



OUR LADY *of*
GOOD COUNSEL
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings
March 30, 2020

*You have to accentuate the positive
and eliminate the negative,
latch on to the affirmative
and don't mess with Mister in-between.*

The refrain to this very popular song has been recorded by Bing Crosby, the Andrews Sisters, and Ella Fitzgerald to name just a few. I have been listening to music and comedy to brighten and lighten my spirit, and I listened to this song a number of times. In addition to being a popular song that lifts our spirits, it also reflects part of our Christian, spiritual tradition.

In the spiritual life, we are called to eliminate the negative or, in more traditional terms, to purge all of those harmful, non-life-giving actions and words and replace them with positive and affirming actions and words. Once again, in our tradition, they are replaced with virtuous actions: generosity, love, compassion, etc. Our words are meant to be prayerful and life-giving, supportive, upbuilding and uplifting.

Please share with me what you are doing to affirm the positive and to eliminate the negative during these days so that I can share with the OLG C community the ways in which we are trying to affirm and strengthen and build one another up and eliminate those words and actions which fail to do that. Please let me know if I can use your name.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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All through love, nothing through force or fear.

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