



DUCHESNE HIGH SCHOOL

shaping leaders in mind, body, and spirit

Hello all,

My favorite course as an undergraduate was on the 17th century religious and metaphysical poets of Britain. The most famous poem from the period is probably Robert Herrick's "To the Virgins, to Make Much of Time." It's the one Robin Williams uses at the beginning of *Dead Poets Society* to encourage his students to "seize the day." With all due respect to Mr. Keating, that poem is not at the top of my list. When the metaphysical poets are at their best, they are either being shockingly clever in their secular poems, or deeply profound in their sacred verse. Herrick's poem does neither.

A far better example from the period is George Herbert's "Easter Wings":

Lord, who createdst man in wealth and store,
Though foolishly he lost the same,
Decaying more and more,
Till he became
Most poor:
With thee
O let me rise
As larks, harmoniously,
And sing this day thy victories:
Then shall the fall further the flight in me.

My tender age in sorrow did begin:
And still with sickness and shame
Thou didst so punish sin,
That I became
Most thin.
With thee
Let me combine,
And feel this day thy victory:
For, if I imp my wing on thine,
Affliction shall advance the flight in me.

The first stanza tells the story of man. He was created by God "in wealth and store" but through sin became "Most poor." God then intercedes, and by the last line of the first stanza the fall of man has been redeemed through Christ. The second stanza mirrors the first, but at the individual level. Now it is not the fall of all humanity, but the poet's individual struggle with sin. Like in the first stanza, redemption through Christ allows for greatness. In addition to the profound simplicity of the poem, it is clever. Turn it 90 degrees. What do you see?

Happy Easter,

Dominic D'Urso



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Upcoming Events

- April 6 **Half Day:** Classes will dismiss at 12:05 for the start of Easter Break. We will return to classes on April 11th.
- April 10 **Home Tennis**
- April 11 **Home Volleyball, Soccer, Baseball (BMAC), Golf (Bogey Hills)**
- April 12 **Home Volleyball, Golf (Bogey)**
- April 13 **Junior Ring Mass:** The Junior Ring Mass is an all school mass where we recognize and encourage the future leadership of our juniors. We also bless their class rings. As always, our whole community is welcome to attend. We would also like to extend a special invitation to the families of our juniors. Mass starts at 9:45. A forthcoming email from Mrs. Broyles will provide more information.
- April 14 **Home Volleyball**
- Soccer:** The girls will play Fort Zumwalt North at 6:00. Prior to kick-off we will commemorate the 2013 state championship team.
- Home Baseball (BMAC), Track (St. Dominic)**
- April 15 **Home Baseball (BMAC)**
- April 18 **Blood Drive:** We will host the second blood drive of the year from 9:30-1:30. If you would like to donate, please contact Mr. Schneider at kschneider@duchesne-hs.org.
- April 19 **Track (Orchard Farm)**
- April 20 **Home Golf (Bogey Hills), Baseball (Blanchette)**
- April 22 **BBQ:** The Athletic Boosters will be hosting a BBQ from 11-5 in our parking lot. Come support the boosters by eating some delicious food.



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Senior Graduation Information

May 16

Baccalaureate Mass: The Baccalaureate Mass is the last mass the seniors will celebrate as a class. It is also the kick-off to graduation week. The mass will be held at St. Peter's Church in St. Charles. It will start at 6:00. We will have an awards ceremony immediately following mass. Doors will open at 5:30

May 17

Graduation Practice: All graduates need to be in the PAC by 9:45 a.m. for graduation practice. We will not start practice until everyone gets to school.

May 18

Graduation: The ceremony begins at 6:00. Graduates should arrive to school and be in the PAC by 5:30. The doors to the Ted Yeater Athletic Center will also open at 5:30 for the friends and families of our graduates. Each graduate will get 8 tickets (4 preferred seating, 4 general admission) to the ceremony at graduation practice on the 17th. If families would like more tickets, please let us know. For more details on graduation, please see the email from Mrs. Turner

