Kealey's young life affect you?**
- 9. What character in *Fatherless* could you most relate to and why?**
- 10. What did you think of his brother priests' reaction to John Sweeney's invitation in Rome to collaborate in the New Evangelization?**