



Fr. Matt's Musings

November 18, 2016

OOO and CCC (I shared this example during my homily at a school Mass.)

As an uncle, I have the best job in the world. I have the pleasure of spending time with my niece and nephews, enjoying their company and watching them grow. When those times have been marked by tantrums and outbursts, I developed a game to play with them. Please use your thumb and fingers to form the letters "OOO" and then the letters "CCC." OOO stands for "out of control," and it refers to those moments when our anger, fears, anxieties, passions or tiredness rule, and we can become short with others, mean or less than our best selves. By contrast, CCC stands for "calm, cool and collected," and it refers to those moments when, despite what is going on around or within us, we remember who we are and how we are called to respond in each moment and circumstance. We are entering the holiday season with all of its joy of family, friends, parties, celebrations, and the reality of being grateful at Thanksgiving and celebrating in Advent and Christmas the unique moment in salvation history of God's entrance in our world in the person of Jesus Christ. It can also be a time of added stress and anxiety. Please form the letters CCC throughout this time to remain centered and confident that the Word became flesh to show us the best of who we are and to imitate his life and love. And if we have a moment of OOO, let us be confident that this same Savior forgives us and calls us to calmly, coolly and collectively remember who we are and that we are to be His loving presence to others.

Salesian Takeaway

Our perfection does not lie in being perfect but in our attempt.

St. Francis de Sales

Food for thought for trying to live CCC in a frequently OOO world.

Live Jesus!

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