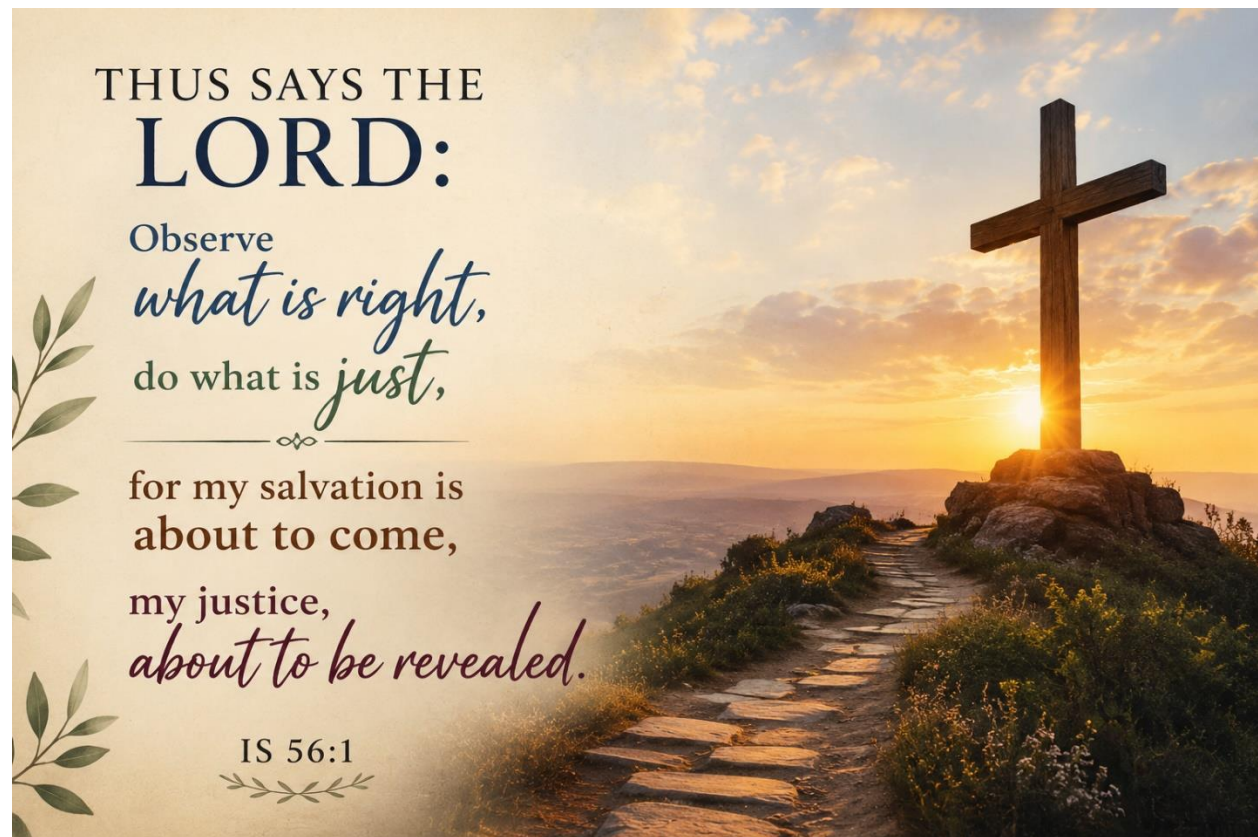


Week at a Glance



St. Patrick Catholic School

"Thus says the LORD: Observe what is right, do what is just, for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed." Is 56:1



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

Why Do Catholics Honor Mary?

On August 15, the Church celebrates the **Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**, when we remember that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken body and soul into

heavenly glory. This feast gives us a perfect opportunity to ask a question Catholics sometimes hear: Why do Catholics honor Mary so much?

The answer begins with Jesus. Catholics honor Mary because God honored Mary first. God chose her to be the mother of His Son. When the angel Gabriel appeared to her, he greeted her as one who was “full of grace” (Luke 1:28). Later, Elizabeth exclaimed, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:42).

Catholics therefore do what Scripture itself does: we call Mary blessed.

But someone might ask...“Don't Catholics worship Mary?”

No. Worship belongs to God alone. Catholics worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We honor Mary because of her unique relationship with Jesus and because she provides us with an extraordinary example of faith.

Think about the difference between honoring someone and worshiping someone. We honor parents, grandparents, heroes, saints, and people who have lived remarkable lives. Honoring them does not make them gods.

Mary's greatness always points beyond herself to God. Her response to Elizabeth makes this clear: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord” (Luke 1:46).

The best way to honor Mary is to imitate her response to God: “May it be done to me according to your word” (Luke 1:38).

Dear St. Patrick Families,

What a wonderful first week of school! It has been a joy to welcome our students back to campus, see familiar faces, meet new members of our school family, and watch our classrooms come alive again.

Welcome to our first Week at a Glance of the 2026–2027 school year! Each week, this newsletter will help keep you connected with important announcements, upcoming events, reminders, and the many things happening throughout St. Patrick Catholic School.

As we begin a new year together, we are excited to embrace our theme, “Shine Like the Stars” (Philippians 2:15), encouraging our students to shine the light of Christ through their faith, learning, kindness, and service to others.

Thank you to our families, faculty, and staff for helping us begin the year on such a positive note. We are grateful for your partnership and look forward to a wonderful year of Faith, Family, and Academic Excellence!

God bless,

Mr. Meyer, School Principal

General Information

1. Soccer Shots will be on campus on **Tuesday, August 25**, for their annual demo day. Students in early childhood through third grade will have the chance to see what the program is like.
2. Our first morning prayer service of the year will take place on **Thursday, August 27**. After the prayer service, we will recognize students who earned honor roll during the fourth quarter of the 2025-2026 school year. The prayer service will begin at 8:30 and parents are welcome to attend.
3. Thank you to everyone who has submitted their beginning of the year forms to the school office. At this point, we are doing so much better than last year! If you still haven't submitted your forms, please do so ASAP. Thank you for your assistance with these documents.
4. Our first all-school Mass will be celebrated on Friday, September 4, at 8am.
5. Don't forget that **Monday, September 7**, is Labor Day, and we will not have school.
6. In order to volunteer for activities, such as field trips, all adults must be background screened and complete the diocesan Protecting God's Children (PGC) class. St. Patrick's will host PGC classes on **Saturday, September 5**, and **Saturday, October 3**. To register for one of the classes, please go to virtus.org, click on the button for "First Time Registrant" and follow the prompts to sign up for the class.
7. Step Up Attestation Reminder: When completing your quarterly EMA attestation, please remember: if your child attended St. Patrick Catholic School or another private school in 2025–2026, answer “NO” to the public school enrollment question. If you answered incorrectly, (1) contact Step Up to report the error, (2) contact Duval County Public Schools—or your home school district—to request a letter confirming your child is not enrolled there, and (3) upload the letter to EMA. Attestations must now be completed every quarter, and incorrect answers may delay scholarship payments. *Thank you for your patience with this, as this is a new procedure and we are all learning it together.* If you have any questions, please reach out to Lorrie Mathews, our business manager (lmathews@spcsjax.org), or Ms. Della, our school secretary (dlinton@spcsjax.org). **Thank you to everyone who went into their accounts and checked to make sure this was completed!**
8. Congratulations to the students who earned honor roll for the fourth quarter of the 2025-2026 school year. They will be recognized after our prayer service on **August 27**:
 - Principal's Honors: Hallie Gray
 - A Honors: Zoey Carpenter, Alexander Escobar, Amahia Figueroa, Makenna Ford, Adalind Robinson, Obaapa Asare, Tatiana Perez, Corbin Freyoux
 - A/B Honors: Wyatt Beasley, Matthew Calamaan, Colton Clark, Cassandra Correal, Julian Darrow, Raelynn Hartwell, Julian Mainster, Delilah Workmon, Semhar Samuel, Colette Tanner, Larrion Cassidy, Julian Echele-Rodriguez, Ella Nunez-Salinas, Lucas Roodt, Aubrey Scott, Kamille Ernest, Arsema Essayas, Chloe Tipper, Austin Williams.
9. Congratulations to the following students who will be recognized for earning diocesan awards for the 2025-2026 school year. They will receive these awards after the prayer service on **August 27**:

- Honor Roll Award: Wyatt Beasley, Colton Clark, Cassandra Correal, Julian Darrow, Raelynn Hartwell, Julian Mainster, Larrion Cassidy, Tatiana Perez, Chloe Tipper, Zoey Carpenter, Amahia Figueroa, Julian Echele-Rodriguez, Kamille Ernest, Ella Nunez-Salinas, Lucas Roodt
- Superintendent's Award: Makenna Ford, Corbin Freyoux, Hallie Gray, Alexander Escobar
- Scholar-Athlete Award: Wyatt Beasley, Tatiana Perez, Makenna Ford, Kamille Ernest, Lucas Roodt

10. The School Advisory Board is looking to add a few new members. If you are interested in joining the board, please fill out the application found on the school website and send it into the school office. The website address is: <https://www.stpatrickjacksonville.org/school/school-advisory-board/>

11. **Bishop Kenny Catholic Grade School Night:** All St. Patrick families are invited to Bishop Kenny High School on **Friday, August 28** for Catholic Grade School Night! Gates open at **6:00 p.m.** and kickoff against Ponte Vedra is at **7:00 p.m.** Grade school students receive **FREE** admission, plus free Bruster's Ice Cream, prizes, and a 360-photo booth. Grade school cheerleaders are also invited to cheer with the BK Varsity Cheerleaders—wear your uniform and bring your pom poms! See the attached flyer for details.

Home School Association (HSA) Happenings

1. If you are interested in joining the HSA Board for 2026-2027, please fill out the application found on the school website and send it into the school office. The website address is: <https://www.stpatrickjacksonville.org/school/hsa-board/>

2. **SAVE THE DATE:** Our first general HSA Meeting will be held on **Thursday, August 27 at 6:30pm**. At the meeting, the HSA board will share information about upcoming HSA events, and the principal will deliver his State of the School address. Families attending will receive service hours.

Week at a Glance

Monday, August 17

- Lunch Vendor: Culver's
- Basketball Practice
- Cross Country Practice 3:15-4:15

Tuesday, August 18

- Lunch Vendor: Panera Bread

Wednesday, August 19

- Lunch Vendor: Tijuana Flats
- Basketball Practice
- Cross Country Practice 3:15-4:15

Thursday, August 20

- Lunch Vendor: Zaxby's

Friday, August 21

- Lunch Vendor: Pizza Hut
- Basketball Practice
- Cross Country Practice 3:15-4:15

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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