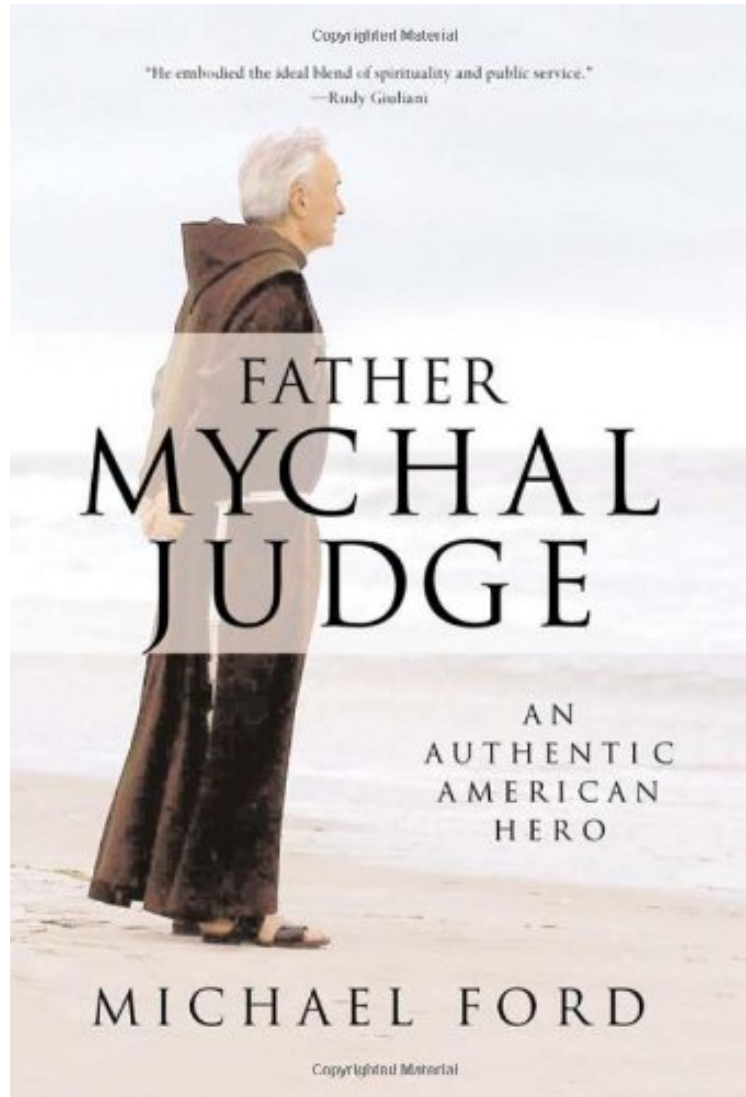


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## Father Mychal Judge: An Authentic American Hero

*Michael Ford*

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#1137198 in Books 2002-09-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 .87 x 5.48 x 8.421, .87 #File Name: 0809105527224 pages Hardcover: 224 pages Publisher: Paulist Press (September 1, 2002) Language: English ISBN-10: 0809105527 ISBN-13: 978-0809105526 Product 5.5 x 0.9 x 8.5 inches Shipping Weight: 14.2 ounces | File size: 34.Mb

**Michael Ford : Father Mychal Judge: An Authentic American Hero** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Father Mychal Judge: An Authentic American Hero:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Beloved Father Mychal Judge By Roberta De Santo When I finished reading The Book of Mychal: The Surprising Life and Heroic Death of Father Mychal Judge, I wanted to keep on reading....while crying....about this glorious man. During the 1980's, I attended the baptism of a friend's baby,

administered by Father Mychal in St. Joseph Parish, West Milford, New Jersey. I'm not a Catholic, but I remember listening to this very warm and friendly priest, and the feeling that came over me. I felt as if I were with Jesus. Unbelievable....I will never forget Father Mychal....his presence remains in my heart.I have not finished reading Father Mychal Judge: An Authentic American Hero, but I'm loving it, and I just can't read enough about this Saint. The authors have captured Father Mychal's life splendidly. As I read these books, I feel as if I am walking alongside of him.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It is a flowery, embellished, piece that was ...By Rob ShirIt is a flowery, embellished, piece that was published by a Catholic based publisher. I expected something a little more than that.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful PriestBy Randall R. RiceIn an age that there is great suspect, and hostility towards priests, this book restores one faith in the many saints in our midst, who never gain newspaper headlines. I read the book before watching the CD about Father Judge, and it is a wonderful, easy read.I had it on my wish list for a long time, as I had heard it would be published soon. When I finished the book, and CD, I sent them both on to a friend, who will pass it on to someone else.Father Judge was a true hero, loved his ministry, struggled as a human and shined as a light. It is painful still to re-visit 9/11, but this is the conclusion of a life well led and lived. Well written, introducing us into his life and his friends.

A portrait of the Franciscan priest and FDNY chaplain who lost his life in the World Trade Center attacks recounts his personal story and his experiences in the firehouse, his friary, and his church.

From Publishers WeeklyFather Mychal Judge became an instant American hero when he died while administering the "last rites" to a victim of the September 11 World Trade Center attacks, but even before that grim day, there was much about the Franciscan priest to commend to posterity. Through interviews with fellow friars, close friends and others, Ford, a BBC journalist specializing in religious affairs and author of a 1999 biography of the late Henri Nouwen (Wounded Prophet), tells why the New York City fire chaplain was beloved by many, while infuriating others. A recovering alcoholic and an acknowledged homosexual who struggled with living a chaste, celibate life, Father Judge was known to those he served as a passionate advocate of the downtrodden and suffering. Although he had a penchant for attracting and even seeking the limelight, friends recall him as a humble man in touch with his own humanity. Ford boldly compares him to the founder of the Franciscans, St. Francis of Assisi, who was said to bear the stigmata, or wounds of Christ's crucifixion. Ford even seems to suggest that Father Judge's homosexuality was comparable to the stigmata, a simile that, while poetic, may be a bit of a stretch for some readers. Ford has done his best to paint a complete picture of the man, though many of the recollections he includes are rather repetitive. Despite that, this is an intriguing biography that should hold appeal for a wide readership.Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc.From Library JournalThis is a timely biography recounting the life of 68-year-old Father Mychal Judge, a New York City fire chaplain who died on September 11, 2001, while administering to New York's "finest" at the World Trade Center site. A Franciscan friar living in midtown Manhattan, Judge had many pastoral responsibilities, never allowing age or failing health to prevent him from priestly service. The text by Ford (Wounded Prophet: A Portrait of Henri J.M. Nouwen), a BBC journalist and broadcaster in religious affairs, is filled with personal accounts of friends and colleagues that are beautifully incorporated into a chronological narrative extolling the character and life of Judge. This honest portrayal doesn't hide the friar's struggle with alcoholism or the reality of his homosexuality. Breaking stereotypes and prejudices, this wounded healer has become a model of self-sacrifice and priestly integrity. Ford concludes the biography with a bibliography of the books referenced, archival news articles, and videos. Recommended for larger public libraries.John-Leonard Berg, Univ. of Wisconsin, PlattevilleCopyright 2002 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Booklist\*Starred \* Since the publication of the now-famous photograph of rescue workers carrying the lifeless body of Father Mychal Judge through the wreckage of Tower One on September 11, the Franciscan friar, New York Fire Department chaplain and first recorded victim of the World Trade Center attacks, has captured the imagination of the nation. In typical American fashion, Father Mychal was no plaster saint, but rather a complex individual who embodied many contradictions and constantly wrestled with the demons and insecurities that haunted him. A substitute father figure to countless young firefighters and friars, Mychal never fully recovered from the untimely death of his own father, an impoverished Irish immigrant, when he was only six. An avowed celibate, he quietly acknowledged his homosexual orientation despite the active discouragement of the Catholic Church. He never made a secret of the fact that he was a recovering alcoholic, always finding time in his busy schedule to attend AA meetings all over the city. In fact, it was probably his very "woundedness," as well as his spiritual honesty, that drew both the humble and the grand to him in droves. Ford probes beneath the photogenic veneer of Father Mychal, providing a compelling portrait of a charismatic priest whose humility and strength of character continue to inspire a nation in search of authentic heroes. Margaret FlanaganCopyright American Library Association. All rights reserved