

REFLECTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS-SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

SUBMITTED BY	ANNOUNCEMENT-SCHOOL RELATED
K. Spitzig	Attention Runners! Are you interested in joining this year's Cross-Country Team? Can you run 3km or more? If so, please come to an information meeting Thursday immediately after school in the gym.
Vu volleyball	Varsity Senior Volleyball. The Final Team list for Varsity Senior Volleyball has been posted outside room 318 or the Phys-ed. There will be a practice tomorrow after school in the gym!
Albano	Ever wonder what it is like to be an actor? Did you know that students every year, compete in a Theatre Festival all across Ontario? Auditions are coming soon. Interested? Sign up in the Chaplaincy office otherwise known as Ms. Albano's office, otherwise known as the first door on your left when you enter the building.
Kassim-Joseph	<p>BACSA (Black African Caribbean Student Alliance) - a safe space and group to celebrate and nurture Black excellence, discuss social issues and have fun. Join us on TUESDAYS after school from 2:30p-3:330p in the library.</p> <p>GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) - a safe space and group to support the 2SLGBTQ+ community. Join us on WEDNESDAYS after school from 2:30p-3:30p in the library.</p> <p>BASCA and GSA will start the first week of October and run until May 2023 and run 1x a week</p> <p>SIGN UP in the library if you want to sign up as a member or ally to BACSA and or the GSA.</p>
Kassim-Joseph	Come join the YES4MH (Yes for Mental Health) –a group for students who are passionate about wellness and will plan mental health initiatives for our Ascension community. Sign up in the library. Join us after school on THURSDAYS from 2:30-3:30p starting the first week of October The club runs till May once a week.
Phys. Ed	Are you interested in joining Ascension's Weight Training Club? The Eagle's Nest will be opening October 4 after school. Please stop by the Phys. Ed office to pick up your permission form. There will be a 25.00 fee/per semester to join. All payments must be made through school cash online.
Riaz	Are you a Grade 9 student who identify as male? Then consider joining a new and exciting club at Ascension this year. It starts on Wednesday Oct 5th. Play sports in the gym like Basketball, Dodgeball etc. Take part in discussions on Anti Bullying, Peer Pressure, Social Media, etc. Students will gather once a week on Wednesdays at 11am in the gym. Don't miss out on this opportunity! Sign-up sheets are in the library! For more information see Mr M.
Lowe	Good morning Ascension! My name is Jahbari and I am from Ms. Lowe's leadership class. I'd like to announce that we are doing a clothing drive. We will be accepting USED clothes, jackets and shoes in good condition. We will be collecting items Thursdays during period 2 starting this week. Thank you for your support.

DAILY REFLECTION

Dear God, we acknowledge that the land on which we gather is part of the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit. We acknowledge and express gratitude to the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation of the Anishinaabek Peoples who continue to share their ancestral lands with us.

In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

A Reading from the Gospel of St. Matthew

“And Jesus sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?’ But when he heard this, he said, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice.” For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’

If you have ever read the Gospel of St. Matthew, in its entirety, you will find how it provides hope to those who always feel the weight of the world on their shoulder or carry the burden of their sin. In essence, St. Matthew illustrates what happens when God's people stop caring for each other, especially those who need God's mercy the most. They become caught up in being right and justified in their actions, but forget their fight or causes need the wisdom and courage which stems from God's love. Why? This is what St. Matthew learned and experienced from Christ.

Before his friendship with Christ, Matthew was a sinner. He turned away from the faith given to him and became an instrument for the Romans. He was a tax collector who placed undue pressure on his people, as well as collecting more than was required. But, in St. Matthew's life, we experience a conversion to turn away from cheating people, and a life of comfort. In him, we see a person who knew he was living a life empty and hopeless, and through his friendship with Christ and mercy, found his way back to God and his true self and purpose. If you feel this emptiness, read the Gospel of St. Matthew and you will find hope and a path away from the loneliness, anger, or fear you may be experiencing. If you want to find how to serve God and neighbour with the wisdom and love of God, you can learn it there and find time may change, but the problems we face today do not differ from what has happened before.

I pray each of us may turn away from those things which keep us from God, so to find our true nature, purpose, and identity stems from God's love. May we find the wholeness we seek and help others to find God's mercy and love. For peace in Ukraine. I pray you remember that of course may the word of Jesus at the Ascension resound in your heart and lips, “remember I am with you always till the end of days. Amen. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

