



LITTLE GIANTS BIG NEWS

December 2021 Edition

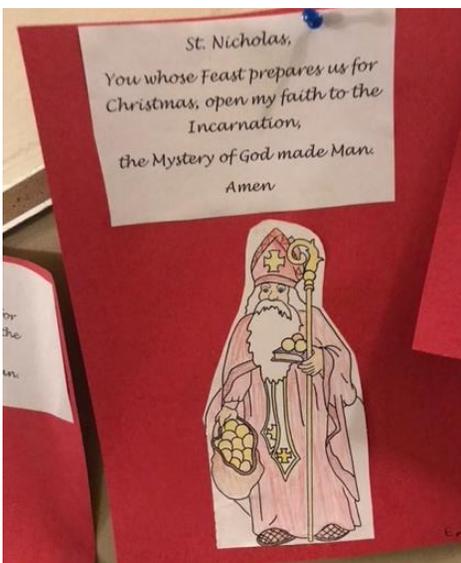
Mission Statement

“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.”

Principal’s Update

Well, Christmas is here at last and our students cannot wait for break. At the end of the year we often look back on the year behind us and forward to the year ahead. This year, as I look back on all the blessing God has bestowed on our community the ones I appreciate most are the blessing of our new teachers. They are excellent, hard -working and caring people. Each day I thank God for them and our whole staff. Without them where would we be? The other blessing I’m so thankful for is the blessing of generosity this community pours out on the school. The Auction was a great success due to the hard work of many people and the deep pockets of others. Saint Patrick School could not survive without this community to support us.

Finally, now that the Christmas break is here, I’d like to remind everyone that it is time away from school, but not time away from God. We have been saying the Morning Offering every morning in our prayers at school. Parents, please help your children to remember this prayer every day at home. The same Jesus Christ who came to earth as a baby, died on the cross for our salvation. The few minutes it takes each day to offer Him our day’s prayers works, studies, joys and sufferings, is the least we can do to thank Him.



So I leave you with this last observation. Three weeks ago we started our Advent with an empty manger. Each day your students have placed straw representing good deeds into the manger. Already we have a soft, full manger prepared for Baby Jesus, and we have a week to go still! What a joy your children are to teach and work with.

God bless you all, Carl Lenze, principal



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

COVID PROTOCOL:

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



ST LUCY | December 13

Saint Lucy's Story

Every little girl named Lucy must bite her tongue in disappointment when she first tries to find out what there is to know about her patron saint. The older books will have a lengthy paragraph detailing a small number of traditions. Newer books will have a lengthy paragraph showing that there is little basis in history for these traditions. The single fact survives that a disappointed suitor accused Lucy of being a Christian, and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. But it is also true that her name is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer, geographical places are named after her, a popular song has her name as its title, and down through the centuries many thousands of little girls have been proud of the name Lucy. One can easily imagine what a young Christian woman had to contend with in pagan Sicily in the year 300. If you have trouble imagining, just glance at today's pleasure-at-all-costs world and the barriers it presents against leading a good Christian life.

Her friends must have wondered aloud about this hero of Lucy's, an obscure itinerant preacher in a far-off captive nation that had been destroyed more than 200 years before. Once a carpenter, he had been crucified by the Romans after his own people turned him over to their authority. Lucy believed with her whole soul that this man had risen from the dead. Heaven had put a stamp on all he said and did. To give witness to her faith she had made a vow of virginity.

What a hubbub this caused among her pagan friends! The kindlier ones just thought her a little strange. To be pure before marriage was an ancient Roman ideal, rarely found, but not to be condemned. To exclude marriage altogether, however, was too much. She must have something sinister to hide, the tongues wagged.

Lucy knew of the heroism of earlier virgin martyrs. She remained faithful to their example and to the example of the carpenter, whom she knew to be the Son of God. She is the patroness of eyesight.

Reflection

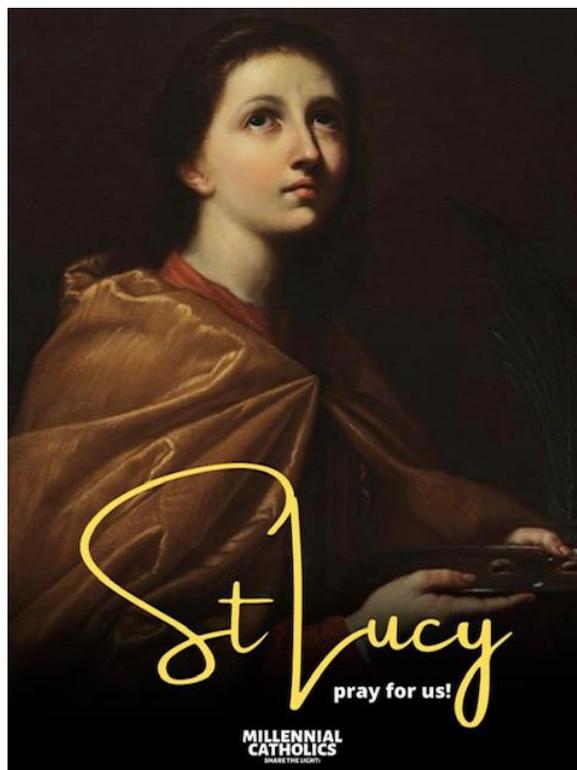
If you are a little girl named Lucy, you need not bite your tongue in disappointment. Your patron is a genuine authentic heroine, first class, an abiding inspiration for you and for all Christians. The moral courage of the young Sicilian martyr shines forth as a guiding light, just as bright for today's youth as it was in A.D. 304.

Saint Lucy is the Patron Saint of:

The Blind

Eye Disorders

Source <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-lucy/>



5th/6th Grade Spotlight

This Month Mr. Bolster's Class has been working on creating a special Jesse Trees (see photo to the right) during Advent. They are reading the Scripture for each ornament and writing a prayer response on the back of the paper.



CYO

CYO Basketball is in full swing with our players participating at various levels this season. We also have a Cheer Club and 3rd/4th Grade Boys Basketball Club this season (see photo to above left). We appreciate the student participation and our volunteers!



Auction

It was nice to be back to our normal auction. This year we are forecasting a ***record profit of almost \$75,000.*** These funds are detrimental to the operating budget for the school. We are beyond thankful to all who helped plan, set-up, attended, or donated. We hope you had a great time!!



KEY CHAINS---

For those that couldn't get their student's personalized handprint keychain and would like to purchase. Please send \$10 to the office and Kelly will send your student's home.

St. Patrick School Foundation

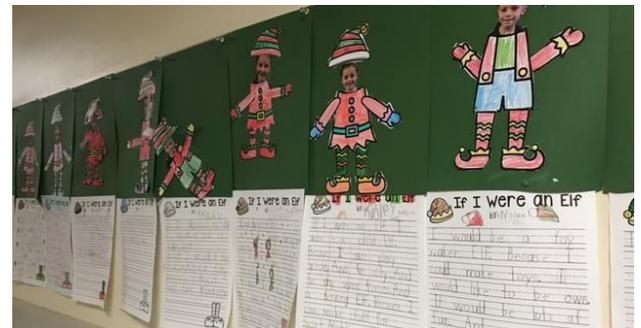
The St. Patrick School Foundation was honored to support the St. Patrick School 23rd Annual School Auction by providing Raffle Drawing prizes of \$1000, \$250, and \$100 to the 3 lucky tickets selected. The Auction was an amazing success and will bring in a record profit for the school of approximately \$75,000, special thanks to our dedicated auction committee, the donations of our local businesses, strong school supporters, and great school families, friends, and supporters. It was amazing to see the energy in the room and the guests that came with our school families. So many “outsiders” were so impressed by our energy and passion for our school and the community that we stand for. Happy Holidays. Learn More at <http://spscarleton.com/>



First-grade student art bringing the holiday spirit into our hallways!

Technology

Exciting news on the tech front. We received our grant funding and are starting the purchasing for our robotics hardware and discussions for organizing our first class. The ages for the class are still being determined as well as the start date. Stay tuned for more updates!



Men's Club

The Men's Club has been busy this past month. We recently purchased a new commercial freezer and refrigerator that were installed last week in the cafeteria at St. Pat's. This happened because of many successful fundraising events that have taken place over the years. Thank you to everyone for helping make these events a success. The Men's Club will be meeting on Monday December 13th, in Madonna Hall at 6:30 for our annual Christmas Potluck Meeting. The men's club is open to any male member of the Parish over the age of 18. Hope to see you there. We are always looking for new members to join us.

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



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!
Last month we had an amazing addition to our school parking lot. We had a few dads, Justin Roof, Matt Wickenheiser & Joel Grubb who donated their time to extend the sidewalk from the gym to the parking lot. This will help keep our new gym floor cleaner and less mud being tracked throughout our campus. All materials were donated by Just Right Grain Systems. THANK YOU!!



Upcoming School Happenings

- ***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

December is always full of fun for our PTO. We held our annual Secret Santa Shop Friday December 10th. The students loved the shopping and it's always fun seeing what they choose as their gifts. We hope there are many happy parents out there.

This coming Friday December 17th we are hosting a cookie decorating event for the students. Mr. Lenze will read a book while the students enjoy decorating. In addition, PTO is helping to decorate the gym for the Holiday Concert this Tuesday.

As we move into the new year, we will start our planning for Catholic Schools Week in January. It is NOT too late to join us! We meet monthly and would love for you to come check us out. Even if you are unable to 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!

