



Fr. Matt's Musings

Salesian Perspective

This week, I visited with a parishioner who is suffering in body and memory. In the course of our conversation, he mentioned that his youngest child was recently married. When I asked him when that happened, he paused and replied, "I think it was about four years ago." Then he said, "It is sad when an event so unforgettable becomes forgettable." That has stayed with me all week. Memory is so powerful: either as a gift or at times a painful loss. In our tradition, we are called to imitate the memory of our God who has a long memory for our goodness but a very short one for our shortcomings and failings. It seems to me that too often we can remember our hurts, pains and the ways we have been offended instead of the many ways in which we are loved, accepted and uplifted each day. Most of us know of family members and friends who have experienced the pain of memory loss. I pray that we seek each day to think about those things and remember those words and moments that give us life and further love and strive to spend less time on those memories that only distract us and rob us of the joy and peace of mind to which we are called. In the Letter to the Philippians, we read these words: "Whatever is true, noble, right and pure, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy, think (and remember, *my addition*) of these things (Phil. 4:8).

Salesian Presentation

This Wednesday, October 19th, will be the second of our monthly reflections on Salesian spirituality. This month, we will explore the reality of loss. As we begin to conclude this Year of Mercy, we will have Pope Francis and Francis de Sales as our guides to reflect on the importance of *Living Through Loss*.

There will be two offerings of the same presentation. The first will be at 9 am and the second at 7:30 pm. If you are free, please come to either presentation. Both will take place in the chapel and will last for one hour. I will try to make sure that the presentation is prayerful, informative, interesting and engaging.

Take Away

As St. Francis de Sales once wrote to St. Jane de Chantal:

*Jane, if only you can look at yourself simply as God looks at you,
simply through the eyes of love.*

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

frhillyard@olgcva.org

www.olgcva.org

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

This is a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in OLGC Church and School. Don't forget to add adminassist@olgcva.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

See what's happening on our social sites

