

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, January 29, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

*Christ has appeared . . . to take away sin by his sacrifice.
(Hebrews 9:26)*

Why did Jesus have to suffer and die for us? Couldn't God have saved us without such a heavy sacrifice?

Many have asked that question over the centuries, including St. Thomas Aquinas, whose feast it is today. A Doctor of the Church, Aquinas revolutionized the Church's understanding of its teaching. His works are still studied in seminaries around the world. He is admired both for his brilliance as well as his humility, and his spiritual life has become a model for believers everywhere. Building on the work of earlier saints like Augustine and Jerome, Aquinas found a way to explain the great mysteries of our faith to people at a time when other philosophies and teachings were gaining ground.

So how did Aquinas answer the question above? By telling us that Jesus had to die not only "as a remedy for sin," but also "as an example" for us. Here is how he explained it:

"If you seek the example of love: Greater love than this no man has, than to lay down his life for his friends. . . . If Christ gave his life for us, then it should not be difficult to

bear whatever hardships arise for his sake.

"If you seek patience, you will find no better example than the cross. Great patience occurs in two ways: either when we patiently suffer much, or when we suffer things we are able to avoid but don't avoid. Christ endured much on the cross, and did so patiently. . . .

"If you seek an example of humility, look upon the crucified one, for God wished to be judged by Pontius Pilate and to die.

"If you seek an example of obedience, follow him who became obedient to the Father even unto death. . . .

"If you seek an example of despising earthly things, follow him who is the King of kings. . . . He was stripped, mocked, spat upon, struck, crowned with thorns, and given only vinegar and gall to drink."

Today, spend some time gazing at a crucifix. Think of all the ways Jesus has shown you how to live. Then ask God for the grace to give your life in service of other people—just as his Son did.

"Thank you, Jesus, for teaching me how to live in your grace."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Isabel Leatherman and Olivia Leatherman!

- ★ St. Patrick's first ever Contemporary Christian concert starring Brandon Green will be held Friday, February 1, at 7 pm, tickets are \$10.00 each in advance online or \$20.00 at the door. All students who purchase a ticket and attend will receive a free jean day.

- ★ Congratulations to the men's soccer team for their hard work - they are the district champions, and we are hosting the playoff game at home Wednesday at 5:30. Please come out and support the team!

Coach Camps and the men's soccer team wish the best to the Lady Irish as they compete in the first round of the playoffs.

- ★ Varsity track practice will be at the stadium starting at 3:25 today .
- ★ The St. Patrick chapter of the National Art Honor Society is pleased to announce their new officers: President, Carly Loftis; Vice President, Alaina Olsen; Secretary, Christian McKee; Treasurer, Nikki Guild.
- ★ This past weekend, Vincent DeStazio and Thomas Owen participated in the annual GCBDA Honor band clinic at Gulfport High School. Vincent and Thomas were selected to participate through an audition process and represented our school in outstanding fashion.
- ★ The St. Patrick Fighting Irish men's Basketball team defeated Collins Friday night 67-66. Jay Parker, Drew Roth, Michael Fitzpatrick, and Windfield Swetman led the Irish in scoring while Nick Krass, Michael Moeller, and Parker Frame played outstanding defense. The team will travel to Richton Tuesday night in a Division game. Coach Robinson and the team would like to thank the tremendous home crowd for their support. It was loud and fun.
- ★ Makeup tennis tryouts will be held this Wednesday from 3:30-4:30 at Bayou Bluff.