

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, October 6, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

How much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him? (Luke 11:13)

For decades, physicists have been searching for a tiny particle that most of us never even think about. Scientists describe it as the missing piece to understanding the universe. This tiny particle is important because it gives all matter its mass. Its name? The Higgs boson particle. Hundreds of feet underground, scientists have built a huge particle collider seventeen miles in circumference. They've been using it nonstop since 1998 in their quest. It wasn't until 2012 that the existence of this particle was tentatively—not completely—confirmed. That's one elusive little particle!

Thankfully, today's Gospel isn't asking us to explore particle physics. Instead, Luke is inviting us to seek after the "Higgs boson particle" of the Christian life: the Holy Spirit.

Jesus urges his disciples to pray persistently; then he brings up the Holy Spirit at the very last minute. This can make the Holy Spirit seem like an afterthought. But if you look at Luke's Gospel as a whole, you'll find the Spirit showing up at almost every turn. From Jesus' birth and dedication through his entire ministry, the Spirit is a key player. In the Acts of the Apostles, which Luke also wrote, the Spirit takes center stage. It's no wonder either! The Holy Spirit is God's power in the world.

You don't have to develop an expensive and complicated science experiment to find the Spirit. You don't need a particle collider. You can find evidence of his presence in your own heart and in the world around you. It's the Spirit who draws you to read the Scriptures and spend time in prayer. He nudges you to reach out to people in need or share your faith. He calls you to try a new ministry in the Church. And he persistently moves in your heart, calling you again and again to return to him.

Today in prayer, ask God to open your eyes to the Holy Spirit. Maybe you are already aware of him; ask for more! Ask for his presence to be so powerful in your life that you know, without a doubt, that he is moving and active, just as he was in the early Church.

"Father, I ask you to send me the Spirit. Let him come into every area of my life and make his presence known."

Today's Announcements:

- Today, we are on liturgy schedule. We will celebrate Mass this morning at 9:40. We are excited to have Fr. Ryan and members of the Knights of Columbus on campus this morning.
- Attention Seniors: All Senior ad forms, pictures, and money are due to Mrs. Farragut by Friday, October 21. Also, senior sibling pictures must be turned into Mrs. Farragut by next Friday, October 14. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Farragut before or after school.

- More than seven out of ten children felt that bullying negatively impacted their social lives. Don't forget to sign up for March for Life next week.
- St. Vincent de Paul School is seeking volunteers on Oct. 22 from 12:30 to 4:30 to assist with their fall festival. Any students who are interested in helping for service hours, please see Ms. Dapremont for more information.
- The St. James Fall Festival is this weekend, and they are looking for as many volunteers as possible. Any students who are interested in helping for service hours, please see Ms. Dapremont for more information.
- The undefeated junior high football team competes in their last home game this evening. Gametime is scheduled for 5:30, so come out and support the Fighting Irish this evening.
- Tomorrow, we will have our next pep rally - the theme is "Boot the Bulldogs." Students may wear any type of Western-themed attire to school. Students may also wear jeans with any St. Patrick t-shirt. Students should follow the requirements of free dress days as outlined in the student handbook.