

Week of March 2: Ash Wednesday and the Call to Conversion

Lent begins with **Ash Wednesday**. Catholics receive ashes on their foreheads as a sign of **repentance** and a reminder of our mortality: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

But this is not meant to make us afraid—it's a **call to turn back to God**. As 2 Corinthians 6:2 says, "Now is the acceptable time... now is the day of salvation."

Lent is a spiritual reset. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we make space for God to work in our hearts. It's not just about "giving something up"—it's about becoming more like Christ, who gave everything for us.

Dear St. Patrick Catholic School Families,

Wishing you a wonderful week ahead and a grace-filled Lenten season. As we journey through this sacred time, may we intentionally make space each day for prayer, allowing the Lord to renew our hearts. Scripture reminds us, "*Return to me with your whole heart,*" (Joel 2:12) which is the work we do during Lent to prepare for Easter. We recognize that this is challenging, but we undertake it joyfully as a way to be closer to Jesus.

Thank you for your continued partnership in forming our students in mind, body, and spirit.

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. 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.

4. It looks like the weather will be nice for the next two weeks, temperature-wise, so we are going back to regular uniform requirements. Students should wear only school-issued outerwear, PE clothes, and should refrain from wearing leggings under their skirts or shorts.

5. 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.

6. Our second through eighth graders have done a phenomenal job during the Terra Nova testing. We are now at the point where we are finishing make-up testing. Thank you to everyone for your assistance in making sure your students are on time for school during the testing window. We will conclude our make-up testing by **March 6**.

7. St. Patrick will be hosting Leonard's Photography on **Monday, March 2**, to take Spring Photos. Students interested in having their picture taken may dress down, following the guidelines in the school handbook. All other students should be in school uniform that day.

8. Join us for The First Annual St. Patrick Open, a 4-man scramble golf tournament benefiting St. Patrick's Catholic School, on **Saturday, March 21, 2026**, at Blue Sky Golf Club. Registration opens at 7:30 AM with a 9:00 AM tee off, and golfers will enjoy a breakfast buffet, a traditional Irish lunch catered by Culhane's Irish Pub, raffles and golf challenges, an event polo, and more. The cost is \$500 per foursome or \$150 per individual golfer, and sponsorships and donations are welcomed, including Gold Level (\$2,500), Silver Level (\$1,000), and Hole Sponsorships (\$300). To sign up or learn more, contact Bailey Reid at 315-532-4704 or 904-768-6323 ext. 204, or email breid@spcsjax.org or baileyr48@gmail.com.

9. The Ignatius Book Fair is coming! 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 will begin on **Tuesday, March 3**, 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@spcsjax.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. The middle school team has banned "squishy" toys from coming into school. These toys are defined as having liquid in them that can easily break and cause a mess in the classroom. Thank you for your assistance with this.

See You at the Patrick!

To Sponsor

March 21 at
Blue Sky
Golf Club

To Play

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 2

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Terra Nova Make-Up Testing, grades 2-8

- Spring Picture Day

Tuesday, March 3

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Terra Nova Make-Up Testing, grades 2-8
- Confirmation Prep Class for 8th Graders 6:30-8:00pm
- Soccer Shots
- Art with Heart Class with Ms. AJ
- Orchestra Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 4

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Terra Nova Make-Up Testing, grades 2-8
- Run Club Practice 3:00-4:00

Thursday, March 5

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Terra Nova Make-Up Testing, grades 2-8
- Orchestra Rehearsal

Friday, March 6

- Open Registration for new and returning families
- Terra Nova Make-Up Testing, grades 2-8

Saturday, March 7

- River Run sponsored by Gates





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*

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**

Ignatius Book Fair *is Coming!*

March 17-27

We're getting ready for a fun and
faith-filled book fair at St. Patrick
Catholic School!



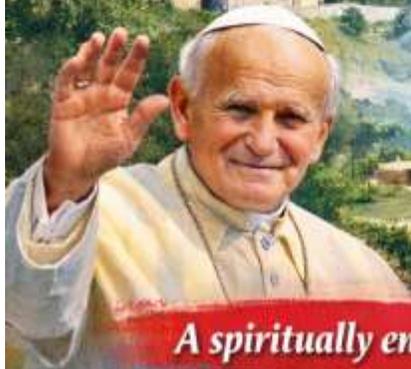
Sign up to volunteer at:
[www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080945AFA829
A4F85-62473360-Ignatius](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/5080945AFA829A4F85-62473360-Ignatius)



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June 9-18, 2026

Cost: \$2,700 per pilgrim

-  **INCLUDES:**
-  Airfare
 -  Accommodations
 -  Breakfast & Dinner
 -  Private Coach
 -  Guided Tours & Entrance Fees

For More Information:

-  **Carol Rowell**
Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
-  (904) 505-5981
-  carolrowell2@aol.com



Walk in the footsteps of saints and build lifelong friendships!

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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