

KNIGHTS CORNER

January 21, 2024



St. Charles Council #2084

A few weeks back I mentioned that one of the 3 tenants of our order is Fraternity. Father McGivney knew that for Catholic families to thrive they would need to be able to share their lives and their experiences with others also living the Catholic life.

In the past two weeks the order has had a few broader meetings. At this past Diocesan meeting I ended up at a table with a few folks I had never met before. Prior to kicking off the meeting one of the Knights from Shelby and I started chatting about what was going on in each other's lives. It became apparent that quite a few members of his immediate family were passing away due to old age or fighting a terminal illness right now. Dealing with both of those is never easy, but he and his family had been finding the beauty in being called home to God and he shared that the Prayers of St. Bridget had been immensely helpful and something that was spreading through his family and bringing some that walked away from the faith home. (I confessed I didn't know the prayers, but based on what he shared put it on my short list to go research.)

We all know that there is an immense and beautiful depth to Catholicism and I think it's safe to assume we'll continue to be exposed to new treasures, prayers, and holy people for the rest of their lives, but I spend all day meeting new people and in meetings, and (in my experience) people don't feel they know each other well enough to bring up something like a saint or prayers or our reward in heaven in a first conversation. We have no idea where each other sits in faith or belief. But I found it pretty special that in a room full of Knights he could safely assume I would view the topics of death or illness through our shared Catholic cultural lens, and share something so meaningful to him and know it was appreciated. We have moments like this in our own parish and council all the time, but I think experiencing it with a stranger like this can call to light just how special that is.

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