

Week of January 19: The Church—Founded by Christ or Just a Human Institution?

Some see the Church as just a man-made organization. But Catholics believe the Church is both **human and divine**, because it was founded by Christ and animated by the Holy Spirit.

In Matthew 16:18, Jesus says to Peter, “You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.” The Church is Christ’s visible Body on Earth, entrusted with preserving and proclaiming the Gospel. It isn’t perfect—because it includes imperfect people—but it is guided by the Holy Spirit and protected from error in matters of faith and morals.

The Church is not just an institution—it is a **family**, a sacrament of God’s presence in the world, and a means through which Christ continues His saving work.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a courageous leader who helped our nation move closer to justice and equality through the power of faith, peaceful protest, and a steadfast commitment to human dignity. His vision of a country where people are judged by the content of their character continues to inspire us to love our neighbors, stand against injustice, and work for peace in our communities.

We wish all of our St. Patrick Catholic School families a safe and restful long weekend as we honor Dr. King’s legacy in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

God Bless,

Mr. Chris Meyer, School Principal

General Information

1. Please remember that in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we WILL NOT have school on **Monday, January 19**.

2. As part of our Catholic Schools Week traditions, we will be collecting boxes and bags of cereal to help Catholic Charities. Cereal can be dropped off in the school office anytime during the month of January.

3. **Baked Good Donations Needed! (Service Hours):** To thank our **Community Helpers and Career Day volunteers**, we prepare **goody boxes** for them! With many new guests joining us this year, we would greatly appreciate help with **baked good donations**. Homemade items such as **cookies, brownies, muffins, cupcakes, scones, cake pops, lemon bars**, or similar treats are wonderful. **Store-bought baked goods are also welcome** (donuts, muffins, cookies, cupcakes, etc.). (Please **No individually wrapped or pre-packaged items** like Oreos, crackers or granola bars.) Sign up using the link below and please note **what you will donate and the quantity** in the comments. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A4AA9A72AA3FD0-61632416-baked> *** Please drop-off your donations in the **car line on the morning of January 27th**. *****K–8th grade families may receive up to 2 service hours**. Thank you for your generosity and support!

4. St. Patrick's has a new Facebook Page! Please consider friending our page to keep up with the latest news from our school. A QR Code is included in the attachments for this newsletter, or you can go to <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61583659284451>.
5. All-School Science Day, which was originally scheduled for Friday, January 16, is being moved to **Friday, January 23**. We will be welcoming MOSH to do a presentation for our K-8 students, complete with a traveling planetarium!
6. Duval County Public Schools has asked our families to complete an anonymous, online survey for Title I funding for 2026-2027. The information in this survey is used to determine our school's allotment from the federal grant which pays for our students to have Title I (math and reading) services. Please use the QR Code attached to this email, or the following link: <https://dcps.questionpro.com/IncomeDeterminationSurvey2025> to access the survey. The deadline for completing the survey is **February 13, 2026**.
7. One of our Catholic Schools Week traditions is for parents to watch our classes while teachers are treated to a lunch. The lunch will take place on **Friday, January 30**. If you are available to cover a homeroom class from 10:45-12:15, please use the following link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-61721413-catholic>.
8. Another of our Catholic Schools Week traditions is our family picnic day. This will take place on **Thursday, January 29**. If you would like to sign up to attend the family picnic day, please use the following link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-61721496-catholic>
9. As is the tradition here at St. Patrick Catholic School, we will be announcing our tuition and fees on **Friday, January 23**, the Friday before Catholic Schools Week begins. Returning families will then have two weeks to re-register prior to opening registration to new families. More information will be coming home with the tuition and fee letter on the 23rd.
10. 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.
11. Please remember that it is each family's responsibility to enter their service hours into their FACTS account. If you are not sure how to do this, please reach out to Ms. Allison in the main office for assistance. The deadline for entering service hours is **Thursday, April 30, 2026**.

Home School Association (HSA) Happenings

1. The HSA is busy working on the upcoming Father and Daughter Dance, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 7. More information about the dance, as well as other upcoming HSA events will be sent home soon!

Monday, January 19

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day--No School

Tuesday, January 20

- First Reconciliation Class (2nd graders) 6:00-7:30pm
- Art with Heart Class with Ms. AJ
- Orchestra Rehearsal

Wednesday, January 21

- Run Club Practice 3:00-4:00
- Volleyball vs. St. Matthew (A)
- Soccer vs. Christ the King (H)

Thursday, January 22

- Volleyball vs. St. Michael (A)
- Orchestra Rehearsal

Friday, January 23

- All-School Science Day
- 2026-2027 Tuition and Fees Announced



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.

Mr. Christopher Meyer, Principal

St. Patrick Catholic School

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