

Fr. Matt's Musings January 14, 2019

Giants

Today is my Grandmother Sullivan's birthday; she would be one hundred eighteen. She was the only girl and the youngest child of nine. She started washing dishes at the age of five and spent her whole life taking care of others. My grandfather died in 1954, after battling cancer. She died in 1991, a widow longer than she was actually married. She went to work after his death to take care of my mom and her three brothers. She never graduated from high school. Most of her life she worked two jobs, yet she found time to go to daily Mass and cook Sunday dinner (her only day off) and host all major holidays. I never heard a word of complaint or "woe is me" issue from her mouth. She was a giant but only about five feet five inches tall.

I know we all have our own giants in life. They inspire us and move us to be better. That is our call to the generations that follow us. The legacy of Francis de Sales is a spiritual director, author - The Introduction to the Devout Life is one of the best selling spiritual works of all times - founder and inspiration for many religious communities and one of the first to remind us that all of us are called to holiness. What will be our legacy and for what do we want to be remembered? We all need giants, and we also need to remember that we are called to be a giant to others. Happy Birthday Gram!

Live Jesus!

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P.S. Thank you all for your birthday and Christmas greetings! I am humbled by your thoughtfulness and well wishes.

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