

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, October 25, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*I kneel before the Father. (Ephesians 3:14)*

In the church of first-century Ephesus, a community of Jews and Greeks, prayer was part of the rhythm of life. But for both the groups, praying to God as "Father" would have been a new thing. Greeks would have thought of their gods as powerful but aloof. And Jews related to God in respectful awe as the almighty Creator. So when Paul, a Jew, referred to God using the Greek word pater, it must have been striking. What was he doing?

Echoing Jesus' teaching on the Lord's Prayer, Paul was trying to express a whole new understanding of God: he loves us and cares for us as a father loves and cares for his children.

Throughout his life, Jesus told his disciples to approach God as Abba, or "Daddy." He astonished them with his own simple intimate conversations with God, and he encouraged them to do the same. In Bethany, at the tomb of his friend Lazarus, Jesus prayed, "Father, I thank you for hearing me, I know that you always hear me" (John 11:41-42). During the agonizing moments before his arrest

in Gethsemane, he cried out, "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you" (Mark 14:36).

It is in this same spirit that Paul describes kneeling "before the Father" (Ephesians 3:14). And it is in the same spirit that you can talk with God today. It can be hard to think that almighty God cares for you as personally and emotionally as a loving Father, especially if your own experience of family left much to be desired. But you don't have to convince yourself of this truth. You can ask God to convince you instead.

The next time you pray the Our Father, pause at the word "Father." Let that truth sink in. Let amazement and gratitude for this truth wash over you. God is your Father. You are made in his image. You are part of his family. Then linger over the rest of the prayer. Close your eyes and imagine yourself sitting with God, your own Father, and saying these words. Imagine the look of love in his eyes as he receives your prayer. Imagine how happy it makes him to hear these words come from your heart.

*"Thank you, Father, for letting me rest in your loving care."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ We are honored to welcome Most Reverend Bishop Louis Kihneman to celebrate mass with us tomorrow. Following mass, Bishop Kihneman will have lunch with us and spend the afternoon meeting with students and teachers. Students please remember that we do not sit down after the Gospel reading until the Bishop has kissed the lectionary and it is returned to the lectern. So please remain standing.
- ★ We welcome our PTO to campus this morning for their meeting.
- ★ Senior yearbook ads and money are due by Friday, October 26, to Mrs. Farragut or Mrs. Collier. Order forms were emailed, and if you need a paper copy, please get one from the front office.

- ★ Tickets for *Much Ado About Middle School* (our fall drama production) are on sale. Advance tickets are \$12.50 per person. Tickets purchased at the door will be \$15. See any cast or crew member or Mrs. Trahan to purchase your tickets.
- ★ Cafeteria balances are being emailed daily; if you know you owe a balance this needs to be paid as soon as possible. If you are unsure of a balance owed, please see Mrs. Edwards or Mrs. Collier in the front office to pay and zero your balance.
- ★ Send a Halloween treat bag to a St. Patrick student or faculty member on Halloween day by purchasing a Boo Gram this week. Boo Grams may be purchased in the school office, from a junior class officer, or through our online store. All proceeds help the junior class plan and host this spring's school prom.
- ★ St. Alphonsus is looking for volunteers during the Peter Anderson Festival. The Knights of Columbus need help with parking and serving hot dogs and hamburgers. If you would like to sign up, see Mrs. Collier in the front office.
- ★ This is a final call that all members of NJHS, old and new, were to contact Dr. Casey in person or over email and anyone who has still failed to do so by the end of the day today will be removed from membership in NJHS
- ★ There will be a Youth Legislature meeting in Mr. Eleuterius's room today after school. Your money for the Youth Legislature trip needs to be paid at the meeting or ASAP.
- ★ National Honor Society Members, today is the last day to pay your dues. Please see Ms. Wilkinson today.
- ★ Cross Country members will need to meet directly after school for a 30 minute run today.
- ★ Those FCA Members who missed yesterday's meeting, please pick up the yearly FCA activity information packet from Coach Dellenger.
- ★ Congrats to the newest MHSAA 2A Cross Country Regional Champions! The boys and girls varsity teams both secured first place in Clinton yesterday.
- ★ Congratulations to all of our classroom Poetry Out Loud winners. Our second place winner is David Alexander, and our first place winner is Max Grill. Max and David, please meet in Mrs. Sutherlin's room immediately after school today.
- ★ Those students who were voted class favorites, please stop by Ms. Farragut's room today before 4th period to find out information about pictures for the yearbook.