

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Seek what is above. (Colossians 3:1)

If Paul ever needed a second job, he could have easily found a position writing technical manuals. He could be clear and concise when he needed to, and he never minced his words. Just as a manual tells you how to use an appliance or piece of software, Paul tells us how to take hold of the new life that Jesus has won for us. It's as simple as ABC. Look to heaven, put off the "old self" and put on the "new self" (Colossians 3:9, 10). He even gives real-life examples of what the old self looks like so that we can identify it and deal with it—just like the illustrations in a user's manual!

If Paul is so clear on this theory, why can we sometimes feel muddled in our attempts to put it into practice? We want to overcome our old lives, but we can't seem to get very far.

One answer is that it takes time. We shouldn't think that all our sinful habits will go away overnight. That's why God has given us the gifts of Confession and the Eucharist. We need all the mercy we can get. We need the strength and grace that come from receiving Jesus in

his Body and Blood. We should never discount the power of these gifts—or our need for them!

But there is another answer. Paul was clear because he had worked this out in his own life. His clarity didn't come only from deep theological inquiry. It was also forged in the daily spiritual battle that he took up. Day after day, he strove to put off his old life of violence and pride. Day after day, he strove to put on the life of peace and humility that Jesus had won for him. Day after day, he strove to keep his eyes fixed on the Lord and his heavenly glory.

If we follow Paul's lead and take up the battle ourselves, our lives will change—slowly but surely. We will begin to sense the Holy Spirit encouraging us and convincing us of God's love. We will find ourselves reflecting it to the people around us.

So take your time, and keep seeking "what is above" (Colossians 3:1).

"Lord, I want to enter into the spiritual battle today. Jesus, teach me how to put off the 'old self' and take on the 'new self.'"

Today's Announcements:

- Homecoming shirts are on sale today until 3:00 p.m. 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 today after school in room 200, Mrs. Buckley
- 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 Interact Club meeting will take place today 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.
- There will be a junior class meeting after school tomorrow 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.
- 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.
- National Junior Honor Society invitations have been handed out. National Junior Honor Society is based on grades - students should have a minimum 3.0 GPA. Those interested should have their application packet returned to Mrs. Mays by 3:30 p.m. this Friday. If you are in eighth or ninth grade and feel that you should have gotten an invitation letter to join and didn't please see Mrs. Mays in room 205 as soon as possible.
- Students for Life will meet this Friday at 7:45 a.m. in Ms. Cloud's room 110 to elect officers. Dues must be paid to vote or run for office. If you are planning to run for office, you must be at this meeting and sign up by the end of the day today.
- Want to have fun for a good cause this weekend? This Sunday, September 17, come out to Banana's Mini Golf and Arcade for an all-day fundraiser for Hope Broadus. Seventy-five percent of the proceeds will go to help the Broadus family pay for medical and travel expenses. If you have any questions, or if you would like a flyer with more information, please see Elizabeth Van Horn.
- If you are an existing member of NJHS and would like to run for office please see Mrs. Mays in room 205 before 3:30 on Friday. You will need to turn in your name and the position you would like to run for. No late submissions will be accepted.