

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, October 17, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*He is like a tree planted near running water. (Psalm 1:3)*

Weeping willow trees are known for their aggressive root system. These trees love water! The roots often spread much wider than the tree itself and burrow deep into the ground to find water sources. That's why they flourish next to a creek or river.

This is the image the psalmist uses to describe the blessings God has for us. When we follow the law of the Lord, we are like a fruitful tree planted by the water. St. Paul uses a similar image when he urges us to "live by the Spirit" so that we can bear "the fruit of the Spirit" (Galatians 5:16, 22). In effect, we need to be as aggressive as that willow tree as we send our roots deep and wide in search of the Holy Spirit's living water.

This may seem a little pie-in-the-sky, but Paul is very practical in today's first reading. He gives us a graphic list of the "works of the flesh" that stand in contrast to the far more attractive fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:19). We have all experienced the selfishness, anger, rivalry, and

immorality that Paul calls the works of the flesh. We have also experienced many of the fruits of the Spirit, even if only in passing. The good news that Paul shares is that we can turn from the impulses of our flesh—"crucify" them—and reach toward the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:24). Even better, we don't have to reach too far; the Spirit is already in us!

So how can we stretch our roots toward that living water? By being clear and decisive. For instance, when you hear the voice of your conscience telling you to bite your tongue instead of engaging in gossip, don't brush it off. If a Scripture passage or prayer catches your attention at Mass, linger in your pew and ask the Holy Spirit more about it. Start your day by bringing your chores and appointments to the Lord and asking for his direction or wisdom.

As you reach deeply toward the Holy Spirit, you will bear more fruit. God promises, and you can always trust him.

*"Holy Spirit, I want to receive your refreshing water. I want to be that tree that bears your good fruit. Come and fill me up."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Hunter Lorenzo, Jessica Reed, and Andie Schwartz!
- ★ 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.
- ★ National Honor Society, your meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 24, at 7:45.
- ★ Juniors and Seniors, please remember the University of Mississippi is conducting a special program today at 3:00 in the library.

- ★ Class favorite voting is available now. Please vote as soon as possible!
- ★ There will be a Youth Leg meeting in room 116, Mr. Eleuterius' room, immediately after school on Thursday and every Thursday until the conference. All paperwork is due at this week's meeting. We will discuss final cost for the trip and more details about the conference.
- ★ The theme for this Friday's pep rally will be "Aloha Irish." Students should dress in their best Hawaiian attire to show their school spirit. All outfits should meet the dress code policies outlined in the student handbook. If you have any questions, please see Coach Burger.
- ★ Ambassadors, we will have a meeting Monday, October 22, directly after school to discuss upcoming events. Please make every effort to attend.
- ★ Our Lady of Fatima is hosting its Fall Festival this Saturday, October 20, from 10 a.m. until 7 p.m. There are volunteer opportunities available throughout the day working several booths by collecting tickets and/or helping children with games. Please reply to your email from Mrs. Rosetti if you are interested in assisting.
- ★ Congratulations to the Fighting Irish Cross Country Team for an outstanding performance on Saturday! The Varsity Girls placed third out of 12 teams and the boys placed fourth out of 14 teams. Runners who placed in the top 15 include Isabel Leatherman, Jordan Pete, Amelie Million, Dylan Middleton, Cade Meyers, Dominic Patino, Bryon Shepard and Luke Meyers.
- ★ Students for Life will meet Thursday morning at 7:45 am in Ms. Cloud's room. During this meeting, members will need to sign up to work next week's Life Month events. Applications will also be given out for March for Life. Deposits and applications for March for Life will be accepted next week.
- ★ All NJHS members who did not sign in at yesterday's meeting need to stop by Dr. Casey's room by the end of the day. Anyone who does not will be counted as absent for the meeting. We also remind all members that their dues of \$15.00 are due by the end of the week.
- ★ Next Wednesday, October 24, there is a required meeting for all members of the SAVE club at 7:45 a.m. Please bring your \$5.00 dues. We will announce officers and discuss our plans for red ribbon week.
- ★ Biographies for Senior night should be turned into Coach Burger by end of day Thursday.