

Shamrock News

The yearly St. Patrick School Calendar is here.

8/22/25

Welcome Back! We are very excited to welcome our students back to St. Patrick School. We also welcome any new students and their families to our St. Patrick School family. We are off to a great start and looking forward to an awesome school year.

<u>Welcome New Students</u>: St. Patrick School welcomes the following new students this school year: Michael Cross (9), Augustus Lewanski (9), Caleb Mulford (9), Donovan Tirado (9), Layton Gross (8), Ignatius Lewanski (7), and Alex Krizov (5).

Welcome also to the following new students entering kindergarten: Celeste Heckman, Brynley Hodge, Alexander Lay, Claire Montpetit, Joanna Phillips, Ryleigh Pline, Brooklyn Remboski, and Kaylee Sandborn. And to the following developmental kindergarten students: Lillian Clough, Brant First, Quinn Haskin, Violet Haskin, Leo Hengesbach, Adele King, Logan Klein, Justin Kniffin, Clarice Kreiner, Leo Newman, Lincoln Schafer, Lyndon Schmitt, Abel Smith, Wesley VanAlstine, Grace Vogt, and Jackson Weber.

Marketing Photos: Photographers will be at school on Thurs., Aug. 28 to take marketing photos for the 2025-2026 school year. These pictures will be used in the front windows of the school, on the school website, etc. Students should wear their nicest dress code clothes on this day. Girls who have jumpers and skirts are encouraged to wear them. No out of dress code allowed.

Free and Reduced Lunch/E-Rate School Discounts: All parents: please apply for free and reduced lunch on the Meal Magic Family Portal regardless of need. Important school discounts are determined using this data. You can also manage your child's meal account from here.

<u>Picture Days</u>: Are scheduled for **September 15 & 16.** Students must dress in school uniform, no jacket or sweatshirts are allowed. Please see page 3 for more information. If you need a paper order form please stop in the office. We are looking for parent volunteers to help picture day run smoothly. If you are available, please let the office know.



Friday, August 29 - Monday, September 1

No School - Labor Day Weekend

Friday, September 12

No afternoon busing—PPS 1/2 day

<u>Text or Email Reminds for Parents</u>: Don't miss out on important reminders and emergency information.

Grade Level:	Text:	with message:
6-12	757.847.9886	@793fhb
**DK-5	81010	@eebk9kf
Preschool	81010	@797c2e4

**Please note that this is a new remind and you must sign up for it this year.

You can also receive messages via email by going to remind.com. This app allows you to receive the messages in real time for emergencies and general information. The school website and Facebook page are also great sources for information.

<u>High School Yearbooks</u>: The 2024-25 yearbooks are here. They were handed out to students this week. If you didn't receive yours, please contact Mrs. Rockey.

Mega Rock Raffle Tickets: Tickets are going home to school families today. Please consider purchasing the tickets. This is our main fundraiser for the parish, school and athletic programs. Students receive an out of dress code slip for every four tickets that are sold. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Hodge.





Calendar of Events



8/23 Var. VB Battle Creek St. Philip INV. @ Harper Creek 8a Var. CC @ Michigan Catholic INV @ St. Francis Retreat 10a

8/25 Preschool classes begin

8/27 Mass for grades 9-12 9:30a JV & Var. VB @ Dansville 5:30p

Var. CC @ Saranac INV. 5:30p

JV FB vs. Merrill @ FFF 6p

MS CC @ Saranac INV. 7p

8/27 Marketing Photo DayMass for grades DK-8

Var. FB @ Merrill 7p 8/29-9/1 Labor Day Weekend

122 West Street

Portland, MI 48875



PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 12

WE PRAY! WE LEARN! WE ACHIEVE!

Dear Parents,

We are so excited to announce that this school year we are embarking on a new adventure to take the next step in helping each of us (staff included) grow into true disciples of Christ! Jesus' last words to the apostles in the Gospel of Matthew were what is now known as the "The Great Commission": "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

But what does it mean to be a disciple of Christ? It means that we cooperate with His grace and allow Him to transform us into images of Him. Jesus was the most virtuous man that will ever live on this planet. He embodied humility, modesty, affability, generosity, patience, magnanimity, and so much more! Saint Pope John Paul II said, "We are not the sum of our failures and weaknesses. We are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of His son, Jesus." We are meant to be images of Christ, which means we must cooperate with the Lord in allowing Him to shape our hearts and minds to live as Christ lived.

This school year, we are beginning a partnership with an amazing organization called Openlight Media to infuse these beautiful virtues into the way we speak, the way we act, and the way we identify ourselves as sons and daughters of the Father most high. This program (Disciples in Christ: Education in Virtue) was created by the Dominican Sisters of Mother Mary of the Eucharist in Ann Arbor and is used throughout the world in Catholic schools to form and transform hearts and minds.

What is virtue? A virtue is a habit to do good in every situation. A virtuous person is truly free because virtues free us from being controlled by temptation and vice. While everyone is born with the capacity for virtue, it takes discipline, practice, and education to grow into the person God created us to be. God gives us the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity at our baptism which transform us and allow us to participate in the divine life and deepen our relationship with God. These virtues nurture and bring life to the four Cardinal virtues: prudence, temperance, fortitude, and justice. We will learn all about these virtues and the sub-virtues that help reach self-mastery of these virtues throughout the school year!

Each week the all school newsletter will contain information regarding the virtue that we are focusing on along with a discussion question for you to begin engaging your family on the virtues. This is NOT a curriculum, this is a way of living our lives to be who Christ created us to be and we cannot wait to get started! One of the beautiful things about this is that we as staff will be growing in virtue right alongside the students and we hope you as parents will come along for this joyful, holy, and Christ-centered ride!

In Christ.

Deacon Randy Hodge

6-12 Principal

DK-5 Principal



Monday, September 15: Preschool - 5th grade

Tuesday, September 16: Preschool and 6-12 grades

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*Pay online with your debit card, credit card, PayPal, Apple Pay or Google Pay.

*Paga online con tu tarjeta de débito, tarjeta de crédito, PayPal, Apple Pay o Google Pay.

Students must dress in school uniform, no jacket or sweatshirts are allowed. Seniors are allowed to wear Sunday best clothes. Please note that picture re-take day has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 28. If you need a paper order form please stop in the office.