

Men on a Mission – December 11, 2015

A hall full of men gathered again on Friday night, December 11 at the Mary Center next to the Cathedral in St. Cloud for Men on a Mission. Our speaker was Archdiocesan priest Fr. Dennis Backer on a particularly serious topic: Repent and be Forgiven: the Destructive Sin of Pornography.



Music from Tim Mead and Deacon Craig Korver warmed us up as the men sang praises to the Lord. As they ended, Deacon Craig gave a heartfelt summary of his conversion story, which plumbed the depths of each man present. Have we been there too?

Saying that we Catholics NEED to “turn on the lights to this grave sin,” Fr. Backer noted porn is not a victimless, minor little matter, but rather profoundly harmful. He

began his talk with a solid statistical background of the problem:

- *By 2017, a quarter BILLION people will access adult content from their phones or tablets, a 30% increase in just 4 years;*
- *From a high of \$13 billion in fees paid to view porn in 2006, revenue has declined considerably, because there is so much free on line nowadays (The Devil’s work, perhaps? It’s more accessible if it is free);*
- *About 64% of Christian men admit to watching porn once a month – and 15% of women;*
- *Well over half of young people think there’s nothing wrong viewing porn this way. But Fr. Backer pointed out that 100% of the women and girls in pornography have a father. Do we want our daughters to be in it, if it is ‘acceptable?’*



He related the story of the Indian chief who told a young lad about two wolves fighting within us: “One wolf is good, and one is evil.” When the young Indian boy asked which would win, The wise chief said, “Whichever wolf you feed.”

Time to sharpen the spiritual tools in the tool box, Father summarized: Come to the sacrament! And like washing your car clean, you wouldn’t park it under that same tree again, would you? Don’t leave confession and return to the same places and things that tempt. Know what leads us there, and avoid it. We closed with three Hail Mary’s, for purity of Mind, Heart, and Body.

Thank you Father Dennis Backer for some real spiritual answers on a very troubling topic. Do you want some of this spiritual food? Come to our next Men on a Mission!

Don’t miss the next Men on a Mission in February, 2016.