

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, September 9, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

They are the ones who . . . bear fruit through perseverance. (Luke 8:15)

One of the most amazing records in baseball history isn't about home runs, strikeouts, or stolen bases—it's about perseverance. On September 6, 1995, Baltimore Orioles shortstop Cal Ripken, Jr., played his 2,131st game, breaking the record that Lou Gehrig had set years before. Ripken racked up other records, but those probably have as much to do with his remarkable consistency as with his talent. As his father said, "What all of this is about is a man going to work every day to do his job."

Perseverance and consistency are also very important to our spiritual growth. We not only have to hear the word of God "with a generous and good heart," but we have to persist in hearing it and then do what it says (Luke 8:15). The principle is the same in the natural world. No mighty tree grows overnight. To bear the fruit that Jesus wants, we need regular exposure to the sunlight of God's word and the water of his Spirit. And we need to keep soaking it in.

Of course, if perseverance were easy, it wouldn't be called perseverance! There are many days when we'd rather not pray or be charitable to our neighbor or offer forgiveness. We have a headache, we're tired, or we just don't feel like it. But think about other aspects of your life. You don't always feel like going to work or paying your bills. But you do it because it's important. How much more important is listening to the Lord and walking with him every day!

It may help to remember that we are no different from any of the saints. God rewarded them because they persevered, and he will do the same for us. If you prayed for only five minutes this morning, you still prayed. If you lost your temper yesterday, God will give you another chance to be patient today. If you failed to show affection to your spouse, you'll get another opportunity. The key is to not give up. As one motivational speaker says, "Never stop starting over." For God's mercies are new every morning—and so are his opportunities (Lamentations 3:23).

"Lord, I give up trying to be perfect—but I won't give up trying! I put my trust in your power to help me live a holy life and bear fruit for your kingdom."

Today's Announcements:

- Today, we will follow the Homecoming bell schedule. Classes will be thirty-seven minutes each. We will dismiss for the Homecoming Family Picnic at 1:00 p.m. this afternoon followed by our Homecoming Pep Rally at 2:00 p.m.
- Come out and support the Fighting Irish tonight - kickoff is set for 7:00 p.m., and the 2016 Homecoming Court will be presented at halftime.

- Our new photographers will be at the Homecoming dance to take professional pictures. Make sure to bring a check or money if you want to have your picture taken.
- Today is the last day to purchase Homecoming dance tickets for \$20. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$25.
- Senior baby pictures and quotes for the yearbook are due by next Friday, September 16, to Mrs. Farragut in room 214.
- St. Mary's Church in Woolmarket will be having a mud volleyball tournament this Sunday, September 11, at 6:00 p.m. There will be free food, music, and prizes. Also, the first twenty-five registrants will receive a free t-shirt! All are welcome to join us for this night of fun and fellowship!
- LEGO League forms are due to Ms. Moon (room 215) by today.