

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*How often must I forgive? (Matthew 18:21)*

In his very first Sunday homily as the Holy Father, Pope Francis proclaimed, "This is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy" (March 17, 2013). Since that day, he has repeated over and over the marvelous truth that God's mercy has no bounds. That's precisely the problem with the heartless servant in today's Gospel: his mercy had limited, clearly defined boundaries.

How boundless is God's mercy? The best way to answer that is to consider what our lives would be like without it. Imagine a world with no tenderness, no forgiveness, no compassion. Imagine being bound in your sin and selfishness, your guilt and shame, with no way out. Now imagine God sacrificing himself not only to rescue you, but to offer you the promise of eternal life with him in heaven. That's how boundless his mercy is. That's how deeply he loves you.

Struck by the depth of God's love, how can we do anything but bow down to him in worship and show that

same mercy to the people around us?

Mercy is not just an abstract idea or a nice theory. It's a concrete reality. It's not just a message that we can choose to live out when it's convenient for us. God's mercy for us is meant to be at the heart of how we think and act toward each other. It's meant to be the characteristic that sets us apart in a world caught up in self-righteousness, division, and unforgiveness. It's the best way we can reveal God's love and invite people to taste it themselves.

Peter asked Jesus, "How often must I forgive?" (Matthew 18:21). He was looking for a solid number of times, after which he was off the hook. He was asking about the rules. But for the one who has grasped the depths of God's mercy, rules and limits no longer matter.

May we all taste this mercy more deeply today so that we can become more merciful as well.

*"Thank you, Jesus, for showering me with your love. Lord, help me to be more merciful."*

### Today's Announcements:

- Happy Birthday to Anna K Fore and Dominic Patino today!
- Homecoming shirts are now on sale for \$15. If you did not receive an order form, more are in the front office. Please return the form and payment to the front office.
- Irish Idol will be held during Homecoming Week. If you are interested in showing off your talent, please sign up by room 200 or room 214. Auditions will be held this Wednesday after school in the auditorium.
- Homecoming dance tickets are on sale in the front office and on the website for \$20 each. See Mrs. Collier. High school students who plan to attend the Homecoming Dance and would like to request permission to bring an

outside date must submit the form by Friday, September 15. Forms may be picked up at the front desk from Mrs. Collier or downloaded from the "Student Life" page of the school website. Approval will not be granted for forms not submitted by Friday.

- The St. Patrick Sailing Team will be hosting a Meet and Greet Party on Thursday, September 21, at 5:30 p.m. at the Gulfport Yacht Club. We would like to encourage all students and parents to attend - we will be discussing all aspects of the team and how it works. There will be free pizza and soft drinks! Sailing is open to all students in grades 7-12.
- The Interact Club meeting will take place Wednesday immediately after school in the auditorium. The Heart Walk and Cruisin' the Coast will be discussed.
- High school students (grades 9-12) will vote for Homecoming Queen and King this week. Ballots have been sent to your St. Patrick email address, so be sure to vote this week.
- All members of National Honor Society, please pay your dues by Friday. If you want a t-shirt, dues are \$15; if you do not, they are \$5. There is a mandatory meeting this Wednesday at 7:45 in the auditorium.
- Coach Dellenger will be having sign ups for the next two weeks for FCA. Dues are \$5 and voting for officers will take place in room 108 this week.
- Have you ever considered becoming a state senator or representative? Is there a law that you'd like to see changed? If you answered yes to any of the questions, you should consider joining Youth Legislature. Come learn more about it today after school at 3:05 p.m. with Mr. DeSalvo in room 103. Required paperwork will be distributed, so it is important to arrive on-time and stay for the duration of the meeting.
- Key Club and Big Buddy Officers need to sign out with Mrs. Whiteside after 6th period today and meet Mrs. Sutherlin at Our Lady of Fatima cafeteria to make sandwiches for St. Vincent de Paul.
- All members of the Homecoming Court need to turn in their biography sheets to Mrs. Trahan room 204 as soon as possible.
- Soccer conditioning for boys soccer will begin today after school at 3:20. Please bring your own water and meet at the track. All varsity, junior varsity, and junior high players are expected to be at conditioning unless competing in a fall sport with St. Patrick.
- There will be a junior class meeting after school Thursday in the auditorium. Please plan to attend so that you will be informed with all of the happenings for this year's fundraisers and prom. It will only last about ten minutes.
- Teachers, please pass out cafeteria statements during first period this morning. Students, you may pay your balances to Mrs. Collier at the front desk. All account balances should be kept below \$25. Starting next Monday, students with account balances greater than \$25 will not be able to continue charging.

