

understanding of the Catholic faith. Married with two children, in 2004 the family joined a non-denominational Christian church. Diagnosed with MS in 2005, they became disillusioned. Louis remained churchless until 2012 when on impulse, he visited the empty worship space at St. Edmond. Almost immediately, Louis knew he belonged here.

Shortly after returning to the Church, his son Eriq entered the RCIA program, and his daughter Sierra enrolled in the parish religious education program. Eriq has graduated from the University of Delaware and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. in the US Army this year. Sierra is enrolled as a freshman at UDel on a full scholarship. While here, Sierra lectured at youth masses, served for three years on the parish's Youth Leadership Team, participated in the diocesan program, and attended the National Catholic Youth Conference.

Louis has been a Knight for 6 years. In addition to regular attendance at Council business meetings, he participates in our "40 Cans for Lent" and Tootsie Roll campaigns, worked at our dinners, and visited fellow Knights in nursing homes. Louis has also served as an Usher. COVID-19 has severely limited Louis' activities as he has also had surgery for cancer this year. To deal with the financial strain imposed by Louis's MS, Gemma entered the workforce and has worked as many as three jobs simultaneously. She is an exceptionally loving and hardworking wife and mother. Though not a convert, Gemma periodically joins the family at Mass.

Louis, Gemma, Eriq and Sierra are being recognized because they are a model of Catholic family values.