

Fr. Matt's Musings October 12, 2018

Founders' Day

Each October 12th, the Oblates remember the men and women who are most responsible for the Salesian spirit and the existence of the Oblate Sisters and Fathers and Brothers of St. Francis de Sales. Our spiritual guides are St. Francis de Sales and St. Jane de Chantal, and the founders of our Congregations are Mother Mary de Sales Chappuis, Blessed Louis Brisson and St. Leonie Aviat.

I think it is a good opportunity for us to remember the men and women who have influenced us to become the people we are today. It is always good for us to remember the giants on whose shoulders we stand.

- 1. I remember my family, especially my mom and grandmothers whose quiet faith and fidelity were the first teachers of the faith for me.
- 2. Sy Fromm who owned the neighborhood grocery story who introduced me to the Jewish faith and the importance of dialogue, understanding and mutual respect among religious traditions.
- 3. The Oblates at Bishop Ireton whose gentle spirit and welcoming lives helped to foster my vocation.
- 4. Msgr. John Tracy Ellis whose infectious love of history and teaching encouraged me to always look for the story in history and in the lives of one another.

October 12th will come again next year, and then I can speak of other inspiring people in my life. I encourage you to do the same this weekend. As a postscript, I include a reading from the Book

of Sirach which speaks to this theme. Happy Founders' Day.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

PRAISE OF ISRAEL'S GREAT ANCESTORS

I will now praise the godly, our ancestors, in their own time All these were glorious in their time, illustrious in their day.

Their virtues have not been forgotten.
Their wealth remains in their families,
their heritage with their descendants.
Through God's covenant their family endures,
and their offspring for their sake.
And for all time their progeny will endure,
their glory will never be blotted out;

Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives on and on. At gatherings their wisdom is retold, and the assembly proclaims their praises.

Live Jesus!

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