

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. (Matthew 5:17)

Sometimes we think that Jesus came to earth carrying a big eraser, and that when he redeemed us, he simply wiped out all the regulations of the Old Testament.

But just because he accused some of the Pharisees of being too legalistic, we shouldn't think that his approach to the Law of Moses was the exact opposite of theirs. On the contrary, Jesus told us that he came to uphold the Law and he said that the least transgression against the Law makes us "least" in his kingdom!

Jesus didn't say these words to condemn us or discourage us. He said them to save us. Jesus came to bring new life, but in order to experience that life, we need to follow his commandments. Like parents who are trying to keep their children out of trouble, Jesus warns us to be vigilant against sin. He knows that giving into temptation will make us anything but happy.

How blessed we are that Jesus is with us in our struggles! He doesn't just issue warnings from afar; he helps us to root out sin wherever it shows up. By examining our consciences daily, we can ensure that sin doesn't gain a foothold in our hearts. As we look back at our day each evening, we can ask the Holy Spirit to show us how we may have strayed from God's truth. Then, bringing our failings into the light of God's love, we can experience his mercy, and we can get a clearer sense of how we can do better next time.

It has been said that if we want to move mountains, we have to start by carrying away small stones, and that's certainly true with sin. If we keep fighting the daily battles against little temptations, asking for God's help every time we're tested, we will soon start to make great progress. If we give every area of our lives over to him—even those hidden, dark corners—he will give us all the grace we need to live victoriously, even to become "greatest" in the kingdom of heaven!

"Lord Jesus, thank you for dying on the cross so that I can know real freedom from sin and become the man or woman you have called me to be!"

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 7:30 a.m. This is mandatory for all members and there will be no excused absences.