

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, December 13, 2017

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*My yoke is easy, and my burden light. (Matthew 11:30)*

It might not sound all that appealing to take on a yoke at this point in Advent. You may well be busy with preparations for Christmas, maybe feeling anxious about exams, gift giving, or by cleaning and cooking. And all of this comes on top of your everyday duties!

At times, rest sounds much better than a burdensome yoke. What we want is a break. But Jesus tells us his yoke is easy, his burden is light, and we will actually find the rest we are looking for as we let him place this yoke on our already weary shoulders. How can this be?

Yokes were made to help a team of oxen do their work faster and more efficiently. Wearing a yoke, the oxen walk side by side; they work side by side. They still have a job to do, but they share the burden. Their cooperation makes the task so much easier because they are both pulling together.

When Jesus invites us to take his yoke, he promises to be the one walking next to us, working right alongside us.

Sharing a yoke with Jesus doesn't make our responsibilities disappear, but it sure does make things easier! Not only does he help us carry the load, but we learn from him as we spend time walking beside him.

Let's follow the example of the yoked oxen. Walking side by side with Jesus, our task becomes easy and light as we keep our eyes on the next step. And the next one. And the one after that.

So don't focus on how many steps there are. Just take a breath, and take the next step—with Jesus beside you. Over time, you'll get there. You will learn from Jesus, your teammate, and you'll get there faster and feel stronger!

That's not such a discouraging prospect, is it? Far from being a burden, Jesus' yoke can help you work more effectively. It links you to the best Companion you could ever have. You are no longer alone as you face the tasks at hand. Jesus is with you, right beside you, sharing the load.

*"Lord, I will take your yoke upon me. I want to walk closely with you and learn from you!"*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Carly Loftis, Lindsey McClure, and Makenzie Stenum today.
- ★ We wish our seniors well as they attend their spiritual retreat today. We will call for seniors to be dismissed from class as soon as we are ready.
- ★ Tomorrow, we will have a campus ministry Advent skit. Tomorrow will be a regular uniform dress day - students will not need to wear blazers and ties tomorrow.

- ★ Midterm exams begin on Friday. We will have two lunches on Friday and Monday for the exam schedule - lunch on Friday will be during second period and lunch on Monday will be during fourth period. Teachers, please ensure that your students know which lunch period to attend.
- ★ Student Council will be ringing the Red Kettle bell during lunches all week. Please contribute any change to this worthy cause.
- ★ FCA Members need to have their toy turned in by tomorrow to Coach Dellenger in room 108.
- ★ Students attending March for Life are invited to submit a design for the sweatshirt that the group from St. Patrick will wear during the March. Designs are due by the end of the day tomorrow to Ms. Cloud. The winner will receive \$25 cash spending money for the trip!



