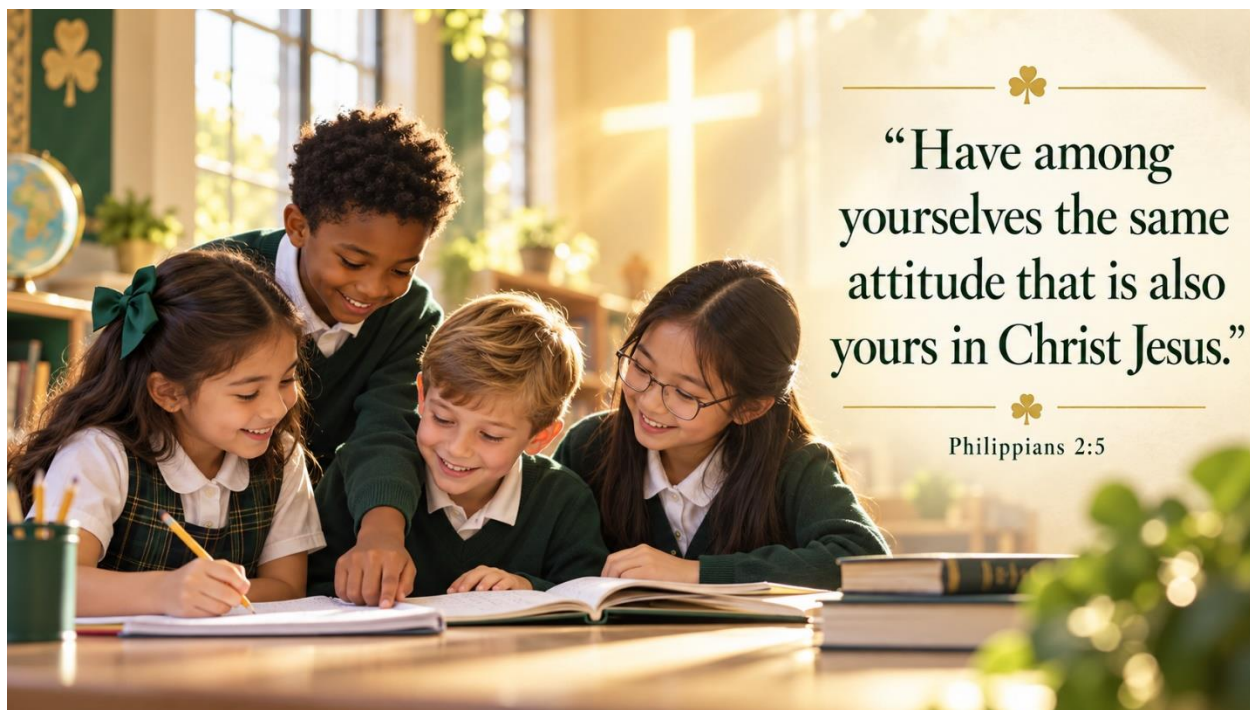




"Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus." Phil 2:5



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

Why Do Catholics Ask Saints to Pray for Us?

Catholics frequently say things such as, "St. Patrick, pray for us" or "St. Joseph, pray for us."

But why ask saints for prayers? Why not simply pray directly to God?

We do pray directly to God. Every Mass, the Our Father, Eucharistic Adoration, and countless Catholic prayers are directed to God.

But Christians also ask one another to pray for them.

You might tell a friend, "Please pray for my grandmother," or ask your parish to pray for someone who is sick. Scripture encourages Christians to pray for one another, telling us, "The fervent prayer of a righteous person is very powerful" (James 5:16).

Catholics believe that death does not destroy the family Christ created.

But someone might ask...

"Aren't the saints dead?"

Their earthly lives have ended, but Jesus tells us that God "is not God of the dead, but of the living" (Luke 20:38).

Those who are with Christ in Heaven are more alive than ever.

When Catholics ask St. Patrick or another saint to "pray for us," we aren't asking that saint to replace Jesus. We are asking another member of the Body of Christ to join us in prayer to Jesus.

It's the heavenly version of asking a faithful friend, "Would you pray for me?"

Dear SPCS Family,

"Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus." — Philippians 2:5

We saw a beautiful example of that spirit on Thursday, when our kindergarten and first-grade students led us in prayer. Their sincerity and joy reminded us that even our youngest students can help lead our school community closer to Christ.

This week, the Church also celebrated the beatification of Archbishop Fulton Sheen, whose life was devoted to sharing the love of Jesus. May his example, and the example of our children, inspire us to meet one another with humility, kindness, and a heart ready to serve.

Have a blessed weekend!

God bless,

Mr. Chris Meyer, School Principal

General Information

1. Our next Morning Prayer Service will be held on **Thursday, October 22, at 8:30am**. This will include our honor roll assembly. Parents are invited to attend.

2. Please remember that we WILL NOT have school on **Friday, October 9** or **Monday, October 12**. Have a GREAT Long Weekend!

3. Our next early dismissal day will be on **Friday, October 23**. PreK and VPK classes will dismiss at 10:45am, and K-8 classes will dismiss at 11:45am. K-8 Teachers will be holding parent/teacher conferences that afternoon. More information will be sent out via your child's classroom teacher.

4. On **Tuesday, October 6**, we will be hosting ECG's for middle schoolers interested in participating in high school sports. This is a requirement in the state of Florida. "Who We Play For" will be on campus to provide the ECG's from 10:00am-1:00pm. The cost is \$20 and the student must have a signed permission form. For more information, please see the attached flyer or reach out to Mrs. Blanchard at ablanchard@spcsjax.org.
5. 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 a PGC class on **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.
6. Please remember that the diocese **does not** recognize religious exemptions from immunizations in its schools. To be eligible to be at St. Patrick's, students must have received all of the required immunizations for their age. If a child needs a medical exemption from an immunization, this can **ONLY** be obtained through the Superintendent's office. If this is the case, please contact the school and we will walk you through the appropriate steps to request the medical exemption.
7. Please remember that students purchasing the special "Fight for the Cure" t-shirt through our spirit store may wear the shirt in lieu of their uniform or PE shirt **each Thursday during the month of October.** (regular uniform or PE bottoms must be worn, unless the student is on retreat). Shirts can be purchased at 1st Place Spiritwear.
8. CALENDAR UPDATE: Yearbook photos will be taken on **Monday, October 19**, not **Tuesday, October 20**, as we originally posted in our school calendars.
9. Our Called to Greatness: Mind, Body and Spirit Retreats program will begin on **Thursday, October 1** with our 6th grade retreat. 6th graders may wear their spirit shirt with jeans (no rips or tears) or PE shirts and their school shoes. Regular lunch will take place. Please note: our 7th grade retreat that is on the calendar for **Thursday, October 8** will actually take place on **Wednesday, October 7**.
10. Our 4th through 8th grade classes will be attending the Jacksonville Icemen School Day Game on **Tuesday, November 3** at 10am. Permission forms were sent home last week and need to be returned **NO LATER** than **Thursday, October 1**. The cost to attend the game is \$25, which includes the bus. Parents who want to chaperone the game **MUST RSVP** to Mr. Meyer **NOT LATER** than **Thursday, October 1**. The cost to chaperone is also \$25.
11. Our orchestra is looking for new members! The orchestra rehearses on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school until 5pm. If you are interested in having your child participate, please see the attached flyer, or contact Mr. Carlos Cifuentes at cifuentesviolin@gmail.com.
12. Our school choir is also looking for new members! The choir practices on Tuesdays from 3:15-4:15pm. If you are interested in having your child participate, permission forms are available in the school office. For more information, please contact Mr. Fair at ifair@spcsjax.org.
13. Grades will close for first quarter report cards on **Thursday, October 8**. Report cards will be finalized and ready for distribution on **Friday, October 23**.

14. Bishop Snyder Catholic High School is holding Catholic School Night at its football game on **Friday, October 2**. Gates open at 6pm and the game starts at 7pm. To purchase tickets, please see the attached flyer. Go Cardinals!

15. SAVE THE DATE: Our first Shamrocks and Shenanigans dinner dance will be held on **Saturday, November 7**. More information regarding tickets, as well as volunteer opportunities will be coming in the next few weeks.

16. Registration is now open for eligible 2nd grade students preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and 8th grade students preparing for Confirmation. The registration deadline is **December 31, 2026**. Families can review the requirements and register here:



<https://form.jotform.com/252178565200050> . For questions or more information, please contact **Cathy Taylor, Director of Religious Education**, at ctaylor@spcsjax.org . If you or your child are missing sacraments, or if you are simply curious about becoming Catholic, Deacon David would be happy to answer your questions and talk with you about what that might look like. Contact Deacon David Belanger at [904-763-3340](tel:904-763-3340) or david1625@yahoo.com

17. Join Bishop Erik Pohlmeier for a fun night of hockey as the Jacksonville Icemen take on the Savannah Ghost Pirates on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. Bring your family and friends to celebrate the Icemen's 10th anniversary season! Tickets are \$15 or \$30, plus service fees. Space is limited, so reserve your seats early. [Get tickets](#) or see the event flyer for details.

Home School Association (HSA) Happenings

1. A HUGE Thank You to Texas Roadhouse and all of you for making our first restaurant fundraiser night last night such a success! Once we have final numbers as to what we made, we will let you know.
2. The HSA will be hosting a readathon, starting on October 1. More information will be coming home soon!

Week at a Glance

Monday, September 28

- Lunch Vendor: Firehouse Subs
- Basketball vs. St. Matthew's (Girls 5:30pm, Boys 6:30pm)
- Cross Country Practice 3:15-4:15

Tuesday, September 29

- Lunch Vendor: Panda Express
- Basketball vs. Blessed Trinity (Girls 5:30pm, Boys 6:30pm)
- Orchestra Rehearsal 3:00-5:00
- School Choir Practice 3:15-4:15
- Art in the Heart with Ms. AJ
- Soccer Shots

Wednesday, September 30

- Lunch Vendor: Moe's
- Art in the Heart with Ms. AJ
- Basketball Practice (TBD)
- Cross Country Race @St. John's Fairground

Thursday, October 1

- Lunch Vendor: Zaxby's
- HSA Readathon
- Final Day to Send in Jacksonville Icemen ticket orders (grades 4-8)
- Grade 6 Called to Greatness Retreat (spirit shirts with jeans (no rips or tears) or PE shorts, school shoes. Regular lunch)
- Orchestra Rehearsal 3:00-5:00

Friday, October 2

- Lunch Vendor: Stoner's Pizza
- HSA Readathon
- All-School Mass, 8am
- St. Francis Activity
- Basketball Practice
- Cross Country Practice



PINK OUT OCTOBER

 Support the Fight. Show Your Irish Spirit. 



Purchase a pink shirt for October!



Students who purchase a shirt may wear it every Thursday during the month of October in place of their regular school, PE, or spirit shirt.



FAITH
FUELS
HOPE



 **St. Patrick Catholic School** 

— FAITH • FAMILY • ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE —



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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