

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

We always give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you. (Colossians 1:3)

Paul definitely had a lot to pray for when it came to the believers in Colossae. Epaphras, a fellow missionary and probably the one who founded the church there, had run into some problems. False teachers were beginning to lead some of the believers astray. They spoke of angels and cosmic powers, and they held that people could contact these beings if they practiced scrupulous self-discipline. Clearly, Paul needed to set the people straight. But how to begin his letter?

Notice what Paul doesn't do: he doesn't begin by drawing attention to the problems or misunderstandings. He doesn't get embroiled in theological debate. Following his normal letter-writing custom, he begins by giving thanks for the Colossians. He thanks God for their authentic faith, which he has heard of. He thanks God for their genuine love of all "the holy ones" (Colossians 1:4). And he thanks God for the depth of their hope and trust in the Lord.

By pointing out all that was going well for them, Paul was paving the way for the correction he would have to give

them later. By focusing first on thanksgiving, Paul kept God's blessings in the forefront of his mind—and theirs as well.

Like moistening or waxing the end of a thread to help it fit through the eye of a needle, thanksgiving can help us sharpen and focus our intercessory prayer. When we start praying for a situation by giving thanks for all the good that God is already doing there, our hope is built up. So is our trust in God's plan as well as our confidence that he will intervene according to his own wisdom and timing.

The next time you face something that troubles your heart or a situation you want to pray for, remember St. Paul, and begin by giving thanks. Ask God to bring to light the good things that he is already doing, even the unexpected ways he is at work. Let him build your hope in him. Let him show you he is trustworthy.

"Lord, you know the situations that weigh heavily on me. Open my eyes to the ways you are already at work, and help me be thankful."

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Today's Announcements:

- Happy birthday to Luke Deroche and Joshua Knipfer!
- Today is day 3 of the advisement rotation.
- Students who have the yearly meal plan are allocated \$5 per day to their cafeteria account. If you go over \$5, you will need to pay cash for the remainder of your order. All students must have a positive balance on their cafeteria

account or bring money in order to get breakfast or lunch from the cafeteria. If you have a negative balance and need to charge your lunch today, stop by the office right after first period.

- Applications for membership in Robotics are due this Friday, September 6, to Mrs. Worrel. The forms are in room 202. The purpose of the application is for contact information and areas of interest in the many categories of robotics. See Mrs. Worrel this week if you are still interested in joining.
- Nativity is seeking volunteers to help out with their annual Halloween Carnival. The carnival will be held Saturday, October 19, from 1pm to 9pm. They will also need volunteers for set-up on Friday from 3:30pm to 6pm as well as clean up on Sunday from 8am to 11am. If you are interested in helping out, please see Mrs. Collier at the front desk to sign up.
- Any student interested in playing baseball in the spring, including current players, please stop by room 107 and see Coach Buckley this week.
- NJHS and NHS members, there will be a brief practice this Friday at 9:00am in the cafeteria. Please bring your book bags so that you can go directly to second period. All officers and inductees are required to attend this practice.
- Our varsity volleyball team defeated Greene County last night in four games. They will face Perry Central Thursday night at 6:30 at home. Come out and support our team as they face their first district team.
- Students in grades 9-12 who would like to run for a FCA officer position should pick up an application from Coach Dellenger this week.
- Fall drama auditions start Thursday after school. There is a signup sheet on the door by Mrs. Trahan's room to schedule a time.
- Sophomores and Juniors, Governor's school is accepting applications. You will receive a handout today with more information. If you have any other questions, please email or see Ms. Wilkinson.
- Congressman Palazzo would like to invite all students to this year's Academy Day scheduled for Saturday, September 7, 2019. This event will be held at the Hospitality Resort Management Center of MS Gulf Coast Community College in Biloxi, MS, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. If anyone has any questions, please email Ms. Wilkinson.