

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Tuesday, December 11, 2018

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*He rejoices more over it than over the ninety-nine.
(Matthew 18:13)*

More rejoicing over finding one lost sheep than the ninety-nine that stayed where they were supposed to be? That sounds backwards. Doesn't Jesus expect us not to stray? Doesn't he want us to follow him faithfully and obediently?

Of course he does! And of course he rejoices over our faithful obedience. But Jesus also wants to do for us what he was trying to do for Israel's religious leaders when he first told this parable: he wants to turn our vision upside down in order to teach us how to value what he values.

Of course Jesus loves and values every one of us. But when it comes to the unsettled, the confused, or those mired in sin—these people tug at his heart in a special way. He doesn't want to see any of these people get lost or left behind. And neither does he want us, his disciples, to turn away from them. He wants us to share our love, our faith, and our material resources with them.

This call to care for those who are wandering often requires two shifts in our perspective. First, we need to take on

Jesus' vision so that we actually "see" people who have strayed. It's easy to live in a world of our own making, safely cut off from anyone who is different from us. How can we care for someone if we don't notice them?

Second, we need to take on Jesus' heart by moving from judgment to compassion. We can be tempted to look at those wandering and search for character flaws that may have caused them to take a wrong turn. But unless we replace our judgmental attitudes with respect and goodwill, we won't be able to help them or lead them back to the Lord.

Take a look today at your disposition toward the people you tend to judge harshly. It could be a group of people, like the tax collectors, who upset many of the Pharisees in Jesus' day. Or it could be just one or two people you know. Ask God to forgive you for any negative attitudes you might have toward them, and tell him you want to learn how to love them. Let Jesus open your eyes. Let him soften your heart.

"Jesus, turn my thinking upside down. Teach me how to seek and save the lost."

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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.
- ★ Sign up sheets are in Mrs. Lawson and Ms. Moon's rooms for the Saturday, December 15, visit to the Children's Shelter.

- ★ FCA Members should have their Christmas toys turned into Coach Dellenger by December 19.
- ★ The following clubs will be photographed Thursday, December 13 during fifth and sixth periods: Junior High Student Council, High School Student Council, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Chess Club, SAVE Club, French Honor Society, Big Buddies, Mu Alpha Theta.
- ★ We would like to congratulate the seventh grade girls basketball team on their victory last night against Vancleave, we won 21-12. Players of the game were Ashlyn Stegall, Addison Fountain, Chloe Santiago, and Hailey Necaise.

We would also like to congratulate the eighth grade girls basketball team on their win against Vancleave last night, with the final score 30-26. Players of the game were Julianna Sabagh, Caroline Dellenger, and Alex Taggart.
- ★ Congratulations to the varsity men's soccer team in their victory over Sacred Heart last night. Chris Collins and Chad Hudson each scored a goal to lead the way for the Irish.
- ★ Congratulations to the junior high Lady Irish soccer team on their win against West Wortham. The Lady Irish won 3 to 1 in a shootout after tying 3 to 3 in regulation.
- ★ National Honor Society Members, there will be a meeting tomorrow at 7:45 in the auditorium. Everyone bring a pen and a Christmas card.
- ★ National Junior honor society members should have all received an email with a link to order this year's t-shirt. Please fill this out by the end of the day.
- ★ Congratulations to the boys junior high soccer team for their 1-0 victory against West Wortham last night.