



Fr. Matt's Musings

February 23, 2018

Normal

"Normal is simply a cycle on a washing machine or a dryer."
(Tom White shared that line with me this week.) How common it is for us to strive for a normal life, family, day, relationship or career. Too often I find "normal" is a code word for the control I long for in life. Who is the judge or jury of what is normal?

Moses told God that he did not speak very well.
Jeremiah was too young.
Peter was a sinful man.
Francis de Sales had a lazy eye.

Yet, they are all giants in our Judeo-Christian tradition. The Salesian tradition asks us to embrace the fullness of our humanity: successes and failures, joys and sorrows, loves and losses, strengths and weaknesses. Feel free to choose the normal cycle on the washer but let us not look for that setting for our lives. Life is rich, complex, unpredictable and longing to be embraced and lived fully in all of its simplicity and complexity. That sounds so much more rewarding than normal.

Live Jesus!

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