



OUR LADY *of* GOOD COUNSEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr. Matt's Musings

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Ken and Barbie

One of the first couples I met during my time in Camden, New Jersey, was Ken and Barbie. Unlike the more famous doll couple, Ken and Barbie were homeless. Ken was an African American male missing some of his teeth, and Barbie was a middle-aged, overweight woman who wore compression stockings to help with the bad veins in her legs.

Encounters such as this one are reminders to me about how I can have preconceived notions about people or circumstances. The Ken and Barbie I met in Camden were generous and kind people. They just did not look like the Ken and Barbie I was more familiar with growing up with my two younger sisters and their dolls.

Preconceived notions, a rush to judgment, boxing people in, or labeling them can be dangerous for us and our ability to accept others or give credit for the growth that takes place during life. Who needs a fresh look in my life? Where do I need to take a step back and not rush to judgment or give someone the benefit of the doubt? I remember hearing once that when I point the finger at someone, three are pointing back at me. Love, love, love. Fear, bias, and hate take up too much precious energy and better used time.

Live Jesus!

Fr. Matt

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All through love, nothing through force or fear.

Fr. Matt sends a regular "Musings" email to share his thoughts with the OLGC Community. You're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in these messages. Please add frhillyard@olgcv.org to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

If you know someone who would like to be added to the list have them email communications@olgcv.org.

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