

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, October 4, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

We today are flushed with shame. (Baruch 1:15)

We can all probably relate to the Israelites in today's first reading. Who hasn't felt red-faced with embarrassment at making a mistake? Who hasn't had the humbling experience of admitting we have done something truly wrong? We can all feel ashamed at times—and it goes beyond embarrassment or remorse.

Guilt is something we feel when we realize we have done something wrong. Shame, however, is something more. It's what we feel when we let our wrongdoings cling to us and define us. It's the feeling that comes when we think there is something disgraceful and unacceptable about who we are, not just what we have done. It can make us feel unlovable, and it can prevent us from turning to God for help.

That is where the Israelites found themselves in exile in Babylon. They realized that their sin had brought about the destruction of Jerusalem. Holding tightly to their faith, they still met to read God's word and offer heartfelt prayers, but they were burdened with shame. They mourned the death of so many people, and they bemoaned the fact that they could have prevented the sack of Jerusalem if only they had obeyed God's word.

But rather than remaining mired in shame, they turned to God in repentance. "Not on . . . just deeds . . . do we base our plea for mercy" (Baruch 2:19). They trusted that God would keep his covenant with them despite all their sins (2:27, 35). And he did. In time, their exile ended, and they came home to rebuild Jerusalem once more.

When he sent Jesus, God removed our guilt and our shame. Jesus took all our sins and "endured the cross, despising its shame" (Hebrews 12:2). Now he assures us that he doesn't condemn us. We don't need to be burdened by shame any longer.

If you, like the Israelites, are feeling burdened by shame, perhaps God is inviting you to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Unburden yourself. Confess whatever is weighing you down. Then ask God to remove your guilt and lift your shame. And breathe a sigh of relief and gratitude as you hear the priest say, "May God give you pardon and peace."

"Lord, I come to you for healing and forgiveness. Help me to live free from shame."

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Today's Announcements:

- Happy birthday to Lindsey Diamond and Casper Lizana! Celebrating birthdays this weekend are Reece Catchot, Benjamin Kirby, Henry Miller, Sophia Spicuzza and Ali Ware!
- Today is day 4 of the advisement rotation.

- Sacred Heart is seeking volunteers to help with their bazaar. If your interested in signing up, please see Mrs. Collier in the front office for more information.
- All Science Honor Society members need to make sure you have signed up today for a committee for the November 9 blood drive.
- Just a reminder for those who have not purchased a yearbook, yearbooks are still on sale. They are now \$100. Please see Mrs. Fountain in the front office to purchase yours.
- Seniors, please submit your senior quotes and your current photo and baby photo to Mrs. Aldrich for the yearbook by October 18.
- Any seventh and eighth grade young men interested in junior high basketball should plan to attend tryouts next Thursday, October 10, during fifth and sixth periods periods in the gym.
- Congratulations to the September Students of the Month:
 - 7th grade: Gavriela Busching, Kamryn Donoian
 - 8th grade: Adnan Khan, Liana Isabella Segarra-Ondina
 - 9th grade: Connor Galle, Ainsley Thriffiley
 - 10th grade: Grace Belk, Anna Grace Young
 - 11th grade: Dale Edwardson, Braleigh Moak
 - 12th grade: Camille Seghers, Annie Torp
- If you are in grades 9 -12, there will be a team from the University of Mississippi on campus Tuesday, October 8, at 3:00 in the auditorium. The team will talk about different majors and requirements. You do not have to attend the University of Mississippi to attend this session. It will last about 30 minutes. Please e-mail Ms. Wilkinson if you have any questions.
- Keep selling your Irish Raffle tickets - the first drawing is Friday, October 11!
 - Everyone who sells at least one book of tickets gets one throw (per book sold) at Dr. Buckley in a dunking booth.
 - The student who sells the most tickets gets to go to a nice lunch off campus with Dr. Buckley at the restaurant of your choice.
 - All teams who reach 100% will get a catered breakfast and late arrival to first period.
 - The teacher/staff who sells the most tickets gets a nice St. Patrick gift basket.
- State champion women's track, you may pick up your ring box from Coach Dellenger in room 108.