

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, November 9, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Stop making my Father's house a marketplace. (John 2:16)

What comes to mind when you hear the word "home"? Perhaps you think of rest, security, or comfort, or maybe the freedom to be yourself. So imagine if you came home one day and found it had been turned into a movie theater or a car wash or a bank. Imagine if strangers were coming and going, not to find rest, but to conduct business. It wouldn't feel like home at all!

This may help us understand what Jesus felt when he confronted the merchants in the Temple. He wasn't condemning them for doing their job. People needed to buy animals for sacrifice and to change money. He just didn't want them doing it in the Temple. This was his Father's house, and it was his home too.

We, too, are God's temples, and our hearts have been made to find their deepest happiness in him alone (1 Corinthians 3:16). You could say that our hearts have been made to be at home with God. When we let other concerns or occupations crowd out the Lord, we lose the security and freedom that come from being with him. But when we put God first, we find the peace we long for. We are ruled by the Holy Spirit instead of by temptations, our emotions, or whatever life is throwing at us.

Of course, being God's temple doesn't mean that we can't find joy in the natural world. Think of the joy of the birth of a child or think of the satisfaction you feel in a job well done. Those are gifts and blessings, given by a loving Father, and he delights in seeing us receive them happily.

It's a good thing we have the Holy Spirit to help us establish the right priorities! When we need some "housecleaning," we can be sure that the Spirit will speak gently to our consciences—insistently, if necessary, but always gently.

So preserve your time with the Lord in prayer. Treasure it, and be vigilant in guarding it. It's in prayer, most of all, that we can keep our "temple" clean and prevent it from getting overrun.

"Father, thank you for making me your temple. Help me to put you first so that I can find my home in you."

Today's Announcements:

- We will celebrate Mass tomorrow morning - students, remember to wear blazers and ties.
- The weight room will be open after school Mondays through Thursdays from 3:00 until 4:00 for all football players who are not currently participating in winter sports.
- St. Patrick will hold an ACT Workshop the weekend of November 12 and 13. If you're interested in attending any of the three sections (math, science, and/or English), see Mrs. Tavel in room 100.

- The varsity boys cross country team finished eighth at the state meet this past weekend. The Irish were led by Cade Meyers with his fifth place finish. Rounding out the top finishers for the team were Austin Dossett, Dylan Middleton, Jack Dent, Griffen Broussard, Jack McKee, and Spencer Wingfield. Congratulations to the boys cross country team for a great meet and a great season!
- National Honor Society, please pay your dues as soon as possible and bring your canned food.
- FCA members should stop by Coach Dellenger's room to pick up the Disciple Cross order form sheet. FCA members should sell three or more.
- Ms. Wilkinson needs to see the six students who will attend the ACE competition this Saturday. Please allow these students to see Ms. Wilkinson immediately after announcements.
- Seniors, Friday, November 18, will be your college t-shirt day. Seniors may wear jeans and a college t-shirt next Friday, and we will take a picture for the yearbook!
- Quiz Bowl practices begin today and on Wednesdays before or after school.
- There will be an Interact Club meeting after school today in the auditorium.
- Online shopping for the Scholastic Book Fair begins today - check the St. Patrick website or library for more information.
- Good luck to the junior high boys and girls basketball teams as they travel to West Wortham today to compete against the Bulldogs.
- We would like to congratulate both the boys and girls varsity basketball teams on their victories last night against Vancleave. The varsity girls team won 42 to 18, and the varsity boys team won 41 to 38. Thank you all of the students and fans who came out to support the teams last night!