



OUR LADY *of*  
GOOD COUNSEL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Fr. Matt's Musings

### November 16, 2018

On the sixteenth of each month, my credit card bill is due. It arrives several days before that, but it seems that I always wait until the day itself to pay my Mastercard monthly bill. I also pay by phone. I know that I can set up an automatic payment plan, but there is something about hearing a voice (even though it is automated) tell me how much I owe and that my payment has been successful. Making payments is one of life's rigorous truths.

There are those in our tradition who use "payment" language to explain Jesus' death on the cross and his resurrection. It is payment for our sins. In a similar way, we make payments frequently in this life: parents' sacrifices for their children; couples' giving of themselves to one another in their marriage; individuals' commitment and dedication to their parish community and to the needs of the poor and marginalized, to name just a few of those payments.

We may pay back, pay forward or make a minimum payment, but ours is meant to be a life of sacrificial love. We are called to give. This week, we will celebrate Thanksgiving. The word itself is a combination of two great Christian virtues: gratitude and generosity. I pray that we keep those two great "g"s always at the forefront of our Christian living.

Live Jesus!

*Fr. Matt*

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