

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, August 29, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

We urge you, brothers and sisters, to progress even more. (1 Thessalonians 4:10)

A worker building a cathedral may perform a single task over and over again. Repeatedly putting one stone on top of another or filling one wheelbarrow after the next can get monotonous over time. It's easy for him to miss the importance of his work until he steps back to view the project taking shape. Similarly, it's easy to forget that every little action of ours matters to the Lord. Each one plays an important part in his great, intricate plan for his creation.

This is St. Paul's message when he urges the Thessalonians to "progress even more" (1 Thessalonians 4:10). It's as if he's saying, "Take a look at the big picture to see what you have already done. See the work that is left to do, and let it inspire you to keep going." He then offers some practical suggestions, including the command to work with their hands.

What difference does the work of our hands make in God's kingdom? Don't we build the kingdom through prayer and spiritual sacrifices?

Well, partly. Through our work we join God in building a just and peaceful society on earth. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "man participates in the work of creation" through his labor (CCC, 2460). There is great dignity in even the most menial of jobs: we become co-creators with the Lord. Who knew that labor could be so cosmic?

Sometimes, though, our everyday work doesn't feel impressive. In fact, it can feel oppressive at times. That's when we need to remember that Jesus is with us. He took ordinary bread and made it his Body. He took everyday wine—"fruit of the vine and work of human hands"—and turned it into his saving Blood. Surely he can take our ordinary work and transform it as well! In his hands, a load of laundry can become an expression of love for our family. In his hands, our day job becomes a divinely ordained way for us to cultivate our talents and develop a servant's heart.

Progressing in your faith doesn't necessarily mean doing more spiritual exercises. Often it just means doing what you already do—small everyday things—with the love of Christ in the forefront of your mind.

"Father, I give you my day. May my work today bring you glory!"

Today's Announcements:

- Our junior varsity and varsity volleyball teams compete tonight against St. Martin starting at 5:30 in St Martin.

- There will be a dance team parent meeting tonight at 5:00 in the auditorium
- Student Council Representative applications are available for seventh graders in the main office. They are due by tomorrow at 3:30 to Mrs. Buckley in room 200. There will be a campaign rules meeting after school tomorrow. If you ran for class officer and did not get elected, you may still run for representative!
- Lost and found is now listed on the school website, so if you are searching for something you have lost just go to www.stpatrickhighschool.net/lost-and-found. Then pick it up from Mrs. Collier at the front desk.
- Juniors, class ring orders will be taken Wednesday, August 30, during lunch. Please bring your deposit of \$60. Extra brochures may be picked up in the front office.
- National Honor Society - sophomores, your applications are due today. Also, officers will be in the cafeteria during third lunch to collect dues.
- Drama applications and dues need to be turned in as soon as possible. Students wishing to run for office must turn in dues and applications by Wed afternoon. Drama students who have paid dues will vote for officers on Thursday.
- The French club will host officer elections this Friday before school at 7:45. Anyone interested in running should see Ms. Alexander in room 206 to get information about positions and register for the elections. Everyone must pay \$5 dues by Friday in order to vote or run.
- There will be a Mu Alpha Theta meeting today after school see Mrs. Tavel in room 100. Anyone who wishes to run for an officer position should be prepared to give a short statement.
- All cross country runners should turn in concussion forms to Ms. Alexander in room 206 no later than Friday.