

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tuesday, February 25, 2019

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*In fire gold and silver are tested, and worthy people in the crucible of humiliation. (Sirach 2:5)*

Did you know that the ancient method of refining precious metals is still practiced today? Craftsmen still subject gold or silver to intense heat in a metal container called a crucible until it melts. Then the hot, molten metal is carefully stirred, and the impurities that rise to the top are skimmed off. The process was, and still is, dangerous, time consuming, and painstaking. But what emerges is beautiful, lustrous, and of great worth.

In times of adversity, we may feel as if we're trapped in a fiery hot crucible. And far more often than when life is going smoothly, the heat of our trials can cause sinful thoughts, attitudes, and actions to bubble up to the surface.

Fortunately for us, Jesus is a skilled craftsman who knows how to refine us. He is sitting patiently by the cauldron with a watchful eye and skilled hand, carefully and meticulously removing every little impurity that floats to the surface.

Sometimes it's painful to see these impurities bubble up in us. We may even want to ignore or hide some of them

because we're embarrassed or afraid of God's reaction to them. He sees all of them, of course, so our best response to his work of refining us is to cooperate with him. Let those impurities see the light of day so that the Master Refiner can skim them away.

Let's say you're feeling exhausted or stressed, and you end up reacting harshly to a family member who needs your help. Don't hide in shame! Don't make excuses for yourself! Just bring that over-the-top reaction to the Lord. Ask him, and the person you have hurt, to forgive you. It may be uncomfortable, but that's what refining is all about. Keep the end result in mind, and that will make it easier.

God doesn't cause our difficult circumstances, but he can bring good out of them—and he often does. So when you find yourself in a fiery furnace, try to cooperate with him. Let those impurities come out so that he can skim them away. Over time, your life will shine—not with fake gold, but with the real gold of Christ.

*"Lord, give me patience whenever I find myself in a 'crucible of faith.' Help me to stay close to you so that you can continue to purify me."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ The pizza luncheon for the Class of 2023 - the winning class of the Catholic Schools Week Quarter Challenge - will be held tomorrow.
- ★ We will be having a St. Patrick's Day Dance for our junior high students (grades 7-8) on Saturday, March 16, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The cost to attend is \$5. There will also be a parent social for parents of junior high students.

★ We are in intense competition with Pasta for Pennies. So far, here are the top three classes:

1st place: Farragut \$270

2nd Place: Buckley \$223

3rd Place: Norton \$207

This Friday is the final day, so let's get to our goal of \$3500! Family and friends can still donate online. The donation page can be found on our website and on social media. To end our fundraiser service, Student Council will host a bake sale during lunches on Thursday and Friday. We will take cash or checks. There will be first-period teacher jars so that the money can be put toward your first period. All baked goodies will sell for \$1 each.

Did you know:

- Approximately every 3 minutes one person in the United States is diagnosed with a blood cancer.
- Leukemia is the most common cancer in children, adolescents and young adults younger than 20 years old.
- The leukemia age-adjusted death rate for children, adolescents and young adults younger than 20 years in the US has declined by 78.6 percent from 1970 to 2014. Despite this decline, leukemia is the second leading cause of cancer death among children, adolescents and young adults younger than 20 years.

Let's continue to be a part of making leukemia and other blood cancers completely curable! Clean out your car's consul, pull up your couch cushions, and bring in all that change to your first period!