



Shamrock News

The yearly St. Patrick School Calendar is [here](#).

12/12/25

Attention Middle School and High School Students: Beginning on January 5, door #7 (bus doors) will unlock at 7:10a and lock at 7:28a. Bus riders will be able to enter prior to 7:10a. If you arrive after 7:28a you must walk to door #1 (main entrance) to enter the building. We are making this change for security reasons.

Shamrock Auction Out of Dress Code Slips: If you're looking for the perfect stocking stuffer, buy some out of dress code slips from the Shamrock Auction for a limited time! **Out of dress code slips are available for purchase thru December 14th** using the link below. You may pick up your slips in the school office after you place your order. Any remaining slips will go home in an envelope with students on December 19th. 'Tis the season for cozy clothes and big smiles! [Purchase Out of Dress Code Slips \(https://onecau.se/shamrockauction26\)](https://onecau.se/shamrockauction26). The Auction Committee appreciated all the good feedback from the survey. Thank you to all those who participated. If you have any auction questions or want to get involved, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Football Fans: Thank you for your support on the way to the state championship. It really shows how great of a community we are. If you have any cheering towels at home that were distributed at the football games, please return them to school so we can use them to cheer on our teams.

Sports Banquet: The high school fall sports banquet will take place on Monday, December 15 from 6:30-8:30 pm in the school cafeteria. Athletes from cross country, football, and volleyball will be recognized. The main dish, tableware, and beverages will be provided by the Athletic Association. Please bring a dish to pass. The dress code for athletes is ladies in dresses or dress pants and men in dress pants and ties. Please do not purchase new clothes for the banquet.

*Let's go **SHAMROCKS!***

Friday, December 19 - Friday, January 2

Christmas Break

December 19 = 1/2 day, no PS, no pm childcare, no pm bus
school resumes on January 5
Daycare closed December 24 - January 1

Friday, January 16

No afternoon busing - PPS 1/2 day

Monday, January 19

No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Lost & Found

We have many items on the lost and found table. They will be donated after school on December 19th.



Calendar of Events



12/12 JV & Var. Boys BB vs. Laingsburg @ PMS 6p
12/13 Esports Finals @ UM-Flint
6 Grade Boys BB CYAC Tournament @ TBD 9a
Second Grade Reconciliation 10a
5 Grade Boys BB CYAC Tournament @ St. Gerard TBD 12p
12/15 See attached schedule of Christmas Spirit Days
Advent Wreath Lighting 9:25a
Var. Bowling vs. Stockbridge @ Meadow Bowl Lanes 3p
7/8 gr. Boys BB vs. P-W @ SPS 4:45p
HS Fall Sports Banquet in cafeteria 6:30p
12/16 Grades 6-12 7th hour exam
JV & Var. Girls BB vs. P-W @ PMS 6p
12/17 Grades 6-12 6th & 5th hour exams

JV & Var. Boys BB @ P-W 5:30p
12/18 Grades 6-12 4th & 3rd hour exams
Elementary Christmas Parties - see classroom newsletters
7/8 gr. Boys BB vs. Saranac @ SPS 5p
JV & Var. Girls BB vs. Fowler @ PMS 6p
12/19 1/2 day of school - see above for dismissal times
End of 2nd quarter/1st semester
Grades 6-12 2nd & 1st hour exams
All School Mass 10:30a
JV & Var. Boys BB vs. Fowler @ PMS 6p
12/19-1/4 Christmas Break
12/24 Christmas Eve Masses 6p & 11P
12/25 Christmas Day Masses 8a & 10a

Virtue Corner

Virtue of the Week: Humility

This falls under the cardinal virtue of temperance, which enables us to moderate or balance our use of created goods.

Definition:

Awareness that all of one's gifts come from God and appreciation for the gifts of others.

Opposing Trait:

- Failing to recognize the gifts of others; being too proud or having false humility.

Scripture: Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing from selfishness or conceit, but in humility count others better than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Family Discussion Question:

Mother Mary was a perfect model of humility. As we walk closer to Christmas as the Blessed Mother so humbly and patiently did, how can we practice the virtue of humility, recognizing that God is Lord and we are not?

Orders need to be placed before Monday, December 15 to ensure physical cards arrive in time for Christmas.



**St. Patrick
Catholic School**
 **RaiseRight**
by ShopWithScrip

How do I get started?

- Go to www.raiseright.com
- Click on SIGN UP
- Click on JOIN AN EXISTING PROGRAM
- Our code # 3286LC6L186
- Create a username and password
- Enter your profile information
- Click on REGISTER, and you are done!

Mobile App:



RaiseRight
by ShopWithScrip

What is it?

Raise Right (formerly ShopWithScrip) is a program which allows you to purchase gift cards at face value, and earn a percentage back on tuition. These can be physical cards, e-cards, and reloadable cards. The percentages vary by merchant. Biannually, the rebates earned are split between the school and you



...and hundreds more!

More information can be found at:

[portlandstpats.com/school/home/parents/scrip/
Shopwithscrip.com](http://portlandstpats.com/school/home/parents/scrip/Shopwithscrip.com)

You can also contact your Scrip coordinator Julia Schmitt
Phone: (517) 526-2021 Email : Scrip@PortlandStPats.org

Earn money while you shop. 93% goes back to families and 7% goes to St. Patrick School.

**Check
this out**

A total of \$8,348.22 Scrip credits were applied to school families from purchases made between June 1 - November 30, 2025.

\$7,439.71 to current families, \$630.28 to pre-enrolled accounts, and \$278.23 for tuition assistance



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT WEEK



December 15th – December 19th

Jeans are allowed.
No pajamas or leggings allowed.

MONDAY	SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE 	WEAR COMFY CLOTHES
TUESDAY	 PLAID DAY	WEAR PLAID FROM HEAD TO TOE
WEDNESDAY	ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE 	SHOW OFF ALL YOUR CHRISTMAS SPARKLE & LIGHTS
THURSDAY	 Red & Green Day	DRESS IN RED & GREEN
FRIDAY	UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER DAY <small>No hats - Mass day</small> 	WEAR AN UGLY OR ANY SWEATER

2025 Winter Exam Schedule

Secondary Schedule (Grades 6-12)

Tuesday, December 16:

7:30 - 11:06 Regular morning school day schedule
11:37 - 12:09 5th hour class
12:12 - 12:44 6th hour class
12:50 - 2:20 7th Hour Exam

Wednesday, December 17:

7:30 - 9:00 6th Hour Exam
9:10 - 10:40 5th Hour Exam - **No busing at 10:40 am**
* **No High School Mass**

Thursday, December 18:

7:30 - 9:00 4th Hour Exam
9:10 - 10:40 3rd Hour Exam - **No busing at 10:40 am**
* **No Middle School Mass**

Friday, December 19:

7:30 - 8:50 2nd Hour Exam
9:00 - 10:20 1st Hour Exam
10:30 - 11:30 All School Mass - **No busing at 11:30 am**

There is busing to school on exam days, but students will need a ride home after exams.

Please also note the following:

- All high school students are expected to have an exam during their scheduled exam time unless not having an exam has been approved by the administration. The only exceptions would be students taking a dual enrollment college course or a Michigan Virtual H.S. course (assuming they have completed the course work for that class). If a student does not have an exam scheduled, they should not be in the school during that time.
- Students in grades 9-12 will be allowed to leave the building as soon as their second exam of the day is complete EXCEPT on Friday. On Friday, all students who have a first hour exam are REQUIRED to stay for Mass.





DIOCESE OF GRAND RAPIDS

Office of the Bishop

December 2025

Dear Friends in Christ,

In these final days of Advent, the season of hope, we reflect on how the Jubilee Year has reminded us that “Christian hope does not deceive or disappoint because it is grounded in the certainty that nothing and no one may ever separate us from God’s love” (Spes non confundit, 3).

In coming as a lowly infant, we are reminded of God’s desire to be close to us, and “as a result, we live our lives in expectation of his return and in the hope of living forever in him. In this spirit, we make our own the heartfelt prayer of the first Christians with which sacred Scripture ends: ‘Come, Lord Jesus!’” (Rev 22:20; Spes non confundit, 19).

I invite you to join me as we close the Jubilee Year in our local Church. **The Closing Mass will take place on December 28 at the Cathedral of Saint Andrew. Priests will be available for confession beginning at 2 p.m. Mass begins at 3 p.m., with a reception in the Catholic Central gymnasium to follow.**

I pray that this past year has been a journey of hope, mercy and renewal for you. May the good works begun in our parishes, schools and communities continue to bear much fruit beyond this Jubilee Year.

Together, let us give thanks for the graces of this holy year and embrace the Advent promise that Christ comes to dwell among us. May this sacred season deepen our hope and ready our hearts to welcome the Lord who always draws near.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David J. Walkowiak
Bishop of Grand Rapids