

February 2019

Brother Knights:

This was an interesting month for me.

I was able to go on a 10 day cruise with my wife to celebrate her 20th birthday (for the third time). We left from Florida and visited parts of the Caribbean. It was interesting being able to volunteer to lector at Mass on the cruise ship (yes most cruise ships offer Mass) and it reminded me that even though I had never met the Priest or Deacon that celebrated Mass, the fact the Church is universal meant I was able to arrive 20 minutes before Mass, offer my services as a lecture if needed, and the second they said yes, I was able to know exactly what and when to do it. A stark reminder Mass is celebrated basically the same, no matter where you are.

I was also reminded the Catholic Church is universal by the fact every island we visited had at least one Catholic Church. I found it reassuring that the church is there for me, almost anywhere in the world.

February was also a stark reminder the Catholic Church, while perfect, has imperfect humans within it. Supreme asked all Knights to pray a Novena for the Church and the victims abused by its clergy. Closer to home, the Austin Diocese printed out a list of Priests that had credible claims of abuse caused by them. I can tell you I know someone that had been abused by a Priest listed; and the fact that list came out made a big step in their vindication the Church had failed them and now was publically stating that fact. While the abuse in this case caused this person to leave the Catholic faith years ago, the action of naming Priests may be a start of a possible long journey home to the Catholic Church. Only God knows if that may happen. I hope so.

Vivat Jesus,

SK David Matocha
Worthy Grand Knight