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## Updates

Dear Men,

July 1, 2009

June 2009 will be remembered as one of those defining months in the early years of *The King's Men* (TKM) apostolate. This update letter will primarily feature the results from TKM's recent outdoor men's retreat.

The month began for TKM on June 4-7<sup>th</sup> at French Creek State Park in Elverson, PA where 108 men came together for what was an amazing masculine faith experience called "Into the Wild" (ITW). The weekend was something that I am struggling to capture in words so perhaps the words from some of the men on the weekend might do it justice.

*I commend you on the intensely successful orchestration of the ITW weekend! This morning, I dialogued with God the Father in a manner like never before, and nearly left my skin in euphoria. I can't quantify or qualify in human terms the enrichments I took home with me yesterday. Nothing I can write would do justice in explaining the happiness of my soul and my desire to intensify my manly contributions to societal improvement!*

-Man from Indiana

*Thank you both, and the entire leader team, for a great weekend. To be brief, I learned an incredible amount. Throughout life I was always a bit of a loner and I was genuinely surprised to find out how much such a wide variety of men really do have in common. So many issues hit home with me. I found that my fellow brothers are experiencing many of the same issues that I am. Their stories give me strength and encouragement to continue my fight. I also have many other positive changes occurring in my life right now and this weekend gave me many new perspectives and insights that will help me make the most of these new opportunities. In addition I met many new friends both local and from afar with whom to continue the camaraderie and support. Into the Wild was truly a life changing experience.*

-Man from Massachusetts

*Let me just say, for now, I've never seen anything like what just happened at Into The Wild. I believe that The King's Men have just unveiled their founding charism of the Holy Spirit here. It was... beautiful -- I mean, really, really beautiful. Full of beauty. The weekend was a broad brush of artistic creativity coming straight from the Holy Spirit. Brings tears to my eyes to think back to various moments. And, you, Damian. Oh my God. God is using you to break down the gates of hell.*

-Man from New Jersey

I am delighted to tell you that TKM is offering another ITW experience for men on September 10-13<sup>th</sup> at French Creek. All men should register at [www.intothewildweekend.com](http://www.intothewildweekend.com).

Still recovering from ITW, Damian and I were invited to speak at three great venues during the month of June. I traveled to Loretto, PA on June 12<sup>th</sup> for the annual St. Francis Men's Conference where approximately 150 men came together for a full day of masculine faith formation. On this same day, Damian was invited to deliver a workshop to 22 men participating in the Family Life Office's marriage prep retreat in Malvern, PA. The feedback from the engaged men was excellent and TKM greatly looks forward to partnering with the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for another retreat in August. Finally on June 27<sup>th</sup>, Damian and I paired up to deliver a workshop to 40 men at the Ave Maria Singles retreat at the Malvern Retreat House.

Once again, *The Way of The King's Men: A 'How To' Guide for Building Effective Catholic Men's Groups* is available for purchase at [www.kingsmenhandbook.com](http://www.kingsmenhandbook.com).

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