

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, March 1, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

A faithful friend is beyond price. (Sirach 6:15)

Several years ago, sociologists at Duke University published a study on isolation in America. The study found that over the past two decades, Americans' circle of close friends has shrunk dramatically. Twice as many people report that they have no one with whom they can share important matters.

According to the study, the pace of modern life keeps us from developing deep and lasting friendships. Between busy schedules, changing obligations, and the growth of isolating devices like smartphones and tablets, we can allow ourselves to drift away from one another. What makes it even worse is that many people want to have faithful friends—and to be faithful friends—but they find it very challenging. How sad that so many people feel alone!

Sirach describes the kind of friend we all want to have—one who sticks by us no matter what. In good times and bad, through ups and downs, a true friend remains faithful. It's no accident that this quality of faithfulness is echoed in the wedding vows we profess: for better or worse, in sickness and health, for richer or poorer, until death.

So how do we learn to love like that? By steeping ourselves in the knowledge of God's faithfulness: his unwavering, reliable commitment to us. The more we experience what this kind of friendship is like, the more ready we will be to show it to the people closest to us.

Who loves more perfectly than Jesus, the Friend who never forsakes you, the Spouse who is always devoted? Who knows you better than your Father, who sees all your sin and yet stays with you to help you grow in holiness?

Think about God's faithfulness today. Recall how he led his people to the Promised Land despite their weak faith and episodes of disobedience. Think about King David and how, despite his up-and-down faithfulness to the commandments, God never withdrew his blessing. Or think about how Jesus forgave Peter for denying him three times. Fill your mind with stories like these, and you'll see what faithful friendship looks like. Let them teach you how to be a better friend—and how to welcome the love of the friends God has already given you.

"Jesus, show me how faithfully you love me. Make me a faithful friend."

Reprinted with permission of *The Word Among Us*, 7115 Guilford Dr #100, Frederick, MD 21704, wau.org, 1-800-775-9673

Today's Announcements:

- ★ Happy Birthday to Chelsea Hayes and Mr. Gruich! Celebrating a birthday this weekend are Caroline Dellenger, Kylie Herron, Taylor Jernigan, and Sawyer Stone!
- ★ 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.

- ★ Cheer tryouts are quickly approaching. Tryouts will be held on March 15th. Please be sure to get your paperwork and packet information turned in to Ms. Hebert no later than March 13th. For any questions regarding this, please reach out to Ms. Hebert in room 102.

- ★ Mrs. Rosetti will host a resume workshop for students in grades 9-12 on Wednesday, March 6, at 3:15 p.m. The workshop will last until 5 p.m. and will include tips on how to create your strongest resume yet. To RSVP, please email your current resume to erosetti@stpatrickhighschool.net.

- ★ Face painters are needed at the Nativity BVM Elementary 5K on Saturday, March 9, from 8-11 a.m. Please let Mrs. Rosetti know if you are interested in helping.

- ★ The bake sale for Pasta for Patients will be during lunches today. There are several options to choose including brownies, rice krispies, cupcakes, and cookies. Everything will be \$1 and the money will go toward your first period's grand total. Tomorrow is the final day to collect money in your first period classes, and the winner will be announced when we return from Mardi Gras holidays.