

ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Friday, December 6, 2019

Today's Prayer and Reflection:

Two blind men followed him. (Matthew 9:27)

Do you see what I see? According to a popular song, that's what the wind asks a little lamb on the night Jesus is born. The wind sees a star dancing in the night sky, celebrating the miracle of Bethlehem. It's a scene of excitement and wonder, a heavenly vision that sees something more than just another star.

You can almost imagine the blind men in today's Gospel reading saying something similar. Do you see what we are seeing? Of course, they would have known that everyone around them was able to see the beauty of creation. But imagine these men speaking about a heavenly vision. Imagine them asking, Do you see the Messiah? The One who proclaims God's mercy and who brings healing everywhere he goes? Can you see with the eyes of your heart?

It's easy to see with an earthly vision—our family, neighbors, and coworkers, even our obligations and challenges. But Christmas is about God helping us to see things that our "earthly eyes" could never perceive. It shows us a baby who is God, a pregnant woman who is a

sinless virgin, and a star that is a sign of salvation. It helps us see ourselves and the people around us in a new way too: as beloved children whom Jesus considers worth dying for and as temples of his own Holy Spirit.

How can we sharpen our spiritual vision? By imitating these two blind men. When they heard about Jesus, they believed that he could heal them. So they followed after Jesus, crying out until he stopped and turned to them. Then, when he asked whether they believed he could heal them, they confidently said yes. And with that, their eyes were opened.

We can follow after Jesus with the same kind of faith and persist in asking him to open our eyes. It's not a complicated matter, either. We can make sure we are spending time every day in prayer and Scripture reading. We can be vigilant in repenting for any sins that cloud our consciences. And we can try our best to treat the people around us with the love and respect they deserve. This simple formula will open our eyes—and it will move us to ask others, "Do you see what I see?"

"Lord, open the eyes of my heart. I want to see you!"

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Today's Announcements:

- Celebrating birthdays this weekend are Cooper Lott, Anthony Mattina, Gariel Regueira, and Taylor Stawarski!
- Today is day 1 of the advisement rotation.
- Our PTO is sponsoring our annual photos with Santa this upcoming Tuesday during your lunch period. You may wear a Christmas sweater with jeans and closed toed shoes if you bring an unwrapped, new toy for donation to

Hope Haven and our local children's court shelter. These kids are removed from their homes suddenly and will not be with their families at Christmas. Please bring a toy to your first period class on Tuesday to share with these children.

- Ministry experience hours are due to your theology teacher by December 20, and there will be no extensions. Students who do not complete the required ministry experience hours will be required to repeat the course per the handbook. For questions, please speak with your theology teacher or Mr. Creel.
- The prison ministry project has started, bring in white crew socks, travel size items such as deodorant, shampoo, and body wash and place them in the boxes that will be in the foyer. Seventh and eighth grade students can earn service hours by checking with their religion teachers and high school students can earn service hours for clubs. Please see Mr. Creel if you have any questions. This is a good opportunity to earn service hours before the semester ends.
- Softball tryouts will be Wednesday, December 11, at 3:30 at the softball complex. You need to be on the field by 3:30 dressed and ready for tryouts. Make sure you have a glove, proper attire, and a physical. Tryouts will last until 5:30. If you have any questions, please see Coach Blakeney.
- Track and field sign ups for junior high and varsity teams will be until December 13 with Coach Dellenger in room 108.
- The Interact Club will be participating in the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Biloxi National Cemetery on December 7, at 11:00 am. There will be a ceremony for those who are laid to rest at the Biloxi National Cemetery and will follow with laying of the wreaths upon the grave sites. Ms. Moon will be there with a sign in sheet at the ceremony. Parking can be a challenge so you will want to arrive before 11:00.
- The final payment for March for Life of \$250 is due today. Please make checks payable to St. Patrick and submit to Mrs. Cloud.
- Today is the Feast of Saint Nicholas. To celebrate the feast day we will be having a Nickel war - All Silver Coins are positive points, dollars are negative points, and pennies are negative points. This will be divided among grade levels. Each grade is asked to drop their coins in the jars during class change. The grade with the most money raised will get to pick which charity it will be donated.
 - Silver Coins - positive points
 - Nickel: 5 points, Dime: 10 points, Quarter: 25 points
 - Pennies and Dollars - negative points
 - Penny: -1 point, 1 Dollar: -100 points, 5 Dollars: -500 points
- The FCA chapter has a meeting for Monday, December 9, at 7:50.
- Student Council members will be ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle program. Please consider making a donation to help those less fortunate during this Christmas season. No amount is too small.
- The second date for tennis tryouts will be next Wednesday, December 11, at Bayou Bluff Tennis Club from 3:30 to 5:00.
- We would like to congratulate the eighth grade Lady Irish basketball team on their victory last night against West Wortham. We won 34-28. Players of the game were Chloe Santiago, Hailey Necaie, Izzy Patino, and Taylor Fayard. Congratulations girls!

- Junior high girls soccer won 2-1 against North Gulfport last night with goals coming from Kadence Sheppard and Anna Katherine Thriffiley. And, junior high boys soccer also won 2-0 with goals from Michael Baty and Andrew Williams.
- Congratulations to the seventh grade boys basketball team for defeating West Wortham with a score of 31-19. Joshua Roth led the team with 15 points. Liam Buchanan added 6, Colin McPhearson and Will Nolte each added 4 and Andrew Lowery had 2 points.

The eighth grade boys basketball team also won last night and the team is now 6-0 after defeating West Wortham 64-34. Ryan Roth led the team with 19 points, Matthew Krass has 17 points with 10 assists. Jack Hewes had 12 points. Dylan Nguyen, John Hay, Cohen Weinoffer, and Roman Moran added 4 points each.