

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, August 18, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Does not your teacher pay the temple tax? (Matthew 17:24)

When the Temple tax collectors cornered Peter, Jesus didn't take the time to dispute with them. By all rights, Jesus could have refused to pay the tax, but he didn't want to get pulled into their petty drama. His mission as well as the focus of all his attention was his upcoming passion, death, and resurrection. So instead of taking the time to prove himself right in the matter, Jesus sent Peter to catch a fish, retrieve a coin, and pay the tax. He had bigger fish to fry!

We can all think of examples of petty disputes: two members of the parish council can't agree on the right shade of purple for the new Lenten banners; a father becomes disappointed with a choice his daughter makes; two friends bicker over something so minor. Is one opinion always better than the other? Maybe. But refusing to bend caused everyone to lose the bigger picture, and the result was division and bitterness. And that made it harder for the love of God to shine.

Sometimes it's best to keep the bigger picture in view. Sometimes we just have to let things go, even if we're "right." Are you loving God with your whole heart? Are you loving your neighbor as yourself? Is the other person trying to do the same? In the end, those are the only questions worth asking.

Imagine how God deals with us. He can see every one of our faults and failings, but he doesn't bring every detail to our attention all at once. Instead, he focuses on one area at a time, slowly polishing our rough edges. He'll get to everything in his own time, starting with the most important. You never know; maybe those Temple tax collectors ended up embracing the gospel because Jesus refused to be baited into an argument.

So stay focused on what's most important. Focus on love, even when you disagree. Pray for those who contradict you. Let God smooth the rough edges. He knows how to sort things out!

"Jesus, thank you for your patience with me. Help me to be patient with other people. Teach me to focus on loving them instead of correcting them. I trust you to work out the details."

Today's Announcements:

- Happy Birthday to Braden Barton and Anne Lafferty who celebrate their birthdays today and also to Mason McCullough who will celebrate his birthday on Sunday.

- 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.
- 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 today to your first period teacher in order to participate.
- Attention seventh graders: class officer election applications are now available in the front office. Positions available are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Applications are due Wednesday by 3:30 to Mrs. Buckley in room 200 and a meeting for all those running will be immediately after school on Wednesday in room 200. Student Council is looking forward to welcoming seventh grade leaders into our organization!
- Interact Club sign ups and voting for Officers for grades 9-12 will take place Wednesday, August 23, after school in the auditorium. Please bring \$5.00 for the fee to sign up. Sign up for students in seventh and eighth grades will take place Wednesday, August 23, in room 215; there are no fees for junior high students.