

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, December 6, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

We bless you from the house of the Lord. (Psalm 118:26)

For many children, today is a special day. On the eve of the feast of St. Nicholas, they put their shoes outside their bedroom door before they go to bed, and in the morning they find treats inside them. St. Nick has made a visit!

The real St. Nicholas was born in 270 of wealthy parents who died in an epidemic while he was young. Raised by an uncle who was a monk, Nicholas was eventually ordained a priest. He spent years as a pilgrim in the Holy Land, and when he returned, he was consecrated the bishop of Myra, a city in southwestern Turkey. A bold defender of the divinity of Christ during the Council of Nicaea, Nicholas died on December 6, 343.

Countless stories have come down through the centuries of Nicholas' remarkable generosity. According to one famous story, Nicholas helped a poor man who had no money for a dowry for his three daughters. Without a dowry, they would remain unmarried and possibly end up having to support themselves as prostitutes. So Nicholas threw a bag of gold

into the man's window one night, and did it again as each of the other two daughters came of age. (Thus began the tradition of St. Nick secretly giving children gifts.)

How can we be a blessing to other people as St. Nicholas was? By being as generous as we can. By imitating Nicholas' habit of giving ourselves to other people through acts of love, compassion, and kindness. Every day, God gives us opportunities to bless people by giving of ourselves, just as he does. Every day, he invites us to share in the joy he has in pouring himself out for his children.

God has been generous to you in so many ways. Today, in response to that generosity, ask God to open your eyes to the needs around you. Ask him to show you too how deeply he has blessed you. Then let your love and gratitude for these blessings flow out of you to help lift up the distressed, the poor, the lost, and the needy. As you become a blessing to others, you will be blessed as well!

"Lord, show me how I can be more generous to the people around me this Advent season."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Service hours are due by December 14. Because of the calculation for senior exemptions, seniors your service hours are due by December 12.
- ★ It's that time of year again! Let's get our school in the Christmas spirit by participating in our annual door decorating contest. Each first period should creatively decorate their door in time for judging on Tuesday December 11. There will be two winners this year- a religious one and a festive one.
- ★ There will be an FCA Chapter Meeting this Friday in the auditorium at 7:50 am.

- ★ The following clubs will be photographed today beginning at 12:50. Please know that there will not be a makeup day. This is for students only. Sponsors will be photographed separately.
 - Aisling 12:51-12:56
 - Bible Study 12:57-1:01
 - National Junior Honor Society 1:02-1:12
 - Choir 1:13-1:18
 - National Honor Society 1:19-1:29
 - National Science Honor Society 1:30-1:40
 - National English Honor Society 1:41-1:51
 - Spanish Honor Society 1:52-2:02
 - Drama Guild 2:03-2:13

- ★ Deacon Buddy at St. Thomas Catholic Church in Long Beach is hosting a drive for the Stone County Correctional Facility and the Harrison County Prison. The items needed include: white men and women crew socks, men and women deodorant, shampoo, body wash, and hard candies. Please bring your items to your first period classes. All items are due by December 14. Thank you for your participation.

- ★ The auditions for the spring production have been postponed until January. There will be no auditions this week.