

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, March 8, 2017

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*God saw by their actions how they turned from their evil way. (Jonah 3:10)*

If you want proof that actions speak louder than words, you don't have to look any further than the story of Jonah. God had sent Jonah to preach God's judgment against the people of Nineveh. Upon hearing Jonah's words, the king declared a fast of repentance for himself and all his subjects. And seeing their response, God forgave the people and spared their city. He did it because the Ninevites didn't just say they were sorry; they took action to show their intention to change.

This story gives us some insights into the Sacrament of Reconciliation, especially the value of "doing penance." The Church teaches that the sacrament is not complete until we have shown the Lord that we intend to change—through an act of penance. It isn't that God doubts our contrition. Rather, he knows that true contrition shows itself in our attempt to make amends and avoid situations that lead us to sin. Our actions outside the confessional speak louder—and more eloquently—than our words inside.

Does this mean that in addition to confessing our sins, we still have to work in order to receive forgiveness? Yes and no. A better way to say it is that we need to respond when the Holy Spirit calls us to change. At its heart, both conviction of sin and the desire for God's forgiveness are the Spirit's work. But that conviction is more like an invitation than a wave of a magic wand. We still need to own up to our sin, confess it to the Lord, and show him that we want to change.

So yes, it's up to us to confess our sins and do penance. It's up to us to change our actions so that they correspond to our words. But it's also up to God to change our hearts and to give us grace to help us make these changes.

The good news is that God loves to do this! He wants to bring us into new life. He wants to give us a share in his power and his grace to start over. That's a great deal!

*"Holy Spirit, pierce my heart so that my repentance bears fruit in action."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- The Blessing of the Fleet and Shrimp Festival will take place June 2 - 4. Applications for Shrimp Queen are at the front desk - the deadline is April 1.
- There will be a high school dance in the cafeteria on March 11 from 7pm to 9pm.
- Mu Alpha Theta members have a meeting after school this Thursday in room 100. It will not take but about ten minutes once everyone arrives and we call roll.

- Resurrection High School and surrounding parishes will be hosting a Lenten Youth Rally event, called *Godstock*, on Wednesday, March 22. The event will feature artists from the Vigil Project. See Ms. Dapremont to pick up a flyer with more information.
- Any girls who want to play volleyball next year should meet with Mrs. Trahan in her classroom Friday morning at 7:45. This year's senior players are also asked to attend. Tryouts and camps will be discussed.
- St. Patrick will be hosting the Junior High Track Invitational Meet this Thursday. Varsity track members are asked to assist with the field events, and service hours will be available. See Coach Dellenger to sign up.
- The Lady Irish Golf Team took second place in the St. Martin Golf Tournament today out of seven teams. The rain held out as Paige Gibson, Andre Huguenin, Gracie Hawkins and Isabel Alexander played great rounds to lift the team. Paige Gibson lead the Irish with a third place overall finish followed closely by fourth place by Andrea Huguenin. The girls have a short break and will be back in action March 23.
- Teachers please leave your Mardis Gras beads outside your door by seventh period. The Interact officers will be going around picking up your boxes immediately after school today.
- The Interact meeting after school today will be held in Ms. Lawson's room.
- Every person attending Bayou Regional needs to stop by and see Mrs. Worrel today in room 202.
- Congratulations to the Boys Golf Team for finishing yesterday's tournament at Diamondhead. Jacob Futch led the Irish with the team low score and Robby Waltz was a near 2nd. Eighth grader, Keegan Cuevas and junior, Carson Bishop, shot their best rounds *ever* in a major tournament, and Kane Palazzo rounded out the field of Irish golfers by playing in his first tournament of his very young and promising career. Practice for the whole team today after school at Grand Bear.