

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, November 8, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*What man among you . . . would not leave the ninety-nine?
(Luke 15:4)*

Would you behave like this shepherd? If you were out in the desert with one hundred sheep and one of them wandered off, you wouldn't leave the ninety-nine unprotected and head off on a wild goose chase in search of one sheep. You'd probably cut your losses and head home to get the ninety-nine to safety.

Also, if you were this woman who lost one of ten matching coins, you might indeed light a lamp and sweep the house carefully until you found it. But you certainly wouldn't throw a party to let the neighbors know about your success. You would be too embarrassed about misplacing it in the first place, or you wouldn't want to spend the money you just found on a party.

In telling these stories, Jesus wants us to scratch our heads in wonder. We aren't much like this shepherd or this woman—but he is. His concern for us and for anyone who strays is extravagant. It's almost as extravagant as his rejoicing when he finds us.

What good news! God will go to any lengths to find us. It doesn't matter how far we've wandered or how much dirt we've wallowed in—that's how deeply he wants us to be with him.

So don't be discouraged if you haven't been following the Shepherd as closely as you should. You haven't traveled beyond the reach of his love. Even your realization that something is amiss is cause for God to rejoice. And don't despair if someone you love has wandered off and seems beyond hope. No one is ever beyond the Shepherd's concern.

We will never truly understand the depth of God's mercy and love. That's why Jesus' parables seem so puzzling to us. But if we can only understand one thing, it's this: no matter what we have done or failed to do, God never rejects us. He never rejects anyone. Quite the opposite. Good Shepherd that he is, he is always waiting to hoist us on his shoulders and bring us safely back to the fold. And when he does, what a party there will be!

"Thank you, Jesus, for your extravagant love for me and for those I love!"

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

Today's Announcements:

- ★ We are on liturgy schedule today and will have mass at 9:40 this morning. We are excited to welcome Msgr. Fullam to campus today!
- ★ Thank you for the St. Patrick PTO for providing today's Harvest Luncheon for all faculty and staff.
- ★ Today's club media day will be moved to November 29 due to weather!

- ★ Please bring in your shoe boxes with items for Operation Christmas Child this week to your theology teacher. We will deliver those next week. If you have any questions, please see Mrs. Sutherlin or Mr. Creel.
- ★ National Honor Society Members, please read the email from Ms. Wilkinson remember to bring your canned goods as soon as possible.
- ★ Congratulations to our competition cheer team for winning first place in the Game Day Division at Cheer for Hope on November 3.
- ★ Juniors, please make sure you have read the email from Ms. Wilkinson. Please let her know as soon as possible if you are interested in taking the online practice SAT exam.
- ★ Due to the amount of rainfall received yesterday and this morning, tonight's junior high soccer games against Gulfport have been postponed until a later date. We will inform you of the makeup date once it has been decided.
- ★ Second quarter progress reports will available via PowerSchool tomorrow. Teachers will have all second quarter grades updated by tomorrow.