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GOOD COUNSEL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Fr. Matt's Musings

### December 3, 2018

December is a great month. It is the last month of the year. It has the shortest day of the year, the beginning of winter, the majority of Advent and the celebration of Christmas. Darkness, cold, last chances are all December themes. It is in the midst of darkness and cold, that God enters our lives most significantly. It is easy to be a disciple and to see ourselves as a beloved son or daughter of God in the light and the warmth of God's love. December reminds us of that inner journey of faith. It is the trust to which we are called in the dark periods, the dry moments and the cold, lonely experiences of doubt and confusion. It is at these times when it is most important to remind ourselves that, to God, we are always beloved.

I would like to offer a final thought about the other theme I listed, "last chances." Urgency is a Christian theme. To know that we have a limited amount of time on this earth is not to frighten us but to embolden us to take advantage of every moment and encounter. The Good Thief and so many other examples show us that God never gives up on us. What a great gift we can give to one another. Happy December! Let's try to see those cold winds as the presence of the Holy Spirit, that encroaching darkness as the reminder of God's unchanging love for us and in this last month that God always gives another chance. Wake up tomorrow, December 4th, knowing that like a fresh snowfall, it is a new, irrepeatable day, begging to be lived well.

Live Jesus!

*Fr. Matt*

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