



Fr. Matt's Musings

November 10, 2017

Little things

I once skimmed through a book that mentioned that there are two kinds of people: those who put their socks and shoes on 1. sock, sock, shoe, shoe or 2. sock, shoe, sock, shoe; those who replace a roll of toilet paper with 1. the loose sheet over the roll or 2. under the roll and those who keep their money (bills) 1. orderly stored in ascending or descending value (1, 5, 10, 20, etc) or 2. those who just throw it in their pocket or purse haphazardly, to give just a few examples. These are little, insignificant things. It can be interesting to share with each other how we accomplish these tasks, but in the end it does not really matter which method we choose to fulfill them.

In the spiritual life, little things matter greatly. In a couple of weeks, we will conclude ordinary time, end this liturgical year and our reading of Matthew's gospel with chapter 25 and the just ones' reward simply for feeding the hungry, clothing the naked and visiting the sick and imprisoned. Any loving action done for one another, especially the poor, is done for the Lord.

In the Salesian tradition, the little is celebrated. Francis loves the little virtues of humility, gentleness and simplicity. Moments of hospitality, short prayers (Thank you, Lord, Help me, Lord, Forgive me, Lord) frequently repeated throughout the day, help us remember that we are always in God's presence and dependent on God's love and care. As I have stated before, Francis reminds us that there is nothing small in the service of God. Small acts of kindness, little virtues, prayerfully and joyfully done make graceful and fulfilling days. With Francis, let us celebrate the holiness of the little.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

frhillyard@olgcva.org

www.olgcva.org

Our Lady of Good Counsel
8601 Wolftrap Road
Vienna, VA 22182

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