

**Friday, January 6, 2017**

I once accompanied a young trombone player for a solo competition. He had all the gifts—excellent ears, a wonderful tone, a solid technique. He knew his piece and could play the notes flawlessly, but something was missing. He didn't have the big picture. All he saw were the notes in front of him. He couldn't see the forest for the trees!

At times we are all like this musician. We play the individual notes very well but fail to make music! We do this with life; sometimes we even do this with God. In the midst of a family crisis, or difficulties at work, or misunderstandings in relationships, it is easy to lose sight of the big picture. That's why I like how fast the liturgical calendar moves—Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Transfiguration, Lent, Holy Week. We can't help but have Easter-eyes, even when we see the young Jesus.

Keep singing for we all are in God's big picture of redeeming love!

***Tom Poole***