

Fr. Matt's Musings May 14, 2022

Spiritual Gnats and Flies

The spring is upon us, although the weather has been a tennis match of warm and cold, dry and wet, clouds and sun. History tells us that we are in for another hot, hazy, and humid summer. With that, the weather promises the presence of flies and gnats. In the spiritual life, flies and gnats are not seasonal. There are the flies of impatience and inconvenience or the gnats of annoyance and the unwanted, which can invade at any time.

Much of Salesian humility is grounded in gratitude. It is easy to be grateful when life is going our way, and we feel that we are in control of our lives. However, a hallmark of Salesian humility is how we respond to the spiritual gnats and flies that we encounter. We cannot always control them, only our response to their presence. Traffic jams, long lines, flight delays, and difficult people all challenge who we are called to be and how well we live out our calling to be the image of God's love.

Salesian humility is also noted for its honesty. We do not have to like, enjoy or be happy about the setbacks: gnats and flies in life. In all honesty, we only need to be happy about our acceptance of these moments and our call to be who we are and to be that thoroughly well.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt
frhillyard@olgcva.org
Moving Forward Together in the Service of God

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