



OUR LADY *of*
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings

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I love to travel. It always opens my eyes to the beauty of the world and the fact that I see the world through a set of eyes that belong to an American man. I have not travelled extensively, but some of the easier countries I have visited have been Canada, England and Ireland since we share a common language. One of my surprises has been to learn that some words have different meanings in our respective countries. One obvious example is football. The English cannot understand how a sport where the hands are used extensively can be called football. One of my favorite examples also comes from the world of sports: "foul." In basketball, soccer, football, etc., a foul is committed by a player on another player. In English football, a player is the recipient of the foul by another player.

Listening, understanding are such important relational values. How often are we treated to screaming matches on cable news? In our relationships, how often do we interrupt conversations, finish others' sentences, politely wait until someone finishes a sentence so that we can offer true wisdom - our views? Our communal prayer, especially Mass, has us listening a lot: to the Word of God, a homily, the Eucharistic Prayer. Healthy relationships require the same. My high school history teacher had a poster that said, "God gave us two eyes, two ears but only one mouth; probably as a reminder that that we should hear and see twice as much as we say." Let us pray for the grace to be good listeners.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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