



# OUR LADY *of* GOOD COUNSEL

CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Fr. Matt's Musings January 12, 2021

### *Beginnings and Endings*

Last Wednesday, so many of us were horrified at the scene of the United States Capitol. On my part, it was a personal moment. In the summer of 1980, I worked as a tour guide at the Capitol. I had the privilege and the honor of showing people, of almost every state in the union and many foreign countries, the cherished halls of the US Capitol. I was always struck by the admiration and the awe that people had walking through those hallways.

That is why last Wednesday was so powerful for me. It was hard to watch the anger, the distraction, and the violence that US citizens were wreaking on that cherished building. It reminds me, though, of one of my mottos. The motto is where I begin so often determines where I finish.

In 2016 when I became pastor, Bishop Loverde charged me that as pastor I am supposed to be loving, gentle, and wise. When I remember that and say that to myself at the beginning and throughout the day, it usually goes pretty well. Although I am human, there are some days when maybe I am not quite as loving or gentle or as wise as I should be.

It should be no surprise to us that when people show up with anger and hatred that their actions will follow through with violence and destruction. It's a call to me, and I hope to us to always challenge our hearts to make sure that we begin in a good place of love, compassion, and generosity. Things will go well for us and others when we do that. When we do not, the results can be like last Wednesday in Washington. Let us Live Jesus each day.

### **Live Jesus!**

*Fr. Matt*

[frhillyard@olgcv.org](mailto:frhillyard@olgcv.org)

*In Christ - Stronger Together*

---

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](mailto: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](mailto:communications@olgcv.org).

