

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Tuesday, September 24, 2019

### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the Lord." (Psalm 122:1)*

Psalm 122 is a "song of ascents," one of fifteen psalms sung by Jewish pilgrims as they traveled to Jerusalem for the annual feast of Passover. These psalms recall the joy and excitement the Jews felt as they returned to Jerusalem after their exile—a story that we find in today's first reading.

So imagine you are a first-century Jew in a caravan, traveling the dusty, arduous road that will take you to Jerusalem for the feast. As you sing this psalm, you rejoice to think of how the Lord worked miraculously to bring your ancestors back to the Promised Land. You recall how lonely and cut off from God's promises these exiles must have felt in the land of Babylon. Separated from the Temple, the house of God, they had nowhere to go to celebrate their holy feasts.

But then the pagan King Darius issued an order allowing them to return home and rebuild their Temple—he even financed the effort. Understandably, it was hard for these exiles to contain their joy. The words of the prophets

promising return and restoration were being fulfilled. They were finally going home. Of course they rejoiced to go to the house of the Lord! Of course any first-century Jew would have felt that same joy as he made his way to the Temple. His ancestors' story was his story as well, and he was excited to relive it.

Have you ever felt this kind of delight? You might think you don't have much in common with the ancient Jews. You have not been in exile; in fact, you probably went to the house of the Lord a couple of days ago to celebrate Sunday Mass. But their story is yours too. Sin had made you an exile from God's presence, but now, through Christ, you have been brought near.

So do what the Jews did, and remember: God has fulfilled his promises to you. Your exile is over. God has made his home in your heart. He is present in your family. And even better, he is present when you go to the house of the Lord to join your brothers and sisters in Christ.

*"Lord, I will rejoice to go to your house!"*

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### Today's Announcements:

- Today is day 3 of the advisement rotation.
- Homecoming dance tickets are on sale - tickets are \$25 each and may be purchased from the front office or the spirit store on the St. Patrick website.
- Students who received approval to bring an outside guest for the Homecoming dance, remember that your guests must have a photo ID for entrance into the dance.

- Students planning to attend Irish Idol may purchase a ticket from their first period teacher this morning. The cost is \$2. Make plans to support your fellow classmates as they sing, dance, and act their way to Irish stardom.
- Mock Trial students can get a copy of the 2020 case from Mr. Eleuterius, room 116. Also, there will be a Mock Trial meeting Thursday in Mr. Eleuterius' room at 3:05pm. All Mock Trial students must attend.
- Students, if you are ages 15 to 18, you are eligible for the Early Wyman Performance Achievement Award Scholarship. Please see Ms. Wilkinson for an application.
- Essay Contests: Students, The Maryknoll Essay Contest, the Patriot's Pen, and the Voice of Democracy Essay Contest are all available. Your English teachers have the information.
- Choir rehearsal will be held Wednesday immediately after school in the band hall.
- Congratulations to our students of the month: seventh grade, Julian Baker and Annabelle Tarrant; eighth grade, Jade Agler and Colin Cloud; ninth grade, Brooke Farrar and Thomas Owen; tenth grade, Avery Culbertson and Scarlet Nation; eleventh grade, Kelsey Descher and Quinlan Pisciotta; twelfth grade, Beyla Bleichner and Alaina Olsen.