

Knights Lecture 3 (10/5/2014)

Humility. It is a virtue we are all called as Christians to display. As Knights we are specially called to be humble. Having service as one of the cornerstones of our order we are called to humble ourselves on a daily basis; whether we are participating in a mission trip, helping out in the CUA community, or simply helping out a friend.

One of the most well known examples of humility in Today's world is Pope Francis. Before he was elected pope, Cardinal Bergoglio was archbishop of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Unlike the vast majority of the Church's bishops and archbishops who have nicer living arrangements, better cars, and better food Cardinal Bergoglio refused all of these. He lived in an apartment in downtown Buenos Aires, took public transportation whenever he was able, and prepared his own food. The United Kingdom's Catholic Herald reports that many of the people whom he saw regularly did not even know him as Cardinal Bergoglio, but simply Father Jorge. So why did he do all decide to live like this? Because he knew the best way to know the needs of the Church and be able to address them was to live like and among its members. Even as pope he has refused to live in the Papal Apartments, celebrated Holy Thursday Mass at a juvenile detention center, and has made solidarity with the poor a centerpiece of his papacy. So why is he doing all of this? He is setting an example. By his example he not telling us, but showing us but showing us that the best way to serve the Church is to humble yourself by living, working, and serving the least of its members.

Any of you that have been on mission trips can attest to the fact that get out 100 times what you put in. In my mission trip experience my team worked the mentally and physically handicapped in the slums of Kingston, teaching school kids in a school surrounded by a dump, teaching 16 and 17 year olds to read and do algebra, or spending a day with handicapped kids in the Jamaican mountains [yes, Jamaica has mountains]. These were people society had rejected because they didn't see a way for them to be productive members of society. These are the types of people that will give you more in a day than you could repay in a lifetime. This is an extreme example and one that I hope you all take advantage of while you're here, but we can participate in service on a regular basis.

Just within our council we have an incredible amount of service opportunities: we have our week of service the service committee puts on each semester, which includes activities such as visiting nursing homes, making hundreds of sandwiches for a soup kitchen, working at a soup kitchen; we also work very hard to support the relay for life each year, and are integral in putting on the Vigil for Life each year, and are have an ongoing project with St. James' parish and school. These are just a few of the opportunities for service we have within our council. We are clearly making a difference in the community, and people are starting to notice; it's these opportunities that were a huge part in our reception of the Outstanding Council award.

Continue participating in service. If you want to know about some more of our service opportunities contact Tommy, or one of the officers. We love doing service, and the fraternity afterwards is always great.