

the Irish Review

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH & ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

VOL. 4, ISSUE 1 - MARCH 2024

The Re-Dedication of Our



Academy Gym & Community Center

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PLEASE CONSIDER ST. PAT'S IN YOUR
WILL OR ESTATE PLANNING!

On October 28, the faithful from the area gathered to re-dedicate our Academy Gym & Community Center, serving the needs of the Momence Community. With new first floor bathrooms, upgraded windows and floors, generators and possible funds for air conditioning, we still are in need of a parking lot. That said, we have come this far and hope to go farther in our quest to take care of the people we serve. God bless all of you who helped us!

ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

AN OLD BORDERTOWN
PARISH
119 NORTH MARKET STREET
MOMENCE, IL 60954
☎ (815) 472-2864
FAX ☎ (815) 472-3043
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
STPATRICKMOMENCE.ORG
OR EMAIL US AT
STPATSRECTORY@MCHSI.COM



NEWS AND VIEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
BY YOUR PASTOR, FR. PETE JANKOWSKI

MAKING OUR PARISH DREAMS INTO A BOOMING REALITY!!!

Please take a good look at this picture. What you are viewing is the attendance (below) of our 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Mass that did not exist in 2019. In four years, our parish went from ZERO parishioners attending this Mass to over 200 this year.

According to the **PEW RESEARCH CENTER**, the two largest growing demographics in the Catholic Church happen to be the Hispanic Community (a 23% growth in the US since the 2010 Census) and families who attend traditional Masses in Latin (which I celebrate in Minooka). To be honest, the largest growing demographic in our parishes IS NOT the Hispanic Community; **IT IS FAMILIES IN GENERAL**. Our Religious Education Program has multiplied to three times its size in the last four years, enough that Joanne Hermann has lamented that now we need to build another structure to accommodate our growth in classes (we just lost one building that could have accommodated the kids; now we have to build another?). The BEST complaints I have received over the last year range from more room for kids in Religious Education, more parking



space on the property because we have too many cars in the parking lot and too many wrappers in the pews from all the kids attending Mass! What a terrible dilemma to have with an ever-growing Church!

All of this is good; by July 1, Most Rev. Ronald Hicks will have reduced the parishes in Joliet by a factor of 50%. The diocesan personnel eventually will look south of I-80, evaluating the long-range health of all the parishes in the southern part of the diocese. By a community like ours offering what I stress are the “bienvenidos” y “hospitalidad” of the community (“welcome” and “hospitality”), all of a sudden, we have received donations for generators, internet accessibility throughout the campus (total cost \$60,000) and a debt that has been reduced by \$200,000 over the last two years. Our hope is that the debt will be eliminated by this time next year so that we can begin a “capital improvement” campaign to build much needed parking lot for our gym facility.

Christendom College comes to St. Patrick's Church!

One of our generous benefactors provided an opportunity for us to sponsor seventeen students and chaperones from **CHRISTENDOM COLLEGE IN ROYAL, VIRGINIA** so they could do mission work in our area. The goal here is for the students to learn a bit about the rural ministry and the migrant setting that our communities embrace, allowing our parishes to grow in the process. Outside of transportation and travel, the cost of this mission will run over \$10,000 - all of which has been subsidized by this generous benefactor.



Last Year, the Golf Outing Made Over \$15,000 for our Academy Gym!



Save the date for Saturday - June 22, 2024!

St. Patrick's Golf Outing

Oak Springs Golf Course
6740 E 3500s Road - St. Anne, IL 60964

St. Patrick's Golf Outing

Saturday - June 22, 2024 - \$100 per Golfer (Up to Teams of Four; Singles, Doubles and Trios are all Welcome!)

Price Includes Cart, 18 Holes of Golf and Dinner

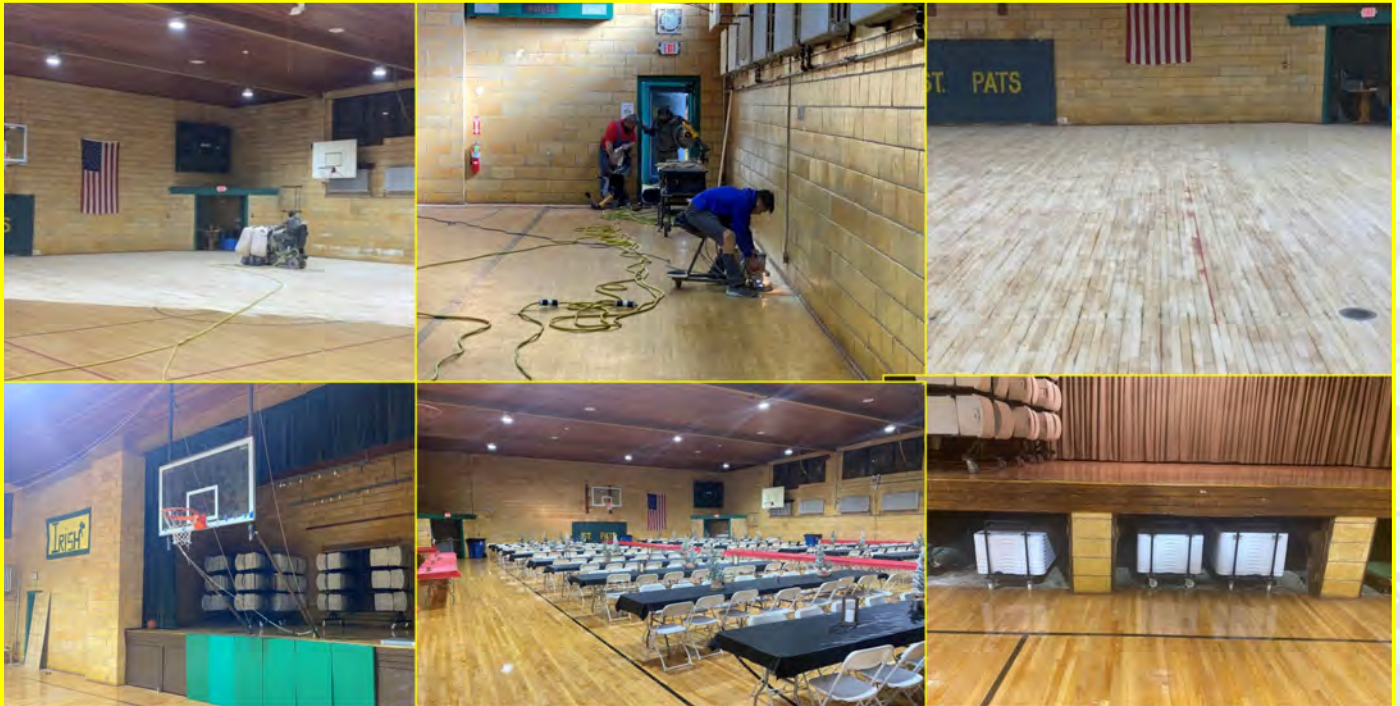
Shot Gun Start at 12:00 Noon

Raffles & Drawings for Gift Baskets will also be Available.

We are looking for Hole Sponsors, Raffle Prizes or Whatever You Offer

Contact Rick Preston for Details at ☎ (815) 370-9617

Contact Mary Jo Boicken for Details at ☎ (815) 592-0614



St. Patrick's Academy Gym & Community Center: Gym Floor Renovations



Thanks to our benefactors who helped us renovate our gymnasium, both for the parish and for the Momence Community!!! St. Pat's Go Bragh!!!

St. Patrick's Academy Gym & Community Center: Window Renovations





St. Patrick's Academy Gym & Community Center: Landscaping Renovations



St. Patrick's Academy Gym & Community Center: Second Floor Renovations

St. Patrick's Border Town Picnic a Rousing Success!

Thanks to the ESPECTACULAR efforts of Secretary Ema Elvir and our Picnic Committee, this year's event netted one of the largest crowds St. Patrick's Church had seen in decades! Both

Fr. Jason Nesbit, CSV and Deacon John Eustice, CSV (two Viatorians who celebrated this Mass in Fr. Pete's absence, due to COVID) remarked how wonderful St. Pat's community has grown to produce such a wonderful effort like this!

The St. Patrick's 50/50 Raffle (to which so many of you contributed) netted the parish a \$12,000 profit, which was used in conjunction with alumnus Lorri Simpson's good work with our annual December Drawing - which netted the parish an additional \$10,000 - and Rick Preston and our Golf Outing Committee raising another \$15,000 towards the cause, has assisted our parish taking care of much-needed upgrades on our property.

During this Picnic, two groups played music for the event (The Fender Benders playing classic rock music and The Saddle Shoe Sisters playing the Golden Oldies). We hosted a Vendor Fair, a Rummage Sale, hosted games for the kids and had "train rides" led by David Surprenant riding his tractor! Thanks to Ardis Wardynski and friends for the Rummage Sale!

Please feel free to join us on September 22, 2024 for our next Parish Picnic... and thanks for all your support at our parishes!!!



St. Patrick's Golf Outing Brings Out the Alumni!

Our **SECOND ANNUAL ST. PATRICK'S GOLF OUTING** brought out a GREAT RESPONSE from those who attended the event. Much thanks to Rick Preston, Mary Jo Boicken and so many others who helped make this fundraiser a wonderful success! We are hoping you can put June 22, 2024 on your calendar to join us at this year's outing for good food and comradery. This is a wonderful chance to catch up with your classmates, many of whom joined us for this annual event.

We have been uploading the Alumni Yearbooks and Parish Photo Directories on our website, as well as Talent Shows and other events from Alumni Past. Please feel free to contribute your pictures and videos to Fr. Pete at pjankowski@yahoo.com so we can include them online.

Annual Irish Mass & Dinner

Celebrating all things St. Patrick's (usually on the Second Saturday of March), we host our annual Mass with Brian McKee on the bagpipe and the Galway Guys and Girls providing Irish Music During our Dinner after Mass. Thanks to St. Pat's Knights of Columbus for cooking the Corned Beef & Cabbage for those in attendance and sous chef Maria Jankowski for cooking Irish Stew as well. We have done the best we can to provide opportunities for fellowship at the parish - feel free to join us!



St. Patrick's Golf Outing

Saturday - June 22, 2024 - \$100 per Golfer (Up to Teams of Four – Singles, Doubles & Trios are all Welcome!)

Make Checks Payable to "St. Patrick's Catholic Church"

**Send Checks to Rick Preston - 11815 E 3500N Rd
Mokenca, IL 60954 - you can call Rick at ☎ (815) 370-9617
or Mary Jo Boicken at ☎ (815) 592-0614**

☐ Add me (us) to a foursome

☐ I want to sponsor a hole (\$100)

☐ I want to contribute raffle prizes or donate cash for prizes

Name:
(Captain)

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Name:

Address:

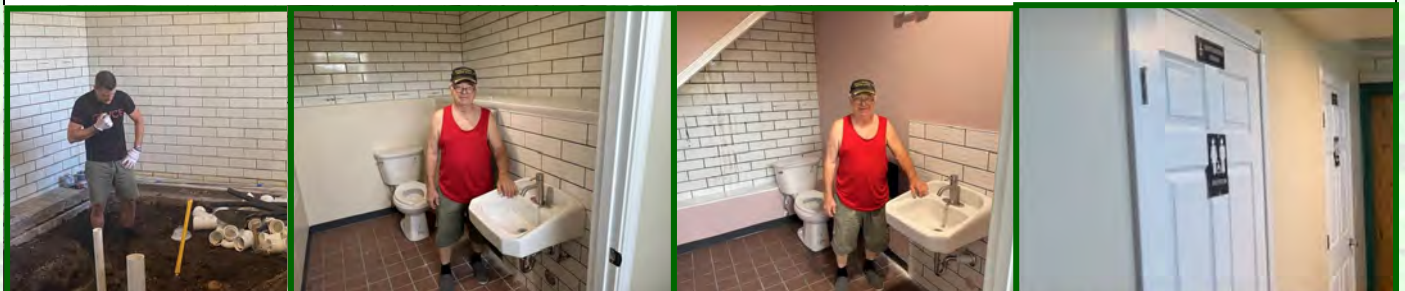
Name:

Address:

Name:

Address:

With the invaluable help of Plumber Joe Cohn, Contractor Joe Kraus, Cousins Plumbing, Van Drunen Farms, St. Patrick's Knight of Columbus and a whole slew of others, we were able to finish the **FIRST FLOOR BATHROOM PROJECT IN THE GYMNASIUM**, a project that should have cost \$75,000 ending up costing less than \$10,000 for the benefit of our seniors. Internet and generators will be installed by year's end via a donation!!!





St. Patrick's Catholic Church

AN OLD BORDER TOWN PARISH IN ILLINOIS

119 NORTH MARKET STREET - MOMENCE, IL 60954-1415

☎ (815) 472-2864 - FAX (815) 472-3043 - WWW.STPATRICKMOMENCE.ORG

Upcoming Church Projects

St. Pat's Parish Debt - \$106,404.68

We have REDUCED our Debt by a Factor of \$200,000+ in JUST TWO YEARS!!!



Join Our St. Patrick's Mailing List!!!

If you know of someone who does not get our yearly newsletter or wishes to be on our mailing list, please contact us by phone or contact Fr. Pete at pjankowski@yahoo.com. Fr. Pete also puts out a weekly "News & Notes" concerning activities that take place at the parish; you are most welcome to contact Fr. Pete to be included on that mailing as well.

As is the tradition at St. Anne's Church (and now St. Patrick's!), the Service Commission at St. Anne's is collecting new towels, hand towels and wash cloths for Harbor House. New toiletries are also appreciated. The collection will take place from Ash Wednesday through Holy Thursday. Harbor House is always grateful for your donations.



St. Patrick's Golf Outing

Sponsor Registration

\$100 per hole sponsorship.
Make & Mail Checks Payable to "St. Patrick's Catholic Church c/o Golf Outing"
119 North Market Street
Momence, IL 60954

Sponsor Registration

For more info, contact Rick Preston at ☎ (815) 370-9617 or Mary Jo Boicken ☎ (815) 592-0614. If you are a new sponsor and have a business card or company logo you would like printed on the hole signage, please include a copy with your registration.

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

☐ I want to contribute raffle prizes or donate cash for prizes



St. Patrick's Progressive "Split the Pot" Raffle

First Prize: Half the Pot, minus \$750
 Second Prize: \$500 ❖ Third Prize: \$250
 Drawing at Parish Picnic - September 22, 2024
 Check www.stpatricksmomence.org
 for Current Prize Totals
 Winner Not Be Present for Drawing

**\$10 a Ticket
 6 for \$50
 All Proceeds Go
 Towards Campus
 Renovations. Last
 Year We Made
 Over \$12,000!!!**

Fellowship, food & fun CHURCH *Picnic*



PLAN ON JOINING US ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2024 FOR OUR **THIRD ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC, STARTING WITH A 10:30 OUTDOOR BILINGUAL MASS AND BLESSING OF THE PETS, THE FENDER BENDERS & SADDLE SHOE SISTERS WILL PROVIDE THE MUSIC. WE ALSO WILL HOST A VENDOR FAIR AND RUMMAGE SALE. WE ALSO WILL SELL A BUNCH OF GREAT FOOD (BURGERS, HOT DOGS AND LOTS OF MEXICAN OPTIONS!!!). TO HELP SPONSOR THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT THE ST. PATRICK'S PARISH OFFICE AT ☎ (815) 472-2864.**

\$2500 ST. PATRICK'S PEW DEDICATION PROGRAM

Over \$100,000 has been donated since 2019 for the plaques that adorn the church pews at St. Patrick's Church. These donations are necessary for the betterment of our church - and to honor so many good souls!

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW WISHES TO NAME ONE OF OUR FOUR BUILDINGS ON THE PROPERTY (\$1 MILLION EACH), ST. PATRICK'S ELIMINATES HER DEBT AND PAVES THE WAY TO SERVE THE KANKAKEE BORDERTOWN CITIES FOR GENERATIONS TO COME!!!

If you are interested in learning more about the dedication program, contact the parish office at phone ☎ (815) 472-2864 or email us at the address pjankowski@yahoo.com.



**Parish Hall
Dedication -
\$1,000,000 -
Help Us Renovate
Our Parishes and
Secure Our
Church's Futures!!!!**



**AT ST. PATRICK'S
OUTDOOR GROTTO**

For \$100 a brick, you are invited to dedicate an outdoor brick on behalf of a loved one. For more information, please contact the parish office at ☎ (815) 472-2864 or email us at pjankowski@yahoo.com.



For only \$25, you can dedicate a Journeysongs Pew Book from either parish. Please call ☎ (815) 472-2864 for more info.

St. Patrick's Parish

Fish Fry

SPONSORED BY
KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
COUNCIL 7984

Every Friday
February 16 - March 22

St. Patrick's Church Basement
119 North Market Street, Mokenca, IL
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

\$12	\$14
2 PIECES	3 PIECES

Dinner includes:
Fried or Baked Fish (Alaskan Pollock), Baked Potato or French Fries, Mac and Cheese, Coleslaw, Corn, Desserts from the Council of Catholic Women



The Border Town Parishes of St. Anne's & St. Patrick's hosted her annual **APPRECIATION MASS & DINNER** on February 10, 2024. Pictured above are Ray Koncar and the "Polka Mass-ters," secretary Ema Elvir and members of our Hispanic Community and Fr. Pete with Judy Gall & Laura Ojeda. This annual event serves as a "Thank You" for everything done by the volunteers at our respective parishes.



IT'S ALL ABOUT OUR FUTURE

AT ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH!

For over 100 years, the faithful of St. Patrick's Church have dedicated themselves to serving the folks of our community in God's name. We ask you to consider the ways listed below that can help our parish. If you would like to discuss how **ESTATE PLANNING** can be used to make a gift to the parish, please contact us at ☎ (815) 472-2864.

- ♣ **BEQUESTS** - Through your will you can bequeath to St. Patrick's a fixed amount, a percentage of your estate or the remainder after other choices have been made. Example language might be: "To St. Patrick's Church of Momence, I leave the sum of \$XXX to be used at the discretion of the recipient." Any bequest to St. Patrick's you make will reduce the size of your estate and could reduce the estate taxes that may be due.
- ♣ **LIFE INSURANCE** - By naming St. Patrick's as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy your premiums may be tax deductible and it will help ensure the future of St. Patrick's Church.
- ♣ **TAX DEFERRED SAVINGS PLAN** - Money in an IRA or other similar plan is subject to income tax when withdrawn. If left in your estate, they may be subject to estate taxes. If you make St. Patrick's the remainder beneficiary, neither of those taxes may be paid.
- ♣ A variety of **CHARITABLE TRUSTS & ANNUITIES** - There are a variety of giving options that can provide you or future generations' income, rights to property or assets with tax savings and generous support to St. Patrick's.

Remember St. Patrick's Academy in Momence is now on... facebook



**We also have an Academy Page on the Parish Website.
Please send your photos to pjankowski@yahoo.com**

Check out the St. Patrick's Website & YouTube!

See our updated website www.stpatrickmomence.org (which also serves St. Anne's Church) to find out what is happening at the parish, watch online Masses, read Fr. Pete's homilies and much more! You can also subscribe to our **BORDER TOWN PARISHES YOUTUBE CHANNEL** to view our weekly Online Masses that have generated interest literally throughout the world!