

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, September 22, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza . . . provided for them. (Luke 8:3)

We don't know much about Joanna, but we can glean a few things from this brief mention of her in today's Gospel. It's likely that she was well-off. Her husband, Chuza, was Herod's steward, which means he managed all of Herod's assets and property—a well-paying, important job to be sure. Joanna seemed to be a rather enterprising, independent woman herself. At least she was independent enough to feel free to spend her money supporting Jesus in his ministry.

So imagine this wealthy, self-sufficient woman making the transition from a comfortable home to life on the road. Imagine her giving up the security of her own bed and sleeping under the stars instead. Imagine her giving up her own servants and instead devoting herself to serving Jesus. Imagine too the risk she was taking. Remember, it was Herod, her husband's employer, who had arrested Jesus' kinsman John and had him beheaded. It was Herod who was fascinated by Jesus and who ultimately would hand him over to Pilate. How would Jesus' other disciples react to her joining their ranks?

But Joanna was so moved by Jesus that she willingly embraced a difficult and dangerous life in order to follow him. She had already experienced his healing touch (Luke 8:2), but it wasn't enough just to be restored and set free. She wanted to learn from him. She wanted to know God the way he did. She probably had many opportunities to go back and resume her old life, but she remained steadfast. Even when the disciples deserted Jesus in Gethsemane, Joanna stayed; she was one of a very small number of disciples who followed him all the way to Calvary (23:55).

In a way, we are all like Joanna. We may not want to give up our comfort in order to pray or to help the people around us. We may feel ill-equipped to be a true disciple. We may feel as if we don't fit in. But as Jesus welcomed Joanna and made a place for her, he will do the same for you. You might tell him, It's hard to follow you, but he responds, I know; let me help you. You might say, I don't belong, but he answers, You are always welcome in my house.

Don't ever disqualify yourself! You can make a difference.

"Jesus, make me your disciple."

Today's Announcements:

- Tyler Fulmer, Nevaeh Gilman, and Logan Ward will celebrate their birthdays this weekend, so we wish you a Happy Birthday!
- Happy Homecoming! We will have our Homecoming Family Picnic starting at 1:00 followed by our gameday pep rally at 2:00. We are adding a new tradition this year with a pregame tailgate at 5:30, and the big game starts at 7:00. Our 2017 Homecoming Maids will be presented at halftime.

Tomorrow, our Homecoming Dance will take place at the D'Iberville Community Club from 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Homecoming Beaus will be presented at 8:30. This dance is a high school dance - for students in grades 9-12. Homecoming dance tickets are on sale in the front office and on the website for \$20 each. Tickets will be \$25 at the door.

- Attention all high school students interested in Youth Legislature: paperwork and fees are due on Tuesday, September 26. Late forms and late fees will not be accepted, so be sure to submit these as soon as possible. If any high school student is still interested in going and does not yet have the paperwork, please see Mr. DeSalvo before the end of the day.
- The Fighting Irish junior high football team defeated Resurrection Catholic 27 to 0 last night moving to five wins and zero losses on the season. Running back SrDrick Taylor scored two rushing touchdowns and one receiving touchdown from quarterback Nick Krass. Krass also added a rushing touchdown early in the game. The Irish defense was led by a dominant performance by Hunter Lorenzo. Linebacker Anthony Mattina also added several tackles and Kaleb Chatman had an interception for the Irish. Your Fighting Irish will play next week at South Forrest. Go Irish!
- At tonight's game, we will be collecting donations for Hope Broadus and Mrs. Fountain; Mrs. Fountain is finishing her final chemo treatments in the next couple of weeks and Hope is recovering from surgery, and both need their Irish family's support!