



LITTLE GIANTS BIG NEWS

November 2021 Edition

Mission Statement

“The mission of Saint Patrick Catholic School is: That everyone in the Saint Patrick Catholic School community encounter Jesus, grow as His disciples, and witness to others through a Christ-centered academic environment.”

School Committee Update

Here at St. Pats, we are building an active School Committee who meets monthly with our Principal. We discuss many topics relative to all School Business. The school committee is comprised of parents of our students who bring a variety of perspectives representing other school and parish committees and each of our classrooms. The overall goal of school committee is to support the school in many functions and represent the overall parent population at the school.

You are encouraged to get to know who our school committee members are and engage them with anything you might need, they have signed up to represent you and to be your voice as a collective school body. We currently have a full board but would be happy to maintain a list of interested parents who would like to participate should an opening arise. Please let one of the members below know if you might be interested in being a School Committee Parent.

The following is a list of our School Committee Parents:

Joel Grubb - President

Jenny Totten - Vice President

Jessica Jones - Secretary

Members: Jenna Totten, Yvette Vroman, Alison Illes, Hillary Lange, Maegan Theisen, Cara Morrison & Alyssa Pitock

Thank you to all those who served in the United Armed Forces and to their families!



REMINDERS

Reminder that drop off is at 7:15 am. There is a latchkey program from 7am-7:15am if needed, please contact Kelly in the office.

Please check the school calendar for upcoming Christmas holiday schedule.

COVID PROTOCOL:

Reminder to fill out the survey each morning before drop-off! This is a requirement.



ST MARTIN OF TOURS | November 11

Saint Martin of Tours' Story

A conscientious objector who wanted to be a monk; a monk who was maneuvered into being a bishop; a bishop who fought paganism as well as pleaded for mercy to heretics—such was Martin of Tours, one of the most popular of saints and one of the first not to be a martyr.

Born of pagan parents in what is now Hungary, and raised in Italy, this son of a veteran was forced at the age of 15 to serve in the army. Martin became a Christian catechumen and was baptized when he was 18. It was said that he lived more like a monk than a soldier. At 23, he refused a war bonus and told his commander: “I have served you as a soldier; now let me serve Christ. Give the bounty to those who are going to fight. But I am a soldier of Christ and it is not lawful for me to fight.” After great difficulties, he was discharged and went to be a disciple of Hilary of Poitiers.

He was ordained an exorcist and worked with great zeal against the Arians. Martin became a monk, living first at Milan and later on a small island. When Hilary was restored to his see following his exile, Martin returned to France and established what may have been the first French monastery near Poitiers. He lived there for 10 years, forming his disciples and preaching throughout the countryside.

The people of Tours demanded that he become their bishop. Martin was drawn to that city by a ruse—the need of a sick person—and was brought to the church, where he reluctantly allowed himself to be consecrated bishop. Some of the consecrating bishops thought his ruffled appearance and unkempt hair indicated that he was not dignified enough for the office.

Along with Saint Ambrose, Martin rejected Bishop Ithacius's principle of putting heretics to death—as well as the intrusion of the emperor into such matters. He prevailed upon the emperor to spare the life of the heretic Priscillian. For his efforts, Martin was accused of the same heresy, and Priscillian was executed after all.

Martin then pleaded for a cessation of the persecution of Priscillian's followers in Spain. He still felt he could cooperate with Ithacius in other areas, but afterwards his conscience troubled him about this decision.

As death approached, Martin's followers begged him not to leave them. He prayed, “Lord, if your people still need me, I do not refuse the work. Your will be done.”

Reflection

Martin's worry about cooperation with evil reminds us that almost nothing is either all black or all white. The saints are not creatures of another world: They face the same perplexing decisions that we do. Any decision of conscience always involves some risk. If we choose to go north, we may never know what would have happened had we gone east, west, or south. A hyper-cautious withdrawal from all perplexing situations is not the virtue of prudence; it is in fact, a bad decision, for “not to decide is to decide.”

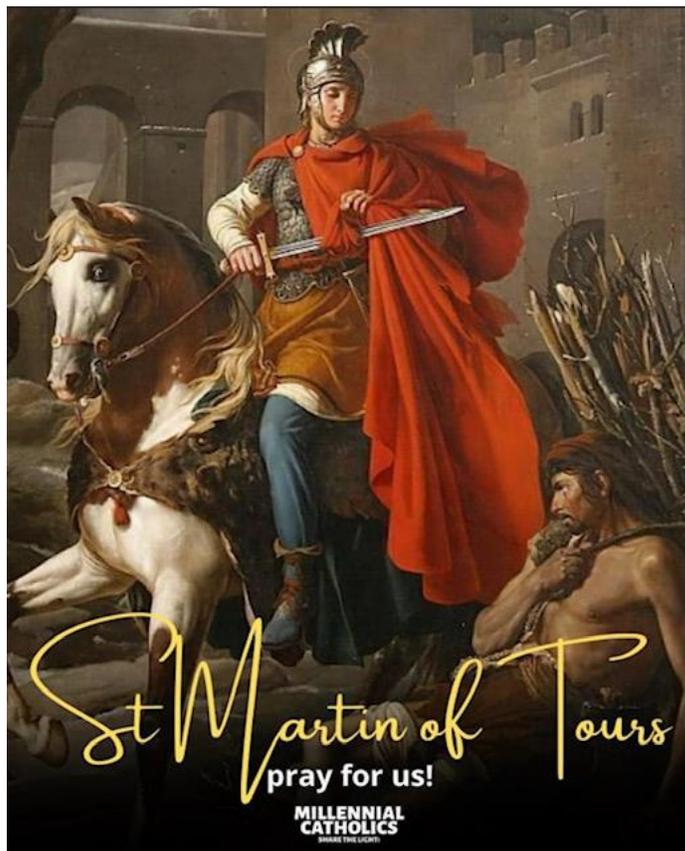
Saint Martin of Tours is the Patron Saint of:

Horses

Soldiers

South Africa

Credits to <http://Franciscanmedia.com>



Auction Update

We are only DAYS away from our annual school auction. Hopefully you have your tickets purchased and your babysitters booked for DECEMBER 3rd! This is set to be a fun night out. We have a few fresh changes coming this year!

If you have not completed your required two hours of auction volunteering, please consider helping set up. Both Thursday Dec. 2nd and Friday Dec 3rd, there will be plenty of opportunities to help us get set up!

This auction brings in considerable funds each year to support our operating budget. This year especially our cost of substitutes is much higher and any support we can give is appreciated.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Jones at (734)755-9178

Turkey Trot

Tuesday November 23rd our students participated in a fun turkey trot around the school grounds. A Good time was had by all!





St. Patrick School Foundation

The St Patrick School Foundation remains financially strong and in place for the sole purpose of providing assistance to our School. 100% of our current fund balance, and 100% of all future donations will always be reserved for the sole purpose of supporting St. Patrick School. With a strong stock market and wise investing, despite nearly \$50,000 of donations to the school and school tuition assistance over the past 4 years, our fund balance has actually grown from a starting balance of \$200,000 up to the current balance of \$210,000. We are an approved 501(C) (3) and if you have a passion to support St. Patrick School, please consider placing your trust and financial support in the St. Patrick School Foundation.

Learn More at <http://spscarleton.com/>

All Saints Day

Our student celebrated All Saints Day November 1st by dressing as their favorite Saint!

All Saints Day, also known as All Hallows' Day, or Halloween, is a Christian celebration in honor of all the saints from Christian history. In Western Christianity, it is observed on November 1st by the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the Lutheran Church, and other Protestant denominations. The Eastern Orthodox Church and associated Eastern Catholic churches observe All Saints Day on the first Sunday following Pentecost.

The Christian festival of All Saints Day comes from a conviction that there is a spiritual connection between those in Heaven and on Earth. In Catholic tradition, the holiday honors all those who have passed on to the Kingdom of Heaven. It is a national holiday in numerous historically Catholic countries. In Methodist tradition, All Saints Day relates to giving God earnest gratitude for the lives and deaths of his saints, remembering those who were well-known and not. Additionally, individuals throughout Christian history are celebrated, such as Peter the Apostle and Charles Wesley, as well as people who have personally guided one to faith in Jesus, such as one's relative or friend.

<https://www.christianity.com/church/church-history/all-saints-day-november-1.html>



Men's Club

Our mission is to provide social engagement for the fathers of the school and the men of Divine Grace Parish, that will allow an avenue of fundraising and donating time and energy to our parish and school.

Join us December 13 at 6:30 in Madonna Hall at St. Joe's. Christmas potluck meeting. The Men's Club meets the 2nd Monday of each month, usually at 7:30pm. Meetings typically last one hour. After there is a social gathering with food, liquid refreshments, card and/or just conversation.

The Divine Grace Men's Club would like to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving. Don't forget to get your Lotto Tickets for the January Lotto. They make great stocking stuffers during Christmas. Please see any Men's Club member if you are in need of tickets.

For more Information Please Contact: Paul Niedermeyer – *President* (734)812 – 8056

Scrip

Scrip is an easy fundraiser for our school. You can purchase gift cards to basically anywhere and there is a certain % they donate back. Of that percent 40% goes to the school and 60% toward your tuition. This is the best time to buy to use for Christmas shopping while supporting the school!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Yvette Vroman at (734)790-1853



CYO

Our CYO Basketball season is underway with games expected to begin

December. Thank you to the coaches, volunteers and athletes that are participating.!

If you have any questions, please reach out to Dave Illes at (734)731-0348.

Upcoming School Happenings

- **Bottle Drive:** From now until December ALL bottle returns will go to support our 8th grade class! Please consider supporting
- **Pizza Fridays:** Each Friday there is a pizza lunch fundraiser for PTO/8th grade for \$5. Please get money to Kelly by that Thursday so she can place the order.
- **Volunteer Hours:** Reminder that each family is required to complete 10 hours of service each year with 2 being auction related.
- **Parent Feedback:** By now you should've received an email with a link to complete a parent feedback survey. This survey is anonymous, and all responses will be reviewed by the school committee. Your feedback is important, so we know what to improve and keep doing to best serve you and your family.
- **Open House:** Each March we host an open house at the school. If interested in helping please reach out to Hillary Lange at (906) 281-0402

PTO

Our PTO continues to be busy supporting our school! Last month they completed the Halloween Carnival October 28th. The 7th & 8th graders along with parent volunteers ran fun games and each grade had a chance to come and enjoy! BIG THANK YOU to all who made this event a success!

Looking into December We will be holding our annual Secret Santa Workshop. Each family will receive envelopes home for each student. You can choose to put in any amount of money and a list of names for the student to shop for. Then the Secret Santa helper works with each student to utilize their money and check off each person from the list. This is a fun event for students to learn how to manage money while learning the gift of giving!

We meet monthly and would love to invite you to join. If you can't meet monthly but would still like to join, please reach out to myself, Meghan Kovalak (248)345-4207 and I will get you added to our internal communications!

