

1.11.2014

Father Rick Wendell

From Hipster to Witness of Christ

Father Rick Wendell has a very interesting walk with Christ. In many ways, it is a walk that is similar to St. Augustine, St. Ignatius or St. Paul. If you think that all that the saints did was to pray all day, think again. Who can readily say that St. Matthew (the extortionist and tax collector) and St. Patrick (worshiper of false gods) would be two of the most venerated saints of the Church today?

Saints are upright and God-fearing people but they were not always so. Some were great sinners before they became great saints. Let us remember always that saints are regular people who made the decision and commitment to participate in, and assign the image of the holiness of God, to their lives.

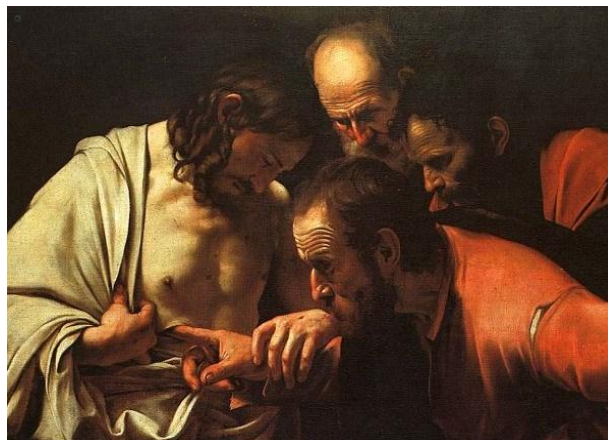
Rick Wendell was a man who was grounded in the physical world living an extreme life who was declared dead of cardiac arrest. As his body was being prepared for organ harvesting, he met God and returned to his earthen vessel 2 ½ hours later. His life had changed from quintessential playboy to Man of God/Priest of Christ.



If you ever wondered if the Scripture as written by Paul to Timothy plays in the modern world, then wonder no more. Father Rick brings it to life...in Technicolor.

Father Rick spoke at the Catholic Men's Fellowship Conference in Cleveland last February. We have selected some of his most moving witness to share.

Before we begin, let us take note of selected scripture that reveals the Wisdom of God as manifested in our lives.





1 Timothy 1:15-17

This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these, I am the foremost.

But for that reason, I was mercifully treated, so that in me, as the foremost, Christ Jesus might display all his patience as an example for those who would come to believe in him for everlasting life. To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Mathew 18: 21-22

Then Peter, approaching asked him, "Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive him? As many as seven times?" Jesus answered, "I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.

Psalms 30 2-6, 11-13

I praise you, LORD, for you raised me up and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.

O LORD, my God, I cried out to you for help and you healed me.

LORD, you brought my soul up from the grave; you let me live...Sing praise to the LORD, you faithful; give thanks to his holy memory.

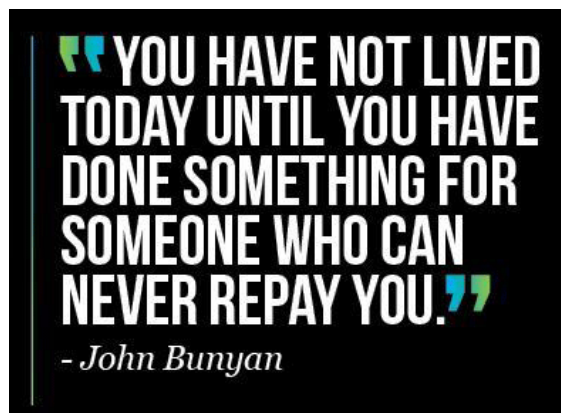
For his anger lasts but a moment and his favor a lifetime. At dusk weeping comes for the night; but at dawn there is rejoicing.

Hear, O LORD, have mercy on me; LORD, be my helper.

You changed my mourning into dancing; you took off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness. So that my glory may praise you and not be silent.

O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

The Word of the Lord.



**Presentation
Father Rick Wendell
From Hipster to Witness of Christ**



Questions to Focus on:

1 What was the most resounding message that you received from Rick Wendell's presentation?

2 Do you know anyone who has had a life threatening or significant emotional experience? Was it life changing? If so, in what way?

"This saying is trustworthy and deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Of these I am the foremost."

1 Timothy 1:15



A Man who never quits is Never Defeated.

Men's Group Calendar

1/25/2014	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
2/8/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
2/22/2014	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
3/8/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
3/15/2014	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
3/22/2014	CMFNEO CONFERENCE	8 AM St. Joe's Euclid
4/12/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass
4/26/2014	Leadership Meeting	8 AM Sacred Heart Library
5/10/2014	Men's Group	7 AM Mass

*** CMFNEO Annual Conference is March 22, 2014 ***



*Lord, help me to pray not as an exercise of my will, but a surrender to Yours.
Thank You for Your goodness to me. Amen.*

Betty's Prayer: "May our Father in Heaven Bless you abundantly with His grace and favor during the coming year. As I continue to seek Him in my life, I pray that you are also seeking Him in yours."

May God Bless You.
St. Hilary Men's Group.

ACTION PLAN

This week I will do my best to bring God into my heart by:

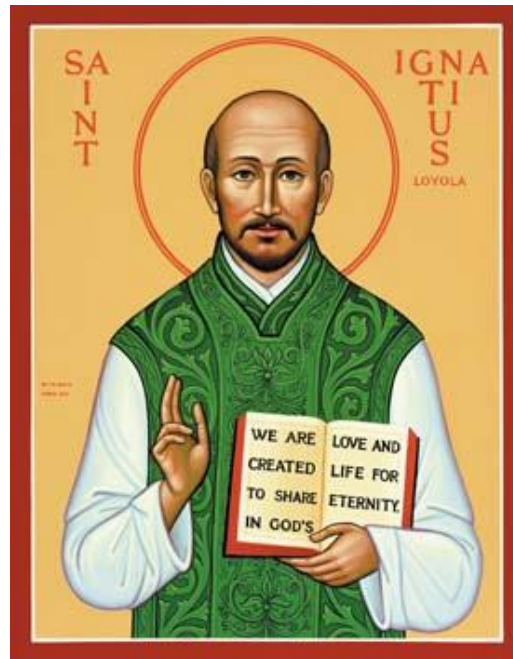
Creating a daily prayer practice

Seeking God in prayer and being quiet in His presence

Asking God for strength to resist temptation and sin

Paying more attention to Blessing those in my life as God intends

Asking Jesus for help in becoming a better servant



We are ordinary men who labor for Christ.



Lord, God and Savior, by your love you draw me to yourself, forgive me, and fill me with every good thing, not withholding even the gift of your most beloved son.

Send forth your Holy Spirit to guide me in your path. Make me worthy of your love, and teach me how to forgive as you forgave. Amen

The Our Father in Different Words

Dearest Father who is everywhere at all moments in time,
Your name is Most Holy, Most Sacred.
Your kingdom is come in our Hearts and Minds.
Your will is throughout the Earth even as it is throughout the universe.
You fill our needs from day to day,
And you forgive us our offenses without reservation.
We must likewise forgive our offenders.
Let us not be lured by things of this Earth.
Have Mercy on us always, keeping us separate us from evil, error and sin.
Because yours are the kingdom, the power and the song of praise.
From all ages, throughout all ages.
Sealed in Faith, Trust, Truth and Love. Amen.

Amended from Expanded translation by Dr. RA Errico - RJ Bradner

