



— November 7, 2025 —

Irish Messenger

Issue 7

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov 10 - Picture Retake Day

Nov 12 - Second Wednesday
Early Dismissal at 2:00

Nov 15 - St. Patrick School
Vendor Craft Sale

Nov 24-25 - No Preschool,
Preschool Conferences

Nov 25 - 2PM dismissal for
Thanksgiving Break, No
Aftercare

Nov 26-28 - No School,
Thanksgiving Break

Dec 5 - St. Nicholas Day
Celebrations

Dec 9 - Christmas Program
at Five Points 6:00PM

Dec 10 - 2nd Wed Early
Dismissal at 2:00

Message from the Principal

Bundle Up, Irish!

As the temperatures drop, please be sure students come dressed warmly. We go outside for recess when it's 20°F and above. Hats, gloves, and winter coats help keep everyone comfortable and safe.

Please label all uniform fleeces and sweatshirts to help us manage our Lost and Found and get these items back to their owners!

A big thank-you to everyone who helped with our All Saints' Day Parish Party!

Special thanks to Sr. Gemma, Mrs. Engel, and Mrs. Wilson for preparing our wonderful first grade Saint presentations. Our little saints were simply heavenly!



VIRTUE=STRENGTH.™

INSPIRE. ENGAGE. STRENGTHEN.

This Week

VIRTUE=STRENGTH.



WHAT IS FORGIVENESS?

The strength to release resentment and pardon others for their wrongdoings.

Forgiveness means letting go of hurt and saying "I forgive you" when someone does something wrong. It helps us heal and grow in love, just like Jesus forgives us.

Sample Steps of Forgiveness:

1. STOP & CALM DOWN

- Before you react, take a deep breath and calm your heart.

2. TALK TO GOD & EXPRESS YOUR FEELINGS

- Pray and tell God how you feel. It's okay to feel sad, angry, or upset.

3. CHOOSE TO FORGIVE

- Forgiveness is a choice, not a feeling. You might not feel ready, but you can still decide to let go of the hurt.

4. MOVE FORWARD WITH LOVE

- If possible, be kind and try to make peace with the person who hurt you.

VIRTUE=STRENGTH.



WHAT IS APPRECIATION?

The strength to recognize and value the good in others and in life's experiences.

Appreciation means being thankful for all the good things God gives us, like family, friends, and the beauty of the world.

It's about saying "thank you" and recognizing blessings.

Phrases to help remind students to be appreciative:

1. "Gratitude turns what we have into enough."
2. "Take a moment to appreciate the little things—they often bring the greatest joy."
3. "Count your blessings, not your problems."
4. "In every moment, there's something to be thankful for."
5. "Appreciation is a magnet for happiness."

**NEXT
WEEK**

ALL SAINTS' DAY





Our hearts are full of gratitude after a truly wonderful All Saints' Day celebration! We were reminded of the Communion of Saints as our first graders brought the holy men and women of our faith to life in the Living Saints Museum. How beautiful to see their faith shining so brightly! Well done, first grade! ✨ The evening continued with delicious food, games, warm bonfires, and fellowship, drawing our parish family together in joy and community. We concluded with a reverent Eucharistic procession and Benediction, centering our hearts once again on Christ, the source of all holiness. ✝

A heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this event possible. Your devotion and hard work made this night a beautiful witness of faith. All you holy men and women, pray for us! 🙏



8th Grade-Led Mary Procession

In honor of October, the Month of the Holy Rosary, our 8th grade students led a beautiful Mary Procession through the school. The statue of our Blessed Mother was carried reverently from classroom to classroom, and finally around the school reminding us of Mary's loving presence and intercession in our daily lives.

As Mary visited each room, students were invited to place their personal prayer intentions into a special prayer basket.

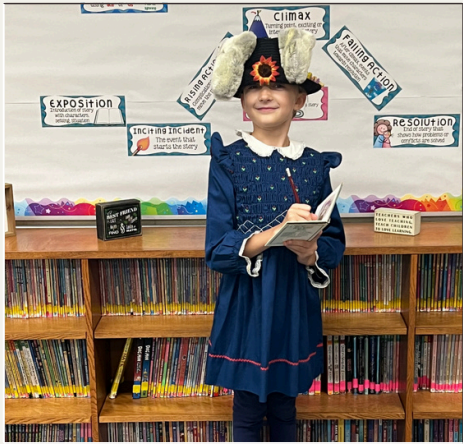
Each class then prayed a decade of the Rosary—or more—uniting our voices in prayer and reflection on the life of Christ through the eyes of His Mother.

This moving tradition helped our school family grow closer to Jesus through Mary, echoing her timeless message to “pray the Rosary every day.” We are grateful to our 8th graders for leading us in this beautiful expression of faith and devotion. “To Jesus through Mary.”





Third Grade Book Reports



**Beatrix as
Beatrix Potter**

The Third Grade class researched famous people, wrote reports, and dressed as their characters to present oral book reports to the class. We love biography day every October!



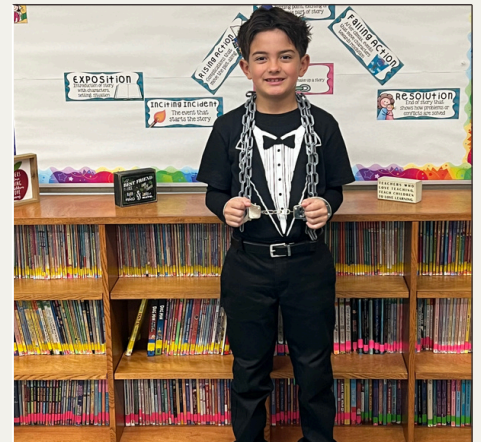
**Kane as
Elvis**



**Mason as
George Washington**



**Rylee as
Lucille Ball**



**Elias as
Houdini**



**Max as
Neil Armstrong**



**Annie as
Sacagewea**



**Noah as
Leonardo deVinci**

Third Grade Book Reports cont...



**Jack as
John F. Kennedy**



**Marcus as
Dr. Seuss**



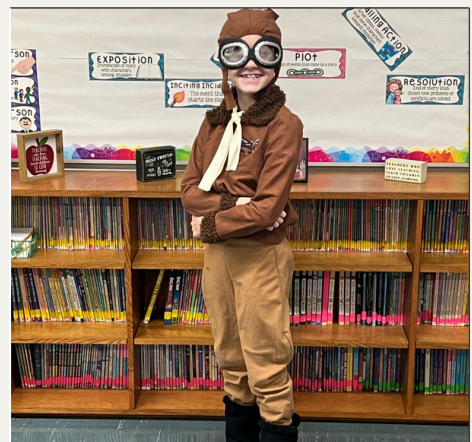
**Miriam as
Queen Elizabeth**



**Nick as
Pope Francis**



**Isaac as
Isaac Newton**



**Amelia as
Amelia Earhart**



It was a sweet day at school when our top three Fall Fundraiser champs turned Mrs. Smith into a human ice cream sundae! What a fun (and sticky!) way to celebrate everyone's hard work and generosity!



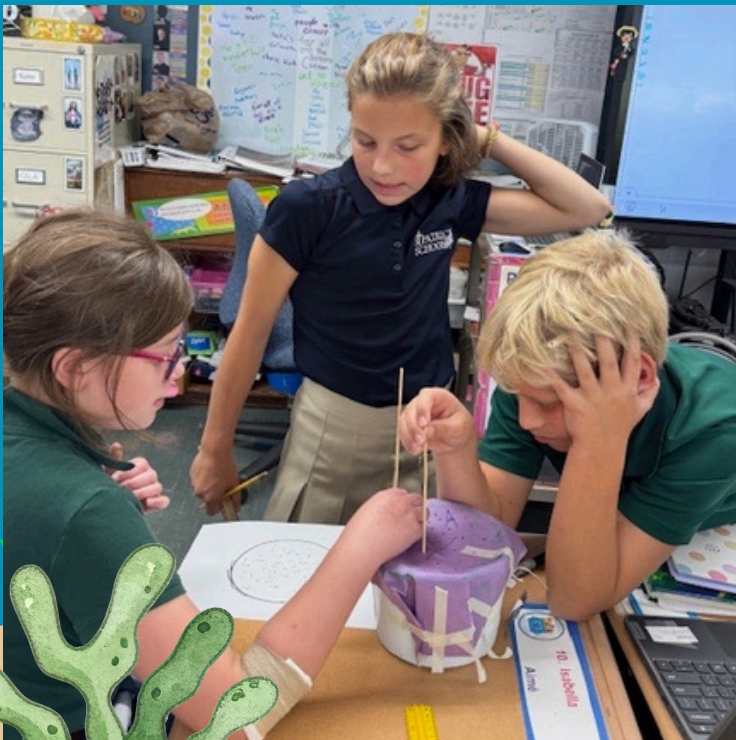
We found a Good Disciple at the library!

Evelyn K. cheerfully assisted the librarians with book returns. She asked if we would like her to put her book back on the shelf because she knew right where it went. Thank you for helping us out Evelyn and keep on being a Good Disciple!





Sixth grade's soundings - they created ocean bottoms and then took soundings (measuring the depths from sea level) of other groups' oceans and drew bathymetric maps of the ocean bottoms. Then had to identify the ocean bottoms from the maps.





Mason and Anneliese Schlack auditioned and were selected to perform at the ILMEA Band at Western University on Saturday November 1, 2025. Mason showcased his talents on multiple percussion instruments, while Anneliese performed on her alto saxophone. They proudly represented St. Patrick's School at this prestigious event!



WHAT ARE THE ROSES AT ST PAT'S?

The Elizabeth Ministry at St Patrick Church

The Elizabeth Ministry is a group of women that communicate in a private Facebook page to share prayer requests and support one another on topics like pregnancy, adoption, infertility, and loss. Weekly updates on prayer needs are shared, and support is offered through connections with members who have relevant experiences. For assistance or to join the Facebook group and weekly prayer email, contact the ministry coordinators.

Shawn Berberich - 309-397-7848 (general)

Meg Hatton - 309-258-1792 (c-sections)

Nicole Nolte - 309-241-1127

(twins & meal coordinator)

Theresa Rademacher - 309-256-8641

(miscarriage)

Request to join the private Facebook Group at:
[https://www.facebook.com/groups/133931860](https://www.facebook.com/groups/133931860038113)

038113



Two vases with colored roses sit on a table along the west wall in St. Patrick Church, each representing different prayer needs: YELLOW for infertility/adoption, PINK for pregnancy, RED for recent births or adoptions, WHITE for miscarriage or loss, BLUE for troubling times, and PURPLE for grandparent concerns. Prayer cards in the drawer below correspond to these colors. You can fill out a prayer card and attach it to a rose from the left vase, then place it in the right vase.

Father Matt joined the 5th graders to celebrate a traditional Seder Meal at the end of their Religion unit. The ritual meal takes place in Jewish homes on the first night of Passover. The service commemorates the night God delivered the Hebrews from slavery in Egypt.



Pink for breast cancer awareness



**Teal Out Tuesday
to support Mrs. Harris**

*We're stronger together!
In this family, no one stands
alone!*

Lady Irish



Team lead prayer
with Blessed Sacrament
after "Teal Out" to support
Mrs. Harris.

Upcoming Dates

Nov 7th - 8th
5th - 6th grade tourney
at St. Philomena
Friday - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday - TBD

Nov 10th
Home vs St. Jude
at 5:30 p.m.

Nov 11th
at D-50
4:30 p.m.



BASKETBALL

Upcoming Dates

Nov 11 - @ Home vs
Georgetown 5:30pm

Nov 13 - @ Home vs
Limestone Walters
5:30pm

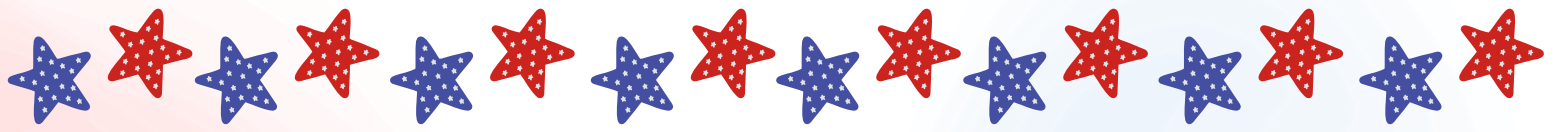
Nov 15 - 8th Grade PND
Showcase at Notre Dame
12:30pm

Nov 18 - @ Home vs
South Pekin 5:30pm

Nov 20 - @ Home vs
Riverview 5:30pm

Nov 24 - @ Home vs
Blessed Sacrament
5:30pm





*Celebrating our Veterans on Tuesday,
November 11, with patriotic colors and
prayer!*

*Students can wear red, white, and/or
blue shirts with uniform bottoms. We
will pray for our veterans as school
on Tuesday morning.*



Future Panthers Cheer Clinic

Learn cheers, skills, and perform at a
WCHS basketball game!

\$35 registration fee includes:

clinic

*admissions for 1 child & 1
adult into the game*

clinic shirt

cheer bow



Date & time:

6TH-8TH GRADE:

FRIDAY, NOV. 14TH 6-8PM

K-5TH GRADE:

SATURDAY, NOV 15TH 9-11AM

PERFORMANCE: WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3RD @ 7PM

Location: Multipurpose room (MPR)

WASHINGTON COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

115 Bondurant St. Washington, IL 61571

USE THE QR CODE TO REGISTER



Registration closes Nov. 9th!

Day of registration will be excepted, but
please know you will not be promised a
shirt or bow.

Contact us:



Email
mmbeard@wacohi.net



Instagram
[@washingtoncommunityhscheer](https://www.instagram.com/washingtoncommunityhscheer)



Contact Chris Kapraun at kapraun77@aol.com.

ST PATRICK SCHOOL

Vendor & Craft Show

FUNDRAISER

Saturday November 15

9:00am-2:00pm

**Food Bake Sale
Vendors Crafts**

St Patrick School

100 N Harvey

Washington, IL 61571





ST PATRICK
SCHOOL
Love • Learn • Lead

WE ARE HIRING!

**OPEN POSITION
AFTERCARE SUPERVISOR
3-5:30 ON SCHOOL DAYS**

APPLY NOW

MUST BE 21 AND A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

**CONTACT MRS. SMITH
CSMITH@STPATSWASHINGTON.ORG**



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.**

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

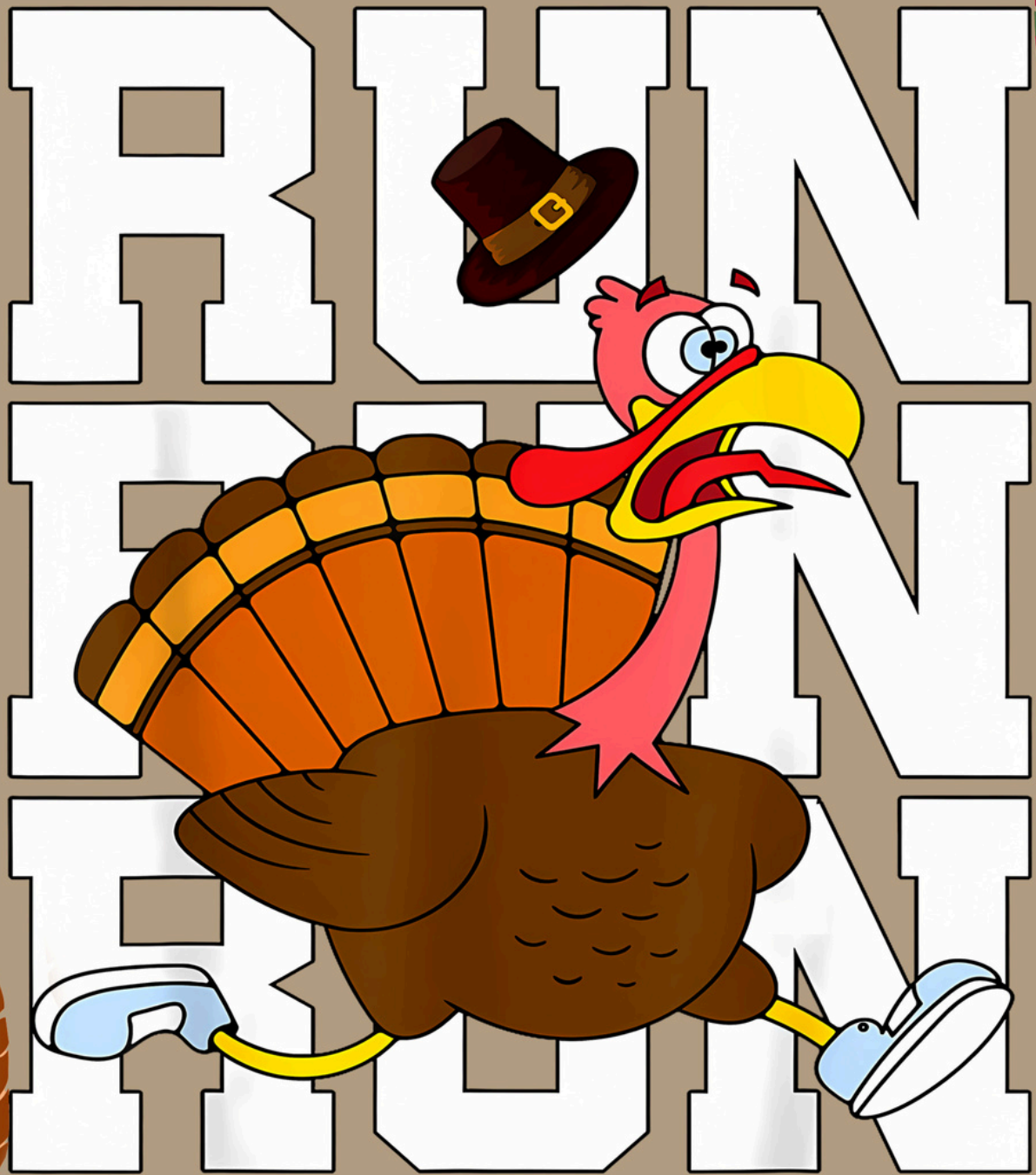
BLANK Sport-Tek Youth Posicharge Polo  3 Colors \$13.00	EMBROIDERED Sport-Tek Youth Polo  3 Colors \$21.00	Port & Company Youth Core Fleece Crewneck Sweatshirt  4 Colors \$23.00	Port Authority Youth Value Fleece Jacket  2 Colors \$33.00	BLANK Sport-Tek Polo  3 Colors \$14.00	EMBROIDERED Sport-Tek Polo  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!

Fire and Feathers 5K Turkey Trot Edition



St. Jude Catholic School
Saturday, November 15th, 9:30 am
5k and 1 mile fun run/walk

early BIRD registration by October 29th
(to guarantee a t-shirt on race day)

<https://sjcs5k.square.site>

Forming Families

in a Life of Virtue



St Jude School
and Parish

**Dr. Andrew &
Sarah Swafford**



19th November, 2025



6:00pm



Hettinger Hall

Big questions...

- ✓ How can virtue shape my own outlook?
- ✓ How can I love and accept my family members while also fulfilling my role as a parent or spouse?
- ✓ What does virtue look like when it gets hard?



Dr. Andrew and Sarah Swafford speak frequently across the country on dating, marriage, the moral and spiritual life, St. John Paul II, and Sacred Scripture. Together, they are the authors of the award-winning *Gift and Grit: How Heroic Virtue Can Change Your Life and Relationships* and co hosts of Ascension's *What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith*, filmed at 30 holy sites in Rome, a series which received two Telly awards. Sarah is the author of *Emotional Virtue: A Guide to Drama-free Relationships* and co host of EWTN's *At the Heart of Relationships*. She is also a contributor to Ascension's *Chosen*. Andrew is Professor of Theology at Benedictine College and author of *A Catholic Guide to the Old Testament*, *What We Believe: The Beauty of the Catholic Faith*, and *Spiritual Survival in the Modern World: Insights from C.S. Lewis' Screwtape Letters*. He is also general editor of Ascension's *Great Adventure Catholic Bible* and host of Ascension's Bible studies on Romans and Hebrews, which also won a Telly award. Andrew and Sarah live in Atchison, KS with their six children. You can find more information about Andrew and his wife's ministry, including the pilgrimages they lead to Poland, Rome, and the Holy Land, at theswaffords.com.