

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday, October 4, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Into whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this household." (Luke 10:5)

This verse seems particularly relevant today, on the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (1181–1226). Like the disciples in the Gospel reading, Francis and his followers wandered the countryside carrying the good news of Jesus. And like the disciples, they often did it by bringing peace and reconciliation into places of conflict.

One story in particular reveals Francis' gift for peacemaking. In the last year of his life, the mayor of Assisi and the town's bishop had fallen into a feud. To intervene, Francis composed a new verse of his poem "Canticle of Brother Sun and Sister Moon": "All praise be yours, my Lord, through those who grant pardon for love of you. . . . Happy those who endure in peace; by you Most High, they will be crowned."

Francis sent two friars to sing this verse before the mayor and the bishop. Touched to the heart, the mayor said, "I forgive the lord bishop, whom I ought to recognize as my master." And the bishop replied, "My office demands

humility of me, but by nature I am quick to anger; you must forgive me!"

Francis understood that Jesus came to reconcile us, not only with God, but with each other as well. On a personal level, unforgiveness can destroy families and friendships—even our health and peace of mind. On a broader level, it can lead to war, conflict, and destruction. But Jesus came to preach peace by putting to death all enmity through his cross, and he wants us to try to "preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4:3).

Is there someone you need to forgive? Try to let go of your resentment. Even if it means just taking one more step, go ahead and take that step. It couldn't have been easy for Assisi's bishop and mayor to forgive each other, but they found the grace to try. It's not easy for us either, but the same grace is available to us. If you just can't forgive right now, ask God for the grace to want to forgive. Even if you feel no love for the other person, consider how much God loves them. Even if it takes a long time, he can bring you to peace.

"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace!"

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 Lindsey Diamond, Casper Lizana, and Jackson Ward!
- ★ Today, we will follow the liturgy bell schedule. We will celebrate mass at 9:40 and are excited to welcome Fr. Dominic Pham from Sacred Heart Parish to campus today.
- ★ Senior Sibling pictures for the yearbook are due to Ana Patino by Friday, October 5, 2018! Please email them to her, or give her a printed copy. If you have any questions, see someone on the staff.

- ★ Students, if you are taking the PSAT workshop with Dr. Acosta, it is this Saturday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. No one will be allowed to leave campus. Dr. Acosta is providing lunch, which will be pizza. He is also bringing water and drinks. You are allowed to bring snacks, extra water, and/or your own lunch. Please see Ms. Wilkinson if you have any questions. Also, there are a few openings for this workshop. Please see Ms. Wilkinson if you would like to register.
- ★ Will all Science Olympiad Applicants please stop by Ms. Moon's room sometime during the day on either today or tomorrow.
- ★ Cross country team members will need to meet directly after school for a 40 minute run today.
- ★ All students for life members need to stop by Ms. Cloud's room and vote by the end of the day.
- ★ A final reminder that Science Honor Society will be meeting weekly, beginning this afternoon, through the date of the November 4 blood drive. Today's meeting is in room 202. Congratulations to the new officers for this year who are posted on Mrs. Lawson's and Mrs. Worrel's door.
- ★ The robotics team will be hosting a booth with our robot to represent St. Patrick at the Nativity Carnival on October 13. Members should come by Mrs. Worrel's room to sign up for a shift at the carnival.