

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, October 26, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

... *striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace. (Ephesians 4:3)*

Like many of the early churches, the Ephesian church was diverse. It included Jews and non-Jews, along with a mixture of slaves and free people (Ephesians 6:8). The Jews would have probably wanted the non-Jews to live according to the Law of Moses. At the same time, the non-Jews would have likely seen themselves as superior in education and social status to the Jews. Seeing the potential for rivalries and animosity, Paul urged them to overcome their differences by focusing on what they had in common.

But how was this possible in the face of profound and seemingly irreconcilable differences? Paul points to the need for humility, patience, and gentleness, and he wraps all of these virtues up in a call for them to strive for peace. And to fuel their determination, he reminds them of all they have in common as believers: "one body . . . one Spirit . . . one hope . . . one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father" (Ephesians 4:4-6). If they could keep their eyes on all these gifts, unity would be possible.

Today, we see divisions within our Church as well. Race,

class, and politics are some of the more obvious dividing lines, but there can also be divisions between religious traditionalists and progressives, between converts and "cradle Catholics."

On the one hand, this is natural; we like to be around people who are like us. But on the other hand, we can hold too tightly to these dividing lines and rarely cross them. Staying within these boundaries keeps us from learning from one another. They keep us from discovering the many ways Jesus reveals himself. And they keep us from growing in the kind of all-encompassing love that draws people to the Lord.

St. Paul's words aren't just for the first-century Ephesians. They are for all of us. We are united to each other by bonds that go deeper than where we come from or how much money we make. We have the same Spirit living in us. We belong to the same God who loves us. We are indebted to the same Messiah who saved us.

May these truths break down every dividing wall!

"Lord, teach me to love everyone in my church."

Reprinted with permission of The Word Among Us, 7115 Guilford Dr #100, Frederick, MD 21704, wau.org, 1-800-775-9673

Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Alex Taggart! Also, Addison Fountain and Jack Hewes will celebrate their birthdays this weekend.
- ★ Senior yearbook ads and money are due today to Mrs. Farragut or Mrs. Collier.
- ★ Congratulations to Cade Meyers, Dylan Middleton, Dominic Patino, Mason McCullough, Amelie Million, Jordan Pete, Isabel Leatherman and Isabella Patino for making the MHSAA 2A Cross Country All-Region Team during their incredible performance on Wednesday!

- ★ 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.
- ★ There will be a meeting for anyone interested who is interested in playing softball at 7:45 on Wednesday, October 31 in room 105.
- ★ We would like to wish our Fighting Irish swim team good luck and safe travels as they travel to Tupelo today to compete in the MHSAA Swim State Championship. Bring home the gold!
- ★ The Fighting Irish football team will travel to Collins tonight to face off against the Tigers. Good Luck!