



We have had a fun and successful start to the school year with unseasonably favorable weather! It is wonderful to see so many familiar faces and to meet our new students and teachers! We look forward to continuing to live out the mission of St. Patrick school each and every day. It is the people and families that make this such a wonderful parish and school community. We have one more week of heat schedule and will begin regular release on 9/3/28. Please continue to remember our students, faculty, staff and families in your prayers throughout the year.

# ST PATRICK SCHOOL

Love • Learn • Lead

# Back to School Fun



# Meet Our New Teachers



## 1st Grade

### Mr. Trent Robenstein

Hi, my name is Trent Robenstein, and I teach 1st grade here at St. Pat's. I have lived in the Central Illinois area my entire life and attended Peoria Notre Dame for high school. Aside from teaching, I also coach the boy's basketball teams and the baseball team at the school. This school year I am excited to see the growth of students both religiously and academically, while being a part of the enthusiastic environment of the St. Pat's community.

## 2nd Grade

### Mr. Nick Toohill

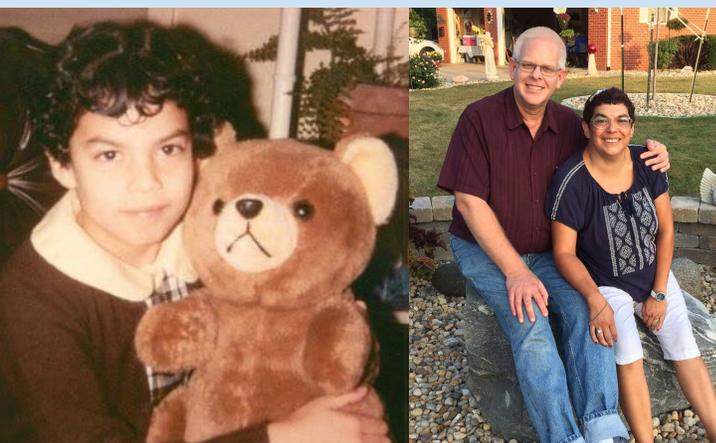
Greetings! I am a native of Peoria and attended Holy Family Elementary and Notre Dame High School. I received a Bachelor's degree in history from Eureka College and a Master's in Teaching from Dominican University. After several years of moving around Illinois and Missouri, my wife, Barb, and I moved to Washington in 2009 where we have been since. We have 4 children, 2 at St. Pat's and 2 at Washington High School. I previously taught for 8 years at Holy Family in Peoria. I am excited to begin a new school year at St. Pat's and see all of the academic, spiritual, and social growth of the students. The 2nd graders are already learning a lot and having tons of fun!



## Junior High ELA

### Mrs. Liz Pennington

This was me 45 years ago, when I was about 6. I just wanted to show you that I was once a Catholic school kid, too. I like to call myself "the world's oldest first-year teacher". My road to becoming a teacher has been long, but I finally got here. I had a lot of support from my husband, Mark, and my parents who live in Chillicothe. Mark and I live in Bloomington with our five cats.





The fifth and sixth grade learned about the scientific method by discovering what happens to gummy worms in different liquids.



## **Caught Being a Good Disciple**

As we continue to live our school mission of fostering the **SPIRITUAL GROWTH** and teaching our children a **CATHOLIC WAY OF LIFE**, we will have a new addition to our Irish Messenger.

Come back to find out who we've caught doing **KIND** and **RESPECTFUL** things throughout the school year that show our **FAITH** and **LOVE** for **CHRIST** and **HIS PEOPLE**.

**By this everyone will know  
that you are my disciples, if  
you love one another.**

**J O H N 1 3 : 3 5**

**VIRTUE  
OF THE  
WEEK**



**INDULGENCE VS. DISCIPLINE**

Imagine walking on this narrow bridge without guardrails.

As guardrails help us to stay on the dangerous bridge, so constraints and discipline help us to stay on the right path in life.

Everyone likes to have a good time, but most people come to recognize that happiness and satisfaction come not so much from the enjoyment of pleasure as from the performance of duty.

A life without constraints is not a dream but a nightmare.

**DISCIPLINE**



**GOALS**

*"Discipline is the **bridge** between goals and accomplishments."*

*- St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta*

# NEXT VIRTUE IS...



“The mission of St. Patrick School is to foster the spiritual growth and academic life of its students, faculty, and staff and to teach children, with the cooperation of parents, a Catholic way of life.”



**THANK  
YOU**

faculty and staff for being dedicated to the spiritual growth and academic life each of our students

**VIRTUE=STRENGTH.**

Set  
Goals

**DEDICATION**

## WHAT IS DEDICATION?

The strength to be firm on one's direction and purpose.

It is commitment and effort in pursuing goals, tasks, or beliefs with perseverance and faith.

## BIBLE QUOTES

- Colossians 3:23: "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."
- 1 Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

Irish Baseball, Softball, Cross Country, and Golf have been hard at work at the start of a very busy fall season of Irish Athletics!





*Future Irish Athletes*

# ST PATRICK SCHOOL

Love • Learn • Lead

# IRISH Athletics

St. Patrick School  
2023 IESA State Champions  
8th Grade 1A Girls Basketball



St. Patrick School  
2023 IESA State Champions  
7th Grade 1A Girls Basketball



St. Patrick School  
IESA 7-1A Girls Track  
State Champions  
2024



Sadie Gorsage  
St. Patrick School  
IESA 7-1A Girls High Jump  
State Champion 2024



**Congratulations to all the 2023-2024 Irish STATE CHAMPS!**

**HISTORY MADE**



## Upcoming Dates

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| 8/23/24 | Baseball @ Midland 4:15 PM                               |
| 8/26/24 | Baseball vs St. Vincent @ Home 4:30 PM                   |
| 8/26/24 | Softball vs Peoria Christian @ Home 4:30 PM              |
| 8/26/24 | Lego League Kick-off Meeting @ St. Pat's 6:30 PM         |
| 8/27/24 | Softball vs Washburn @ Home 4:30 PM                      |
| 8/28/24 | Softball @ Limestone Walters 4:30 PM                     |
| 8/28/24 | <b>Meet the Teacher Open House @ St. Pat's 6-7:30 PM</b> |
| 8/29/24 | Baseball @ St. Mary's Metamora 4:30 PM                   |
| 8/29/24 | Cross Country @ Mineral Springs Park 4:30 PM             |
| 8/31/24 | Baseball vs Peoria Heights @ Home 10 AM                  |
| 9/2/24  | <b>Labor Day - NO SCHOOL</b>                             |
| 9/3/24  | Cross Country Panther Invite @ Wenger Shelter 4 PM       |
| 9/3/24  | Softball vs St. Mary @ Metamora High School 7 PM         |
| 9/3/24  | Baseball vs Rankin @ Home                                |
| 9/4/24  | Softball vs St. Phils @ Home 4:30 Pm                     |
| 9/5/24  | Baseball vs Robein @ Eastside                            |

*The mission of St. Patrick School is to foster the spiritual growth and academic life of its students, faculty, and staff and to teach children, with the cooperation of parents, a Catholic way of life.*

August 25, 2024



Matt Fletcher  
Grand Knight  
Knights of Columbus Council 6707  
PO Box 263  
Washington, IL 61571

To the Men of St. Patrick School and Parish,

I hope this letter finds you well as our 2024-2025 school year gets underway. As you plan for the exciting events and activities coming through the year, I wanted to personally extend an invitation to join our Knights, as we continue our legacy of service to the parish, school, and broader community. Whether you find us donating our time during Catholic Schools week or raising money to support our local scholarship fund, we hope you will take the time to connect with us and pitch in where possible.

If you'd like to join or learn more about our volunteer opportunities, please:

Sign up at: [KofC.org/Join](https://KofC.org/Join)

Enter 6707 for Preferred Local Council (and be sure to enter the discount promo code!)

Follow our Facebook page at: Knights of Columbus Washington, Illinois

Or e-mail me directly at: [GRANDKNIGHT6707@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GRANDKNIGHT6707@GMAIL.COM)

However you choose to engage, I'm sure we'll make this a great year for our students!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt P Fletcher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matt Fletcher  
Grand Knight  
Knights of Columbus Council 6707

Cc: Rev. Jonathan Steffen – Pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Washington, IL  
Mrs. Cassi Smith – Principal, St. Patrick School, Washington, IL



(For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)

**FIRST® LEGO League is an alliance between  
FIRST® & the LEGO® Group**

### **2024/2025 Theme**

**FIRST® LEGO League** challenges kids to think like scientists and engineers. This program inspires young people to experiment and grow their confidence, critical thinking, and design skills through hands-on learning. In **2024/2025 FIRST® LEGO League's SUBMERGED<sup>SM</sup>**, Children will use creative thinking and **LEGO®** technology to explore the layers of the ocean and innovate for a better future with healthy oceans.

Teams will choose and solve a real-world problem in the Project. They will also build, test, and program an autonomous robot using **LEGO® SPIKE™ Prime** technology to solve a set of missions in the Robot Game. Throughout their experience, teams will operate under the **FIRST® LEGO League** signature set of Core Values, celebrating discovery, teamwork, and Gracious Professionalism®.



**Do you love LEGOs? Do you want to learn how to build and program a robot? Do you want to have fun while learning? JOIN FIRST LEGO LEAGUE at St. Pats!**

**Who?: St. Patrick students in grades 5-8**

**When?: Starting in late August through January**

**Coach Contact: Matt Rademacher (309-256-7493, [mrademac@aol.com](mailto:mrademac@aol.com))**

***Our first meeting/practice will be on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8 pm. Also, more information regarding the season will be reviewed with parents at the meeting. If interested, please fill out this survey <https://forms.gle/fUJ56dEjgrcDvtNt6> to help our coaches determine the potential practice schedule***

***If you have any questions, please contact Matt Rademacher.***