



Fr. Matt's Musings

February 3, 2017

Creative Love

The first words in both the Hebrew Scriptures and the Christian Scriptures are creative. The Book of Genesis opens with the creation of the world, and the Gospel of Matthew begins with the birth of Jesus. Our tradition tells us that both were accomplished through divine love. By extension, all of us are fashioned, molded and named in love. One aspect of divine love is that it is creative, always doing something new and finding new words and ways to express God's unbounded love for all God's creation.

The prophets repeat God's great love for the people of Israel. Jesus calls us to the great commandment of love: to love God with all our heart and to love one another as Jesus has loved us. John tells us that God is love. As humans, we need to hear this message over and over. We need to know that we are loved to calm our fears, to relieve our insecurities, to give us confidence that we are forgiven and to make love our constant calling.

In his very popular book, *The Road Less Traveled*, Scott Peck wrote that the opposite of love is not hate but laziness. Creative love is the antidote to the poison of laziness in a relationship, challenging us to find new words and actions to express our love for those who are important to us. Who needs more attention and new words and actions to show how important they are to us and how much we love them? Be a creative lover.

Live Jesus!

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