



OUR LADY *of*  
GOOD COUNSEL  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Father Matt's Musings

November 21, 2019

### *Thanksgiving*

Thanksgiving is a week from today. A few years ago, I had the opportunity to spend the holiday in London. Even though I was celebrating the holiday, it was a regular workday in England. Some were speaking of having dinner with their Yank friends to celebrate with them. It was a fun day but unusual being in a foreign country. Setting aside a day to be grateful is a great tradition and custom. Yet, our Catholic tradition tells us that gratitude is more than a custom, a tradition, an attitude or even a virtue. It is a stance that we take in life to remember that all is a gift from God - from our daily breaths to the people in our lives, the roofs over our head, our food, our health and the Good and Generous God who blesses us all abundantly. St. Paul tells us that we have to dedicate ourselves to gratitude because we can at times concentrate on what is immediate or urgent rather than what is most important. In the week to come, please take some time not only to reflect on gratitude but also to show in word and action your gratitude to those important to you. In next week's musing, I would like to offer your words and reflections on gratitude. Please feel free to send me your thoughts by the end of the day on Monday, and I will compile them. We will send them out in time for Thanksgiving Day so that all can see the gratitude in our community. I know that one of my gratitude statements will be for the OLG C community. Thanks for being such a life-giving, generous community who strives to Live Jesus each day!

Live Jesus!

*Fr. Matt*

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*All through love, nothing through force or fear.*

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