

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, February 24, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Looking at him, Jesus felt a love for him and said to him, "One thing you lack: go and sell all you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." (Mark 10:21)

God is omniscient—he sees everything. Nothing is veiled to him, not even our hidden sins. This truth might make us apprehensive. But in reality, we should rejoice! Because, not only is God all-knowing, but he is also all-loving! More than seeing our sins, he is on the lookout for every sign of virtue in us.

This verse from Mark gives us a wonderful illustration of this point. As the rich young man rattles off all of his virtuous habits, Jesus looks at him with great love. He approves and even applauds all that this man has accomplished in his spiritual life. But then his penetrating gaze fixes on the one thing that is holding this man back: his attachment to his possessions. Only by giving them away can he find true freedom.

For his part, the young man recognizes the truth of Jesus' analysis but seems unwilling to act on it. So he turns away sad. We never learn what happens next, but we do know that Jesus' words found a home in him. Who knows? Maybe he eventually returned to become a disciple!

As you spend time with Jesus in prayer today, let him look on you with love. Let him recount all the good he sees in you. He knows how hard you try. He knows how faithful you are to your family and friends, to your job and to your parish. He hears and remembers every prayer you have ever lifted up to him. He feels everything that hurts in your body and your spirit. Now let him show you how precious you are to him.

Then take a further step. Let Jesus put his finger on one thing you may treasure more than him—one thing that may be holding you back. Perhaps money has become too important to you. Perhaps you are caught in a persistent habit of sin, or you are nursing a grudge that you are having a hard time giving up. Join Jesus in looking these stumbling blocks in the face. Let go of them. Let Jesus, who loves you, encourage you and show you the way of healing and hope he is providing for you.

"Jesus, thank you for knowing me and loving me. I place all my hope in you."

Today's Announcements:

- Today is the last day to donate to Pennies for Patients!
- The interact club will be collecting Mardi Gras beads starting the day we return from Mardi Gras break. The collection will take place from March 1st-March 8th, so save your beads after the parades. This will help fund the Bethel Free Health Clinic. The first period class with the most beads collected will win a king cake.
- The cast and all crew of *Disco Inferno* are reminded to go to the theater immediately after school to get ready for pictures.

- Have a great Mardi Gras break - classes will resume on Wednesday. We will have an Ash Wednesday service next Wednesday afternoon.