

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Tuesday, September 10, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

See to it that no one captivate you with an empty, seductive philosophy. (Colossians 2:8)

How did the Colossians get so off track? They had learned that salvation comes through Jesus' death and resurrection, but some of them were being swayed by false teachings. Paul called these teachings not only "empty" but "seductive" (Colossians 2:8). They had a way of drawing people in.

Every age has its own seductive philosophies that have the potential to lead people away from Christ. We might encounter one as we interact with a classmate or while we're talking with a relative at a family party. So how can we respond?

You may be tempted to overreact to what you hear and start arguing or quoting Scripture verses or Church doctrines. But even if you feel that you have something important to say, this is usually not an effective strategy. It's likely to cause the other person to dismiss you and whatever you have to offer.

What if you tried, instead, to simply listen and ask questions? You could ask how the person came to this conclusion and why they believe it. Or you could try to find a point of mutual agreement between what they believe and your own faith in Christ.

These kinds of conversations, marked by sincerity and kindness, build trust. And trust is what builds bridges between people. If someone begins to respect and trust you, they will be more open to hearing about your own views and beliefs. Who knows? As your friendship grows, that person may actually want to hear about Jesus and how he has changed your life.

Finally, don't forget to pray. Ask Jesus to guide the person and open their mind to him. Pray also that God will help you to grow in love for your friend and in your ability to see him as God sees him. Scholars tell us that Paul probably never met the Colossians, but he still loved them. After all, that's why he wrote this letter to them—because he cared for them.

This kind of outreach is very much one step at a time. It involves sowing what can look like small seeds, where you don't see a conversion in a single conversation. But just think: every seed you sow can bring that person one step closer to Christ!

"Jesus, teach me to treat people who don't yet know you with the same love that you have for them."

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Today's Announcements:

- Happy Birthday to Sarah Alexander and Rhett Jones!

- Today is day 7 of the advisement rotation.
- Out of school guest forms for grades 9-12 for the Homecoming dance are now available in the front office or on the website and are due back no later than Friday, September 20.
- Students for Life is a group that strives to encourage a culture of life at St. Patrick. Club members also have the opportunity to travel to Washington, D.C., in January for the March for Life. Students in grades 9-12 interested in signing up for Students for Life, please sign up today on Mrs. Cloud's door. There is also a sign up for those interested in running for an office of this club.
- The first meeting of the Science Honor Society/Science Club is Tuesday, September 17. It will be held in room 202. Since Rosters are due, please sign your name on the sign up sheet outside of Mrs. Worrel's room today. By the end of the day today, the names that appear on that sheet will be submitted as our roster. Sign up today since we will soon be preparing for our fall blood drive.
- FCA applications are due to Coach Dellenger by the end of today.
- Robotics will now begin meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays first semester to build the fall robot. Members may go to room 117 to work in the lab from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.
- Choir rehearsal will be Wednesday after school in the band hall.
- Seniors and juniors, please remind your parents that Wednesday night is the annual financial aid night. It will begin at 6 p.m. and will be held in the auditorium. You are welcome to accompany your parents.
- Anyone who is interested in eSports, Mock Trial, or Youth Legislature needs to sign up today in Mr. Eleuterius' room.