

Week at a Glance for December 8-12, 2025

"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom. The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him" Is 11:1-2



Each week we will be sharing a brief article on the Catholic Faith. Here is this week's article:

Week of December 8: What Is Advent? Preparing for Christ

Advent is the season of **hopeful waiting**. It prepares us not only to celebrate Christ's birth at Christmas but also to welcome Him more fully into our lives and hearts.

The word *Advent* comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming." We remember three "comings" of Christ: in history (at His birth), in mystery (through the sacraments), and in majesty (at His second coming). As Jesus says in Mark 13:33, "Be watchful! Be alert!"

Catholics use this time to pray, reflect, and often take on small sacrifices to make more room for Jesus. Advent isn't about rushing toward presents—it's about preparing our hearts to receive the greatest gift of all: God made man.

Have a Great Week!

God Bless,

Mr. Chris Meyer, School Principal

General Information

1. **Monday, December 8**, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation in the Catholic Church. All of our K-8 students will be attending the 8am Mass to celebrate this special day in Mary's life.

2. We will be celebrating Christmas with our traditional Christmas shows. The program schedule is as follows:

- **Tuesday, December 9**, 6:30pm: Grades K-5
- **Wednesday, December 10**, 8:00-11:45am: PreK and VPK
- **Thursday, December 11**, 6:30pm: Grades 6-8

Please remember that seating is tight at these shows, so please plan on coming early to find a spot.

3. Middle School exams will be held during the school day starting on **Tuesday, December 16**. Exams will run through **Thursday, December 18**, and the early dismissal day on **Friday, December 19**, will be the test make-up day. A schedule for the exams will be sent out to parents next week.

4. Please remember that we have an early release day on **Friday, December 19**. PreK-3 and all VPK classes will dismiss at 10:45am, and K-8th Grade will dismiss at 11:45am. There WILL NOT be aftercare that day, so all students must be picked up at their dismissal time.

5. Our Five Days of Christmas celebration will begin on **Monday, December 15**. Please see the attached flyer for more information and the themes for each day. Please Note: Middle School Student MAY participate in the themes while taking their exams.

6. SAVE THE DATE! St. Patrick Catholic School will celebrate Catholic Schools Week with our annual Community Helper Day—including Career Day and Touch-a-Truck—on **January 27, 2026, from 8:00 AM–12:00 PM**. Families are invited to participate by sharing a career, bringing a vehicle, or setting up a display to help make this event meaningful for our students. For more information, please see the attached flyer.

7. Run Club is underway! The run club is being led by Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Beasley. The club practices on Wednesdays, from 3:00-4:00. For more information, please contact either Mrs. Williams or Mrs. Blanchard.

8. If your child is in 2nd grade, and is planning to make his or her First Communion this year, or if your child is in 8th grade, and is planning to make his or her Confirmation this year, then you must sign up for Sacramental Prep classes through our parish's Religious Education program. Classes won't begin until the second semester (they are already on our school calendar), but registration is already open. To sign up for these prep classes, please go to <https://form.jotform.com/252178565200050>. For more information, contact our DRE Cathy Taylor at ctaylor@spcsjax.org.

9. We are looking for assistance during our daily lunch periods. If you are interested in helping out (and earning service hours), please use this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-58117443-cafeteria> . If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Allison at ahayes@spcsjax.org.

10. Our orchestra is currently looking for new members. If your child might be interested in learning a musical instrument, please see the attached flyer for more information.

11. Please see the attached flyers for some fun holiday events being sponsored by our friends at Bishop Snyder Catholic High School.

Home School Association (HSA) Happenings

1. Our HSA is sponsoring a Family Night Out with the Icemen on **Saturday, December 6**.

The game starts at 7:00pm and the tickets cost \$23.36. A portion of each ticket price comes back to our school! For more information, or to purchase tickets, please see the attached flyer. Go Icemen!

2. The HSA will be sponsoring Candy Cane Grams just in time for Christmas. Each Candy Gram costs \$1 and can be sent to classmates or teachers at the school. For more information, please see the attached flyer. The deadline for purchasing Candy Cane Grams is **Friday, December 12**.

Week at a Glance

Saturday, December 6

- Family Night Out With the Icemen, 7:00pm

Monday, December 8-The Feast of the Immaculate Conception

- Mass 8am

Tuesday, December 9

- K-5 Christmas Show, 6:30pm (students should arrive to their homerooms at 6:00pm)
- Soccer Shots

Wednesday, December 10

- PreK-3 Christmas Show 8:00am
- VPK-B Christmas Show 9:00am
- VPK-A Christmas Show 10:00am
- VPK-C & D Christmas Show 11:00am
- Run Club Practice 3:00-4:00

Thursday, December 11

- 6-8 Christmas Show 6:30pm (students should arrive to their homerooms at 6:00pm)
- Orchestra Rehearsal TBD

Friday, December 12

- Last Day for Candy Cane Grams

The mission of St. Patrick Catholic School is to lay the foundation for success in students through Catholic traditions, rooted in the Eucharist and Gospel teachings of Christ, with high standards of education in a safe, nurturing and welcoming environment.

