

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, September 20, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me has not been ineffective. (1 Corinthians 15:10)*

Like a river, God's grace is constantly flowing. It flows from heaven into our hearts, and smooths out the sharp edges over time. It's the same grace that flowed into Paul's heart when he saw the Lord on the road to Damascus. Paul responded to this grace, and he discovered that it was not "ineffective" (1 Corinthians 15:10). Once a persecutor of Christians, he became a believer who traveled the world building up the very Church he once tried to destroy.

Our story may not be exactly as dramatic as St. Paul's, but in many ways it is no different. We too have received God's grace, and this grace has not been ineffective: we have believed and decided to follow Jesus.

So how do we respond to this constant flow of God's grace? In his classic book *The Cost of Discipleship*, German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer talked about the difference between "cheap grace" and "costly grace." Cheap grace, he said, "is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross,

grace without Jesus Christ." Costly grace, on the other hand, "confronts us as a gracious call to follow Jesus."

We can "cheapen" our experience of grace by failing to respond to its flow in our lives. Every day we face numerous situations in which we can call on God's grace or try to move on without it. For example, you may be tempted to nurture resentment or bitterness over something someone said or did. You can ask God for the grace to forgive. You may want to lose patience with someone who is acting out of line. You can stop for a moment, and call on God's grace so that you can deal with the issue calmly.

No matter how difficult your situation may be, God's grace is always available to you. It is continually flowing, like a rushing, refreshing river. Step into that river today. Let its waters flow over you and in you and through you. This grace is not ineffective in the least—not if you embrace it and treasure it.

*"Father, mold me by your grace. Let me echo the words of Paul: 'by the grace of God I am what I am'" (1 Corinthians 15:10).*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Gia Alley and Abbie Colledge today!
- ★ We are on liturgy schedule today and will celebrate mass at 9:40 this morning. We are excited to welcome Fr. Mark from St. Alphonsus to campus today!
- ★ Please complete your AdvancED surveys by Friday if not already done so.
- ★ Students enrolled in AP or dual enrollment classes are reminded that your fees are due tomorrow.

- ★ Senior baby pictures are due tomorrow, you can email those to Ms. Farragut. The senior college t-shirt picture will be tomorrow during lunch. Senior quotes are due by next Friday, September 28.
- ★ Ocean Springs Knights of Columbus is seeking students to help with serving breakfast the first and third Sunday of each month. This would be a great opportunity for service hours; for more information see Mrs. Collier at the front office.
- ★ Students are encouraged to submit their poetry, short stories, photos, and artwork to the Aisling. The theme for the upcoming edition is “Adventure.” Students may submit through the “Student Life” page of the school website.
- ★ Sophomores, if anyone is going to take the PSAT, remember you must pay Ms. Wilkinson by Monday, September 24. Sophomores and Juniors, if anyone is going to take the PSAT workshop with Dr. Acosta, you need to register with Ms. Wilkinson by Monday, September 24.
- ★ Sacred Heart Elementary School is looking for students to assist with tutoring some of our elementary students. You would be asked to work on sight word lists, reading skills, homework, and study skills. Tutorial is scheduled Mondays through Thursdays from 3:45 to 4:45. If you are available and interested, please see Mrs. Collier for more details. This would be an excellent service opportunity.
- ★ We are still waiting on several people to vote for the NJHS officers. If you are already a member of NJHS and have not voted please go to your email and vote for the NJHS officer positions as soon as possible.
- ★ Cross Country Team members will need to meet at 3:20 p.m. today for a 40 minute run.
- ★ The St. Thomas Fall Festival is looking for student volunteers to manage tables and work as stagehands the weekend of October 12-13. Please see or email Mrs. Rosetti if you are interested in participating.
- ★ The St. James Fall Festival is Saturday, October 6th and Sunday, October 7th from 10AM to 8PM. Not only is this a fun-filled family day that supports one of our Diocesan Partner schools, it is an opportunity to earn service hours for interested students. Students who would like to participate must provide contact information for themselves and a parent. See Mrs. Saucier in the front office for more information or to volunteer.
- ★ Tomorrow will be our car tag jean day - we still need about 30 more tags to be registered. It's not too late to register or to tell all your family and friends to register!