

Dear St. Patrick Parents  
and Students,

On behalf of the faculty  
and staff, I would like  
to thank all of you very  
much for the Christmas  
gifts and treats. Your  
tremendous generosity  
to the faculty and staff  
was greatly appreciated. My hope is that each of you had a  
healthy and blessed Christmas. I pray the New Year brings  
good health, joy, and peace to each of you.

Good Wishes and Blessings,

Mrs. Shipman



St. Patrick School  
100 Harvey Street  
Washington, IL 61571  
309-444-4345  
<https://school.stpatswashington.com>  
Facebook: St. Patrick Catholic Parish,  
Washington, IL

## Important Upcoming Dates

Sat, 1/8: **Girls Volleyball** Tournament  
@ Home 9:00am

**Boys Basketball** @ Central-  
Washington 10:00am

Mon, 1/10: **Girls Volleyball** vs. Norwood  
@ Home 4:30pm

Wed, 1/12: **CCD Meeting** @ Church  
6:30pm

Thurs, 1/13: **Girls Volleyball** @ Metamora  
4:30pm

**Boys Basketball**—Blessed  
Sacrament 8th Grade  
Tournament 7:15pm

Fri, 1/14: **Girls Volleyball** Tournament  
@ Home TBD

**Boys Basketball**—Blessed  
Sacrament 8th Grade  
Tournament TBD

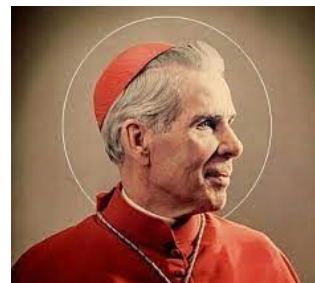
## Virtue of the Week—CIRCUMSPECTION



This week our strength building on the virtue of PRUDENCE is  
**CIRCUMSPECTION**. The strength to carefully consider  
all circumstances and possible consequences. If you are  
**circumspect**, you think carefully before doing or saying  
anything. It implies a desire to avoid mistakes and bad  
consequences. It enables one to look around and see how our  
action may impact others.

### Prayer

Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know you, a heart to seek  
you, wisdom to find you, conduct pleasing to you, faithful perse-  
verance in waiting for you, and a hope of finally embracing you.  
Amen. - **St. Thomas Aquinas**



## The Wisdom of Fulton Sheen

**"If you don't  
behave as you  
believe, you will  
end by believing as  
you behave."**

**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.

## Empower Illinois Scholarship Reservation Night 2022

As a reminder, reservations for a 2022-2023 Empower Illinois tax credit scholarship will open on Wednesday, **January 12, 2022**.

Like last year, the application process will include two steps: a reservation and an application.

Families should visit [Empowerillinois.org](https://empowerillinois.org) to find the reservation page link. Families do not make their tax credit scholarship reservations by logging into their EmpowerXChange portal.

**The reservation form will be available at 6:30pm** to give families time to enter their information before **submission at 7pm**. More information about preparing for reservation night can be found on our website under, "[How Do I Apply](#)."

Families who have previously completed a tax credit scholarship application through the EmpowerXChange portal should use the same email address when making their reservation.

The 2022-2023 scholarship application will be available on **Friday, January 14**. Families who have completed their reservation **by noon on Thursday, January 13** will receive an email from Empower Illinois on Friday morning notifying them the application is live. If families complete their reservation after noon on Thursday, they will receive their invitation to complete the application within 48 hours.

## To the Parents and Students of St. Patrick School:

As a Religion class project, the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is teaming up with the Tazewell County Right to Life to collect **baby food, juice, and formula** for families in need in our area. The collected food will be donated to Catholic Charities, Neighborhood House, Women's Pregnancy Center, and other charitable organizations that support families that chose life.

We would be very appreciative if your child could bring baby food, juice, and/or formula to school **by Monday, January 17**. There will be a contest between classes, and the class who brings in the most food will receive a special treat.

We truly appreciate your prayers and support in our efforts to provide for the nutritional needs of infants and the mothers who chose life.

God bless,

Class of 2023 and Mrs. Kapraun



Please join us in wishing **Sister Gemma** a very **Happy HALF birthday!** Her birthday is on **July 9th**, during summer break. It sure doesn't feel like summer weather out there, but we hope you enjoy this day, nevertheless. Sister, **THANK YOU** for your dedication to teaching our kids the Catholic faith.



**St. Pat's Parent Ministry**



**Congratulations to Gabrielle, in 8th grade, who earned Classic Reader Level in the Accelerated Reader program. She received a certificate and will have a poster hung in the school hallway.**

**Keep on reading!**



**"Reverence, Respect, Responsibility..."**

**Excellence in Academics and Faith Formation"**

# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

January 2022

**St. Patrick School**

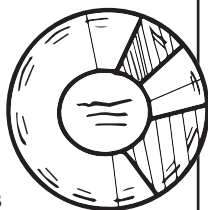
Doreen Shipman, Principal



## Thoughtful Moments

### The rhythm of our faith

To help us learn about God and his family, the Church crafted the liturgical year. By observing the seasons of our faith, we follow the rhythm that God has created for us. "A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance" (Ecclesiastes 3:4).



### As God forgives

When we pray the "Our Father," we say, "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." True forgiveness is hard but God wants us to forgive the way He forgives us. We can't obtain true forgiveness unless we give it.

### Celebrate parenthood

Parents deserve lots of praise but don't often get it. Someday your children may look back and appreciate you. While they are young, remember that every kiss, hug and smile you get is a celebration of how important you are every day, all year long.



## Share what you love about our Catholic Faith

As parents, we want our children to be Catholic because we know the Church provides the surest way to a strong and loving relationship with God. To help children find Catholic joy, share what you love about our Catholic Faith.

"My grandmother prayed the Rosary every day of her life," said Lisa.

"When I was old enough, she gave me one and taught me how to pray it. The prayers remind me of everything we believe as Catholics. The Rosary has helped me through many tough times in my life and I pray it often with my own children."

"We moved a lot when I was young,"

said Art. "Moving was hard but no matter where we lived, the Mass felt like home. Jesus was always there waiting for me. Now I love taking my children to Mass because I want it to be their home, too."

"I don't know what I would do without Confession," said Brooke. "It's not easy admitting the things I do wrong. I'm embarrassed that I commit the same sins repeatedly. Still, no matter

how often I go, it is such a thrill to hear the words of absolution and know that Jesus really does forgive me. Now, we take our children and celebrate God's mercy together."



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

We don't really know what Heaven looks like. "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him," (1 Corinthians 2:9). Heaven is the fulfillment of our

## What do we believe about Heaven?



deepest desire of union with God. We know that God has prepared a place for us in His home. All who enter must be in His friendship.

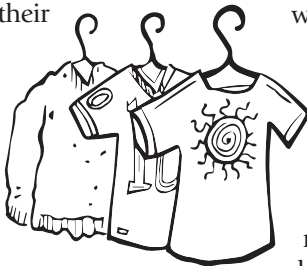
Nothing should keep us from our place in the house of our Lord.



## Modest dress for today's Catholic kids

Current fashions – even if immodest – often feel right to young people because they see them accepted by their friends and favorite celebrities. Current styles can be too tight or too revealing to be appropriate for followers of Jesus. When children wear such styles, people may be distracted from their personalities, their accomplishments, and their faith. Instead, try these tips to help children dress modestly and fashionably, too.

**Layers can make it work.** Does your child love low-cut styles or bottoms that show underwear? Try pairing



a tank top under one with a plunging neckline or a wear a pair of running shorts under sagging bottoms.

**Color me funky.** One way to make modesty fun is to take note of what the season's hottest colors are, and then find modest clothing in those colors.

**Test the light.** Transparent fabric is designed to reveal rather than conceal the body. If you place a layer of fabric over a newspaper and can see the lines of letters through it, the fabric is too sheer.

### Scripture LESSON

### Luke 4:21-30, God's surprising ways

In this Gospel, Jesus returned to Nazareth, His hometown, soon after starting His public ministry. Everyone had heard about the miracles and signs He had worked. They even invited Him to teach in their

synagogue. Imagine how delighted they were when Jesus announced that He was the Messiah of Isaiah's prophecy.

Still, some were doubtful. How could this carpenter's son possibly be the Messiah, the long-awaited Savior promised in the Old Testament? Jesus' listeners thought they had Him figured out. They had gotten so used to

thinking of Him as being "one of them," they couldn't believe there was more to Him.

**What can a parent do?**  
Remind children that we can completely trust in God's loving care for us, but we'll never completely figure Him

out. For example, some doubted that Jesus was the Messiah because His life had looked so ordinary to them. Everyone expected the Messiah to conquer Israel's enemies, but Jesus conquered the more powerful enemies of sin, evil and death by His Resurrection. In fact, God's ways are not our ways, and He knows best.



### Parent TALK

My husband and I grew up eating dinner with our families around the table each night. It's how we had raised our own family. When the pandemic hit, however, everything changed.



We were all spending way too much time on our devices – the children receiving online instruction and my husband and I busy with Zoom conferences. Meals were sandwiches in front of screens. It got to be too much. To keep us all from spending day and night on our devices, we decided to make family dinners a requirement. Dinner started at 6:00pm, and began with a prayer. It was expected that everyone would help with clean-up.

At first, it took some adjusting, but regular dinners became a great way to reconnect. We realized this habit has helped us grow closer as a family. Even though schedules have returned to normal, we still try to make family dinners a priority.

### Feasts & Celebrations

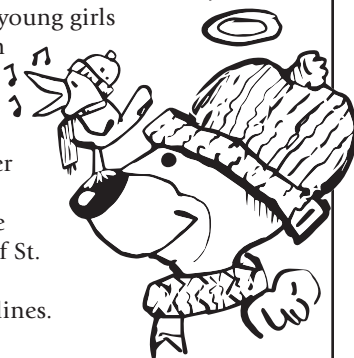
**Jan. 2 – Epiphany of Our Lord.** Epiphany is Greek for "manifestation." When they honored the infant Jesus, the three wise men bore witness to the fulfillment of God's promise of a savior.

**Jan. 3 – The Holy Name of Jesus.** In January we celebrate the Holy Name of Jesus. "...at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10).

**Jan. 24 – St. Francis de Sales (1622).** As bishop of Geneva, St. Francis bolstered the faith of others by his writings and works. For the laity, St.

Francis wrote *Introduction to the Devout Life*, which is as applicable today as it was in his day.

**Jan. 27 – St. Angela Merici (1540).** Orphaned at ten-years-old, St. Angela turned to God for strength. At twenty, she became a Franciscan tertiary and taught young girls the Faith. In 1535 at Brescia, Italy, she and 12 other women founded the Company of St. Ursula, or the Ursulines.



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)