



OUR LADY *of*
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings December 7, 2018

Unlikely

In our nation's history, we remember this day when so many young men and women were called into service to protect our nation and the world after the attack at Pearl Harbor. They were unlikely heroes from all states and so many were still in their teens. Our nation continues to honor their service and sacrifice.

Our Scripture and tradition give to us unlikely figures as well:

- Abraham and Sarah - too old to parent new generations?
- Moses - a spokesperson to Israel with his speech impediment?
- Jeremiah - too young to be a prophet?
- Mary - a virgin mother?
- Peter - too sinful to follow Jesus?
- Paul - too zealous in his persecution now to follow Christ?
- Augustine - too restless to find rest in Christ?

The list could continue, but the point is that we are all unlikely instruments of Christ. We all can add our own weaknesses, limitations and sinfulness to the above mentioned names. However, God chooses us because we are limited and very human, and God uses us to show others that it is in the fullness of our humanity, our strengths and our weaknesses, where God meets us and makes us likely disciples. God does not call the able but makes able those whom He calls.

The chosen have usually voiced their unlikeliness to God, and God has said that it is this unlikeliness that God will use in the service of the community. Reflect on your own unlikeliness and allow God to transform it into a gift for the community. Moses became a spokesperson; Jeremiah a prophet, Paul the apostle to the Gentiles. Peter remembered his sinfulness and Paul

remembered his persecutions. Yet, the Lord called them to go beyond those moments, remember them, but not be defined by them, so that they could be God's instrument and disciples to others. It is in our weakness, offered to God, that God's grace will allow us to become likely servants.

Live Jesus!

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