

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, September 21, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

I did not come to call the righteous but sinners. (Matthew 9:13)

Despised as a collaborator with the Romans, Matthew knew that his job as a tax collector was nothing to be proud of. Or at least he shouldn't have been proud to be a tax collector. His hard-earned wealth only brought him contempt and rejection from his own people. He probably endured snide remarks from his townspeople, and it's possible that he had begun to believe them. Whatever he thought, when he heard Jesus call him, Matthew did not hesitate. All his sinful ways, all the ways he had mistreated people, and all the unworthiness that must have accompanied such behavior dissipated. There was something special about Jesus, and Matthew was not about to let any obstacle—real or perceived—stand in his way.

It can be easy to buy into the lie that you are unworthy to answer Jesus' call. Don't believe it! Don't imagine that your sins or weaknesses have convinced Jesus to pass you by in favor of a more worthy candidate. Remember what he said to the people who objected to his calling of Matthew: "I did not come to call the righteous but sinners" (Matthew

9:13). We are all sinners, and still, Jesus calls all of us: "Follow me" (9:9). He wants you to be with him.

So don't let your sins and failings hinder your yes to the Lord. Quite the opposite—they are the perfect opportunity to show the world how merciful he is. Tradition tells us that Matthew went on to evangelize the very Jews he had once scandalized. The evidence of his change of heart must have made a deep impression on many of them.

Today, if you are feeling unworthy, remember Matthew. Remember God's kindness and mercy toward him. Remember the freedom and joy he felt when he left his old life behind and accepted Jesus' invitation. God has called you and chosen you because he loves you just as much as he loved Matthew. He wants to silence that voice of unworthiness. Whether Jesus is calling you to leave behind a pattern of sin, to grow closer to him in prayer, to serve your community in a new way, or some combination of all three, say yes. Jump at his invitation, and let him change your life.

"Jesus, thank you for the invitation to follow you. Help me to say yes to your call!"

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Mrs. Mays today! Also, Neveah Gilman will celebrate her birthday this weekend! Happy Birthday!
- ★ Please complete your AdvancED surveys by 3:00 today if not already done so.
- ★ Students enrolled in AP or dual enrollment classes are reminded that your fees are due by 3:00 today.
- ★ Senior baby pictures are due today, and the senior college t-shirt picture will be taken today 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.
- ★ 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 6 and Sunday, October 7. 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.
- ★ Students in high school athletics, band, dance and cheer may sign up for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes chapter in room 108. To sign up you must have your yearly dues of \$5, and you will be able to vote for FCA Officers.