

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, September 7, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

The new wine will burst the skins. (Luke 5:37)

In ancient Israel, the juice from pressed grapes immediately went into a container to ferment into wine. If the wine was going to be transported a long distance, the container was often a goatskin sewn into a bag, or "wineskin." The initial gaseous stage of fermenting the grapes caused the wineskin to stretch out. "Old wineskins" had already been stretched once, so if they were used again, the fermentation process would cause them to burst (Luke 5:37).

Jesus told this parable to ask his detractors to try to become more like new wineskins. He told them that the new life he was proclaiming could not be fitted into old ways of thinking and doing. Life in the kingdom of God required people who had the capacity to stretch along with the movements of God.

Not all of Jesus' hearers accepted these words, but those who did were stretched—and were blessed for it! For example, they had to expand their concept of the Messiah: he was the crucified and risen Son of God, not a temporal king. They had to accept that the Gentiles were their

brothers and sisters, not pagans who would make them unclean. Because the first disciples' pliability helped them to respond to the "fermentation" of the Holy Spirit, the Church continued to grow dramatically.

Like every believer in the time of Christ, you, too, are a wineskin, and the Holy Spirit is stirring in you. The important thing is to be willing to "be stretched" as the Spirit moves you. For example, you might have an innate dislike of a friend, a coworker, or a neighbor, but maybe God is calling you to see that person in a more compassionate light. Or God might want to stretch you by giving you a new gift or by asking you to use a gift long dormant. Maybe caring for a new baby or an elderly or sick relative has stretched you. These kinds of situations push us to rely on God's Spirit more so that we can expand and not burst.

Is there an area of your life in which you are feeling stretched? Ask for the grace to be "stretchy" so that you can share God's love and presence just a bit more today.

"Jesus, help me stretch to new capacities to bear your love to people around me."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Isabella Patino today! Also, Kayla Coniglio, Dixie Graham, Amelia Mckee, Emily Overstreet, and Gabrielle Rizk will celebrate their birthdays this weekend!

- ★ We are excited to celebrate our annual Homecoming festivities next week! The theme for Homecoming 2018 is "Second Star to the Right." All St. Patrick students are encouraged to participate in the school-sponsored traditions and events of Homecoming Week in anticipation of the big game next Friday, September 14. Students, check your email for all of the events and activities scheduled for next week.

- ★ The deadline for outside guests for the Homecoming Dance has been extended until Monday, September 10. 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.
- ★ Juniors, Herff Jones will be back to take ring orders on Tuesday, September 11 during lunch.
- ★ Homecoming Irish Idol will be on the Tuesday of Homecoming Week. Those who want to show off their amazing talents are encouraged to sign up using the sheets near the hallway bulletin boards by Friday afternoon. All grades are encouraged to participate!
- ★ Seniors will wear their choice of college t-shirt on Friday, September 21! Mrs. Farragut will take the group picture towards the end of lunch in the courtyard! Don't miss out!
- ★ Homecoming dance tickets are on sale now 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.
- ★ The results of the auditions will be presented in Mrs. Trahan's room (204) tomorrow after school. All those who auditioned AND those who want ensemble roles need to attend the meeting. It will last about 15 minutes.
- ★ There will be a brief meeting for all students interested in joining the Aisling staff immediately after school on Tuesday. The theme for the September issue of the Aisling is "Adventure." Please submit your original poetry, short stories, photographs, and artwork by September 21.
- ★ The Arts and Craft Club will meet briefly on Thursday, September 13, in room 101.
- ★ There will be a meeting of the SAVE club on Wednesday September 12, at 7:45 am in room 118. Students are still able to sign up at this meeting. We will discuss officers, dues, and an upcoming event. Any questions, contact Dr. Casey.
- ★ Those students who are interested in running for an FCA officer position should turn in their application to Coach Dellenger today.
- ★ NJHS Applications will be going out today to students in 8th and 9th grade who have a GPA of 3.0 or more. If you feel that you should have gotten a letter and did not receive one by the end of the day please see Mrs. Mays or Dr. Casey. Existing members do not have to reapply.