

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, October 11, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Suppose one of you has a friend. (Luke 11:5)

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells a parable about a man who got out of bed and helped his friend primarily because of the man's persistence (Luke 11:8). Pope John XXIII, whose feast we celebrate today, gave the entire world years of service—but it was not because of our persistence. It was because John loved people.

Fifty-six years ago today, thousands of people gathered in St. Peter's Square in Rome for the opening of the Second Vatican Council. When evening came, the crowd was still there, many carrying torches. Worn down from the day's activities and feeling the effects of stomach cancer, Pope John was reluctant to meet the crowd.

"I don't want to speak!" he said. "I've already said everything this morning." But his heart went out to the crowd. He gathered himself, went to his window overlooking the square and gave what is now called the "Moonlight Speech." The speech, which was only about two minutes long, was impromptu and off-the-cuff. Nonetheless, it was Pope John at his best: warm, welcoming, caring.

Fifty years later, on October 11, 2012, Pope Benedict XVI offered some reflections on the Moonlight Speech. "I too was in this square, gazing toward this window where the good Pope, Blessed Pope John looked out and spoke unforgettable words to us, words that were full of poetry and goodness, words that came from his heart."

The Moonlight Speech, which is called the most famous address of John XXIII's pontificate, can be summed up in just a few words: peace, unity, and love. These words, broad in scope but spoken from the heart, encapsulated Pope John's hopes for the Church.

It wasn't just the Church as an institution that was on the pope's heart that night. It was the Church as the people of God, the family of God. "When you go home," he told the people, "give your children a kiss and tell them that it is from the Pope."

Today, as we honor Good Pope John, let's dedicate ourselves to fulfilling his hopes and dreams by the way we live: peacefully, lovingly, and in unity.

"Father, help us make today a great day of peace."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Logan Petersen, Giovanni Pradelli, Micah Webb, Jesse Zimmerman today! Also, Madison Moak, Ella Simar, and Esmeralda Stadthagen celebrated their birthdays yesterday!
- ★ We are on liturgy schedule today and will have adoration at 9:40 this morning.
- ★ Congratulations to the Fighting Irish Cross Country Team for an outstanding performance at the MC Watson Invitational in Jackson last weekend! Four runners placed in the top 15 overall, including Jordan Pete, Cade

Meyers, Bryon Shepard and Isabella Patino. The varsity boys placed 11th overall and the varsity girls placed 8th overall.

- ★ Juniors, please remember the Coast Electric Leadership packet is due this Friday.
- ★ NHS members, if you still have not paid your dues, you need to see Ms. Wilkinson as soon as possible.
- ★ Sophomores, if you have any questions about applying for HOBY, see Ms. Wilkinson.
- ★ Any students that are planning to attend Youth Legislature please stop by and sign the intent form for traveling to Jackson November 14-17 so that the final payment information can be determined. Any student planning on attending must sign up either Thursday or Friday in Mrs. Mays' room. Also, we are still in need of a female chaperone for the trip. Please let Mrs. Mays or Mr. Eleuterius know if you have a parent that would be able to attend for the length of the trip.
- ★ Congratulations to the junior high football team on their 38-6 win over McLain Tuesday night. Leading the way for the Fighting Irish offense was Chad Hilton with four rushing touchdowns. John Hay also added a rushing touchdown of his own. The defense was dominant all night, holding McLain scoreless until late in the fourth quarter.
- ★ Cross country team members will need to meet directly after school for a 40 minute run today.