

Week of March 16: Why Confession Is Part of Lent

Lent is a season of conversion—and Confession (the Sacrament of Reconciliation) is the most powerful way to return to God. Jesus gave the apostles the authority to forgive sins in His name (John 20:22–23), and the Church has practiced this ever since.

Confession isn't about guilt—it's about freedom. It's where we name our sins, express true sorrow, receive forgiveness, and hear the words: "I absolve you." These aren't the priest's words—they're Christ's words spoken through the priest.

Many Catholics return to this sacrament during Lent. It's not just a ritual—it's a life-changing encounter with mercy, and a reminder that there is no sin greater than God's love.

Dear St. Patrick Catholic School Families,

As we begin this special week, I would like to wish each of you a joyful and blessed St. Patrick's Day! Our patron saint reminds us through his life of faith, courage, and missionary spirit that God calls each of us to share His love with others. It is a wonderful blessing for our school community to celebrate this feast together.

An Irish blessing reminds us:

*"May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and the rains fall soft upon your fields."*

May this week be filled with faith, joy, and a spirit of gratitude for the many blessings God has given our school community. I look forward to celebrating together at Mass and enjoying the festivities of the day with all of you.

Wishing you a wonderful St. Patrick's Day and a great week ahead!

God Bless,

Mr. Chris Meyer, School Principal

General Information

1. Help Us Spread the Good News About SPCS! St. Patrick Catholic School is looking for families to help us promote our wonderful school community. We currently have a limited number of yard signs available and are seeking volunteers who would be willing to display one in their front yard to help increase awareness in our neighborhood. In addition, if you own a business or work in a location that permits promotional materials, we have postcards with school information that can be displayed at your front desk or waiting area. If you are able to assist with either of these efforts, please contact the front office. Your support in helping us share the good news about SPCS is greatly appreciated!

2. We will be hosting an evening Lenten activity on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, from 6:30-7:30 in the Parish Hall. The evening will be one of "prayer, craft and fellowship for the entire family."

Cheese pizza dinner will be available for participants. Admission is one new pair of socks (per participant) which will be donated to St. Joseph's Homeless Outreach. To register, please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-62590373-lenten>

3. Please remember that we do not have school this **Monday, March 16**. Classes resumes with an early dismissal day on **Tuesday, March 17**.

4. On **Tuesday, March 17**, we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. We will begin with Mass with Bishop Pohlmeier at 8:00am (parents are welcome!). We will then have special activities leading up to an early dismissal (10:45 for PK-3, AM and All-Day VPK, 11:45am for K-8, and 2:45pm for PM VPK). Students are all asked to wear their school uniforms (**no PE uniforms or NUT Day dress downs**) on that day.

5. Grades closed for the third quarter on **Thursday, March 12**. Report cards will be emailed home on **Friday, March 20**.

6. Re-registration is now underway, and space is filling up quickly in certain classes. Please remember that every student must be re-registered every year, and that a registration **IS NOT** considered complete until the registration fee is paid. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Allison in the school office.

7. Applications for the Private School and Unique Abilities Scholarships for the 2026–27 school year opened on **February 1**. Families are encouraged to gather required documents now and renew/apply as soon as possible. There is an important update to this year's requirements—Proof of Residency now requires TWO different document types (from the primary or secondary guardian). A required documents checklist is attached to this email.

8. The First Annual St. Patrick Open is almost here! Coach Reid and his committee have been hard at work preparing things for our golf tournament at Blue Sky Golf Club next Saturday, March 21. If you would still like to donate items, sponsor the event, or volunteer, please contact Coach Reid at 315-532-4704 or 904-768-6323 ext. 204, or email breid@spsjjax.org or bailey48@gmail.com.



9. The Ignatius Book Fair is here! Our spring book fair, hosted by Ignatius Book Fairs, will be from **March 17 through March 27**. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-62473360-ignatius>.

10. Confirmation classes for 8th grade students who have signed up to receive the sacrament this spring continue on **Tuesday, March 17**, at 6:30pm.

11. 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/5080945AFA829A4F85-62037729-cafeteria> . If you have any questions, please reach out to Ms. Allison at ahayes@spsjax.org.

12. 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**.

13. Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church is hosting a youth pilgrimage to Poland. The trip will take place June 9-18, 2026. The cost is \$2,700 per participant. For more information, please see the attached flyer or contact Carol Rowell at (904) 505-5981 or carolrowell2@aol.com.

14. Don't forget that yearbooks are on sale! Yearbooks can be purchased through www.BuyTheYearbook.com. The yearbook code is 383063. Yearbooks cost \$35.

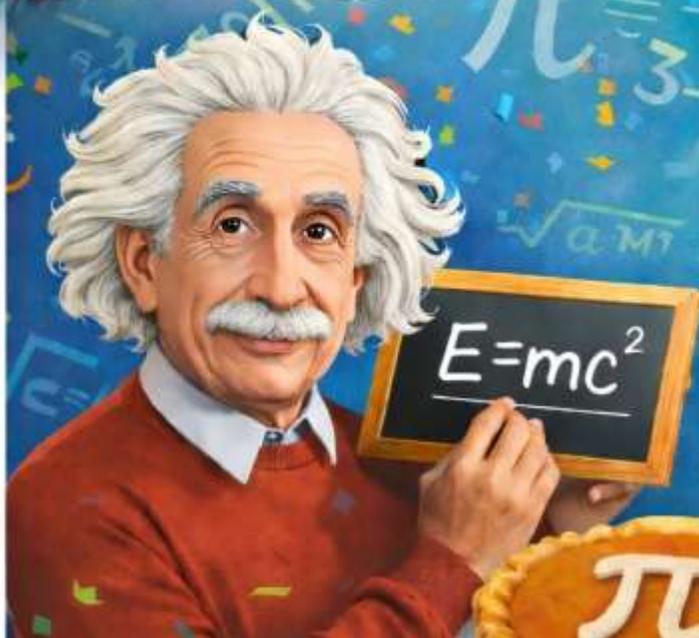
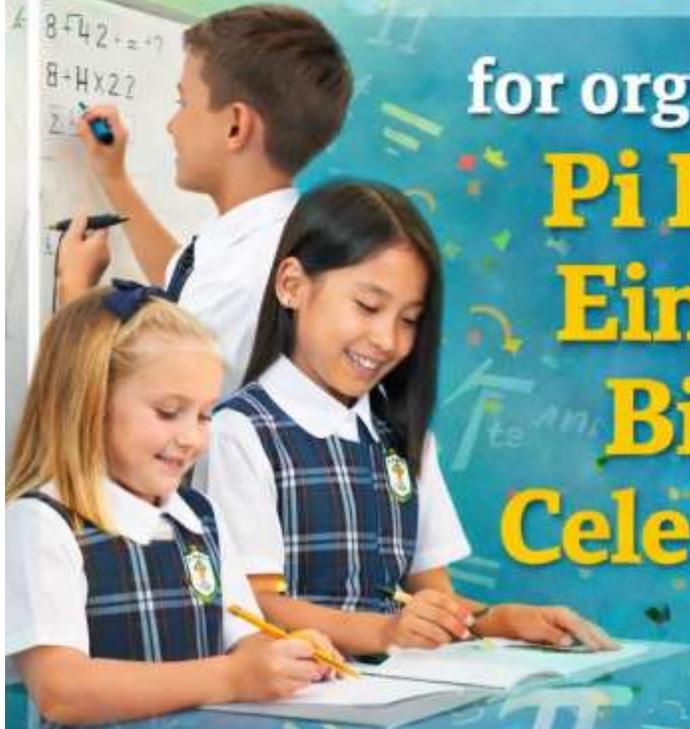
15. Special thanks to Mrs. Toth, the math day committee and all the middle school student helpers for making Pi Day this past Wednesday so amazing!

THANK YOU

Mrs. TOTH!

for organizing our

Pi Day and Einstein's Birthday Celebration!



Established 1964



Home School Association (HSA) Happenings

1. The HSA is working on finalizing their remaining events for this school year. More information will be coming soon!

Week at a Glance

Monday, March 16 (No School, Professional Development Day)

- Open Registration for new and returning families

Tuesday, March 17 St. Patrick's Day (Early Dismissal. Aftercare IS available)

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Confirmation Prep Class for 8th Graders 6:30-8:00pm
- Ignatius Book Fair Set-Up Day

Wednesday, March 18

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Ignatius Book Fair 8:00-5:00

Thursday, March 19

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Ignatius Book Fair 8:00-3:00
- Orchestra Rehearsal

Friday, March 20

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Ignatius Book Fair 8:00-3:00

Sunday, March 22

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Ignatius Book Fair 9:00-1:00

Ignatius Book Fair *Hours*

March 17 ♦ 8:00–1:00

March 18 ♦ 8:00–5:00

March 19 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 20 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 22 ♦ 9:00–1:00

March 23 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 24 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 25 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 25 ♦ 8:00–3:00

March 26 ♦ 8:00–3:00



St. Patrick Catholic School





ST. PATRICK'S DAY

AT ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**MASS WITH BISHOP
POHLMEIER AT 8AM**

EARLY DISMISSAL

- ◆ PreK-3, AM VPK, and All-Day VPK:

10:45AM

- ◆ K-8: 11:45AM

- ◆ PM VPK: 2:45PM

Aftercare WILL be available

Parents are encouraged to stay for a fun picnic lunch with their kids before leaving for the day!



Join the BKHS Band!

No Experience Needed!

**Choose Band 1 as
your Freshman
year elective!**

- **Fun trips**
- **Free food**
- **Service Hours**
- **Counts as your PE Credit**
- **Great way to make friends**



Lenten

EVENING RETREAT

Tuesday, March 24, 2026
6:30 - 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall

Join us for an evening of prayer, craft,
and fellowship for the entire family.

A cheese pizza dinner will be available for all participants.

ADMISSION: One New Pair of Socks per Person
(Donated to St. Joseph's Homeless Outreach)

Sign up at:

[www.signupgenius.com/go/
5080945AFA829A4F85
-62590373-lenten](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-62590373-lenten)



*A Shared Expression
of Our Faith and Mission*



St. Patrick Catholic School YEARBOOK

Capture the Memories of This School Year!

Early Bird Price

\$30.00

Now through February 14

Regular Price

\$35.00

Feb 15 - Until Sold Out

Order online at BuyTheYearbook.com

♣ Yearbook Code: **383063** ♣

Don't Wait!

*A limited number of yearbooks have been ordered
and may not be available later, so please reserve your copy today.*

No cash, checks, or money orders will be accepted at the school.

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

601 Airport Drive East

Jacksonville, FL 32218

www.stpatrickjacksonville.org

Phone (904) 768-6323