

Remembering St. Francis of Assisi

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I find it an honour to know and remember the man of Assisi. He was a man with a past that was anything but saintly. Not even his father believed he would amount to anybody, let alone a man who left his mark in the annals of history. Typical of Francis of Assisi, he was controversial and an obvious sign of contradiction like the Man who called him.

His story reminds me of Oscar Wilde's saying "Every saint has a past. Every sinner has a future". The man of Assisi's past was ugly. But it is amazing how God transformed him and chose him of all men in Assisi "to rebuild His Church". Perhaps, God could have chosen a man who was less controversial. However, He chose Francis, a real man and a sinner.

From this one man, came many other men and women who like Francis, have been controversial but at the same time a blessing to the Church and humanity. As we remember this man of Assisi, let's not be quick in judging others nor ourselves. For we don't know what God is up to with us. He may be quietly transforming us like the man of Assisi.

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