

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, April 16, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

The food that endures for eternal life. (John 6:27)

In J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*, a group of characters sets out on a dangerous quest. At one point, they are given a special kind of bread called lembas, one bite of which had the power to sustain someone for an entire day. Now that's "food that endures" (John 6:27)!

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks of another "food that endures"—his own Body and Blood in the Eucharist. Like the lembas, it's a gift freely given to us. But unlike lembas, it's not a magical food. It's Jesus himself. That's why we call it "Communion." When we receive Communion, we are receiving a Person, not a thing, and this Person longs to have a relationship with us.

This is the "enduring" marvel of the Eucharist. Every time we receive Communion, Jesus invites us to join our hearts with his. Every time, we can tell him how much we love him—and let him say the same to us. Every Communion contains the grace to deepen our bond with Jesus so that we can experience even more of his presence, his love, and his mercy.

How can we tell that our union with Jesus is deepening? How can we tell that it's making a difference in our lives? We can tell by the way our lives are changing. When we find it easier to be patient or compassionate—even just a bit—that's Jesus enduring in us. When we feel a prompting to help an annoying co-worker or to reach out to a lonely neighbor, that's Jesus. When we ask our spouse for forgiveness or find it easier to forgive them, it's because of our communion with the Lord. It's a sign that our relationship with him continues to deepen.

But Communion is not only a matter of our becoming better people. Every time we feel joyful, that's Jesus rejoicing with us. When we find ourselves thanking God for answering a prayer or for the beauty of a new day, that's Jesus. When we find ourselves reflecting his love to someone, that's Jesus reaching out.

The Eucharist is far more than magic bread. It's the Bread of Life. It's the food that endures to eternal life. And Jesus loves to share it with you!

"Lord, give us this day our daily bread. Give us more of you, the Bread of Life."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Sophia Culver today!
- ★ We will have our Iowa testing today, tomorrow, and Wednesday. Students on south side of building should remain quiet when changing classes.
- ★ Interact Club Juniors, your RYLA scholarship forms are due to Ms. Lawson by Thursday, April 19.

- ★ Senior members of National Honor Society who want to order a stole for graduation, please pay Ms. Wilkinson as soon as possible.
- ★ The meetings for the Spring Blood Drive will continue as optional times on mornings at 7:40 or Tuesday after school this week. Students who did not attend this morning have the option of attending tomorrow after school in room 202.
- ★ Attention all 7th thru 11th grade girls: basketball tryouts will held on Monday, May 7. More details are to come later; see Coach Gaunce with any questions you may have.
- ★ Juniors, if you are attending APEX, Governor's School, Boys' State, or Girls' State, please let Ms. Wilkinson know.
- ★ Seniors, Please remember to give Ms. Wilkinson your scholarship offers. Also, see her about any scholarships. Please see her during your lunch or after school.
- ★ In last Thursday's divisional track meet with both the girls and boys placing first team trophy honors. The top four finishers in each event qualify for regionals.

Isabel Leatherman, Jordan Pete, Amelie Million, Dominic Patino, Cade Meyers, Abby Badurak, Bricen Rivers, Dylan Middleton, Jadon Turner, Gabby Patino, Tyler Gerretse, Ella McLoughlin, Makenzie Stenum, Camille Pitre, Camille Seghers, Jonathan Galle, Taylor Ibele, Ryan Hymel, James Frazier, Sarah Alexander, Leila Ransonset, Kendall Pitre, Olivia Leatherman, and Jameson Triffiley.

Relay Teams that qualified are the following:

Girls 800m, 200m, 100m, 400m

Boys: 800m, 200m, 400m

Congratulations to the Fighting Irish track teams on a job well done.

- ★ Coach Dellenger is asking for any students who are in need of service hours as well as junior high track members to assist in the concession stand on Thursday's regional track meet. See Coach Dellenger to sign up.
- ★ The latest edition of Aisling is now available online. We are seeking new submissions to be included in the final edition of the magazine, which will be a hard copy and available to all students. There is no specific theme- please send us whatever you find interesting and creative. The deadline for all new submissions will be one week from today, April 23.