

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord.

He is like a tree planted near running water, that yields its fruit in due season, and whose leaves never fade.

Whatever he does, prospers.

Blessed are they who hope in the Lord. (Psalm 1:3)

What a glorious promise—especially to the Jewish people who would have prayed this psalm! Remember, the Holy Land is a more arid region than where most of us live. The thought of lush vegetation growing along the banks of a babbling stream would have seemed almost exotic to them. So to say that the one who follows the Lord is like one of those trees is to say something powerful indeed!

While it's true that most of us live in more temperate climates, our spiritual environments can be far more arid. The world around us may not be as hospitable to our spiritual life, which means we should drink as deeply as we can when we are in the presence of Jesus' living waters. And nowhere do these waters flow more abundantly than at Mass.

What is one of the first things you do when you enter a church? You bless yourself with holy water. You recall your baptism, when you were first plunged into the water of life.

Then, during the Penitential Rite, you "confess to almighty God" that you need his forgiveness and mercy. You acknowledge that you need him to wash you with the waters of forgiveness.

Before the priest begins the Eucharistic Prayer, he adds drops of water to the wine. Why? Because it symbolizes Jesus humbling himself to take on our humanity, and it symbolizes our being joined to Christ. This small action tells us that we can be "mingled," or mixed, with the Lord so fully that his life becomes our life.

Finally, when you receive the Body and Blood of Christ, you are being joined to believers all across the world who are receiving the exact same thing. Together with these millions of brothers and sisters, you are drinking from the stream of eternal life. That stream is flowing in you and through you, and it connects you to the worldwide Church.

You don't need to dig a new well or find a new stream. The water is already there for you. So come and drink! Receive the stream that flows from the altar of the Lord, and let it fill you up.

"Thank you, Jesus, for planting me near running water! Help me to draw near to the life-giving stream of the Mass."

Today's Announcements:

- Happy Birthday to Alexandra Taggart today!
- "Pray for Hope" bracelets are being sold in the front office or from Mary Katherine Filipich. They are \$5.00 each, and all proceeds will go to Hope Broadus.

- T-shirts are being sold in support of four young ladies in our community who have been suffering from cancer: Ariana, Hope, Maci, and Sophia. Order forms are available in the front office or from Madison Cox. Shirts are \$20, and the order for shirts will be placed on Friday. All proceeds will go to the girls and their families.
- Don't forget your Boo Grams - make sure you find a junior class officer this week to purchase your Boo Grams! They are \$3 for 1 or 2 for \$5! You may also purchase them online in the spirit store!
- Media day for our winter sports will be next Wednesday, November 1 at 2:00 pm. We will also be taking pictures for senior banners on this day. The cost for senior banners is \$75.
- Big buddies, students for life, and sailing will take yearbook photos after mass today.
- Friday will be a free dress day. The theme for this Friday is Halloween - you may dress in the theme or wear any St. Patrick shirt with jeans. Regarding free dress days, the handbook states, "*students may wear jeans, capri pants, shorts (knee-length), skirts (knee-length) with an appropriate shirt and any closed-toe shoes. No spaghetti straps or sweat pants. No torn clothing of any type.*" You may wear your Halloween costume if it falls within these guidelines - students are allowed to dress in their favorite Halloween costume. Nothing gruesome may be worn. Masks are allowed but need to be taken off in the building and classrooms.
- There will be a Mock Trial meeting this afternoon beginning at 3:05pm in room 116.
- Congratulations to the Fighting Irish cross country team. Both the boys and girls teams finished in 2nd place at their regional race in Clinton yesterday. In all, we had seven runners named to the all region team: Cade Meyers, Dylan Middleton, Mason McCullough, Jordan Pete, Isabel Leatherman, Amelie Million and Gabby Patino. We would also like to congratulate Cade Meyers on setting the new boys school record in the 5k by running a time of 17:36.22. GO IRISH!
- Fall Senior Athletes - If you have not turned in your senior bio to Coach Burger yet, please do so immediately.