

WEEK of 20 JANUARY 2019

This weekend videos featuring students from Covington Catholic HS have gone viral on the internet. The recordings show various aspects of encounters between the students, a Native American activist, and a group (the Black Hebrew Israelites) which initially engaged the youth. Many initial reactions have been highly negative; lamenting the state of youth and of the polarization in this nation.

Taken out of context, any filmed behavior can seem outrageous. In the heat of the moment and in the middle of group, young people – like older people – can make thoughtless and potentially serious mistakes. Certainly Cathedral students can and do.

This is why it is essential that we speak to and model our high expectations to our students. We do not do this because we believe our students to be superior to anyone but because we believe that they can become the men of faith to which they aspire. This takes repetition, reinforcement and time.

This Sunday's gospel provides us with the simple story of a mother asking her son to help save a wedding celebration from the disaster of running out of wine. Although Jesus initially rebuffed Mary's request, he later performed a miracle. He became the man she had imagined and the person she had modeled.

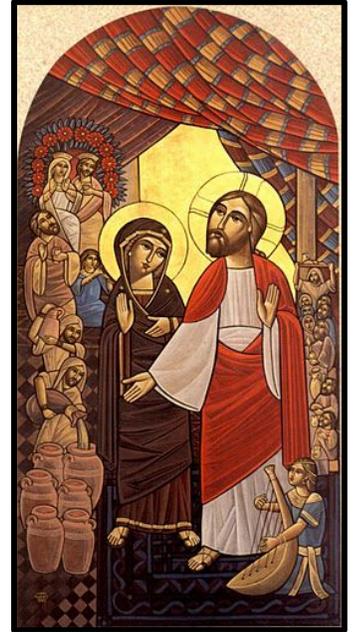
Please continue to have repeat your expectations to our students. Reinforce the message over time. Have faith!

PRAYERS REQUESTED for:

- Our students as they face temptations;

A member of Boy Scout Troop 007 raises 1The intentions of our staff and students for this week;

- Our young men to consider a life of service as a Brother, priest or deacon;
- Our seniors during their retreat;
- Ongoing rehabilitation of Aaron Cobos;
- In thanksgiving for our generous benefactors;
- Our seniors as they apply for university and scholarships;
- Those struggling financially in this economy;
- For peoples migrating around the world – especially those arriving in the borderland;
- Those in need of healing: especially for the brother-in-law of Mr. Soto; Ulli Reichenbach; Jesse Acosta (recovering from a heart attack); those fighting cancer (Homero Silva, alumnus John Armendariz, Mima Sofia Higuera, Rosa Maria Sosa, alumnus Javier Olmos); those dealing with addiction; and for those struggling with mental illness;
- The repose of the soul of Nena Quiett, sister of alumnus Bo Quiett, and the consolation of her family;



- The repose of the soul of the mother of Jeannette Peterson (finance office) and the consolation of her family.

KUDOS and THANKS:

Kudos to the **freshmen class, Brother Paul-Andre and Brother Rafael** for organizing our all-school Mass for January. Thank you to **Father Ron Gonzales, SJ**, for being the celebrant and to **Ms. Montoya** and her **musical/choral group**.

We're very grateful to our two **Jan-term volunteers** from Saint Mary's College of California. **Gerry Reyes** and **Nathaniel Panis** have been a tremendous resource for students and for the Counseling Department for the past four weeks.

Students and teachers from **Totino-Grace HS** participated in the *El Otro Lado* border immersion program this past week. We are grateful to **Mr. Lopez** and our students who served as hosts/guides: **Gerardo Peña, German Tirado, Christian Silva, Enrique Carrasco, Stephen Stresow, Adolfo Delgado, Diego Alvarez, Eduardo Duran, Marcos Figueroa-Casas, Daniel Herrada, Guillermo Lucero, Gerardo Peña, Enrique Carrasco and Guillermo Lucero**.

Kudos to **Ms. Torres** and **Mr. Espinoza** for hosting a **College Information Night** for **junior level parents**. They outlined new scholarship opportunities through College Board and explained that CHS will have our first SAT Testing Day in March for the whole junior class.

Our new **Advisory Board** met last week and had a productive first gathering. My apologies for failing to list **Mr. Augie Montes** who is returning to the Board. He has served as the Chair of the Finance Committee. Mr. Montes is an alumnus, the father of an alumnus, and his younger son is currently enrolled at CHS.

The parents of students enrolled in the **Confirmation Program** at **Saint Stephen's Parish** held a retreat in the Guereca Auditorium this past weekend. We are grateful to partner with this parish who generously shares their facilities with CHS for retreats.



A member of Boy Scout Troop 007 raises the flag at school.

We give thanks to God for those who celebrate their **birthdays**:

- Sunday, 20 January: **Eugenio Cantu**
- Monday, 21 January: **Jesus Carrillo Perez, Javier Contreras**
- Tuesday, 22 January: **Tryston Obevoen**
- Wednesday, 23 January: **Neo Valdez**
- Friday, 25 January: **Thaddeus Nowak, Roberto Rodriguez, Frank Urias**

NEWS YOU NEED:

CHS has a **mandatory attendance policy** – a student should not miss more than eight days per semester. **Mr. Sanchez**, Assistant Principal for Students, established an **Attendance Committee (Mrs. Bermea, Mrs. Murphy, Ms. Shashy, Ms. Torres, and Mr. Yanez)** to review all of the cases of students who exceeded this limit over the past semester. The committee made recommendations to either make up class time for excessive absences, put students on a contract for the second semester, or their absences were accepted as excused. Parents and students have been contacted.



Electronic cigarettes, vaping or juuling is being recognized nationally as the greatest current health risk for adolescents. Designed to be addictive, widespread and very easy to conceal (they look like USB's), vaping is a problem on every campus. We encourage parents to educate themselves and their sons. Check out this story done by PBS: <https://youtu.be/INs19kGAnLU>.

Monday, 21 January, is the **Dr. Martin Luther King holiday**. There will be no classes.

The **Irish Swim team** will be traveling on Tuesday to San Antonio for **TAPPS Regional Competition**. We wish **Coach White, Coach Zielsdorf**, our parents, and our student-athletes safe travel and every success! All the best to: **Xavier Navarro, Pablo Vega, Jose Guillot, Alex Cos, Manuel Armenta, Pablo Licon, Oscar Lopez, Adrian Prieto, Daniel Rivera, David Delgado, Jose Herrera, Brandon Herrera, Daniel Herrada, Elijah Villalva, Fernando Perez, Javier Terrazas, Nasser Ortiz, and Robert Rodriguez**.

Senior Retreat will be on Thursday, **24 January**, at Saint Stephen Deacon and Martyr Parish. Details will be given out in Religion IV class.

We're offering **affordable SAT prep** for students (\$200 for eight weeks) beginning on Saturday, 26 January. Please see **Ms. Torres** if you're interested in signing up.

A **Prospective Parent Information Session** will be held on Saturday, **26 January**. The English session will begin at 9:00 AM and a Spanish session will begin at 11:00 AM.

- We are aware that our students and parents are our **best recruiters**. Your recommendation helps to create the community which will most help shape your son during his adolescence.

Mr. Baca, Admissions Coordinator, and **several student ambassadors** will man the Cathedral High School booth at the **Expo Educativo** on Sunday, 27 January. This annual major event will be at Cibeles in Cd. Juarez.

Coming Up:

Catholic Schools Week: January 28th – February 1st.

ALUMNI and DEVELOPMENT:

Dana Dimel, the head football coach for the UT El Paso Miners, will be the speaker at the next **Alumni Association meeting** on Saturday, 02 February. Breakfast will be available at 8:30 AM and the meeting will begin at 9:00 AM.

The Alumni Association **Scholarship application** will be available online this week on the school's website.

MEN OF IRON/MEN OF GOLD



UT student Luis Reynoso chats with Mr. Ortigoza when they both visited campus.