

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, August 14, 2019

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. (Matthew 18:20)*

We often associate today's Gospel reading with intercession. We find great comfort in knowing that Jesus is with us even when only a few of us gather to pray for people! But there is more going on here than intercession. If you look at the stories that surround this passage, you can see that Jesus is talking about another particular time when he is present with us: when we come together to repair relationships.

You can imagine Jesus needing to teach his followers about how to handle wounded relationships. After all, they were ordinary human beings like us. They bickered over who was the greatest, they disagreed about who did the most work, and they surely rubbed each other the wrong way at times. So Jesus wanted to teach them how to get reconciled.

It's hard to talk about what we've done wrong. It's even harder to bring up a wrong done to us and do it in a loving and humble way. And it's hardest of all to forgive and start anew. We need God's grace to begin this process at all, and

we really need his help to do it well. That's why Jesus promised to be with his disciples—with us—whenever we gather to do the hard work of rebuilding a relationship wounded by sin or weakness.

You can probably think of a relationship in your life that could use some fixing right now. Maybe you feel that it's time to take the first step and reach out. That might well be the Holy Spirit.

Jesus longs to see his children forgiving one another just as he forgave us. He is so dedicated to our reconciliation that he promises to be with us every step of the way. When you're holding the phone and trying to muster up the courage to call, he is there to help you do it. When you're sitting down together for that difficult conversation, he is there to give you loving words and grace to listen well. When things get tense, he is there to give you self-control and compassion. He is there to work miracles every time we try to choose unity over division!

*"Lord, make me an instrument of your peace and reconciliation."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- Happy birthday to James Edwards, Marshall Eleuterius, Carson Kilpatrick, and Tanner Lunn!
- We will celebrate our first schoolwide mass of the 2019-20 school year tomorrow morning at 9:40. Students are reminded to follow the liturgy dress code including blazers and ties tomorrow.
- School pictures will be taken tomorrow morning. Students, your parents should have received an email with instructions for ordering school pictures.

- Today will be day three of the advisement rotation for seventh and eighth grade students. Seventh and eighth grade teachers, please review the schedule with your students.
- There will be a drama guild meeting today from 3 until 3:30 p.m. The Drama Guild is open to students in grades 7-12.
- Students, if you are not already a member of the National Honor Society and hold a 3.0 grade point average, you will receive an application packet today or tomorrow. It is due by 3:30 on August 21. You must give your packet to Ms. Wilkinson. If you do not receive a packet and think you have a 3.0, please see Ms. Wilkinson.
- Eighth and ninth grade students who are eligible to join the National Junior Honor Society should receive an invitation to apply today or tomorrow in first period. Students who wish to apply should fill out the application and return to Dr. Casey in room 118 by 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21. If you have any questions or you believe you should have received a letter and did not, please see Dr. Casey or Mrs. Alexander.
- A big thank you to all who filled the student section at last night's volleyball game. School spirit is important and I know Coach Blakeney and the volleyball team appreciates the support you provide.