

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, January 29, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

No one was strong enough to subdue him. (Mark 5:4)

How frightened this man's loved ones must have felt! When Mark mentions this man's family, he could mean parents or siblings, perhaps a wife and children. Imagine the impact that this man's spiritual ordeal had on them. Anxiety about his harming himself. Ridicule and marginalization from the rest of the village. And above all, a sense of helplessness in the face of evil.

Don't rule out the possibility that the ones trying to hold him down with chains were those who loved him—the ones who thought they could intervene with the right words or who just wanted to keep him safe even if it meant restraining him. Still, "No one was strong enough to subdue him," and the whole family's suffering continued (Mark 5:4).

Jesus saw not only the man's pain but theirs. Having undergone spiritual attack himself, he could identify with the tormented man. But he also knew what it was like to worry and to be mocked, so he could identify with this family. So Jesus didn't seek only to deliver this man from his plight; he wanted release for his family too. As soon as

he liberated the man, Jesus sent him back to his town to proclaim the good news of what had happened to him. Finally the man's entire family could experience joy and freedom!

Everyone has family members going through adversity. Often it feels like your best human efforts to solve a family member's problems just don't work. Every safeguard or solution put in place to help that person gets pulled apart and smashed. But God's love is even greater than ours. When or how he answers prayers sometimes doesn't make sense to us, but his response is always the best one.

What's more, he doesn't just work with those at the center of these situations, but with everyone involved. He sees the parents of the sick infant, the spouse of the addict, the children of the couple experiencing financial difficulties. Each one he blesses and strengthens in a unique way.

In the lives of people close to you, there will always be circumstances that seem out of hand, that you feel unable to do anything about. Trust in the power and love of the Lord—and remember that he works with you too!

"Lord, heal every family that is struggling right now!"

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ It's Catholic Schools Week! The theme for National Catholic Schools Week 2018 is "Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed." At St. Patrick, we have chosen "Hands" as our school theme. We learn by using our hands. We serve other people with our hands. We lead by guiding people and lifting them up with our hands, and we succeed by using our hands to pay-it-forward. We are clay in the hands of God-the potter. When we pray the Our Father we join our hands to symbolize the joining of our hearts and minds. During Catholic Schools Week

2018, let us strive to become better hands: hands that learn, hands that serve, hands that lead and hands that succeed.

- ★ Happy Birthday to Mrs. Buckley today!
- ★ Tennis practice has been postponed until next Monday due to soccer season being extended an extra week.
- ★ NHS Members, Please make sure you meet with your group and complete your service project by Thursday. See Ms. Wilkinson if there are any questions.
- ★ Those who signed up for track, be sure to pick up your team track packet from Coach Dellenger if you have not already done so. Practice starts this week!
- ★ Congratulations to the SPCHS Mock Trial Team. For the fifth year in a row, the team has been selected to go to the state finals after the competition at the Gulfport County Courthouse on Saturday. Steven Azar was selected as most effective attorney in both of the mock trials on Saturday. Matthew Bisner and Hayden Miller were selected as most effective witnesses in the trials. Special thanks to Judge Jennifer Schloegel and Ms. Dee Dee Colson for their excellent coaching. The team will advance to the state finals in Jackson on March 2 and 3.
- ★ Seniors may wear college t-shirts this Friday and will take a class picture for the yearbook.
- ★ Juniors, do not forget to bring your ring to Mrs. Collier by Wednesday morning for the Junior ring mass Thursday.
- ★ Dodgeball rosters will be posted in the cafeteria at lunch today! May the odds be ever in your favor.