



# ***A Shamrock Legacy***

Winter 2019 | A Development Newsletter for  
Portland St. Patrick Catholic School

## ***A NOTE FROM THE ST. PATRICK SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION***

This year, St. Patrick School has implemented a new program called Virtue in Education. Each month, our school features a different virtue we would like our students to focus on and work on. For the month of October, we chose kindness and for the month of November, our virtue was gratitude.

As we send out the second edition of A Shamrock Legacy, we find these virtues especially fitting and worthy of mention. Your generosity and continued support of St. Patrick School makes an impact on each student that walks through our doors.

We have proudly served students and families in the Portland area for over 110 years, due in large part to the generosity and kindness of our benefactors and supporters. We have a school that teaches morals, values, and virtues. Our students get a rock-solid education.

Your generosity aids us in providing students with a top-tier Catholic education, which will benefit them long into their adult lives. Thank you for making St. Patrick School an outstanding place where our students can pray, learn, and achieve!

We would like to express our most sincere gratitude to all those who responded to our last newsletter with a donation or kind words of support. Heading into the holiday season, we have much to be thankful for at St. Patrick School.



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## **CORRECTION SECTION**

Please note there was an error in our first edition of A Shamrock Legacy. The science lab table that was installed in our high school science lab was not donated by the Father Flohe Foundation. The St. Patrick School PTO generously donated the science lab table and a grant from the Father Flohe Foundation covered the installation expenses.

## **VISIT THE NEW ST. PATRICK SCHOOL ONLINE SPIRIT WEAR STORE**

We are excited to announce that St. Patrick School has an online school spirit store. The link for our spirit store is <https://fabricatedcustoms.com/collections/st-patrick>. This site is available year-round, however, please note the items for sale will rotate periodically throughout the school year.

## **ADVANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

The St. Patrick School Advancement and Development (A & D) Team is working hard to promote St. Patrick School and is looking for more team members. If you are interested or would like more information please contact Mr. Randy Hodge at [randyhodge@portlandstpats.org](mailto:randyhodge@portlandstpats.org) or Mrs. Cortney Smith at [cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org](mailto:cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org) or by calling the school at (517) 647-7551. Our current team consists of the following:

- Mr. Randy Hodge, High School Principal
- Mrs. Cortney Smith, Elementary School Principal
- Mr. Michael Wolfston, A & D Co-Chair
- Mrs. Elizabeth Hager, A & D Co-Chair
- Mr. Zach Wight, Father Flohe Foundation Liaison
- Ms. Mari Behovitz, Father Flohe Foundation Marketing Chair

## **A SHAMROCK LEGACY Q & A**

We had a few questions come up after our first edition of A Shamrock Legacy was mailed out.

***Q. Why am I receiving a copy of A Shamrock Legacy in the mail when I do not have children who attend St. Patrick School?***

**A.** All school and parish families, alumni, and other friends and supporters of St. Patrick School and Parish now receive a copy of our publication. As you know, many hands make light work. Thanks to the generosity of so many, we have and continue to serve hundreds of families in the Portland area and beyond. In extending this publication to all of you, our hope is that all those who have been impacted by the school or parish will now have the opportunity to support our current endeavors and vision for the future

***Q. Can I donate to the tuition of a specific student or to a specific family?***

**A.** Yes, you can. Send in your donation with a note specifying to what family or student you would like your donation to go towards. Please let us know if you would like to be identified to the family or if you are donating anonymously. We will then send a note letting them know that a donation was made toward their family's tuition and from whom it was made or if it was made anonymously.

***Q. What I would like to donate wasn't on the envelope. Can I designate my donation to be used for something specific?***

**A.** Yes, you may earmark your donation for something specific, even if it wasn't on the envelope. If you designate your donation to a specific item, we are obligated to use your donation for that. We do ask that you pick one of the items that we are currently looking at otherwise your donation could sit unused for a long period of time. Please note that we have added a box for "other" on the envelope that is included in this mailing.

## PORTLAND ST. PATRICK SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



In order to assist our current families and those families who would like to send their children to St. Patrick School but are facing financial hardships, St. Patrick School in conjunction with the Father Flohe Foundation is establishing a scholarship program.

It is the intent of this program to establish as many educational scholarships as possible and donate back a portion of the accumulated interest annually in the form of student scholarships. This is how it will work:

- The minimal scholarship amount is \$25,000.00 payable over five years.
- This scholarship will be financially managed by the Father Flohe Foundation which will pay back 4% of the accumulated interest annually for scholarship use. Consequently, the larger principal invested, the more interest there will be available for the scholarship.
- Scholarships may be set up in honor or in memory of a loved one or to recognize a specific family or family member.
- Families or businesses that establish a scholarship will receive an annual financial statement showing the financial situation of that scholarship.
- The individual or family establishing the scholarship will work with the high school and elementary principals in establishing the criteria needed to award the scholarship on an annual basis.
- All students and families will be asked to submit an online application by the end of January of each year. The principals and a representative of the Father Flohe Foundation will review all applications and award the scholarships in March of each year. Please note that no cash will be exchanged, scholarships will be credited towards the tuition account of the student awarded the scholarship.
- If the interest earned is enough, scholarships will be awarded to more than one student.
- There will be a scholarship award dinner held on an annual basis for the donor and recipient of the scholarship. This dinner will give the donor the opportunity to meet and discuss the student's educational goals and objectives.

Providing access to education through scholarships is increasingly important as we assist students in realizing their educational dreams and reaching their fullest potential. Your gifts to unrestricted scholarships not only provide financial support for our student's education, but they are also an investment in their future.

Please contact Mr. Randy Hodge at [randyhodge@portlandstpats.org](mailto:randyhodge@portlandstpats.org) or Mrs. Cortney Smith at [cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org](mailto:cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org) or by phone at (517) 647-7551 to discuss the opportunity of establishing a St. Patrick School Scholarship.



## **GO MAKE A DIFFERENCE: WAYS TO GIVE AND SUPPORT ST. PATRICK SCHOOL**

We are often asked the question by benefactors and donors how can I give to St. Patrick School or how can I make a difference? There are many ways one can support St. Patrick School. Here are some suggestions:

Cash/Recurring Gifts: The easiest gifts can be made through credit/debit card transactions, cash, and personal checks made payable to St. Patrick School.

Major Gifts and Pledges: Transformative and lasting, a major gift allows us to promote excellence in St. Patrick's programs and allows us to recruit and retain students as well as attract and maintain top-notch faculty. Major gifts can provide much-needed scholarships, take a program to a new level, or provide financial stability to a signature program. Gift payments spread over a period of time make giving easier and can be scheduled to fit your individual needs on a monthly or annual basis.

Securities: Gifts of securities, stocks, or bonds entitle you to an income tax deduction; a gift of appreciated securities may also reduce your capital gains tax liability.

Bequests: Including St. Patrick School in your will is a simple way to ensure your giving will continue into the future. Bequests, charitable gifts, regular annuities, gifts of life insurance, real estate, retirement assets, and other planned giving options are available. We would be pleased to meet with you, your attorney, and other advisors to discuss the most convenient method for you to make a financial commitment to St. Patrick School.

Corporate Matching Gifts: Donations to St. Patrick School through your company's matching gift program are an easy way to maximize your financial support. Such programs may multiply contributions by two, three, or even four times the amount of a donation. If your employer has a matching gift program, we urge you to take advantage of it.



Memorial Gifts and Tributes: Donations to St. Patrick School in honor or in memory of an individual can be a particularly meaningful way to contribute to St. Patrick School. Gifts can include a scholarship, dedication to a building or room, or a strategic initiative that will ensure future strategic initiatives.

Endowments: Endowments are major gifts providing support in perpetuity. You can choose to support the general endowment, which helps provide annual funding to offset operational expenses or create a named endowed fund for a specific area of need. Please consider establishing a named endowed scholarship fund. St. Patrick School works with the Father Flohe Foundation to manage all endowments established to assist the school.

Volunteering: The gift of time in service to St. Patrick School is a rewarding way to become involved with the school. We welcome volunteers to help in many ways.

Prayers: Ongoing prayers for St. Patrick School is one of the most meaningful ways to demonstrate your support and commitment to our mission.

For information on how to make a gift in any of the areas listed above, please contact Mr. Randy Hodge, Principal of St. Patrick High School via email at [randyhodge@portlandstpats.org](mailto:randyhodge@portlandstpats.org) or Mrs. Cortney Smith, Principal of St. Patrick Elementary School at [cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org](mailto:cortneysmith@portlandstpats.org) or by calling (517) 647-7551.

## SEEKING TUITION ANGELS

Every year approximately 20% of school families approach the school administrators seeking tuition assistance to keep their child enrolled at St. Patrick Catholic School. Would you consider being an angel in disguise and helping to make Catholic education for these families possible?

St. Patrick School is seeking individuals who are willing to assist those families who need tuition assistance. We are approximately \$20,000 short in scholarship money which would aid us in fulfilling all requests made for the 2019-2020 school year. Please consider being an anonymous donor and assisting a family in achieving their desire to provide their child with a Catholic school education. Any gift made to this program will be used to provide a direct scholarship to school families.

## SPONSOR A SHAMROCK

Would you consider sponsoring a Shamrock for one week? Maybe one month or a year? Every donation to our Tuition Angels Fund helps.

For one day in elementary... \$25.28  
For one week in elementary... \$126.39  
For one month in elementary... \$ 379.17  
For one year in elementary... \$4,550

For one day in high school... \$29.44  
For one week in high school... \$147.22  
For one month in high school... \$441.67  
For one year in high school... \$5,300



## Save the Date! St. Patrick School Open House

Are you or is someone you know interested in an alternative, faith-based education for your children?

Meet the principals and teachers, take a guided tour of the school, talk to school families.

**Sunday, March 1, 2020**  
**Following the 11:30 Mass**  
**12:30 - 2:00 p.m.**

[www.portlandstpats.com/school](http://www.portlandstpats.com/school)



## PLANTS AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE KEEPING UP THE GOOD WORK

In our first edition of A Shamrock Legacy, we introduced the St. Patrick Plants and Grounds Committee and explained this group was created to oversee the facilities around St. Patrick School and Parish. A list of items was provided, which highlighted the projects they were working on. Below you will find an updated version of that list where we checked off items that have been completed!

- LED lighting upgrades were installed for the parking lot and driveway in between the church and school. This provides better safety for the school and greater illumination of the church & parish hall handicap entrances.
- The stained-glass window near the west church entrance (facing the courtyard) has been repaired. This included the stone surround and new tempered glass as an outside protective measure.
- Prep work was completed on the parish properties along Grape Street and they were put up for sale. One of the properties has been sold.
- The project to replace the gym floor has been completed.

- The Security Grant bids were finalized, evaluated, and accepted. The camera system has been installed and the installation of new entrance doors is well underway and will be completed soon.

There are several important projects under review currently, including:

- Replacing two Automated External Defibrillators (AED) (estimate cost is \$1,345 each).
- Replacing all kneelers in the church (estimated cost \$23,000).
- Replacing two aging copy machines in the school that no longer have replacement parts available (approximate cost \$12,000).
- Finishing the interior of the pole barn so it is heated and fully functional for parish, school, and athletic use (estimated cost \$50,000).
- Replacing any older lighting that remains in the school building (estimated cost \$15,000).
- Remodeling the restrooms in the original part of the school building and installing two staff restrooms (\$500,000).

## A SINCERE THANK YOU

If you see any of the members of our Plants and Grounds Committee, please take the time to thank them for their hard work on behalf of St. Patrick School and Parish.

Pat Heckman

Jay Boyd

Heather Hendges

Mike Bozung

Ken Schneider

Graham Smith

Andy Mosser

Mike Theis

We also would like to thank anyone who contributed in any way to the projects that have been completed. We are thankful and appreciative of those who have been generous with their time, talents, prayers, and financial support. We would like to extend a sincere thank you to the St. Patrick Athletic Association for paying for the gym floor project. This project was made possible due to the Athletic Association's good stewardship of their funds and all those who have donated to and supported the Athletic Association over the years.



## CONGRATULATIONS SHAMROCK FOOTBALL



The 2019 St. Patrick football squad completed an undefeated regular season going 9-0. They won the first three games of the playoffs and advanced to the 8-Man Football Division II State Finals played at the Superior Dome in Marquette. They were defeated in the championship game against a strong Pickford squad that finished as 8-Man Division I Runner Up in 2018. Congratulations St. Patrick football on an outstanding season and for hanging an 8-Man Football Division II Runner Up banner in the school gym and finishing with a record of 12-1.

While we are very proud of the football team's incredible season, we are even more proud of the grace and sportsmanship they showed during every game. We received an email from a Pickford parent commending our football team on just that, good sportsmanship!

*"I first off want to congratulate your school on their success this year in 8-man football. More importantly, I wanted to thank them for the superior sportsmanship shown on the field. I've watched many, many Panther football games and rarely does the opposing team catch my eye so often with their behavior. When the stakes get high, a game like this results in dirty play faster than you can blink an eye- especially from a team trailing on the scoreboard. This wasn't the case in the matchup with the Shamrocks. They continued to outstretch a hand to help players up or give a slap on the shoulder after a play, even as their chances of a comeback started to minimize. An overall warmth and grace on the field. We've been there. We've fought hard to get there and been sent home without the title. I hope to watch your team push at this goal again, while in the meantime being winners on so many levels. Kudos to the team, their coaches, and supporting staff. Sending love from UP North!"*

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## ***YOUR DONATION MAKES AN IMPACT***

Located in Portland, MI, St. Patrick Catholic School has been educating the minds, bodies, and spirits of its students for over 110 years. Our school mission statement contains six powerful words that are a guide for life: We Pray! We Learn! We Achieve!

St. Patrick School is open to all families who are looking for a faith-based education for their children. For more information about our top-rated preschool through 12th grade academic, athletic, and extracurricular programs, please visit [portlandstpats.com/school](http://portlandstpats.com/school).

Establish a scholarship today! Your gift will ensure that a holistic Catholic education at St. Patrick School will be available to families for years to come. 100% of your contribution is tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Please consult your financial advisor to determine which method of giving is most beneficial to you.