



Fr. Matt's Musings

March 3, 2017

Good With God

I write this reflection on Ash Wednesday evening, and I think of Peggy who is my Lenten model. I received a call last night that she might not make it through the night, but if I were too busy to come, that was ok because Peggy was good with God. I went to visit her last night, and even as she approached death, she kept living. She was so happy to be anointed and shared with me that she and God had a good relationship for many years. Peggy seemed to be agitated though and said that she had only one wish, and that was to say goodbye to her husband. I did not see her husband in the house and discovered that he was suffering from dementia and had broken a few ribs. His caregivers were trying to find a way to have him come to see her today, on Ash Wednesday.

Lent begins with the words of the prophet Joel, "Change your hearts, not your garments." I am left with Peggy's words that she is good with God. What a good heart! Where are our hearts this Lent, and where do we need to bring our hearts to the Lord that God may touch them, change them, heal them, invigorate them, and make them a home where we also are good with God? Lent is the season of the heart. Let your prayer, fasting and almsgiving serve to make your heart a good place: where your prayer opens your heart to accept God's great love for you; where your fasting is from anger, jealousy, fear, and anything that separates you from God's great love; and where almsgiving is in imitation of God's all generous love of all God's loved ones. Happy Lent!

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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