

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, August 29, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*Give me at once on a platter the head of John the Baptist.  
(Mark 6:25)*

We are all familiar with today's Gospel: the sad and brutal execution of the "righteous and holy man," St. John the Baptist (Mark 6:20). But let's take a moment to review some of the background for this familiar story.

John was a descendant from the priestly clans of Israel—a group that had, by and large, collaborated with King Herod's corrupt rule. Rather than associating with this group, John withdrew to the desert and began preaching a message of repentance aimed at all of Israel, including Herod and his priests. Angered by John's confrontational words, Herod had John imprisoned.

Now comes the scene in today's Gospel, in which Herod's stepdaughter was used in the most perverse way. She was sent to seduce him with her dancing and trick him into agreeing to John's execution. Many movies and plays have portrayed this girl as a wicked temptress who was complicit in the plot. But it's more likely that she was just a pawn in the hands of her manipulative mother.

We don't have to search far for similar injustices happening today. News outlets are filled with stories of this. We hear also of poverty and racial tensions, human trafficking and abortion. The list goes on and on.

All of this can lead us to feel overwhelmed. How can I make a difference on such global-scale issues? I'm only one person. Besides, I don't have the time, the money, or the resources to help out.

But nobody is really helpless when it comes to overcoming injustice. You certainly can reach beyond the walls of your home. Whether it's through financial support or by volunteering at a local agency or by committing every day to pray against these evils, you can make a difference. You don't have to follow the path of John the Baptist and become a martyr in the cause of social justice. You just have to take one small but courageous step, and you'll help bring God's salvation and justice to the people who are hurting today.

*"Jesus, open my heart to the cries of the poor and abused.  
Show me how I can help them today."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Juniors, Herff Jones will be back to place class ring orders today during lunch.
- ★ High school students who plan to attend the Homecoming Dance and would like to request permission to bring an outside date must submit the form by Friday, September 7. Outside guests must be in ninth through twelfth grade and in good standing at their current school. Forms may be picked up at the front desk from Mrs. Collier or downloaded from the "Student Life" page of the school website. Approval will not be granted for forms not submitted by Friday.

- ★ There will be a Mu Alpha Theta meeting after school on Friday, August 31, in Ms. Tavel's classroom. We will discuss tutoring and club dues. The meeting will be brief. We look forward to seeing all members there.
- ★ Applications are now available at the front desk for anyone interested in becoming a St. Patrick Ambassador. Ambassadors will be professional representatives of St. Patrick and duties will include: speaking to families and parishes about school happenings, attending Diocesan events, providing campus tours, and more. You do not have to be a member of Student Council to apply. Applications are due Friday, September 14. Please see Mrs. Rosetti for more information.
- ★ Auditions for the fall drama production will be today and Friday this week. There is a sign up sheet at Mrs. Trahan's classroom, room 204. Auditions will end at 4:00 each day. If you want an ensemble part you do not have to audition. Only lead roles need to audition.
- ★ Those students who are interested in running for an FCA Officer can pick up an application from Coach Dellenger during this week only.
- ★ Students, we ask that you do not ask another student for a date to homecoming on the campus of St. Patrick. While we appreciate the excitement at this time of year, some of the requests are disruptive and sometimes embarrassing in a public forum. We ask that you contact your prospective date off campus outside school hours.
- ★ There will be a runoff election for Vice President of Interact Club in Ms. Lawson's room today. Interact members grades 9-12 may vote any time today in Ms. Lawson's Room.
- ★ Any student who lives in Long Beach and is interested in the Long Beach Mayor's Youth Council, see the front desk for applications. The deadline is Friday, September 7.
- ★ This Thursday at 3:05 in room 118 is an interest meeting for Students Against Violence Everywhere, a club dedicated to the promotion of positivity throughout the school and making smart decisions in student lives. Please come by Thursday and if you have any questions before then you can ask Dr. Casey or Mary Catherine Kalil.
- ★ Cross country members will need to meet at 3:20 for a 25 minute run today. Please see Mrs. Rosetti if you have any questions!
- ★ Students who want to join the National English Honor Society should pick up an application from any English teacher. To be eligible, students must be in tenth grade and have a 3.0 average overall and in their core high school English classes. Applications will be due at the National English Honor Society meeting Tuesday, September 4, at 3pm in room 200. If you have questions, please see Mrs. Buckley.
- ★ Congratulations to the junior varsity volleyball team. They defeated George County in three games with the scores of 18-25, 25-19, and 15-10! Way to go, Lady Irish!