

The race goes on...run with perseverance

Prom is over, the Spring play has come and gone, only a concert here and there and the 2017-2018 school year will be finished. I guess we could say we are in the "home stretch" of the year. An appropriate reference when one considers this week's annual "Run for the Roses" in Louisville, Kentucky. The analogy continues when we contemplate an annual event like the Kentucky Derby with all its tradition and panache. Our home stretch ends with graduation on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. A tradition like no other is a high school graduation. At Lutheran High one of our revered traditions is to hand out roses to those special family members and friends who have loved and supported us along the way. Our graduation happens to be on Mother's Day, which is another time honored tradition. Is there a better way to celebrate Mother's Day than to watch one's own child walk across the stage and clutch the diploma signifying achievement on one hand, and yet, marking entry into another phase of life long challenges?

Life is a series of entrances and exits. We believe we have conquered the world when we ascend one stage, only to realize the next set of stairs before us. Each time we climb, we climb higher and the risk seems greater, but the road becomes narrower, and yet the prize appears more valuable. We push upward and onward through a blinding set of worldly obstacles hoping to achieve more on the next level. Yes, it can all seem like a maze of confusion as we chase through life, sometimes adhering to arbitrary standards set by, and for others. Be not deceived.

Slow down, reflect on God's blessings and search His Word for the answers to any questions that tend to confound us. The answer is usually much simpler than we have been taught by the world. There is no confounding maze, no hurdle too high, no obstacle too wide.

Consider **1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:24 ... "Run in such a way to get the prize." 9:26 "Therefore do not run like a man running aimlessly; do not fight like a man beating the air." And Hebrews 12:1-2 .." let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith."**

Simple enough...He is risen....Alleluia!