

Holy Day of Obligation

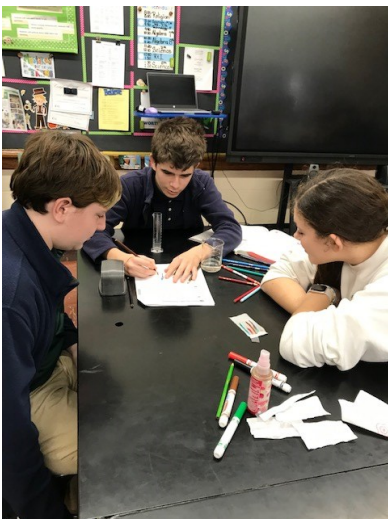
December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

The Vigil Mass is celebrated on December 7th at 6:00pm and two Masses at 7:00am and 8:15am on December 8th.

Want to know more about Mary and the Immaculate Conception: <https://youtu.be/j7AQGyqtoK0>

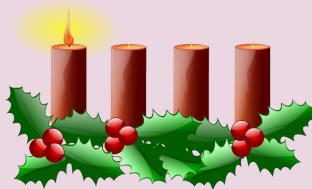
8th Grade Science

8th grade uses forensic chromatography to solve a crime in chemistry class.



Advent

First grade learned about Advent and the Advent Wreath. They learned about its meaning and symbols.



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.

7th Grade Girls Basketball is going to State!

2022 7th Grade 1A			
Select a Year ▼ Go			
Choose class: 7-1A 7-2A 7-3A 7-4A 8-1A 8-2A 8-3A 8-4A Scoreboard Page Comments			
7th Grade Class 1A State Tournament			
@ Assumption Central A & M MS			
GoFan Ticket Info			
First Round			
Lockport Taft (15-4)	Dec. 3	10:00 am	
Peoria Limestone Walters (16-6)			
Cambridge JHS (15-4)	Dec. 3	11:30 am	
Washington St. Patrick (25-0)			
Sigel St. Michael's (22-1)	Dec. 3	1:00 pm	
Carrollton St. John (20-2)			
Ottawa Wallace (25-0)	Dec. 3	2:30 pm	
Royal Prairievew Ogden (18-2)			
Semifinals			
Winner Game 1	Dec. 3	5:00 pm	
Winner Game 2			
Winner Game 3	Dec. 3	6:30 pm	
Winner Game 4			
Third Place			
Loser Game 5	Dec. 8	6:00 pm	
Loser Game 6			
State Championship			
Winner Game 5	Dec. 8	7:30 pm	
Winner Game 6			

Schedule of Games Source: iesa.org



The 7th grade girls Basketball team are Sectional Champions. They now advance to the State Tournament. They play the first State game on Saturday, December 3 at 11:30. The girls play Cambridge Jr. High School. The game will be held at [Assumption Central Middle School](#). Click the image to the left for more information about the State Tournament.



Lego League was also celebrated at the assembly as they head off to their competitions this weekend and next!



Lego League

In Lego League the teams have 3 different robot runs spread throughout the day. The judging sessions involve robot design, their innovation project, and a discussion of core values (Discovery, Fun, Inclusion, Impact, Innovation, Teamwork). Each type of judging session includes time for the teams to present and Q&A from the judges. The long day also includes opening and closing ceremonies along with awards. The main focus is for teams to celebrate their success throughout the season, have fun, and learn from each other and other teams.

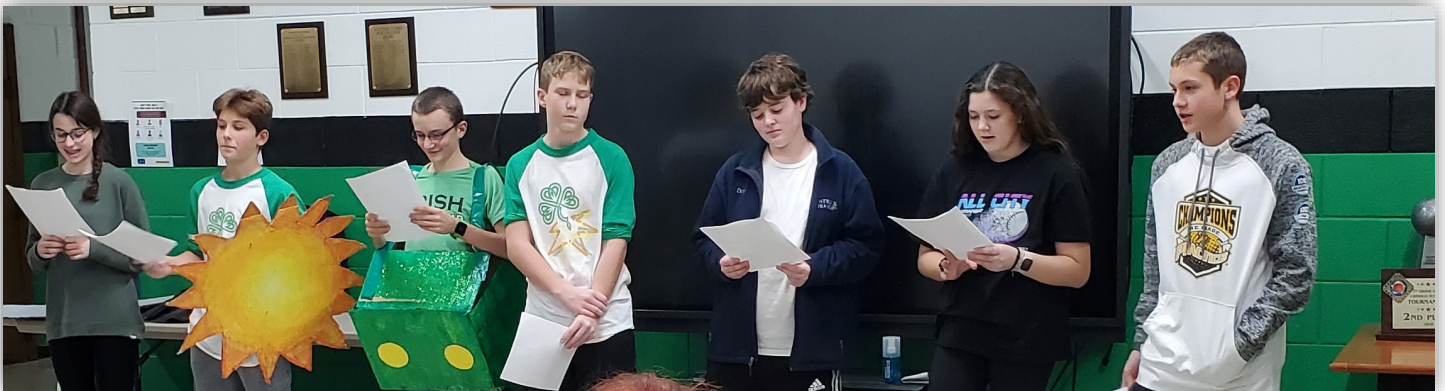


December 3rd: 8 AM-4 PM tournament for 5th grade and 8th grade teams. The Tournament is at Limestone Community High School. Approximately 30 teams participate in total.

December 10th: 8 AM-4 PM tournament for 6th/7th grade. Tournament is at Liberty Leadership Middle School in Peoria. Approximately 18 teams participate in total.

In the pictures the 5th grade team is practicing on their robot missions and the 8th grade team is practicing their project presentation, which revolves around solar panels on cars.

The 5th grade's innovation project involves improving windmills to allow for birds to avoid hitting them. The 6th/7th grade's project involves bicycling for electricity and making it more accessible.





News from the Principal

"Be Merciful, Kind, and Respectful to All You Meet Each Day"



Dear Parishioners and School Families, and Friends:

Caterpillar Foundation 2:1 Matching Grant

Caterpillar Employees and U.S. Retiree Employees: Please consider supporting *St. Patrick School* with your Matching Gift to our Textbook and Technology Funds in support of keeping curriculum current and including making STREAM (STEM) activities available for the students.

In support of the Caterpillar Foundation's 70th Anniversary and **Giving Tuesday**, the Caterpillar Foundation will provide a limited-time 2:1 match through our **Caterpillar Foundation Matching Gifts Program** for global employee and U.S. retiree gifts made that started **Nov. 28** and runs through **Dec. 12, 2022** (or once the 2:1 match total reaches \$2 million USD - see details below).

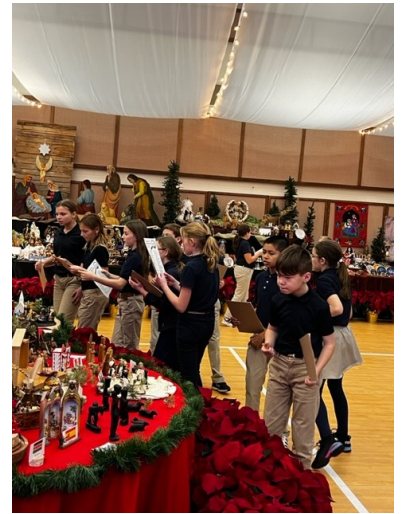
If you are interested, we recommend taking action soon as this 2:1 match is on a first-come first-serve basis, and may reach the cap quickly! Contact Caterpillar's Matching Gifts Program: <https://www.caterpillar.com/en/company/caterpillar-foundation/matching-gifts.html>

What you need to know about the limited-time 2:1 match:

- **U.S. Gift Eligibility:** Gifts to private preK-12 schools are eligible for the 2:1 match.
- **Maximum Match:** The gift minimum to qualify is \$25 or more. Each participant can enter up to \$500 in donations in the system and the Caterpillar Foundation will match at a 2:1 ratio up to a maximum amount of \$1,000. This is exempt from the standard \$10,000 USD Foundation annual cap.
- **Overall Program Cap:** The Caterpillar Foundation will match up to \$2 million USD total for gifts made during this timeframe. Once \$2 million USD in match requests has been submitted, the 2:1 match will close and revert back to the standard 1:1 match with \$10,000 USD annual cap per participant.
- **Match Request Submission Deadline:** **Match requests must be submitted in the Caterpillar Cares portal by Dec. 12, 2022 at 11:59pm ET.** Thank You!

Peace and Blessings, Doreen Shipman






Fifth Grade Field Trip

Fifth Grade took a field trip this week to see the Community Festival of Nativities. The festival has Nativities made from many different materials. Some of the nativities are from other countries. Most are 3 dimensional. Others are flat pictures of nativities. No two are quite alike!





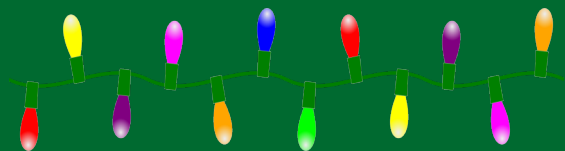
Our Parish Auction will be held on
Saturday, March 11, 2023 at Five Points,
Washington. The planning team is
looking for new ideas and fresh faces in
roles big and small. Do you like to plan
events, decorate, help set-up events,
work on computers, create slideshows,
sell tickets, or just want to get involved
and meet new people...we need you!

We will have our next meeting on
Thursday, December 15th at 7:00pm at
Keps. Not able to attend the meeting
but want to help? Contact Megan
Stevenart at 309-370-8299 or
mstevenart@gmail.com.

Parish Auction is Saturday, March 11.

Christmas Break

Christmas Break starts Tuesday, December 20 at 11:30. No aftercare will be provided. School will resume Thursday, January 5.



Important Dates

DEC 2 FRI - 8th Grade Girls Basketball Regional

Championship vs. Blessed Sacrament - 5:30

DEC 3 SAT - 7th Grade Girls Basketball State

Tournament

DEC 3 SAT - 5th & 8th Grade Lego League Team Competition

DEC 5 MON - Boys Basketball vs. DeMack - 5:30

DEC 6 TUE - Boys Basketball vs. St. Jude - 5:30

DEC 7 WED - 8th Grade Girls Basketball Sectionals

DEC 10 SAT - 6th & 7th Grade Lego League Team Competition

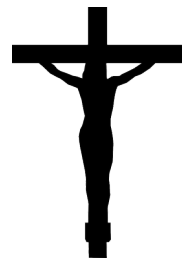
DEC 8 THU - Immaculate Conception All School Mass

DEC 19 MON - Christmas Program @ Five Points

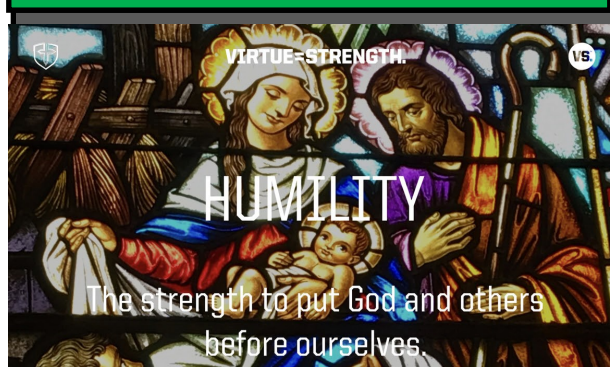
DEC 20 TUE - Christmas Break begins at 11:30; No aftercare will be provided.

Diaconate Ordination

Please pray for the Diaconate Class XI as they will be ordained on Saturday, December 3rd.



Virtue of the Week



Why do we genuflect? - Fr. Brice. Click [here](#) to find out.

Virtue of Last Week



Who inspires you the most to be more LOYAL?

St. Patrick School - 100 Harvey Street Washington, IL 61571

309-444-4345 * <https://school.stpatswashington.com>



Mass Times

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24, 2022: 4:30pm & 9pm

Christmas Day: Sunday, December 25, 2022: 7:30 & 9am

No Morning Masses December 24, 26 & 27, 31

New Year's Eve: Saturday, December 31, 2022: 4:30pm

New Year's Day: Sunday, January 1, 2023: 7:30 & 9am

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

December 2022

St. Patrick School

Doreen Shipman, Principal



Thoughtful Moments

God knows us

"A God who draws near out of love walks with his people ... We could never have imagined that the same Lord would become one of us and walk with us, be present with us, present in His Church, present in the Eucharist, present in His Word, present in the poor ... And this is closeness: the shepherd close to his flock, close to his sheep, whom he knows, one by one." Pope Francis



Jesus is Peace and Joy

It is possible to feel peaceful despite the stress of current turbulent times. It's also possible to be joyful, even amidst great sorrow. Jesus is the peace and joy we long for. The saints were able to find peace and joy in trials because they knew Christ.

"The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear? The Lord is my life's refuge; of who should I be afraid?" (Psalm 27:1).



Add a Catholic tradition to your Christmas celebration

Family traditions make our Christmas celebrations unique and special to our families. Consider adding a new tradition this year:

Carols by candlelight.

To symbolize Jesus bringing light to the darkness, gather around candlelight and sing your favorite Christmas hymns. Choose classics such as "Silent Night," "Away in a Manger," "Angels, We Have Heard on High." Let the words tell the story of Jesus' birth.

Midnight Mass. This liturgy features the classic Christmas story from the Gospel of Luke, and is the most elaborate celebration of Christmas. Many families bring children to this first Mass of Christmas. Hint: pack a blanket so little ones can lie down in the pew.

Bless the nativity scene. Leave your manger empty of the main figures when

you set it up. On Christmas Eve, ceremoniously add the angels, shepherds, Mary, and Joseph. As a surprise, add Baby Jesus before the children wake up on Christmas

morning. Place the three kings across the room so they can "journey" until Epiphany.

Celebrate the Festival of Lessons and Carols.

This service consists of nine Scripture lessons which recount the Fall, the promise of a Messiah, the Incarnation, and the Great

Commission. Each lesson is followed by a song and a prayer. If the Festival of Lessons and Carols isn't offered in your area, consider performing your own:

<https://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/advent/festival-of-lessons-and-carols>.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics light traditional Advent wreaths?

The elements of the Advent wreath remind us of the eternal nature of our souls and God's promise of everlasting life through Christ. The evergreens symbolize eternal life. The circle signifies God's unending love. Laurel



stands for Christ's victory over sin and evil. Cedar is strength and healing. Ivy stands for faithfulness to God. The holly's thorny leaves and red berries stand for Christ's Passion, recalling the Crown of Thorns and the precious blood Jesus shed to save our souls

Add peace and joy to your Christmas

To bring more peace and joy to your Christmas this year, take the first Christmas as your model.

Sweep the inn. Jesus chose lowly circumstances for his birth to encourage freedom from worldly goods. Donate or sell what you don't truly need so you can free up attention and affection for what really matters. Then limit the number and value of new gifts.

Select shepherds. Although the people watching the sheep in the fields that night weren't the most popular nor the most prosperous

in town, God chose them to spend time with his newborn Son. Children benefit from healthy, loving company.

Accept and extend only those holiday invitations that will provide precious, loving time together.

Ponder in your heart. When her remarkable Son was born, "Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (Luke 2:19) so she could savor the joy of every awesome moment. Don't forget to savor time with your own remarkable family so that you can ponder each wonderful moment in your own heart.

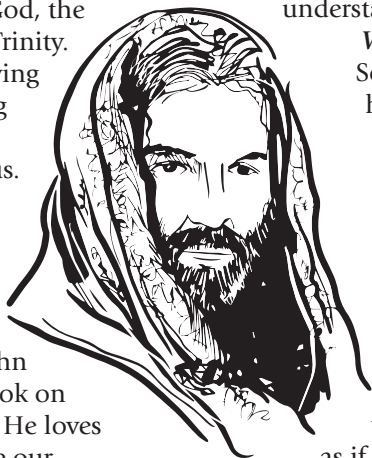


Scripture LESSON

John 1:1-18, Who is Jesus?

This month we celebrate the birth of Jesus: the Word of God, the Second Person of the Trinity. By coming to Earth, living among us and teaching us, He taught us about God and His love for us. It is now possible to share in God's divine life through Jesus's life, death and Resurrection.

In this Gospel, St. John explained that Jesus took on our humanity because He loves us and wanted to share our experience. He chose to live as we live. He experienced what we experience. Remembering that, we can also know

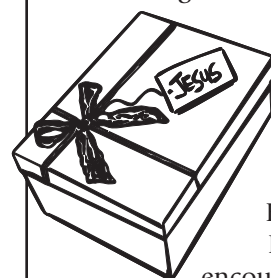


with confidence that Jesus understands us.

What can a parent do? Sooner or later, we each have to make a choice. Many who saw Jesus rejected Him, not recognizing Him as the Messiah. Help children to make a deliberate choice to recognize Jesus as their own personal Savior. Teach them to ask, "Do I live my life as if I'm a child of God?" Tell them what it means to live as a child of God and to follow Jesus. Jesus is our Lord and brother.

Parent TALK

"If Christmas is celebrating Jesus' birthday, how come He doesn't get gifts?" asked my daughter, Kara. "The Wise Men gave him gifts," I explained.



"But He didn't get them *on His birthday*," said Tessa. "Everyone else gets presents that day except Him!"

I wanted to encourage my children's generosity, so we came up with an idea. That night, each of us wrote short letters, saying, "Dear Jesus, I will give my love to You this Christmas by..." and we described specific acts of charity to be done during the Advent season. When we finished, we put the cards in a shoebox, gift-wrapped it with a nametag for Jesus, and put it under the tree. Then we did what we promised.

On Christmas morning, we opened Jesus' gift first, and revealed the charitable acts we performed in His name. The girls were pleased with their birthday gifts to the Babe.

Feasts & Celebrations

Dec. 3 – St. Francis Xavier (1552). St. Francis Xavier was born to a Spanish noble family. He taught in Paris where he met St. Ignatius of Loyola and joined the new Society of Jesus. In 1541, he was sent as a missionary to India and Japan, where he tirelessly served the poor with joy.

Dec. 8 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception (1854). This feast day commemorates that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. Attending Mass is a wonderful way to celebrate.

Dec. 11 – Pope St. Damasus I (384). Born in early 4th century Rome, St. Damasus served as a deacon before being elected pope. He defended the faith from widespread heresies and authorized St. Jerome to translate the Vulgate.

Dec. 30 – The Holy Family (1st century). Today, we celebrate the family life of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph – three people who lived for God. By their love and support of one another the Holy Family is a model for all Christian families.































Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)



2022 Family Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 November Buy or make an Advent wreath. Have the youngest light the first violet candle for Hope. 	28 Choose a gift to prepare throughout Advent to give Jesus on His birthday: myrrh (sacrifice), frankincense (holiness), gold (treasure). 	29 Make Christmas cards for troops overseas. Use these ideas: https://tinyurl.com/2pwx9vme . 	30 St. Andrew the Apostle St. Andrew answered the Lord's call. Pray for priests and more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. 	1 December Practice singing all the verses to "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." 	2 First Friday Devotion Visit Jesus in the tabernacle in church (find the lighted tabernacle candle). Thank Him for His blessings. 	3 Bake and decorate cookies Advent-style, holiday-style, or free-style. Enjoy them together. 
4 Light the first candle and a second violet one for Faith. Share a way you experienced God's love today. 	5 Add gently used clothes to a box. When it's full, bring it to a clothing drive. 	6 St. Nicholas of Myra Perform an act of kindness in honor of this generous saint. 	7 Sacrifice sweets and desserts today as penance for the souls in Purgatory. 	8 The Immaculate Conception of Mary Honor Mary by attending Mass and praying a family Rosary. 	9 St. Juan Diego Mary's miraculous image on St. Juan's <i>tilma</i> (cloak) helped convert Mexico. Use playdough to make roses like the ones he gathered in his <i>tilma</i> . 	10 Attend Confession as a family. Make sure everyone is prepared. Celebrate God's mercy. 
11 Gaudete Sunday Light two violet candles and the rose one for Joy! 	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Place roses on the family table and pray a decade of the Rosary together. 	13 Eat dinner together by candle light. Mention the ways Jesus brings light to the darkness. 	14 At bedtime, pray for everyone who is traveling for Christmas. 	15 Start a Christmas Charity Chain. Every time someone performs a good deed out of charity, add a loop to the chain. Hang it on the tree at Christmas. 	16 Eat pizza and play boardgames together. 	17 Have each child pick an "O Antiphon" and draw it. (Hint: find them here at https://www.usccb.org/prayers/o-antiphons/advent) 
18 Light all the candles, including the last one for Peace. Pray for peace in the world. 	19 Pray tonight for Catholic missionaries. 	20 Play "Name that hymn." The winner gets to light the Advent candles tonight. 	21 Eat dinner together and ask everyone to share a favorite Christmas memory. 	22 Put up your family Nativity set. Leave out the Baby. 	23 Read Luke 2:7-20 and talk about how you would each welcome Jesus if you visited the manger. 	24 Christmas Eve Put the Infant Jesus in the manger and sing "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing!" 



PEORIA NOTRE DAME DANCE TEAM CHRISTMAS CAMP 2022

The Peoria Notre Dame Dance Team will be having a Christmas Dance Camp for girls 4 years old to 6th grade.

It will be held from 8:00 AM - 11:30 AM on December 3, 2022 in the PND Gym. The performance will be at 11:00 AM.

The cost is \$40 per dancer.

Visit

https://www.familyid.com/programs/2022-peoria-notre-dame-kids-christmas-camp-dance?fbclid=IwAR2uu_-aRae8-oz7JxPxkv_ezPIpohaJodoAZuwV_Z0EONx4IzTQAOAmRn4
to sign up!

Please contact Coach Tally Sevier at pnddanceteam@gmail.com if you have any questions.