

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

The Lord looks into the heart. (1 Samuel 16:7)

The stakes were high. Samuel was in the middle of deciding which of Jesse's sons should be anointed king of Israel. If Samuel looked only at how tall or strong the young men were, he might overlook David, the youngest and seemingly the least capable. But God had chosen David, and he needed Samuel to recognize that. The challenge for Samuel, as well as for us, was to look at the realities beneath the surface.

In the Gospels we see Jesus do this all the time. He always looked past appearances and acted based on what was going on in someone's heart. A good example is Simon Peter. Jesus chose him to lead the early Church, even though Peter was impetuous and was used to speaking before he thought. But Jesus looked past Peter's impatience and saw his heart. He saw that Peter truly did love him and wanted to do the right thing. He saw that Peter had the potential to grow into an effective, passionate leader, even to the point of shedding his blood for the gospel. In the end, Peter's passion wasn't a deficit; it was part of what made him perfect for the job!

What about us? How can we start seeing as God sees?

You can begin by acknowledging that there is more to every situation than meets the eye. So when you are in a complex or challenging situation, ask the Holy Spirit to help you see what's going on under the surface. Try to look through the Spirit's lens of mercy, justice, and love. Remember how Jesus treated Peter, as well as how he treated outcasts and sinners—never condemning but always helping them take their next step forward. Then ask yourself how you can do what Jesus might do.

As you get into the habit of taking these little steps, you'll begin to see things as God does. You'll find yourself more peaceful in difficult situations. You'll find yourself being more patient, caring, and responsive to the people around you. You'll find yourself receiving more insights and guidance from the Spirit. And that will make you even more an instrument of God's peace to the people around you.

"Lord, help me to be more open to your Spirit today so that I can see everything and everyone around me as you see them."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Students who are attending March for Life with your parish, be sure to let Mrs. Collier know before tomorrow in order for your absence to be listed as excused.
- ★ Track sign ups for both junior high and varsity track teams will continue this week. See Coach Dellenger in room 108.

- ★ Nativity BVM will be having a Catholic schools presentation at mass on January 28 at 9:00. If you are planning to attend that mass and would like to participate, please see Mrs. Rosetti this week.
- ★ Congratulations to Team Tempest who hosted the Gulf Coast Regional FTC Tournament this Saturday. Team Tempest earned second place in the Motivate Award, second place in the Inspire Award, and the first place winner of the Connect Award. The Connect Award recognizes the team that best creates a "connection" between their community and their team.

Team Tempest also was in the finalist alliance. Tempest now advances to the State FTC Championship at Ole Miss on February 17.

- ★ The Irish defeated Richton by the score of 56 to 42 Friday night in a key division game. Tucker Santiago, Jay Parker, and Windfield Swetman all played well in the victory. The Irish JV boys defeated Richton 50 to 13. Braxton Blackwell had a great game for the Irish.