

SAID ED October 15, 2017

Thank You from Fr. Sergio

It's been four and half months since I had to say "good bye and see you soon" to my dad after a rather long battle with cancer. As I traveled home I received some many messages of people showing their support, prayers, and sympathy. The same words I use when I celebrate a funeral for one of our beloved departed were now given back to me in a beautiful display of love. God and your prayers gave me the strength to preside over my dad's funeral Mass. It was a beautiful one.

That day I celebrated the Eucharist with sadness in my heart because it was the last time I would see my dad. Also, I was at peace because I had so many feelings of happiness, joy and beautiful memories in my heart. As I kissed my dad's coffin with some tears in my eyes during the last farewell, God's infinite love made me realized how much love people have for one another. I am grateful with the Lord for the opportunity to entrust my dad to the eternal happiness. But also, I am grateful for the people that prayed with me, supported my family and expressed their condolences.

I am grateful for all of you because upon my return from Colombia after my dad's funeral, I found myself surrounded by your love. Your letters, your sympathy cards, your prayers, your Mass intentions and your constant support helped me to continue my ministry and life with smile in my face. I am grateful to you for your amazing love, for the way you are, for your care and especially because God gave me the wonderful blessing of being part of your lives. Yes, it is a blessing and an honor to be part of your community and part of your family! A couple months ago some of you said to me "do not worry, we know what you are going through, and you are not alone. We got you covered!" I received with gratitude those words in my heart without realizing the deep meaning and commitment they contained. It was not until later that they made perfect sense: All of you joined together to show your support for me and my family during the pancake breakfast sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

Your generosity, presence and love are unique and special. You are God's angels in my life and I am eternally grateful. Thank you for all the gestures of love you always show for the Church and for us. Thank you for genuine concern, constant help, amazing presence and devoted love. Thank you for helping me and my family. I will never forget all the work you put into the pancake breakfast. I will never forget the leadership of the Knights of Columbus, Fr. Ed, our staff, our volunteers, and our friends during this event to help my family. It will never forget your smiles, your generosity and kindness. Thank you very much.

Please know that you are always in my prayers and Mass intentions. You, your families and Assumption are so close to my heart to the point that words cannot simply express my huge love for all of you. Working with you, serving you, and being part of you is like having a beautiful piece of heaven in my life. Thank you!
