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GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings

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English is one of the universal languages and maybe the most popular. But the way we express ourselves in English can change from country to country. For example in sports, English football uses certain expressions that are different from American sports. A shutout in English football is considered a clean sheet, and the final score whether it is two to nothing or one to nothing is considered to be nil. When a player fouls another player, in English football the foul is on the player who has been fouled instead of the one who commits the foul. However, the most obvious distinction is that the English do not understand how American football can be named such when only the punter and the kicker use their feet in our football.

How often do we speak the same language but feel ourselves at a loss at the end of the conversation when we have different interpretations of that conversation? In the gospels, Jesus speaks about the God of mercy, compassion, and forgiveness and is at odds with religious leaders who do not share that same interpretation. How often with those whom we love do we share a common language but come to different conclusions or meanings?

Lent is a season of the heart. Part of the work of the heart is to find a common vocabulary to make sure that we speak the same language with those who are so important to us. Let us take the time and the energy to make sure that we speak from the heart but with words understood by those we love.

Live Jesus!

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