

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, May 12, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

We ourselves are proclaiming this good news to you. (Acts 13:32)

Do you recognize this story? Most likely, you do. In these few verses, through his account of St. Paul's preaching, Luke has penned the heart of the gospel message. He managed to cram years of Jesus' ministry into a few short sentences—along with a backdrop, a plot, and a climax!

Let's see . . . Jesus came to the people he and his Father created, but we didn't recognize him. Though he was an innocent man, we condemned him to die a criminal's death. He was crucified and buried in a tomb sealed by a large stone. But God raised him from the dead to be the fulfillment of his promises and the answer to our prayers. That's the "word of salvation," or the gospel, in a nutshell (Acts 13:26).

It's pretty simple, isn't it? In fact, it's easy enough that probably anyone could recount this story. And that's exactly the point. We can all be witnesses to this joyfully simple plan of redemption. We can all respond to the call to evangelize. But sometimes it can feel pretty hard to get those words out of our mouths, even when the perfect opportunity presents itself. Why is that?

One of the most common reasons is that we doubt our effectiveness. We wonder whether we can make the gospel attractive enough or persuasive enough to convince someone to receive it. We may get so anxious that we don't say anything at all! But the soul-tugging power of the gospel doesn't come from us. Yes, we need to share the truth as we have come to know it, but only God himself is in charge of changing someone's heart. It's only by a work of his grace that someone is moved to open his or her heart to the Lord. Only the Spirit of God can drive the point home, not our eloquent words. What a huge relief!

So always remember that you don't have to be a theologian or a priest or religious to share the gospel. All you have to be is open and available to proclaim the simple message and then to leave the heavy lifting to God.

"Lord, fill me so full of your love that I overflow with the good news of the gospel."

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Today's Announcements:

- We would like to Wish Coach Dellenger a Happy Birthday! He will be celebrating his birthday tomorrow.
- Campus Ministry Applications are due today.

- This Saturday is our Spring Blood Drive from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. We encourage students to make an appointment and come donate blood. Students who are sixteen years old and older may donate. We encourage you to speak with family and friends about making a blood donation. Every pint of blood is able to help save three lives. Please see Baylee Hodge, Mrs. Lawson or Mrs. Worrel to make an appointment.
- All Senior textbooks must be returned by Tuesday, May 16.
- Senior Mu Alpha Theta Members: In order for you to receive your Mu Alpha Theta cords for graduation, you must have completed the four tutoring sessions that were required. If you have not done so, or if you do not know if you have done so, you must see Mrs. Tavel this week. There will be a requirement from you to compensate for not fulfilling this obligation.
- There will be a drama guild meeting on Monday at 3:05 in the auditorium for awards for both productions.