

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, September 14, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Feast)*

*Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert, so must the Son of Man be lifted up. (John 3:14)*

There is a glorious, divine irony in today's feast: a cruel instrument of suffering and death has been transformed into a grace-filled instrument of healing and resurrection.

We see the irony in today's first reading. The Israelites had begun complaining and accusing God of abandoning them during their journey toward the Promised Land. Ultimately, all the venom in their words and hearts manifested itself in the form of poisonous serpents that attacked them. Their own sin fell back upon them and trapped them in death and destruction. That's one irony: the people's complaining made their situation worse.

Then, when the people begged God to save them, he told them to gaze on an image of a serpent. They had to fix their eyes on a symbol of their own sin and unbelief if they wanted to be set free from the consequences of their sin. That's another irony: looking at their sin brought them salvation.

In the Gospel, Jesus promises Nicodemus that the Son of Man must be "lifted up" so that everyone who believes in him might have eternal life (John 3:14). He promises salvation to everyone who comes face-to-face with the consequences of their own sin. Yes, I helped crucify him. It was my own violence, my own hatred, my own self-centeredness and fallen desires that put him up there.

This is the final glorious irony. When we exalt the cross—when we lift it up and gaze on it—we experience God's love and his healing. We see that it wasn't just our sin that put Jesus there; it was also his love. It wasn't just our enmity; it was his friendship. It wasn't just our selfishness; it was his selflessness. We thought we were casting him out of our lives, when really he was giving himself to us in the fullest way possible.

Jesus could have stopped his death at any point, but he didn't. He let us lift him up in death so that he could raise us up to eternal life.

Let's all exalt the cross in our hearts today.

*"We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your cross you have redeemed the world." (St. Francis of Assisi)*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday! Michael Moeller, Daniel Tull, and Mrs. Cloud will celebrate their birthdays this weekend!
- ★ Today we have scheduled our Homecoming Family Picnic, Pep Rally, Tailgate, and Football Game. Students will be dismissed to the courtyard at 1:00 p.m. for the Homecoming Picnic Lunch with their families. Following the picnic, the gym will open at 2:00 p.m. for the Homecoming Pep Rally. We will be hosting a pre-game Homecoming Tailgate starting at 5:30 p.m. Stop by and enjoy some food, fun, and fellowship prior to the big

game. The Fighting Irish varsity football team will take the field at 7:00 p.m. against Sacred Heart High School, and the 2018 Homecoming Court will be presented during halftime.

- ★ Homecoming dance tickets will be on sale until noon today in the front office and online in the Fighting Irish Spirit Store. They are \$20 per ticket in advance and \$25 per ticket at the door.
- ★ Senior baby pictures are due Friday, September 21, and the senior college t-shirt picture will be September 21 during lunch. Senior quotes are due Friday, September 28 to Marie Seicshnaydre. If quotes are not approved, students have three days to submit a new quote, or a bible verse will be chosen for them!
- ★ St. Patrick Ambassador applications are due to the front office by 3 p.m. today.
- ★ Come support your eighth grade girls basketball team at the Friday night homecoming game. They will be selling chicken shawarma sandwiches for \$5 so they can buy jackets for their team
- ★ There will be a NJHS meeting in the auditorium on Tuesday at 7:45. All existing members for this year should attend. Any current NJHS member interested in running for office should see Mrs. Mays by the end of the day on Monday.
- ★ Juniors and Seniors, The financial aid workshop is Wednesday, September 19, at 6 p.m. Please remind your parents and please accompany them to this workshop.