



OUR LADY *of*  
GOOD COUNSEL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Fr. Matt's Musings

June 20, 2021

### *The Our Father*

This past Thursday, the gospel at daily mass was Matthew's version of the Our Father. It is probably the most well-known, often repeated, and maybe favorite prayer in our tradition. We pray it at every mass, and it is recited at almost all liturgical events. In addition, most people pray the Our Father individually on a regular basis.

As I was preparing for the mass, I realized that it is a challenge to proclaim the gospel that contains the Our Father. It is so well-known, so often used, that I tried a few times to practice reading it with fresh eyes and new thoughts.

Sometimes, what is most familiar can be a challenge to each of us. There can be a tendency to take for granted what is comfortable and what is familiar. St. Francis DeSales says we need to live with intentionality. It is easy to get comfortable with a relationship, with a place in life, and with the way things are.

Please take some time to look at those familiar and comfortable areas in life and accept the challenge to bring fresh eyes and new thoughts to give what is already life-giving even more: new thoughts, words, and actions to renew an already good relationship: an open mind to possible new ideas and ways to make what is already good even better.

The Our Father is too important a prayer to be prayed from rote memory or without the realization of its power as the prayer Jesus gave us. In the Salesian tradition, let us pray it with great intention and bring that same intention to who and what are most important and life-giving for each of us.

**Live Jesus!**

*Fr. Matt*

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*In Christ - Stronger Together*

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