



Fr. Matt's Musings

July 7, 2018

The Jesuit poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins, begins one of his poems with the line, "The world is charged with the grandeur of God." Indeed, our Catholic tradition calls us to see God's handiwork all around us and within us. Our churches reflect this from blessing ourselves with holy water to remind us of our baptism, genuflecting to honor Christ's real presence in the reserved Eucharist, the stations of the cross, statues and images to remind us of the holy ones who have gone before us and even color. The color of the vestments worn by the priest signifies different elements in the spiritual life.

Currently, we are in ordinary time, the longest season of the liturgical year (34 weeks). The color for this season is green. With all the rain we have had, the green we see in nature is vivid and vibrant. It is all around us. Green is the color of life and also of hope. Green is the reminder that God charges each moment with life. St. Thomas Aquinas wrote that if God stopped thinking about us, for even a millisecond, we would cease to exist. That means there is nothing ordinary about this time. Francis de Sales tells us that the ordinary becomes extraordinary when it is lived with great love. Hope asks us to live these days with the same vibrance and vivaciousness of the green we see in nature. Nutritionists tell us that the deeper green the vegetable, the healthier it is for us. Make sure that some piece of clothing you have is green. Wear it from time to time as a reminder that each day and each moment is God's gift to us and to be lived and celebrated with the proper gratitude owed such a precious gift.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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