



Fr. Matt's Musings

Thanksgiving 2016

Some people grumble that roses have thorns; I am grateful that thorns have roses.
Alphonse Karr

Happy Thanksgiving! I am very blessed and grateful to say that I am writing this musing as the pastor of the OLGC community. You are a very special group of people and thank you for your support. I count this community as one of my greatest blessings this year!

I love languages and, in working with the Hispanic community, I have learned that everything begins with God. In a conversation, it begins with hello (Buenos dias) and How are you? (Como estas?). But the response is great because it includes God - (Muy bien, gracias a Dios) - Good, thanks to God.

It may be a simple musing but gratitude and thanksgiving live in the real, the here and now, and not in the what if and the if only. St. Paul tells us that we have to dedicate ourselves to gratitude. The point is that gratitude is not always our first reaction to life. Gratitude is lacking when we are competitive (They have more than we; he is more popular than I; she is a better athlete than I; etc.). Sometimes we can feel under appreciated and feel that we are not receiving the credit we deserve. Those are the moments to look less at the thorns and to remember the roses. Tomorrow, let us focus on our blessings, our loves, our gifts, our tender moments and those who inspire us, uplift us, encourage us and give us life. It is the day to remember that thanks and praise are the stance we take in life to give thanks to the God of goodness, bounty, love and life. Happy Thanksgiving to you and all you love. Give thanks to God for each and every blessing!

Thanksgiving Takeaway

*If we forget every prayer we learned but only remember, Thank you, Lord,
that is enough.*

Meister Eckhart

Live Jesus!

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