

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, January 5, 2017

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers. (1 John 3:16)*

Have you ever perched at the edge of a cool, clear lake on a hot day and searched for the courage to jump in?

Sometimes it feels hard to take that step because you know how cold the water is. You may find yourself stuck in indecision: standing on the edge of the lake, uncomfortable from the heat, but not sure you want to take the plunge.

We can feel the same way when we think about restoring a broken relationship. Today's first reading encourages us to repair these relationships—but it's not always easy. You want to plunge forward into healing, but the anticipated chill makes it hard to take that initial leap. You may also be so used to the discomfort in the relationship that it seems better to stay that way.

But is that what you really want? Do you want to remain divided, carrying around the weight of that separation? What about the wounded memories from whatever caused the split? It doesn't have to be that way. Jesus came to bring healing and forgiveness—not just between God and us, but also among all of our relationships.

John goes so far as to tell us that Jesus' cross is how we come to know love itself: the witness of an innocent man laying down his life for us (1 John 3:16). And that love has the power to melt our hearts. For just as Jesus laid down his life for us, so he can help us to lay down our anger, resentment, or bitterness toward other people.

Start there. Think of one relationship that needs healing. Pray for that person, and ask God to change the way you think about him or her. He may lead you to take a big leap, like calling that person on the phone and apologizing. Or he may ask you to enter the water slowly by trying to think a little more kindly about this person. Whatever God calls you to do may feel difficult, but ask for the courage to do it. And remember, those refreshing waters of forgiveness await you!

*"Lord, help me seek peace in my relationships. Give me the grace and courage to take the plunge toward healing."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- French Honor Society is now accepting applications. Applications are based on GPA and are due Wednesday, January 11, to Ms. Alexander in room 206. See Ms. Alexander to learn about eligibility for the society and pick up an application.
- Due to the weather outlook for this Friday and Saturday, girls Golf Tryouts are moved to Friday, January 13, and Saturday, January 14.
- Students attending March for Life need to see Ms. Cloud today about your shirt size.

- Track sign ups for both junior high and varsity will start next Monday through Friday. See Coach Dellenger in room 108 to sign up.