

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Monday, December 5, 2016

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Some men brought on a stretcher a man who was paralyzed. (Luke 5:18)

From now until Christmas, many people will be rushing around—and you will likely be one of them. There's the shopping, the gift wrapping, the special dinners, and the planning. The list goes on and on.

But right now, just for a few minutes, try to set all that aside. Take a deep breath, and place yourself in today's Gospel reading. You're trying to push your way into a house filled with people so that you can hear Jesus. From behind, you hear voices and see some men carrying a man on a stretcher. Then they disappear.

What in the world is happening? They're climbing onto the roof and removing some of the tiles. To your amazement, they lower the stretcher down through the opening, right in front of Jesus. These men didn't let anything keep them back. As a reward for their faith, Jesus pronounces forgiveness over their friend and heals him (Luke 5:18, 20).

Over the next few weeks, you'll more likely grapple with a crowd of shoppers than a crowd of disciples. But perhaps a different kind of crowd has been subtly gathering in your mind and heart. This crowd could include anxious thoughts or items on your to-do list. Or perhaps a complex relationship crowds your mind and saps your energy. Or maybe you're just exhausted. Wouldn't it be wonderful if someone came along and carried you to Jesus?

There is someone. In fact, there are many—the Holy Spirit, the saints and angels, and your family and friends. We like to go it alone, but the simple truth is, we need each other! Whether our struggles are large or small, we need our spiritual family to pick us up and help us out.

The next time you catch yourself in a fretful moment, pray, "Come, Holy Spirit." When a difficult relationship causes some hardship, let a friend know in a text message. Some people carry a rosary in their pocket as a reminder that Mary is always near. Small gestures like these remind us that help is available to us every day. We don't have to wait until we're stretched out on our backs to receive it.

"Jesus, thank you for my family and friends. Show me how to ask for—and offer—help today."

Today's Announcements:

- Santa Grams are now on sale! Send a special message and Christmas stocking filled with goodies to your friends, family and teachers. The cost is \$3 for one or \$5 for two. See Mrs. Tavel, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Gollott, Ms. Cody, Mrs. Worrel, or any of the four junior class officers to purchase your Santa gram today!
- Everyone is invited to the St. Patrick Band Christmas Concert this evening beginning at 6:00 p.m.

- The Exemplification Admission Degree into the Knights of Columbus in honor of Bishop Morin will take place on Saturday, December 10, at St. Ann's Parish Hall on Hwy 53 in Lizana beginning at 2:00 p.m.
- We would like to congratulate the girls varsity basketball team on their victory Friday night against Vancleave. We won 48-24. Players of the game were Anna Claire Colson, Mary Beth Tubb, Olivia Allen, and Lillie Guida. Congratulations Girls!
- Congratulations to the varsity boys soccer team, who won the soccer tournament this past weekend, which consisted of nine schools. Our varsity boys soccer record is currently ten wins and three ties.

The junior high boys team did great with one win, one tie, and one loss. The girls played well also and won one game. We are into a great soccer season already - thanks to everyone who came out to the games and supported your Fighting Irish soccer teams.

- Any Interact Club member who would like a service hour, please sign up to bring in a board game with Mrs. Lawson or Ms. Moon, or bring in a filled (with candy and toys) Christmas stocking by Friday, December 9.
- Congratulations to the Drama Guild for an outstanding performance this past weekend. Those who are supposed to help with storage this afternoon are reminded to be there.
- All members for robotics have a meeting after school today in room 202.