

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, September 30, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Woe to you! (Luke 10:13)

A group of British actors recently produced a television skit based on Shakespeare's famous line from Hamlet: "To be, or not to be: that is the question." In the skit, the actors argued over how to say the line. One read it as "To be or not to be." Another said, "To be or not to be." Another stressed the word "that," and yet another stressed "question." The skit was funny, but it makes an interesting point: the meaning of words can change depending on how we hear them.

When Jesus says, "Woe to you" to the cities of Chorazin and Bethsaida, how do you hear him (Luke 10:13)? It's easy to imagine angry condemnation. But look at the context. Rather than expressing anger, Jesus is more likely speaking out of unrequited love. He has performed numerous miracles, preached about his kingdom, and demonstrated God's mercy and love—all to little avail. So now he is admonishing them, not wishing them woe, but warning them of woe to come if they don't accept his message.

Sometimes we prejudge people in the same way that we prejudge their words or actions. We have heard that someone doesn't go to church, that the person holds certain views—or maybe that he or she has an offensive bumper sticker on his or her car. But we can't really know what people are like unless we've talked to them. And if somehow we do learn that they are far from the Lord, that should make us more compassionate toward them, not more condemning. We should never make our faith an "us versus them" affair.

We know that in our own strength, we can't love anyone as Jesus loves them. But that's okay because we have received the Holy Spirit—the same Spirit who lives in the heart of God, the same Spirit who enabled the apostles to preach, teach, and heal. So ask the Spirit to give you a more compassionate heart. If you try to see people through his eyes, you'll begin to look for ways to reach out to them. You don't need an elaborate plan. Just try your best to show them the same love, compassion, and patience that God has shown you.

"Lord, touch my heart with your compassion for those who don't know you. Holy Spirit, teach me how to be a messenger of your love."

Today's Announcements:

- Congratulations to Richard Springer who was selected to the Coast Electric Youth Leadership Program. He will represent St. Patrick in Washington, D.C. this summer.
- The Fighting Irish junior high football team wins 36 to 6 last night against Baxterville!

- Our junior high dance is this coming Saturday, October 1, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for all seventh and eighth graders. The theme for the dance is "Olympics," and admission is \$5. The concession stand will also be open. Junior high dances are open to St. Patrick students only. This is not a formal dance - dress is casual.
- The afternoon bus will not be dropping off at St. Alphonsus next week due to Cruisin' the Coast. The bus will still drop off at St. James, the Natatorium, and Sacred Heart.
- We would like to wish Mrs. Sutherlin a Happy Birthday today!
- Mrs. Gollott will be celebrating her birthday on Sunday and we would like to wish her a Happy Birthday! .
- St Patrick Lady Irish defeated Lumberton in District play 3-0. Set scores were 25-10, 25-7, 25-14. Shannon Kirkpatrick had 19 service aces, 7 kills. Other team members had 2 service aces each. Raven Gonsoulin had 14 sets, Rosalyn Lindsey had 3. Hallie Ladner, Gonsoulin, and Lindsey had a kill each.
- Junior high volleyball intramurals will begin at 3:15 today.