

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, February 15, 2019

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*"Jesus left the district of Tyre and went . . . into the district of the Decapolis. (Mark 7:31)*

Before we get into today's Gospel, let's rewind two chapters. Do you remember how, in Mark 5, Jesus healed a demon-possessed man? Because of this great miracle, the man who was cured wanted to follow Jesus. But Jesus told him instead to "Go . . . announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you" (Mark 5:19).

And that's exactly what he did. This man went out into the Decapolis, a region heavily influenced by Greek, Gentile culture, and began talking with people about what Jesus had done for him.

Now jump back to today's Gospel. Lo and behold, Jesus goes into the Decapolis himself. When he arrives, he finds people who are open. Apparently, they've heard that Jesus is a healer, because they bring him a man with a hearing and speech impediment. After Jesus heals the man, the people are astounded—so much so that they can't help but tell others (Mark 7:36).

Don't you think the man from Mark 5 had a part to play in

the people's openness? His words must have softened their hearts and piqued their interest in Jesus. Then the seeds he planted blossomed when these people encountered the Lord for themselves.

In the same way, you can sow seeds of faith—by your kindness, by showing mercy to someone who has wronged you, by sharing about what God has done in your own life. Those seeds have great potential to play a part in someone's openness to the Lord. God really can use your witness to soften hearts and to stir up interest.

Of course, even after you've planted seeds of faith, you don't always see people taking steps toward the Lord. Still, you can trust that God is working, even if you can't detect any evidence of it. Just as the man from Mark 5 probably never knew that Jesus was going to visit the Decapolis again, we never know when Jesus will "visit" the people with whom we've shared our faith. So let's keep planting those seeds—and leave it to the Lord to make them bloom someday!

*"Lord, give me the courage to share about how much you've done for me."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday! The following students will celebrate their birthdays this weekend: Evan Holliman, Christina Parry, and Hope Williams.
- ★ 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.

- ★ We would like to congratulate the Lady Irish varsity basketball team on their victory last night against Richton in the semi finals of the district tournament. We won 48-37. With this victory, the Lady Irish will play in the district championship game tonight at 7:00 p.m. Players of the game were Quinlan Pisciotta, Emilee Nolte, Makenzie Stenum, Alayna Miller, Chandler Wheeler, Sarah D'Aquila, and Gabriela Patino. Congratulations ladies!