



— February 6, 2026 —

Irish Messenger

Issue 13

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Feb 11 - 2pm Dismissal
- No aftercare*

*Feb 12 - Preschool
Valentine's Day
Parties*

*Feb 13 - K-8
Valentine's Day
Parties*

Feb 17 - Mardi Gras

*Feb 16 - President's
Day - No School*

*Feb 18 - Ash
Wednesday - School
Mass 8:15am*

Mar 2 - Read-A-Thon

Message from the Principal

Thank you to our students, staff, and families for a wonderful Catholic Schools Week! Your participation helped make it a joyful celebration of our faith and school community.

February brings many exciting events, and we look forward to all that the month has in store.

As winter continues, please remember to send students with coats, hats, and gloves each day. A quick reminder that boots should not be worn during the school day. Students should bring shoes to change into.

Thank you for your continued support!



VIRTUE=STRENGTH.™

INSPIRE. ENGAGE. STRENGTHEN.

February 6



WHAT IS RESPONSIBILITY?

Responsibility is the strength to take ownership of one's actions and decisions, acknowledging their consequences and fulfilling one's duties and obligations.

It means to take care of your own things, do what you say you will do, and help others when they need it. It means being trustworthy and making good choices, even when it's hard.

Examples of Responsibility:

- 1. Completing Assignments on Time:** A responsible student ensures homework and projects are finished by the due date without being reminded by teachers or parents.
- 2. Helping Maintain a Clean Environment:** Whether in the classroom, cafeteria, locker room, weight room, or gym, responsible students take care of their surroundings by picking up after themselves and encouraging others to do the same.
- 3. Being Punctual:** Arriving to school and practices on time shows responsibility in managing one's schedule and being respectful of others' time.



WHAT IS DETERMINATION?

Determination is the strength to persevere and remain committed to one's goals, even when faced with challenges, setbacks, or discouragement.

It means staying focused on what is right and not giving up.

Examples of Determination:

- 1. Persevering in Sports:** After losing a game, a student-athlete continues to practice every day, determined to improve their skills and help their team succeed in the next match.
- 2. Mastering a Musical Instrument:** Learning a new instrument is difficult, but the student practices every day despite setbacks, determined to master a challenging piece of music for an upcoming recital.
- 3. Overcoming Stage Fright:** A student who fears public speaking prepares diligently for a class presentation, and even though they feel nervous on the day, they push through their fear to deliver a confident and well-prepared presentation.

February 13



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community

Catholic Schools Week



Catholic Schools Week was filled with wonderful activities that brought our school community together, including a family donut breakfast, class Olympics and spelling bee, meaningful service projects, a student talent show, and a schoolwide rosary and Mass. These events highlighted our students' faith, talents, teamwork, and commitment to serving others.



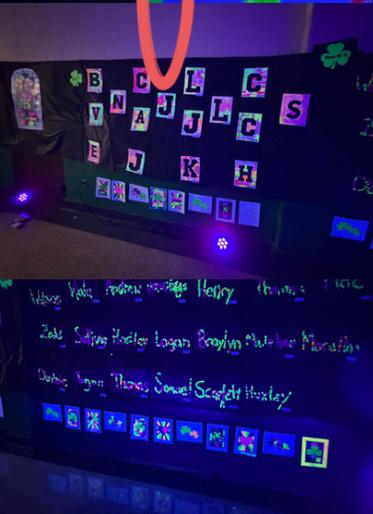
Family FUN Night

What a wonderful way to close out our CSW activities with Family Fun Night! So much laughter, great food, bingo fun, and time spent celebrating the heart of our parish, our families.

A huge thank you to Megan Swearingen for her creativity and leadership in designing the beautiful artwork and décor and for planning such a fun Glow Night.

Thank you to Michael's Italian Feast for the delicious food, and to the Knights of Columbus for generously serving dinner. We're so grateful for your continued support and service.

A special shoutout to the Parent Ministry for all of their amazing volunteers, and to the Class of 2026 for hosting the bake sale. It was a huge hit!

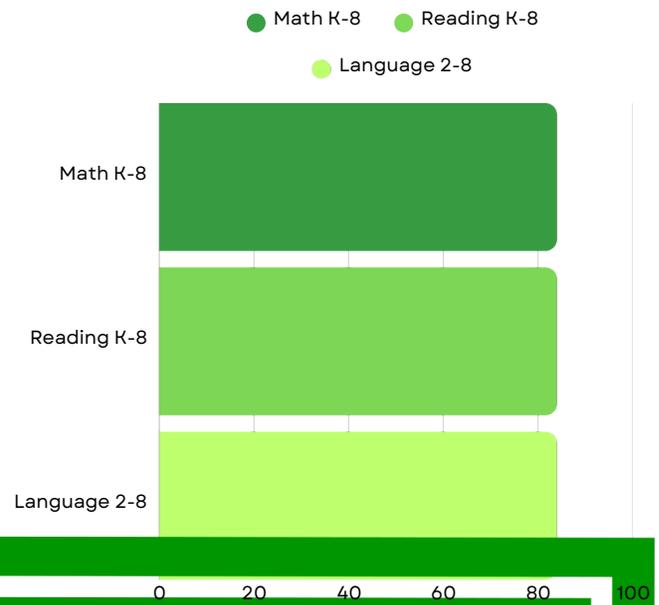
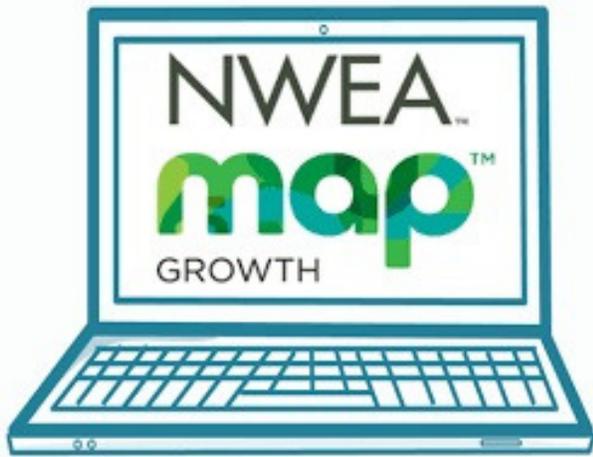


LEGO LEAGUE



We are looking forward to the FOR Loop Coders representing St. Patrick School at the State First Lego League Competition in Elgin on February 14!

Good Luck



School Testing Data -
Winter Performance Highlights
Math (Grades K-8)

Overall Performance: 84th Percentile

Students in grades K-8 performed exceptionally well, surpassing national averages in mathematics. Keep up the great work!

Reading (Grades K-8)

Overall Performance: 84th Percentile

Our K-8 students are excelling in reading comprehension and literacy. Let's continue to foster a love for reading across all grades.

Language Usage (Grades 2-8)

Overall Performance: 84th Percentile

Strong skills in grammar, punctuation, and writing conventions have led to impressive results across grades 2-8.

Top 16% Nationally!

87% of students showed growth in one or more assessments.



1ST and 7th grade
enjoyed a shared
library time this week,
as did the teachers!



Junior High Retreat

Our 6th–8th grade students traveled to Bloomington for a junior high retreat hosted by our sister school, St. Mary's in Pontiac. It was a joyful and faith-filled day as our students were blessed to attend Mass together, along with 300 other Catholic school students and then take part in engaging small-group sessions.

The group sessions were led by Maggie Craig, a Christian speaker who connects with young people through relatable stories, humor, and an honest approach to faith. Maggie encouraged students to reflect on their relationship with God, the importance of community, and how to live out their faith in everyday life.

We are grateful to St. Mary's for their hospitality and thankful for the opportunity our junior high students had to grow together in faith and fellowship.



Good Disciples



Mrs. Engstrom was caught being a good disciple! She shoveled the sidewalks to ensure that our families would have a clear and safe path into school for the Donut Breakfast. Thank you for thinking of others!

Have a Good Disciple Suggestion?

We love highlighting the good deeds of our students, staff, and families. If you witness someone living out their faith through service, compassion, or helping others, please share it with us! Send your Good Disciple suggestions (and a picture, if possible—it always makes the story even better!) to:

Mrs. Smith or Tammy Barron, barront@stpatswashington.com

2025-2026
2ND QUARTER HONOR ROLL

STRAIGHT A'S
EVELYN BERBERICH
ELLIE DRAEGER
JOSEPH ENGSTROM
EVELYN KOISARA
KIERSTEN NOLTE
GRACE PARKER
JILL PEEK
ANNELIESE SCHLAK

STRAIGHT A'S
ROSEBERBERICH
AIME BLANKENSHIP
JACOB DAVIS
CECILIA HATOON
GIANNA RUPPEL
GRANT SWEARINGEN
MATTHEW STEVENART

STRAIGHT A'S
THOMAS BRIGGS
ISLA CARDILLO
HENRY CHIRAS
JUDE CODY
TERESA ENGSTROM
SADIE GORSAGE
MAEVE GREENE
GRANT JOHNSON
GRACE MESSMER
JESSICA RADMACHER
MASON SCHLACK
TRAVER STRAUER

6TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS
MADDAX ERHGOTT
LYDIA MATSKO
LEO NOTLE
XAVIER WILLIAMS

HONORS

7TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS
BRYNN REED

HONORS
QUINTOOHILL.

8TH GRADE

HIGH HONORS
MAYA ANTHONY
SAMANTHA ARBOGAST
KELLAN CADWALADER
JACOB CLIFT
ASHLYN CROWLEY
EMMA DRAEGER
LILY KOSIARA
CHRIS TENUITA

HONORS





We are Hiring!
Aftercare Monitor
School Days 3:00-5:30

[Apply Here](#)

or

contact Mrs. Smith
csmith@stpatswashington.org

Must be 21 or older with a high school diploma.

Starting at \$15

VOLLEYBALL

Upcoming Dates

Feb 7 - 9:00 a.m.
5th/6th Tournament
At Home

Feb 9 - 4:30 p.m.
vs. Georgetown
at Home

Feb 11 - 4:30 p.m.
vs. Washburn
at Home

Feb 12 - 4:15 p.m.
vs. Central
at Home

Feb 13-14 TBD
8th grade Tournament
at St. Mary's Kickapoo

Feb 17 - 4:30 p.m.
vs. Peoria Heights
at Home



CONGRATULATIONS 7TH GRADE . THEY TOOK 3RD PLACE AT A TOURNAMENT HELD AT ST. THOMAS LAST WEEKEND.



6th grade modeled how food moves through the digestive system.



SCIENCE



The 5th grade was modeling Newton's Third Law of Motion. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

BASKETBALL

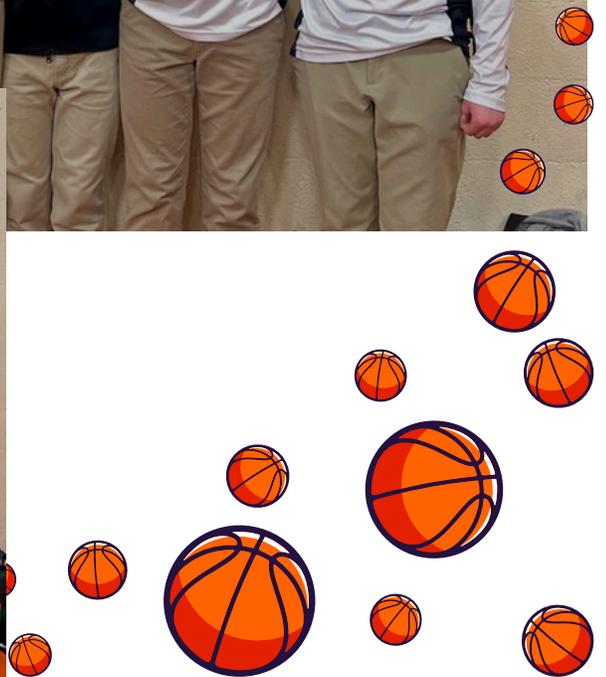
Upcoming Dates

5/6th Grade Game
Feb 9 @ 5:30
at Bethel Luthern

6th Grade Tourney
Feb 13-16
at St. Pats

Congratulations!

on a great season 8th graders



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

FREE THROW CONTEST

FEBRUARY

11

6:00PM

FREE TO ALL PARTICIPANTS.
NO RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS.
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED.
DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM
EAST PEORIA CENTRAL JR HIGH MAIN GYM
AGES 9-14 BOYS AND GIRLS DIVISIONS
AGE ON JANUARY 1, 2026
AWARDS GIVEN TO WINNERS IN 12 DIVISIONS

DISTRICT COMPETITION FOLLOWING COUNCIL LEVEL.





GIVE UP WORRY FOR LENT!

A Unique, Life-Changing Catholic Experience!

Give Up Worry for Lent

Feb. 25, 2026 • 6:00 - 7:30 PM

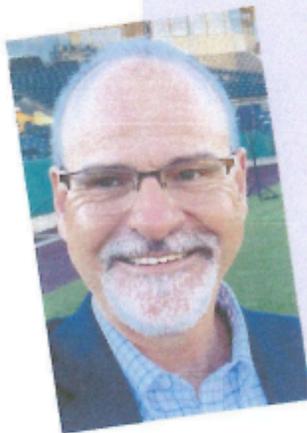
at St. Patrick Catholic Church
Mary, Mother of God Parish
705 E. Jefferson St. - Washington, IL

**ALL NEW
FOR 2026!**

**FEATURING
CATHOLIC SPEAKER,
AUTHOR & RADIO HOST**

GARY ZIMAK

The leading Catholic speaker
on overcoming anxiety,
worry and stress!



Based on Gary's Book:
Give Up Worry for Lent!
40 Days to Finding Peace in Christ



GARY'S BOOKS

A Worrier's Guide to the Bible
Listen to Your Blessed Mother
From Fear to Faith
Faith, Hope & Clarity
Find a Real Friend in Jesus
Stop Worrying & Start Living
Let Go of Anger and Stress!

Give Up Worry for Lent!
Give Up Worry for Good!
Journey with God
Let Go of Your Fear
Find Peace in Advent
When Your Days are Dark,
God is Still Good
Lord, Save Me!

Gary has been featured on:



LET'S DO THIS!

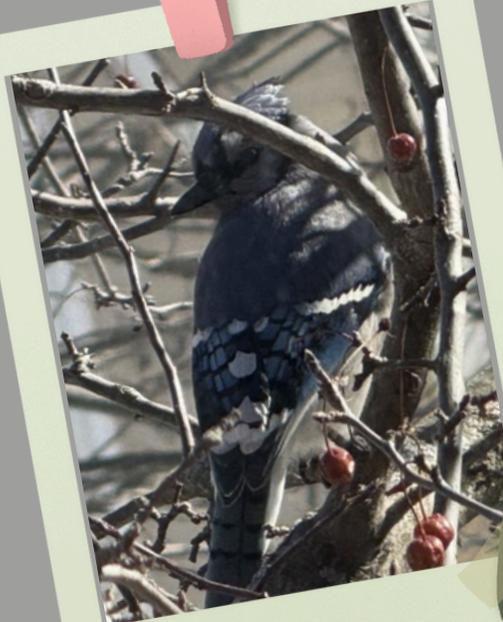
For more information, visit: FollowingTheTruth.com



**"Thank you for the
peanuts Mr. D."**



**The Junior High is enjoying their daily wildlife visitors
with Mr. Jeff Draeger.**





ST. PATRICK SCHOOL
Every Tuesday and Thursday
we show our Irish pride!

SPIRIT WEAR TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS



**STUDENTS CAN WEAR SPIRIT
WEAR TOPS (OR MRS. HARRIS
TOPS ON THURSDAYS) WITH
UNIFORM BOTTOMS.**



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APPROVED UNIFORMS

St. Patrick Approved Uniforms

You can now purchase your items online in 3 easy steps:

1. Scan the QR code or go online to <https://st-pats-washington.itemorder.com/>
2. Choose your items and add them to your cart
3. Securely checkout with your credit card

BLANK Sport-Tek Youth Posicharge Polo  3 Colors \$13.00	EMBROIDERED Sport-Tek Youth Polo  3 Colors \$21.00	Port & Company Youth Core Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt  4 Colors \$23.00	Port Authority Youth Value Fleece Jacket  2 Colors \$33.00	BLANK Sport-Tek Polo  3 Colors \$14.00	EMBROIDERED Sport-Tek Polo  3 Colors \$21.00
Port & Company Essential Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt  4 Colors \$21.00	Port Authority Value Fleece Jacket  2 Colors \$33.00	Sport-Tek 1/4-Zip Sweatshirt  4 Colors \$36.00	Sport-Tek Sport-Wick Stretch 1/4-Zip Pullover  3 Colors \$40.00		

powered by  ORDERMYGEAR

Questions?
Dan Crowley
3095307557
inkstainzscreenprinting@gmail.com

Uniform store is open throughout the school year!

15th



Diocese of Peoria

PROCLAIMING CHRIST:
YESTERDAY, TODAY,
FOREVER

SEE HOW YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE
DIOCESE'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY!
MAKE SURE TO SHARE YOUR
SERVICE HOURS TO HELP THE
DIOCESE REACH 150 HOURS!

WWW.CDOP150.ORG



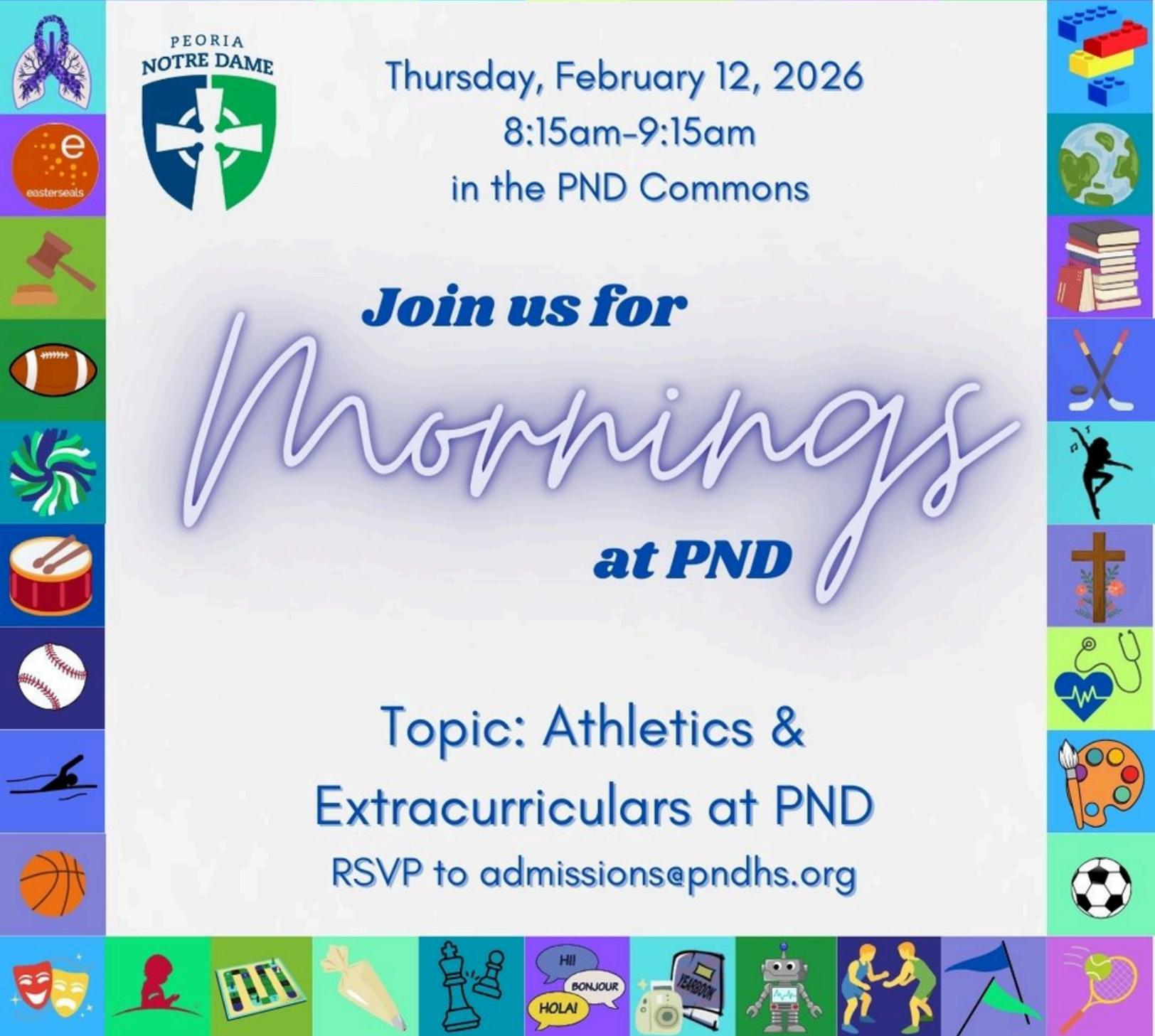
Thursday, February 12, 2026
8:15am-9:15am
in the PND Commons

Join us for

Mornings

at PND

Topic: Athletics &
Extracurriculars at PND
RSVP to admissions@pndhs.org



PERSONAL GOODS DRIVE

**FIRST
SUNDAY IN
MARCH**



PLEASE HELP OUR
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY STOCK UP ON
PAPER PRODUCTS AND
PERSONAL
CARE ITEMS:
KLEENEX, PAPER TOWELS,
TOILET PAPER, LOTION,
SHAMPOO, HAND SOAP,
DEODORANT,
TOOTHBRUSHES,
TOOTHPASTE, AND
LAUNDRY DETERGENT.
COLLECTION BINS FOR
DONATIONS WILL BE IN THE
CHURCH VESTIBULE AND
THE SCHOOL HALLWAY. ON
BEHALF OF OUR FRIENDS
IN NEED, THANK YOU
FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND
GOD BLESS YOU!

SCHOOL FAMILIES CAN
SEND IN ITEMS TO SCHOOL
THE WEEK BEFORE AND WE
WILL DELIVER THEM TO THE
CHURCH!



PND Easter Bunny Breakfast

Saturday, March 28, 2026

9:00am-11:00am in the PND Commons

Adults: \$5 | Kids: \$3

Families: \$20

