



Fr. Matt's Musings May 26, 2018

Memory

This weekend, we celebrate Memorial Day. It is a tremendous opportunity for us to recognize and thank those men and women, so many of whom gave their lives at such a young age, to defend and protect our nation and nations around the world. It seems a small token on our part, so let us take full advantage of the opportunity to honor those whose sacrifice ensures our freedom.

It is also an opportunity to highlight the importance of memory. In the Scriptures, memory plays such a vital role. The prophets constantly remind Israel of all that God has done for them in the past, is working in their present and will continue to do so in the future. The early Christian community, like the Jewish community before them, used stories to keep God's message alive. For the Jewish people, those stories centered around their covenantal relationship with God. For the early Christian community, the stories were centered on the person of Jesus and the gift of salvation through his suffering death and resurrection. In time, both communities found it important to write down their memories for the generations to come.

What is the message we memorialize in our families: love, respect, trust, sacrifice and the call to service? Who are the giants we honor on whose shoulders we stand? In our country, we remember many of them this weekend. In our Church, they are the saints. I think it is important for us to do the same, and to teach the next generation to do the same, by keeping the memory alive of those ancestors who have allowed us to have

the opportunities today because of the sacrifices they made on behalf of us. Happy Memorial Day!

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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