

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, December 16, 2016

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. (John 1:14)*

The date: December 1223. The place: Greccio, Italy. The problem: a man living in poverty lamenting that his town's observance of Christmas had become overshadowed by materialism. Distraught, the man did something extreme. He gathered some friends together, along with some livestock, and re-created the scene at the manger. It was a moving experience for many people, and over the years, the practice spread across the world. The man was St. Francis of Assisi, and the practice—which every parish around the world has since adopted—was the traditional nativity scene.

About six hundred years later, a priest in France was so full of joy at the sight of a nativity scene that he found his heart melting. "Who can describe the joy of the feast of Christmas?" he asked. Then, moved by the Holy Spirit, he wrote a homily that described three acts of humility that were at the heart of this great feast.

The first act of humility was God's plan for his Son to take on our human nature and become a man like us in all things but sin. The second act of humility was Jesus coming to us as a helpless baby entrusted to the care of two human beings. The third act of humility was God's decision to have his Son born into poverty. That priest was St. John Vianney, known as the patron of all priests.

As Christians celebrate Jesus' birth, let's follow the example of these two great saints. Let's fix our eyes on the baby Jesus and make him the first priority of our day. Let's carve out some private time with him in prayer before all the celebrations begin. Maybe you can even gather the family and pray together.

And let's contemplate God's humility and his magnificent plan for us—a plan that was grounded in what is unquestionably the most dramatic act of humility ever.

*"O come, let us adore him!"*

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### Today's Announcements:

- We will have exams in sixth and seventh period classes today. Students, we wish you all the best on your exams today.
- We will have a break between your exams today, and the concession stand will be open.
- Girls golf tryouts will be held on January 6 and 7 at Dogwood Hills Golf Course. There is a sign-up sheet on the school website.

- We would like to congratulate the girls 8th grade basketball team on their victory last night against Woolmarket. We won 31 to 13. Players of the game were Ali Ware, Jasmine Stawarski, Kelsey Descher, and Madi Bentz. Congratulations girls!
- Teachers, please have all trash outside your room by 12:30 p.m. today.
- We wish everyone a Merry Christmas - enjoy time and memories with your family and friends this Christmas season. As always, strive to make a positive difference in the lives of others.