

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, September 6, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead.
(Colossians 1:18)*

Paul couldn't have known: a few years after the believers in Colossae received this letter, their city would be decimated by a powerful earthquake. Historians tell us that the city never fully recovered.

It's possible that some of the Colossian believers grieved the loss of a spouse or a child in the quake. Others, seeing their livelihoods buried in the rubble, uprooted their families and sought refuge elsewhere.

Disasters have a way of confronting us head-on with the problem of suffering, don't they? Whether it's recent stories of major flooding or something more localized, like a family member's death, suffering can shake a person's faith, undermine their resolve, and leave behind emotional wounds that don't easily heal. In short, suffering threatens to drain us of hope.

That's why this passage is so relevant for those who are in the midst of suffering. Not because it's a treatise on grief or pain—it doesn't mention them—but because it reveals Jesus as the source of our hope in every situation.

Try to use your imagination as you think about the hope Paul talks about. Think about how the Colossians might

have clung to Paul's words here in the aftermath of the quake. And of course, consider how Jesus is the basis for your hope too.

Because Jesus is the head of the Church, we have hope (Colossians 1:18). Jesus would never abandon his people at the first sight of danger. He demonstrated his commitment to us by enduring the cross, preferring to shed his blood than leave us at the mercy of sin. Even in the thick of our suffering, our good Shepherd stands with us, ready to give us peace.

Because Jesus rose from the dead, we have hope (Colossians 1:18). Death wasn't the end for Jesus; he overcame it. Death isn't the end for us either. We are looking forward to eternal life with the Lord. Our loved ones who have died in Christ are already with him, eagerly waiting to see us again.

Because Jesus is reconciling all things, we have hope (Colossians 1:20). Right now, Jesus is reconciling everything, even our pain and grief, with his plan for us. From the "rubble" of our suffering, he's producing the fruit of maturity in our lives.

"Jesus, you are the firstborn of all creation! I place all my hope in you."

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Today's Announcements:

- Happy Birthday to Nikolas Chevalier and Mrs. Tia Edwards! Celebrating a birthday this weekend are Kayla Coniglio, Dixie Graham, Isabella Patino, Savanna Wild and Coach Aaron Hommell!

- Today is day 5 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 today 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 today 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.
- 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 today after school. There is a signup sheet on the door by Mrs. Trahan's room to schedule a time.
- 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.
- Any student who plans to be a member of the SAVE club please sign your name and email on the roster list outside Dr. Casey's door, room 118.
- Out of school guest forms for grades 9-12 for the Homecoming dance are now available in the front office or online at www.stpatrickhighschool.net/academics and are due back no later than Friday, September 20.
- Congratulations to the junior varsity and varsity volleyball teams on their win over Perry Central last night. Go Irish!!