

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Thursday, February 14, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

It is not good for the man to be alone. (Genesis 2:18)

If you love a good romance story, especially on St. Valentine's Day, you'll appreciate today's first reading. When God creates a woman out of the first man's rib and presents her to him, the man reacts with pure delight and satisfaction. Finally he has found his soul mate, the "suitable partner" he had been searching for (Genesis 2:18).

This passage is clearly about God's plan for marriage, but there's another truth here that applies to everyone—married, single, priests, and religious. God never designed any of us to be alone. He created us in such a way that we thrive on the love and support of other people. We need those special people in our lives who will care for us, listen to us, and help us to grow in faith.

Yet too many people today feel lonely and isolated. Studies have shown that isolation affects us emotionally and spiritually. It can cause us to magnify our problems. It can leave us open to feelings of self-pity and self-doubt. It can even cause sickness. And it just plain hurts.

It's very easy to become so busy and preoccupied that we

lose sight of the people who might need some of our time and attention. We all know someone who suffers from loneliness; it could be a member of our extended family or even someone in our own home. A simple visit, phone call, or invitation to dinner can make a huge difference in that person's life. It can tell them that they are valued. It can help lift them out of any sadness or fear they might be feeling. It can encourage them to reach out and form new relationships.

If you're feeling lonely yourself, think about the people you know who might be in a similar situation. Don't wait for someone to reach out to you; reach out to them instead. Even if you are housebound, a phone call can be a source of great blessing and comfort—and it will probably help you as well.

It's not good for any of us to be alone. God wants us to be one body in Christ. We can be Christ's presence today to someone who might be feeling isolated, lonely, or forgotten.

"Lord, help me to reach out in love to one lonely person today."

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Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy birthday to Aiden Mowrey!
- ★ Tonight in the regional basketball tournament the St. Patrick Fighting Irish teams will be in action. The women's team will host Richton at 7:00 p. m. followed by the men's game against North Forrest at 8:15 p.m.
- ★ Our school is participating in a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as we do every year. This fundraiser raises money through Pasta for Pennies for kids who are suffering with blood and bone cancers. This is a competition between all first period classes and the winning class will get a pasta party provided by Olive

Garden. First period teachers should have received an email with more information about the service fundraiser including how to set up an online classroom page so that friends and family can donate to your class via the internet. If we meet our goal of \$3500, the top TWO classes will receive a pasta party!

To help your first period raise some money, this Monday we will be duct taping Dr. Buckley to a wall during 1st period as a part of the Pasta for Pennies fundraiser. A strip of duct tape will cost \$2, and all students that bring money to purchase duct tape will be able to participate in the event by taping him to the wall! Let's make sure there is plenty of duct tape! All money raised will go into your first period box.