

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, February 10, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

People brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment. (Mark 7:32)

One night, Febin Bellamy, a student at Washington's Georgetown University, exchanged a nod with the janitor who cleaned the study room. From that, a friendship developed and, with it, Febin's awareness of the employees who keep Georgetown running. Bus drivers, custodians, food service workers—each person had a story, Febin discovered, and deserved to be noticed and appreciated. So he decided to introduce these behind-the-scenes workers to other students by interviewing them and posting their stories online.

On his "Unsung Heroes" website (unsung-hero.org), you meet a man named Tracey, whose father was hit by a car and killed in a crosswalk. A university crossing guard, he keeps Georgetown students safe in memory of his dad. You hear Oneil, Febin's janitor friend, speak of his faith in God and his dream of starting a catering business. Georgetown students responded with a fundraiser to help him do that. You meet Suru, a food-service worker from South Sudan. On learning that he hadn't seen his family in forty-five years, students surprised him with the money to cover the cost of a visit. Today, Unsung Heroes continues as an organization that aims at "making visible the Invisibles" and giving them a voice.

In today's Gospel we also meet people who give a voice to the voiceless. They are, presumably, the relatives and friends of the man who couldn't hear or speak (Mark 7:32). What a service they performed by bringing him to Jesus and begging for his healing! Without their intercession, this man would have gone unnoticed, his needs unspoken and unmet.

Imagine how life-changing his healing must have been! With a voice of his own, he could lead a more peaceful life, share his experience with friends, and speak up for other "Invisibles."

God wants all of us to notice the invisible people around us. Unborn children, shut-ins, the unemployed or underpaid, prisoners, those trapped in poverty or a war zone . . . Is there someone whose need stirs our heart? Someone to bring to Jesus in intercessory prayer? Someone to speak up for? Don't hesitate—make them known!

"Jesus, help me to notice the unnoticed, speak for the voiceless, and share your love with all."

Today's Announcements:

- We are looking forward to our first ACT Boost Seminar today for all juniors and sophomores.
- We wish our ninth graders all the best on their spiritual retreat today. We will call for ninth grade students to be dismissed shortly.
- Students, be sure to give the registration packets you received to your parents. These may be returned to Ms. Dapremont at the front desk anytime. Ms. Wilkinson, Mr. Gruich, and Mr. Buckley will meet with students in March to review course selection requests for next year.

- Attention all boys golf team - practice will be held Monday from 3:30 to 5:00. If it is raining, still plan on practice, only it will be in Mr. Hewes' classroom.
- Any sophomore who needs to turn in Valentine money or candy, please see Mrs. Trahan before you leave today. Students may still purchase Valentine grams from Mrs. Trahan during the day today.