

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, August 24, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

You will see heaven opened. (John 1:51)

Under a fig tree. That's where Nathanael (Bartholomew) was when Jesus "saw" him (John 1:48). What was he doing there? Maybe eating lunch or thinking about his to-do list. Maybe daydreaming. Some have speculated that because it was traditional to study the Scriptures under a fig tree, Nathanael may have been meditating on God's promises. If so, it was the perfect prelude to meeting Jesus.

For centuries, God's promises had sustained Israel with words of comfort, guidance, and hope. A radiant bride, a city and temple shimmering with the glory of the Lord—images that pointed to a peaceful future when God would live among his people and make them a light to the rest of the world.

Nathanael must have drawn strength from reflecting on this life to come, even as he had to deal with Roman occupation. Perhaps this gave him eyes to recognize Jesus as the "Son of God" and "King of Israel" who would set things right (John 1:49). And Jesus replied, in essence: "Keep watching. Have faith. You haven't seen anything yet!"

That's what Jesus tells us too. Like Nathanael, we have beautiful promises of the life to come. We even know that this life has already begun. Baptized into Christ, we have been born of water and the Spirit; we have become children of God and citizens of heaven. Now, as St. Catherine of Siena said: "All the way to heaven is heaven."

Just as Nathanael sat under a fig tree contemplating God's promises, it's a good idea for all of us to set aside time for quiet, hopeful contemplation. We can try to imagine what heaven will be like. We can picture Jesus surrounded by the angels and saints. We can even think about our loved ones who have gone before us and imagine them with Jesus, praying for us, cheering us on, and rejoicing every time we act in faith.

Go and sit under your "fig tree" today, wherever that may be: an armchair, your prayer corner, or the adoration chapel. If you don't have one, find the place wherever prayer comes easiest. Lift your heart to the Lord and let his promises fill your mind. Then be still and listen for his voice.

"Jesus, you have thrown heaven wide open. Lord, let me see your glory!"

Reprinted with permission of *The Word Among Us*, 7115 Guilford Dr #100, Frederick, MD 21704, wau.org, 1-800-775-9673

Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Jayne Gavin, Mackenzie Mullen, and Cohen Weinhofer today! Sarah D'Aquila, Kane Palazzo, and Katelyn Tootle will celebrate their birthdays this weekend!
- ★ Teachers, the students who purchased a car tag are marked on the list I emailed you this morning. These students are eligible to wear jeans with any St. Patrick shirt and closed-toe shoes today. Please check the list during first period and let Mr. Gruich know if there are any discrepancies.

- ★ Juniors, Herff Jones will be back to class ring orders next Wednesday during lunch. Please bring your deposit then, if you need extra brochures or packets you can pick them up in the front office.
- ★ Keep the St. Patrick Campus Ministry Team in your prayers this weekend as they attend their spiritual retreat.
- ★ Seventh grade Student Council representative applications are available in the office beginning today. They are due to Mrs. Buckley in room 200 at the campaign rules meeting on Tuesday at 3pm. Seventh graders will elect six representatives for Student Council. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Buckley.
- ★ Congratulations to the newly elected 2018-19 Mu Alpha Theta officers: President, Isabell Alexander; Vice President, Avery King; Secretary, Max Grill; and Treasurer, Marie Seicshnaydre. Stay tuned to the announcements for future updates. We will begin collecting dues in September and tutoring will start in September as well. Mu Alpha Theta is looking forward to another great year!
- ★ NHS Members, the first meeting will be Wednesday, August 29, at 7:45 in the auditorium. Please be on time.
- ★ Students, if you have registered to take the ACT workshop with Dr. Acosta, remember it begins tomorrow at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Wilkinson will be here at 8:30 to let you in the building. Please park in the front.
- ★ Anyone in ninth through twelfth grades who is interested in running for an officer position in FCA, Coach Dellenger will have officer applications available next week. The following positions are available: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- ★ Please join Key Club and Interact as we walk the Ocean Springs Bridge tomorrow. We will meet at 7:00 am on the Ocean Springs side. Please sign in with Mrs. Sutherlin or Mrs. Lawson and bring 2 canned goods or a couple of dollars to donate to St. Vincent de Paul. We look forward to seeing you tomorrow!