



OUR LADY *of*
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings

July 16, 2019

Words to Live by

This past Saturday, I was honored to officiate at the wedding of a young couple who confidently, happily and excitedly stated their wedding vows before all of us. They are words to live by. Last Thursday at daily Mass, I mentioned that the saint remembered at that Mass was St. Benedict who asked the Benedictine community to live by the words, "Ora et Labora," - "Prayer and Work." I began to think that at all the stages of our lives, we need to redefine the words which give our lives meaning, purpose, and direction. I asked the gathered community at daily Mass to think about those personal words of guidance and direction and to share them with me and hopefully with us. I mentioned that I would do the same.

It is a few days later, but I want to share with the community the words that direct my thoughts about my ministry as pastor at this moment in my life and in the life of our community. I asked all of us to have a limit on the number of words. St. Benedict limited his thought to three words. The following are mine:

Listen, Learn, Love, Pray, Preach.

Please feel free to share the words you live by in your life as spouse, friend, parent, sibling and all the other roles and relationships of your daily life. I would love to form a list for all of us to read and keep in mind for our future re-evaluations and reformations of those lists. I have heard: Rejoice, Be present, Love, Celebrate as well as some others. Let us help each other to find the words for us to live by that will help us at any given moment to "Live Jesus" most lovingly with and for one another.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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