



Fr. Matt's Musings
December 9, 2016

Yes or If (From the homily on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception)

In this Advent season, we celebrate Mary's "yes" that changed the course of history and gave birth to the Savior. I have been thinking about what I say yes to and the power of a yes. In Spanish, the same spelling of a word can produce two meanings. For example, "si" without an accent means "if," but if an accent mark is added to "sí" it means "yes." Accents tell us which syllable receives the emphasis in pronouncing a word. That has struck me because I find that sometimes a yes can be more of an if: "If you cannot find anyone else to do it, I will;" "If I have to;" etc. Mary said "yes" to God's invitation with her whole heart. Let us give our whole heart and energy to our next yes. Just like the accent mark, our yes is meant to have power and strength. Therefore, our yes is meant to give love and life to our families and friendships. Our Advent yes should help to realize more fully God's kingdom of love, justice and peace here on our earth. I pray that this Advent is a season of an accented yes in the choices we make to be a loving presence to all we meet.

Live Jesus!

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