

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, August 17, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

The people struck their tents to cross the Jordan, with the priests carrying the ark of the covenant. (Joshua 3:14)

Imagine that you are one of the people chosen to bear the ark in today's first reading. For hours on end, you have been standing in the riverbed, shouldering the ark of the covenant as thousands of people pass by. Estimates vary widely, but many scholars believe that the ark weighed between 300 and 400 pounds—and that was without the two tablets of the Law! So if one of the people passing by were to ask you, "What is God like?" you might shout back, "He's heavy!"

Actually, theologians really do speak of the "weightiness" of God. In fact, the Hebrew word for glory, *kabod*, can also be translated as "weight." Of course, you can't measure God on a scale. Instead, by weightiness they mean that all the intelligence, strength, glory, and mercy in the whole universe are infinitely concentrated within him. God has no beginning, and he has no end. As Creator, he holds up the entire cosmos with a single word (Hebrews 1:3). As the "Lamb of God," he is able to wipe away the sins of the whole world (John 1:29).

It's no wonder that the angels and saints behold God's majesty and throw themselves at his feet, proclaiming, "Give him glory" (Revelation 19:7).

We earthlings can taste a little bit of God's weightiness. We can marvel at the vastness of the night sky. We can stand on the ocean shore or beside a huge mountain and feel tiny in comparison. We can look into the eyes of others and discover God's infinite riches and wonder.

Have you ever experienced the "weightiness" of God's love for you? It's heavy enough to outweigh all of your anxieties and frustrations. Even better, it's unlimited. Try to get a taste of this love, right now. Be still. See Jesus looking into your eyes with a smile and putting his hands on your shoulder. Remember: these hands unfurled the galaxies! They were also pierced for you. What do you think he wants to say to you right now? Don't be afraid to use your imagination. He is with you right now, mighty in glory but tender in love.

"Lord, show me the weight of your love today."

Today's Announcements:

- Thank you to everyone who came to our Meet the Teacher Night yesterday evening.
- Come out and support your Lady Irish volleyball team as they take on Pass Christian at home this evening!

- Today is the Club Showcase. During all lunches, students can look at the information for all the clubs and organizations you can join here at St. Patrick. Please take a look at what you may be interested in, and get involved today!
- St. Patrick car tags are still on sale. Have your parents purchase one before tomorrow and you will be able to wear jeans and your spirit t-shirt every Friday for the first semester. This starts tomorrow.
- Student drivers, make sure you have a parking decal when parking on campus. They may be picked up at the front desk. Everyone who parks on campus must have a decal - if you do not have one by tomorrow, you will no longer be permitted to park on campus.
- The Back to School Dance for students in ninth through twelfth grades is this Saturday from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The theme for the dance is Luau and anyone attending who would like to bring an outside guest must fill out a form and return it by today. Forms will not be accepted after today.
- Next Monday, we will be allowing time for students, faculty, and staff to view the Great American Solar Eclipse during the school day. This event is being called “The Great American Solar Eclipse” because it is the first time since 1918 a solar eclipse will be visible on a path across the entire continental United States. We have purchased certified eclipse-safe viewing glasses for students, faculty, and staff. Students must return the permission form by Friday to your first period teacher in order to participate.