

**SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
**St. Patrick School**  
**Washington, Illinois**  
**2022-2023**

Definition

A plan created by the administration and faculty that involves practical actions which are integral to the life of the school and to the faith development of students, faculty and staff.

Rationale for Plan

- It's not as much about conveying information as it is about walking with those in formation (p. 1, Hurley)
- We teach children, not because they are Catholic, but because we are...It's an opportunity for us to teach about Jesus. It's an opportunity to teach about our faith... (p. 3, Hurley).
- Our Catholic schools...are some of the most effective ways to re-energize the Church today...(p. 3, Hurley).
- ...to reflect...on the nature and mission of the Church and how it informs what we do in a Catholic school (p. 5, Bennett).
- When one attends a Catholic school, one should come out with a concern for saving one's soul. A graduate of a Catholic school should not be content with knowing only that they are composed of mind and body, but that they have a heart and a soul as well (p. 8, Bennett).
- The Catholic school is where we learn to put the flesh on the bones of the Great Commandment: to love God above all things and our neighbor as ourselves (p. 8, Bennett).
- The Catholic school can make concrete the Jesus it attempts to embody both with its love and its service (p. 17, Bennett).
- Who do you say that I am? As teachers in a Catholic school, it is important that we create a climate that gives witness to the Christian faith (p. vi, Quinn).
- The Catholic school forms part of the saving mission of the Church, especially for education in the faith. It is 'not simply an institution which offers academic instruction of high quality, even more important, is an effective vehicle of total Christian formation' (p. 230, USCCB).
- The Catholic school affords a particularly favorable setting for catechesis with its daily opportunity for proclaiming and living the Gospel message; for learning and appreciating the teachings of our Church; for acquiring a deep understanding, reverence, and love of the Liturgy; for building community; for prayer; for proper formation of conscience; for the development of virtue; and for participating in Christian service (p. 233, USCCB).

Spiritual Development Plan by Group

*A. Students*

Service Projects (all year); Service Project Portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation Service Portfolios (7-8); Mass (weekly and special liturgies); Reconciliation (monthly); Adoration

and Benediction (weekly); Sacrament of Confirmation (Grade 8), Sacraments of First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation (Grade 2); Rosary Devotions (October & May); Respect for Life (October and January.); Dignity of the Human Person (Adult Safe Environment Program and Student Safe Environment Curriculum); Saints' Celebrations (classroom patron saints, St. Nicholas in December, Primary Grade Christmas Presentation in School Assembly; St. Patrick in March, Faculty and Staff favorite saint contest/activity; Stations of the Cross during Lent and Living Stations (6<sup>th</sup> Grade); Traditions (Grades 1 Saints' Presentations; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation Activities; K-8 Christmas Program; May Crowning; Living Rosary; New Altar Servers' Training); Liturgical Devotions (Advent and Lent); Community Celebrations (House Program for Grades 5-8; Veterans' Day activity; classroom and all-school service projects such as canned food drive; Catholic Schools' Week; vocational activities; Fill the Crib); Clergy Appreciation (Pastor, Parochial Vicar, and Sisters' birthday celebrations); Introduction to Spanish saints and Spanish culture as it relates to the Catholic faith; Chrism Mass (7<sup>th</sup> grade); implementing "Encounter" in 6<sup>th</sup> grade; implementing "Chosen" and "Decision" programs in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade religion program; implementing "Theology of the Body" program in 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade retreat to Sacré Coeur Retreat Center.

#### B. *Faculty/Staff*

Continue to work on being joy-filled servants who model the virtuous life; deepening our appreciation of the Church in the World through acts of mercy, kindness, treating one another with respect, and accepting responsibility; coordinating classroom service projects and prayer; Catechetical Sunday (September); Faculty Retreats; adopt-a-seminarian support and prayer; selected spiritual reading

#### C. *Administrative Goals*

- Model the virtuous life as a servant leader.
- Support the pastoral leadership of the school and parish.
- Oversee the implementation of the Spiritual Development Plan.

#### References:

- Bennett, G. (2005). *Being Catholic: From the heart*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Educational Association.
- Hurley, J. (2005). *Catholic educators and the call to be witness*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Educational Association.
- Pope Francis, (2014). *The Church of Mercy*. Loyola Press.
- Quinn, E. (2005). *It's a Catholic school...let's keep it Catholic*. Washington, DC: National Catholic Educational Association.
- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). (2005). *National directory for catechesis*. Washington, DC: USCCB Publishing.

**MONTHLY SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
**St. Patrick School**

*2022-2023 School Theme:*

**“Be merciful, kind, and respectful to all you meet each day.”**

*Goal: St. Patrick School will continue to integrate the SportsLeader Ministry principles and initiatives across curriculum in classrooms, and in athletics and extra-curricular activities.*

**AUGUST**

- Tentative Faculty Region I Retreat at Sacré-Coeur Retreat Center
- Faculty Back to School Mass
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Introduce Sports Leader Ministry program to athletics and to classes; Virtue of the Week
- Continue implementation of religion series for Grades K-6; Faith and Life Series from Ignatius Press
- Grade 6 continues with “Encounter” along with “Faith and Life” series
- Grade 7 continues with “Chosen” and begins 1<sup>st</sup> year of Confirmation preparation
- Grade 8 continues with “Decisions”, “Theology of the Body”, and “Altarations” and completes 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Confirmation program ending with Confirmation at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in March
- Begin Altar Server Training

**SEPTEMBER**

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Personal Bible Presentation for 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students
- Confirmation candidate commitment signing for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
- Catechetical Sunday Blessing at weekend Masses
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Novena in honor of Venerable Fulton Sheen’s Ordination Anniversary (September 20)
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Continue Altar Server Training
- Confirmation Retreat at Sacré-Coeur Retreat Center - TBD

**OCTOBER**

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- St. Therese Novena for vocations

- All School Rosary in church on the Feast of the Holy Rosary
- Million Children Praying the Rosary Campaign during religion classes, an invitation to remember the words of Our Lady of Fatima that prayer of the Rosary can truly change the world, defeat evil, and bring peace.
- Promote Vocation Awareness; Novena for Vocations through St. Therese of the Little Flower
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Pinning ceremony for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders preparing for First Communion at the school Mass

### **NOVEMBER**

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- All Saints' presentation in Church (Grade 1)
- Veterans' Day recognition and prayer
- All-School Canned Food Collection
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- All school service project: Operation Christmas Child led by 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades

### **DECEMBER**

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Faculty/Staff Advent Retreat/Faith Formation presentation
- St. Nicholas School Visit
- Feast of the Immaculate Conception (December 8)
- Anniversary of Venerable Fulton J. Sheen's death
- Advent Readings & Prayers
- Christmas Programs (Grade PreK and K-8)
- The Joyful Mystery Presentation by Kindergarten and 4<sup>th</sup> Grades
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms

### **JANUARY**

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Prayers for Sanctity of Human Life
- All-School Baby Food Collection for Right to Life Program sponsored by 7<sup>th</sup> Grade
- National Vocations' Awareness Week
- National Catholic Schools' Week Celebration
- Promote Vocation Awareness

- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Sacrament of Reconciliation (Grade 2)
- Grades 5-8 House/Class teams prepare for Catholic Schools Week

## FEBRUARY

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Blessing of Throats
- Weekly Stations of the Cross during Lent
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Lenten Readings & Prayers
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade distributes bread to parishioners after Blessing of the Bread at All School Mass
- Ash Wednesday Mass

## MARCH

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Lenten Readings & Prayers
- Lenten Retreat for Faculty
- Weekly Stations of the Cross during Lent
- School Patron Saint (St. Patrick) Celebration
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Sacrament of Confirmation (Grade 8) at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Grades 5-8 House/Class Teams to plan STEAM Night (service project) TBD
- ARK Faith assessment K-8<sup>th</sup> grades

## APRIL

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Grades 5-8 House/Class Teams to implement STEM Night (service project) - TBD
- Grades 5-8 House/Class Teams to complete Earth Day/Spring cleaning (service project)
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms
- Greeters and Gift Bearers at weekend Masses - TBD
- Chrism Mass at Cathedral (Grades 7) - TBD
- Living Stations of the Cross (Grade 6)
- Easter Triduum

## MAY

- Weekly Friday All-School Masses/Weekly Exposition, Adoration, and Benediction
- Monthly Reconciliation - TBD
- Sacrament of the Eucharist: First Holy Communion by families during month of May
- “Fill the Crib” service project
- Living Rosary & May Crowning
- Remembrance of Venerable Archbishop Sheen’s Birthday (May 9)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation & Mass
- Last Day of School students attend All school Mass
- Promote Vocation Awareness
- Service Reflection entered into portfolios (K-6) and Confirmation binders (7-8)
- Daily Act of Contrition in classrooms