

Virtue of the Week

This week our virtue theme is EXCELLENCE— The strength to achieve objectives with perfection and skill. EXCELLENCE is necessary for everything in life! We need EXCELLENCE in our relationships, with our teammates, our classmates, our families, with our attitudes, with our skills and abilities, etc. We will never be a successful team until we embrace the virtue of EXCELLENCE.

PRAYER

Thank you, Lord, for this day, this opportunity, this time together. Strengthen our wills and forge our resolve to be committed to EXCELLENCE in everything we do.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Feb. 1: St. Patrick Parish and School Family Fun Night 5:00-8:00pm
- Feb. 6: Preschool/Kindergarten Information Night 6:00-7:15pm
- Feb. 12: Early Dismissal 2:00pm; Teacher In-Service; **Aftercare provided**
- Feb. 17: No School; Presidents' Day
- Feb. 20: Evening Adoration 3rd Grade; 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Mar. 9: No School; Region I Faculty In-Service
- Mar. 11: Early Dismissal 2:00pm; Teacher In-Service; **Aftercare provided**
- Mar. 15: Confirmation at Cathedral 3:30pm
- Mar. 19: Evening Adoration 2nd Grade; 5:30pm-7:30pm
- Mar. 23-27: No School; Spring Break
- Mar. 30: School Resumes

St. Patrick School

100 Harvey Street

Washington, IL 61571

309-444-4345

<https://school.stpatswashington.com>

Facebook: St. Patrick Catholic Parish, Washington, IL

Reminder:

Make sure you register to hold your place with the Empower Illinois Tax Credit Scholarship! You need to apply for this scholarship before you can apply for the Spalding Scholarship. For additional information go to EmpowerIllinois.org.



5th Grade attended the Mass for the Unborn at St. Mary's Cathedral on Friday, January 24th.



THE MISSION OF ST. PATRICK SCHOOL is to foster the spiritual growth and academic life of its students, faculty, and staff, and to teach children, with the cooperation of parents, a Catholic way of life.

Upcoming Athletic Events

- Jan. 31: 6th Grade Girls Volleyball vs. St. Thomas @ Home 5:00pm
- Feb. 1: 8th Grade Boys Basketball Regionals @ St. Jude 12:00 pm
- Feb. 4: 6th Grade Girls Volleyball vs. Germantown @ Home 4:30pm
- Feb. 5: Girls Volleyball @ D-50 4:30pm
- Feb. 7/8: 6th Grade Boys Basketball Tournament

5th-8th Grade held a Spelling Bee on Tuesday, January 28th. The final championship took 13 rounds and the winning word was "stirrups".



Top Ten

- 10) Ben Kunka—8th Grade
- 9) Eian Doty—5th Grade
- 8) Natalie VanDeVoorde—8th Grade
- 7) Emily Geisz—6th Grade
- 6) Luke Kamienski—6th Grade
- 5) Henry Newton—6th Grade
- 4) Emma Schwiegert—5th Grade
- 3) Kaden Griswold—8th Grade
- 2) Marley Polston—5th Grade

The winner was
Madden Mendoza—8th Grade!

The Shamrock Destruction Lego Robotic Team competed in the State Competition in Champaign. They finished 32nd out of 54 teams. Congratulations!

Thank you to Coaches Greg Stevenart & Mark Horning



Upcoming Activity Events

- Feb. 4: Scholastic Bowl @ Dee-Mack 4:15pm
- Feb. 13: Scholastic Bowl vs. St. Mary Metamora @ Home 4:00pm
- Feb. 20: Scholastic Bowl vs. Roanoke-Benson @ Home 4:00pm
- Feb. 27: Scholastic Bowl @ Beverly Manor D50 4:15pm
- Feb. 28: Band IGSMA Organization Contest @ Germantown Hills MS TBA
- Feb. 29: Spanish Club GlobalFest Illinois @EIU 7am-7pm
- Mar. 5: Scholastic Bowl @ East Peoria Central 4:15pm
- Mar. 7: Band Solo/Ensemble Contest @ St. Patrick 9am—12pm
- Mar. 14: Band IGSMA Solo/Ensemble Contest @ ICC 9am-4:00pm
- Mar. 19: Scholastic Bowl vs. Robein @ Home 4:00pm
- Apr. 2: Scholastic Bowl vs. Washington Central @ Home 4:00pm
- Apr. 7: Scholastic Bowl @ Washington Middle School 4:15pm

The 2nd Grade made their First Reconciliation on Wednesday Night.



“Reverence, Respect, Responsibility...”

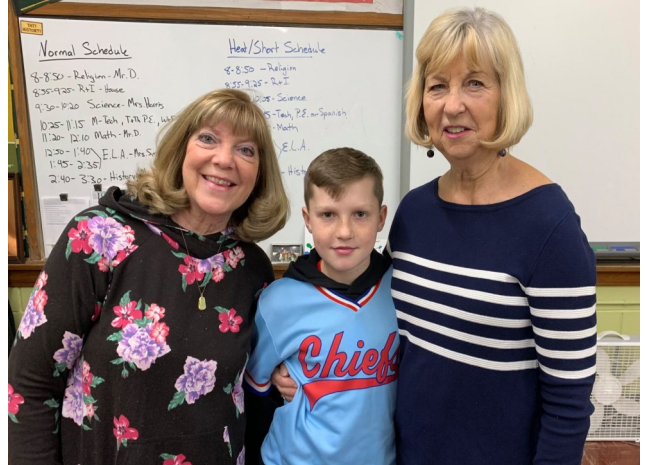
Excellence in Academics and Faith Formation”

Catholic Schools Week

St. Patrick students led Mass on Sunday to celebrate the start of Catholic Schools Week.



Parents/Grandparents were treated to breakfast on Monday.



5th-8th Grade worked on a community service project for the Washington Park District on Monday. They stuffed 9,500 Easter Eggs for the Park District



On Monday, students dressed in the career choice of what they would like to be when they grew up. Joseph and Bennet dressed as Father John and Father Thaddeus. Their costumes were complete with a little white dog and lollipops. Sr. Magdalena was thrilled to see Miriam dressed as a nun.

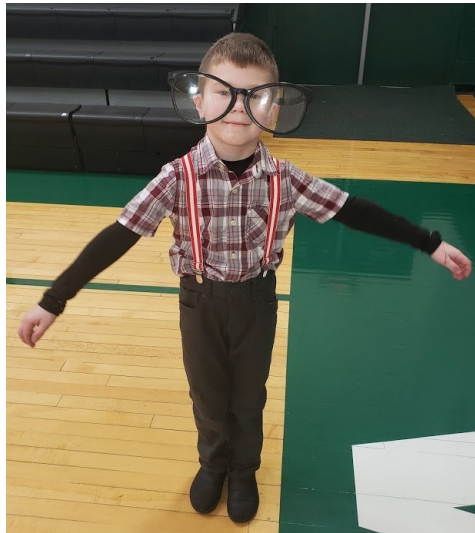
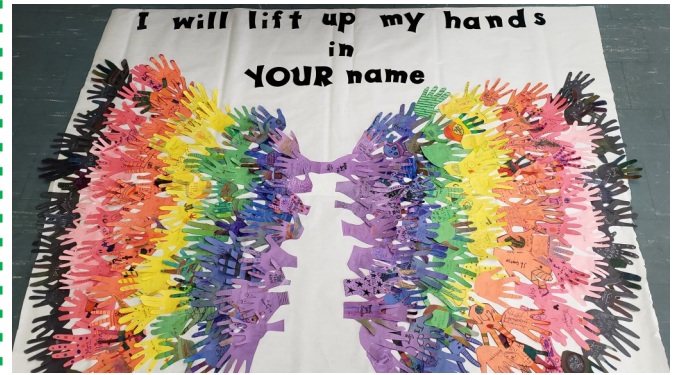


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On Tuesday, students dressed as they would look on their 100th birthday.



The different House groups (Grades 5-8) created special projects with their House Partners (Grades K-4) on Tuesday.



On Wednesday, we Celebrated Our Nation during Catholic Schools Week by inviting Parish Community and Emergency Response Leaders to lunch.

We appreciate your service!



“Reverence, Respect, Responsibility...
Excellence in Academics and Faith Formation”

The students participated in House Games on Wednesday. Congratulations to the House of St. George on 1st place!



Cindy from Threads, Hope, Love spoke to the Kindergarten through 2nd grade students on Wednesday about all the good work they do.



On Thursday, the students celebrated Vocations during Catholic Schools Week by making Thank You cards for Fr. John, Sr. Magdalena, Fr. Thaddeus, & Sr. Gemma



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On Thursday, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week with an All School Talent Show.



**“Reverence, Respect, Responsibility...
Excellence in Academics and Faith Formation”**

“Meet the Teachers and Staff of St. Patrick’s School” is limited time article that will be featured in the Irish Messenger. The 6th grade ELA class interviewed all the teachers and staff and wrote interesting pieces about each one. Two members of the St. Patrick faculty and/or staff will be featured each week. Please take the time to get to know the wonderful people who work with our children each and every day and love doing so.

Vol. 9

Meet Mrs. Chris Kapraun

By Luke Kamienski - 6th Grade

Welcome to Mrs. Kapraun’s 7th grade homeroom. St. Pat’s has been her teaching home since 1980. Along with 7th grade, she also teaches 8th and 5th at St. Pats. She also taught me last year for P.E.

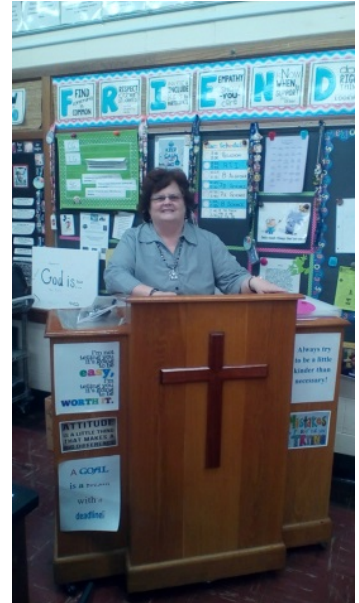
Before coming to St. Pats, she taught for 1 year at Easter Seals in Peoria after graduating from Illinois State University. She said that she loved teaching at Easter Seals but it was sad for her teaching disabled kids.

Mrs. Kapraun loves to teach all the subjects that she teaches, but her favorite subject to teach is Science. She also organizes science or STREAM night here at St. Pats. She also helps run the school’s Lego League. She said if she could change one thing about teaching it would be to have no paperwork.

In her free time, Mrs. Kapraun likes to do different crafts, play pickle ball, swim, and spend time with her family, especially her grandson, Cayden. She likes to play build Legos with him, teach him to cook, and she loves to play BattleBots with him. She is very excited about the birth of her second grandson in February.

Mrs. Kapraun says her favorite part of teaching is getting to know the kids and watching them get excited about what they are learning about. Mrs. Kapraun said, “The thing that has changed the most about teaching is that there is so much more technology involved in teaching now.”

Throughout my experience with her being my teacher, she is one of my favorite teachers ever because she is always nice and fun.



Meet Mrs. Paluska – Teacher’s aid

By Olivia Ozella – 6th Grade

Mrs. Paluska can be found in the kindergarten room as well. She has been teaching for 4 years. She started teaching at St. Pat’s in 2016 when she was the aid in the fourth grade classroom. Now, she helps teach the kindergarteners and 1st graders with math. She went to college at ICC and graduated from Bradley University. The reason she started teaching at St. Pat’s was because wanted to help out the Washington community and thought teaching was one of the best ways she could help. She loves teaching with Miss O’Dea. She says, “She is very sweet and patient with the kids.” Mrs. Paluská’s favorite part of teaching is the different things she gets to do every day and the children she gets to help. In her free time she loves working on art and writing. She also loves spending time with her husband and son.

**You are invited to
St. Patrick School
Pre-K/ Kindergarten
Family Info Night
6:00–7:15 p.m**

February 6th, 2020



Night includes:

Brief Info Meeting, Story, Games, Crafts, and Snack

Incoming Pre-K and Kindergarten students are welcome

**Open for anyone who has a three year old through
Kindergarten student for the 2020-2021 school year**

St. Patrick School Lunch Menu

February 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Tenderloin/WG Bun Corn Mixed Fruit	4 Corn Dog Vegetarian Baked Beans Pears	5 Chicken & Noodles Green Beans Peaches Biscuit	6 Flap-Jack Tater Tots Orange Juice Granola Bar	7 Cheese Pizza Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit
10 Chicken Pattie/WG Bun Corn Applesauce	11 Pulled Pork/WG Bun Oven Fries 1/2 Orange	12 Chicken Fajitas Peppers/Onions Peaches	13 Hamburger/Cheese/ WG Bun Vegetarian Baked Beans Applesauce	14 Fish Sticks Tater Tots Mixed Fruit
17	18 Hot Dog/Chili/WG Bun Oven Fries 1/2 Orange	19 Corn Dog Corn Peaches	20 Ham/Cheese/WG Bun Carrots 1/2 Orange	21 Cheese Pizza Mixed Vegetables Mixed Fruit
24 Tenderloin/WG Bun Corn 1/2 Orange	25 Hamburger/Cheese/ WG Bun Vegetarian Baked Beans Applesauce	26 Macaroni & Cheese Green Beans Pears	27 Taco Salad Lettuce/Cheese Peaches	28 Fish/WG Bun Oven Fries Mixed Fruit

All meals served with milk

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2020

St. Patrick School

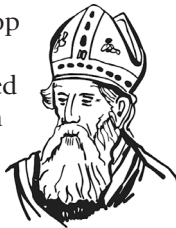
Doreen Shipman, Principal



Thoughtful Moments

St. Blaise

St. Blaise was a bishop in fourth-century Turkey and was arrested during the persecution of the Emperor Licinius. What we know about this saint is that he was courageous, faithful, and generous. For a while, he lived in a cave and cared for the animals until he was discovered and arrested. He is best known for healing a boy choking on a fish bone. According to legend, the boy's mother gave him two candles in gratitude.



Lenten Obligations

Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday (February 26th) and Good Friday (April 10th). These are the only two days of obligatory fasting and abstinence.

The U.S. bishops define fasting as eating one full meal. Some food (not equaling another full meal) is permitted as necessary to maintain strength. In addition, all Catholics fourteen years old and older must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all the Fridays of Lent.



Help children reach for Heaven

Parents want the world for their children. Catholic parents want even more than that - we want Heaven, too. We know that teaching youngsters to know, love and follow Jesus is the only way to make that happen.

Know Jesus. Would you be satisfied making a new friend only by hearing others talk about him? Close friendships happen when people connect personally and share experiences. There is no better way for children to know Jesus than for us to introduce them to him in person - in the Eucharist, in Scripture, in prayer.

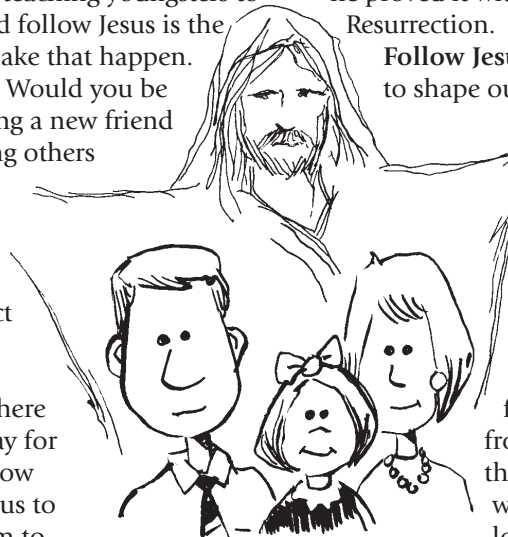
Love Jesus. Through Scripture, we learn that Jesus is strong and can do

anything. He always keeps his promises. Remind children that God loves them even more than their parents and he proved it with his life, death, and Resurrection.

Follow Jesus. Jesus wants his love to shape our hearts which then leads into our actions. When we love him, we want what he wants - Heaven for all his children.

Lead them to Jesus. Children learn to love and follow Jesus, not from the Church, not from the priest, but from their parents. The better we come to know and love the Lord, the better

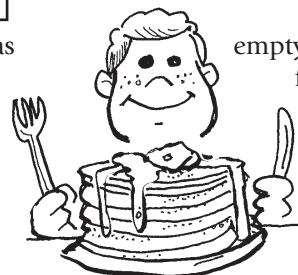
we can share him with our children. Pray and read Scripture daily, and don't miss a chance to meet Jesus at weekly Mass.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics eat pancakes on Fat Tuesday?

In the early Church it was customary to give up rich foods as well as meat during the penitential season of Lent. This included milk, eggs, butter, cheese, and fat. On the Tuesday before Lent began, families would



empty the pantry of the forbidden foods by enjoying a dinner of pancakes (or in some places, fried doughnuts!). In some countries, it is even called "Pancake Tuesday." It was meant to be one final celebration of feasting before the Lenten fast.

The way, the truth, and the life during Lent

To children, Lent can be a time for sacrifice – something they'd rather avoid. Instead, explain that experiencing Lent helps us to find "the way and the truth and the life" that will lead us to Heaven (John 14:6).

The way – Let children map out their own journey through Lent. Instead of giving up one thing for the season, choose several, short-term sacrifices. Include days of "fasting" from a favorite food or video game, days of "abstaining" from a bad habit like biting nails or fighting with siblings. Add



days of performing good works.

The truth – Learn what it means to be a follower of Christ from those who dedicated their lives to him. Read stories about the saints or heroes in the Bible. Tell youngsters that God works through ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things.

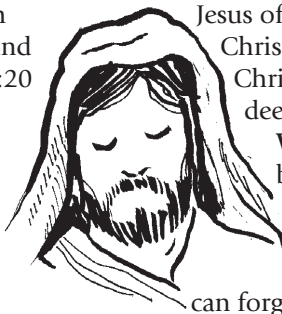
The life – Lent is all about hope. On Easter, Jesus opened up heaven to give us new life. Ask children to commit to continuing habits acquired during Lent that will lead to new life in Christ.

Scripture LESSON

Matthew 5:38-48, Forgive always

In ancient times, the concept of justice was "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." That was devised to limit the conflict between clans from getting out of hand (Exodus 21:24, Leviticus 24:20 and Deuteronomy 19:21). Later, the concept was misused to defend a brutal form of justice that easily escalated into blood feuds. Jesus' teaching changed all that.

Jesus' approach to justice turns our eyes, not to justice on Earth, but in Heaven. Loving our enemies or those who hurt us repeatedly means



forgiving them over and over. That often seems an impossible task, but this extreme forgiveness is what

Jesus offers us on the Cross. As Christians, we are called to be Christ to others – in words and deeds.

What can a parent do? The best way parents can pass on the faith in Christ is by example, especially when it is difficult. Explain that we can forgive someone without having to be best friends with them. Explain that whatever the hurt, we can pray for the person and forgive them in our hearts.

Parent TALK

When we got in the car after Mass, I was furious. My ten-year old daughter, Tessa, had spent the hour not in prayer and quiet but in poking her sister and fighting over who got to hold the hymnal. She ignored my stern looks and her father's whispered scolding. "No screens for one week," I told her, and assigned a five-paragraph essay on appropriate behavior in church before she got the privilege back. I needed to send a solid message.



Church is the most important place we go and the best place to meet Jesus in person. Poor behavior is not only disrespectful but robs her of the chance to receive God's much-needed grace. Tessa realized that she had misused the opportunity Mass presents. To her credit, she wrote a wonderful essay. I told her God doesn't expect us to be perfect, but he does expect us to try our best.

Feasts & Celebrations

Feb. 9 – St. Apollonia (249). A deaconess in Alexandria living during the Christian persecutions under Emperor Philip. She chose to suffer martyrdom at the hands of an angry mob rather than denounce God.

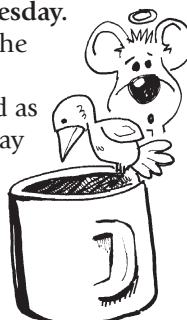
Feb. 11 – Our Lady of Lourdes (1858). The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Bernadette Soubirous in a small French village. Soon afterwards, a miraculous spring with healing waters emerged from a nearby cave. It is still a significant pilgrimage site today.

Feb. 22 – St. Peter's Chair

(1st century). We celebrate the establishment of the Holy See and pray for the preservation of God's Church. The "Chair of Peter" is a relic of St. Peter's actual chair and symbolizes the spiritual authority of the Church.

Feb. 26 – Ash Wednesday.



The first day of Lent. The ashes of old palms are placed on the forehead as a sign of penance. Today is a day of abstinence from meat and fasting as penance and in recognition of Jesus' time in the desert.











Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*
(540)662-7844 (540) 662-7847 fax
www.partnersinfaith.com
(Unless noted, Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and New American Bible (Rev.))

Family Lent Calendar 2020

 = a day of fasting and abstinence from meat  = a day of abstinence from meat

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February			26 Ash Wednesday Take your family to an Ash Wednesday liturgy and wear the cross of ashes all day. 	27 Discuss everyone's Lenten sacrifices and make sure they are reasonable, but challenging.	28  Pray an Our Father together. Ask God to bless your family this Lent and help you grow in holiness.	29 As a family, vote on a charity (or two) to which you want to donate this year.
1 March Adopt a Lenten saint to be your family's patron. Learn about him or her and see how you can imitate him or her.	2 Place a crucifix or picture of Jesus in a central place to keep the focus on him.	3 Greet everyone you meet today with a smile, no matter how you're feeling.	4 Tonight, have everyone name two things for which they're thankful and one intention for which they want prayers.	5 Peace starts at home. Resolve to only say positive, kind things today.	6  Set out an empty jar. Put in a jellybean whenever a child does a good deed or makes a sacrifice. Enjoy at Easter.	7 Make up a box for a needy family or homeless shelter. Put canned goods, clothing, toiletries, and gently used toys in it.
8 After Mass today, explain the Gospel and the homily in terms children can understand.	9 Spiritual Bouquet Have each person choose a prayer to offer daily for your parish priest(s). Send him a card with everyone's promises.	10 Do something kind for someone else today, with a humble and gracious heart. Remember it is Christ you're helping.	11 Talk about what you would say to Jesus if he came to your house to visit.	12 Ask the parish office to see how your family can help.	13  Enjoy pretzels, a traditional Lenten food. Originally, their shape evoked arms folded in prayer.	14 Encourage everyone to perform an extra chore around the house.
15 Light a candle in church today for someone who passed away or who needs special help.	16 Practice patience with each other. When it gets difficult, recall how patient God is with us.	17 St. Patrick's Day In St. Patrick's honor, light a candle and pray for missionaries in foreign lands.	18 Take stock of how your Lenten sacrifices are going, and refresh your commitment to them.	19 St. Joseph's Day St. Joseph protected the Holy Family from danger. Pray for the safety of families around the world.	20  Encourage everyone to do an examination of conscience.	21 Attend Confession as a family. Experience God's love and forgiveness. Have a treat to celebrate clean souls.
22 Laetare Sunday Have a special meal at home or a restaurant to celebrate the halfway point through Lent.	23 This week, try limiting screen time: no texting at the dinner table, during prayer time, and after 10:00pm.	24 Read today's Gospel (John 5:1-16). Have everyone detail one idea they found interesting.	25 Give up a toy or treat just for today, just for Jesus.	26 This evening, invite everyone to take a few minutes and silently turn their hearts and minds to God.	27  Family Fun Night Instead of watching a movie, pull out a boardgame or make up your own game.	28 Make cookies and bring them to a nearby nursing home.
29 After Mass, light a candle, and recite the Apostle's Creed as an affirmation of your faith.	30 Apologize to someone you hurt, even if it was an accident. Forgive someone who hurt you—even if it wasn't.	31 Pray for victims of violence and war in the world.	1 April As a family, consider doing a screen fast today and read together instead.	2 Contact Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS, www.crs.org) and help with any of their ongoing projects.	3  Place any final donations in the box you set up on March 7. Make a family trip to deliver it to its destination.	4 Calculate the money your family saved not eating meat on Friday and put that in the poor box at church.
5 Palm Sunday Have a Palm Sunday procession around the house and take turns playing Jesus.	6 Tonight and every night this week, pray for those who are preparing to enter the Church at Easter.	7 Take a walk outside and look for signs of new life.	8 Ask each family member to write a letter to Jesus thanking him for his sacrifice on the Cross.	9 Holy Thursday Wash and dry each other's feet in commemoration of Jesus washing the feet of his Apostles.	10 Good Friday  Pray the Stations of the Cross. Meditate on each one. Find them here: www.usccb.org.	11 Holy Saturday Dress a doll in a white garment and talk about the Baptismal vows we renew each year.

8th Grade Gift Bearers & Greeters Wanted!

If you will be able to attend one of our Masses during the weekend of February 1st/2nd and want to help out, **please** sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0845ACAE2EA2FD0-8thgrade>. You may also email JTall700@gmail.com with your sign-up if you don't want to use the SignUp Genius.

Greeters will be opening doors, greeting parishioners, and/or handing out bulletins as they enter church.

Please arrive 20 minutes before the start of Mass. Check in with an usher located in the back of church. If enough greeters have signed up, some will go to the side entrances while others remain at the main entrance. At least two people should open doors and greet parishioners while another two can ask to hand out bulletins at the main entrance. (If it is cold, please open the doors ONLY as needed!) At least one person is needed for each role at the side entrances. You may take your seat in the church when the cantor welcomes the congregation.

Gift Bearers have the honor of representing the entire parish as we return to God a small part of the many blessings that He has given to us. The unleavened Bread and Wine that you carry will be consecrated to become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Please check in with the ushers at least 10 minutes before Mass starts. After the Prayers of the Faithful (petitions), head to the back of the church by the gift table. An usher will help you with the gifts. You will proceed down the main aisle with the gifts after the collection (when the priest/deacon and altar servers are in place at the front of the altar).

When you arrive at the altar, present the gifts one at a time to the Priest/Deacon. **Stay with the group until everyone has given their gift. Then, as a group, bow reverently when the priest or deacon bows, and return to your seats.**

Date	Time	Available Slots (# of 8th grade volunteers needed)
2/1/2020 (Sat.)	4:30pm	Greeters (6) Gift Bearers (4)
2/2/2020 (Sun.)	8:30am	Greeters (6) Gift Bearers (4)
2/2/2020 (Sun.)	11:00am	Greeters (6) Gift Bearers (4)

Thank you for volunteering!



Daddy/Daughter Dance

For St. Patrick's School/Parish

Knights of Columbus Hall on February 29th from 6 - 8 pm

Girls K-8 Grade

Registration Form

Please return this form in an envelope marked "Daddy Daughter Dance, Attention Ezzy Ozella" by February 26th to the school office. Please enclose cash or check made payable to St. Patrick's School. DJ, Dancing and treats will be provided.

Family Name _____

Email address for photos _____

Daughter/Grade _____

Daughter/Grade _____

Daughter/Grade _____

Number attending _____ Cost is \$25.00 per couple and \$5.00 for each additional daughter

Please remember that male relatives or family friends are welcome as escorts.

Contact Ezzy Ozella at 309-251-7833 with any questions.

4-8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

LASER TAG & BOWLING AT PLAZA LANES, WASHINGTON

FEBRUARY 16TH 4-5:30-PM

\$10 PER PERSON

(FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE)





**Catholic Discovery Night with
Girl Scouts!**

**Come Experience a faith journey through
exploration of the Girl Scouts Law and
Teaching!**

**Learn about Archbishop Fulton Sheen and
Catholic badges and patches**

**What: Come and explore the opportunities Girl
Scouts has to offer with patches and badges
pertaining to your Catholic Faith; ask questions
and learn about being part of a troop.**

**When: Tuesday, February 4
5:00- 6:00 p.m.**

**Where: St. Mary's Cathedral
607 NE Madison Peoria, IL and
Spalding Pastoral Center
400 NE Madison, Peoria IL**

**For: All girls interested in learning more
about what Girl Scouts has to offer!**

*Have questions or unable to attend? Please contact:
Call/text: Beth Krider at 309-830-4997 or
email bkrider@girlscouts-gsci.org*

RSVP by January 30

Girl Scout Law

*I will do my best to be
honest and fair,
friendly and helpful,
considerate and
caring, courageous
and strong, and
responsible for what I
say and do, and to
respect myself and
others, respect
authority, use
resources wisely,
make the world a
better place, and be a
sister to every Girl
Scout.*



THERE IS POWER IN EVERY

G.I.R.L.

Unleash it at Girl Scouts!