

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, March 21, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full. (Matthew 18:26)

A man struggling during hard economic times receives two envelopes in the mail. One contains an offer to consolidate his debt into lower monthly payments. The other contains notification that he has won ten million dollars in a lottery. He sighs, throws the lottery notification in the trash, and begins getting his paperwork ready for his loan modification.

Doesn't this sound absurd? But this is essentially what the unmerciful servant does in today's Gospel. When his master confronts him about the massive amount of money he owes, all he asks for is more time to pay back the debt. It doesn't even dawn on him to ask for anything else. His imagination is too limited: debts had to be paid. So it's no wonder that he would apply this strict standard to a fellow servant who owed him a small amount of money. Rules are rules, and they must be followed!

Here's some good news: We've won the lottery! In Christ, all of our sins are wiped away—completely. When we come to him in repentance, he doesn't just give us more time to make up for our sins. He doesn't give us a list of suggestions and one more chance to redeem ourselves. No, he casts our sins away from us, "as far as the east is from the west" (Psalm 103:12). He washes away our failures and puts us on the path of freedom and victory. And he promises to walk with us, helping us along the way.

Take some time today to ponder your heavenly Father's generosity. Let the Holy Spirit expand your imagination so that you can envision the possibility of complete forgiveness, the hope of every spiritual debt being canceled with no questions asked. Let this promise soak into your heart and transform the way you think. The more you understand God's radical gift of mercy, the easier it will be for you to forgive the people around you. Don't make the same mistake that the unmerciful servant made! Look to your merciful Father, and you will become merciful yourself.

"Father, shower me with your mercy today! Let me absorb deeply the forgiveness you have given me, and help me to be just as merciful toward the people in my life."

Today's Announcements:

- Prom Tickets - See Mrs. Tavel after school to purchase or if you have any questions. Outside guest forms are due to Mr. Buckley's office by Wednesday, March 29.
- National Junior Honor Society members, please turn in all of your Easter basket items to Mrs. Gollott by Friday.
- Student Council is collecting old t-shirts for our service project for our upcoming conference. If students or staff members have old shirts you no longer want, please donate them to Mrs. Buckley's room. We greatly appreciate it!

- Our final student council meeting before the state conference is Thursday morning at 7:30am. This is mandatory for all members and there will be no excused absences.
- Sophomores and Juniors: If you were accepted to Governor's School, you need to see Ms. Wilkinson immediately after announcements today.
- In yesterday's junior high track meet, the top finishers were...Leila Ransonet, sixth in hurdles; Jonathan Galle, fifth in high jump; Dominic Patino, fifth in 1600m run; Quinlan Pisciotta, fourth in 400m run. St. Patrick will be hosting the varsity track meet this Thursday.
- The junior high baseball team defeated Pass Christian last night with a score of 7 to 5. Players of the game were Dawson Sandridge, Justin Holder, Blake Gollott and Vincent Pisciotta. We host Pass Christian Thursday at home.
- The quiz bowl A team won two of three matches in Biloxi last night, ranking them second for the season. They will compete in the final four here at St. Patrick next Monday. Our two-member B team participated in joint play with Pascagoula's B team winning two of three matches. Quiz Bowl A team will have practice before or after school tomorrow.