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Updates

Dear Men,

November 1, 2009

Autumn is officially upon us! As the leaves are changing on the trees and the weather is getting noticeably colder, I can't help but think how many lives have been changed as a result of *The King's Men* (TKM) apostolate. We have been blessed by so many men who have told us directly how our programming has positively affected their lives and masculine journey. However, even if it was just one person whose life was impacted for good, it would be enough for the life of our ministry.

This past month of October was another great month of outreach to men. On Saturday October 3rd, Damian Wargo and I traveled up to Wallingford, CT for the annual Catholic Men's Conference. Approximately 800 men packed the Chevy Theater for a great day of Catholic masculine catechesis from men like Fr. Larry Richards, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers and Archbishop Henry Mensell. Damian and I were blessed to be able to share TKM's masculine resources at this event and we hope to attend more conferences like this in 2010.

Damian, TKM Board of Director Mark Pennington and I were asked on the weekend of October 10-11th to speak to all the men and women of Northeast Philadelphia's St. Martin of Tours, St. Williams, and Resurrection of Our Lord parishes in an effort to recruit men for a Wednesday October 21st Evening of Reflection at St. Martin of Tours. This outreach to the men of the Northeast was initiated by Monsignor Edward Deliman, pastor of St. Martin of Tours parish. Monsignor has asked TKM to lead this effort in the hopes of answering the current crisis in masculinity in his parish community. I am pleased to tell you that approximately 35 men responded to the call on 10/21. Despite the great distraction of the Phillies vs. Dodgers game, these men saw enough value in this effort to unite and build men as true leaders, protectors and providers. The plan is to offer the men of the Northeast a weekly meeting whereby they can come together for masculine faith formation and accountability. TKM will be sponsoring a leadership workshop for men during the month of November in the hopes of launching this program sometime in December at the parish level. Please keep this effort in your prayers.

The last week in October afforded me an opportunity to unite once again with my mentor and TKM Board of Director Molly Kelly for a week of chastity education. Molly and I were asked by Life Choices in Phillipsburg, NJ to deliver 11 talks to over 1500 students at 7 different schools in the Lehigh Valley and Central NJ area. Here's the breakdown of our busy week together: Monday 10/26, Our Lady of Fatima School in Piscataway, NJ, we gave three talks delivered to 7-8th Grade including 6th and 8th Grade CCD; Tuesday 10/27, Immaculata High School in Somerville, NJ, one talk to the entire student body and one talk to 7th Grade CCD students at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Wednesday 10/28, Bethlehem Catholic High School in Bethlehem, PA, one talk to the entire student body and one talk to 6-8th Grade at St. Phillips and James School in Phillipsburg, NJ; Thursday 10/29, one talk to 7-8th Grade at Holy Family School in Nazareth, PA and one talk to the entire student body at Pius X High School in Bangor, PA; Friday 10/30, Cardinal McCarrick High School, South Amboy, NJ, two talks to entire student body.

Finally, on Saturday October 31st, Damian and I flew to Indianapolis, IN for a presentation and No More Porn Tour outreach to the men of TKM-OLMC. I will tell you more about our trip in next month's newsletter.

Mark Houck