

Announcements:

Where is the school year going? It is hard to believe this is the last week of school before Christmas break.

Jean Days:

Friday, December 18: Free Jean Day – Merry Christmas to our students.

Congratulations:

- To the Quiz Bowl team for taking second place in the league and the league ending tournament. Feel free to check out their trophies on the trophy shelf outside the main office of the school. Team members are Logan Cook, Thomas Wernet, Phillip Wernet, Linda Price, Riley Pline, Alex Fedewa, Kelsey Schneider, Colin Pline, Kenny Hartwick, Kara Shaw, and Stephen Wernet.
- To Isaac Brown, Graham Smith, and Joe Weller for being named to the Ionia County All County Cross Country Team.
- To Hannah Greenwood, Amelia Schrauben, and Lauren Bengel for being named to the Ionia County All County Volleyball Team.
- To Fischer Klein, Brady Lehman, Tate Schrauben, Nick Coyne, Travis Moyer, Samuel Hodge, and Jerrid Pline for being named to the Ionia County All County Football Team.
- To the senior class for winning \$5,000 for finishing in third place in the H & R Block Budget Challenge.

Thank You:

- Thank you to Grace Timmer, Summer Russman, Kara Shaw, and Veronica White for leading the music at Mass on Tuesday. Thank you to Amelia Schrauben for serving as Lector at Mass on Tuesday.
- Thank you to the PTO for the great feast they served the staff on Thursday.

Positions Available: The Drama Club is accepting applications for a Director and Assistant Director. Full job descriptions and information are available on the St. Patrick School website.

Portland Community Fund: The Portland Community Fund is collecting food donations to provide a complete Christmas dinner for families in need in the Portland area. St. Patrick School has been assigned to collect mashed potatoes. They can be dropped off outside the school office.

Toys for Tots: The St. Patrick Catholic School chapter of the National Honor Society is partnering with the U.S. Marine Corp Reserve's Toys for Tots to collect new, unwrapped toys for children in need in our area. Collection boxes will be by the school office entrance and the NHS bulletin board in the high school hallway. Toys will be collected through December 16th.

Hall Walking: St. Patrick School halls are now open for walkers Tuesday - Friday from 4-8 pm. The school will be open for walking on days that school is in session a full day. Please note that there is no walking on Monday evenings. Please enter through the center doors on West Street.

Bleacher Benches: There are only a few benches left. These would make great Christmas presents. (Two) four foot benches @ \$75.00 and (four) three foot benches @ \$50.00 are all that remain. Contact the church office to purchase one. Thank you to all who purchased benches. The sale brought in approximately \$2,800, which went toward the cost of the new bleachers and floor.

2015 Winter Exam Schedule

- Monday, December 14:** Regular School Day
- Tuesday, December 15:** Secondary Schedule (Grades 6 – 12)
- 7:30 – Lunch Regular a.m. schedule
 - 11:32 – 12:15 5th hour
 - 12:20 – 1:03 6th hour
 - 1:10 – 2:20 7th hour Exam
- Wednesday, December 16:** Secondary Schedule (Grades 6-12)
- 7:30 – 8:40 1st Hour Exam
 - 8:50 – 10:00 2nd Hour Exam - **No Busing at 10 am**
- Thursday, December 17:** Secondary Schedule (Grades 6-12)
- 7:30 – 8:40 5th Hour Exam
 - 8:50 – 10:00 6th Hour Exam - **No Busing at 10 am**
- Friday, December 18:** Secondary Schedule (Grades 6-12)
- 7:30 – 8:40 3rd Hour Exam
 - 8:50 – 10:00 4th Hour Exam - **No Busing at 10 am**



Prepare the way of the Lord



Shamrock Art Attack Awarded \$1,000 Grant from the 4-H Foundation

Congratulations to Mrs. Gorzen on receiving the 2015 Michigan 4-H Foundation 4-H Legacy Grant Award for \$1,000!! This grant will help support the art club “Shamrock Art Attack” hosted by St. Patrick School and is now affiliated with the Ionia County 4-H. The paperwork is in its final stages.

Sessions start on January 20, 2016 and will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays after school until 4:30 p.m. for 6-12 graders. This club is open to ALL Portland students, with the first priority to St. Patrick students and student members of the parish, then Portland Public students that receive a recommendation from their art teacher. (Max. of 60 openings.) Depending on the number of interested students, the club members may be split into a Wed. or Thur. only session. A proposed schedule will be available at the first meeting. The club plans on running through May 2016 with the possibility into July for Fair.

The club fee is \$15 which includes the mandatory \$10 4-H enrollment fee. The remaining amount will be used for supplies. Students are not required to show their work at the annual Ionia County 4-H Fair to participate in the Shamrock Art Attack. **A minimum of 1 parent volunteer per session is required.** Sharing the volunteer duties and scheduling can be arranged.

Deadline for sign-up: January 12th. The brochure and permission slip will be available at school or can be obtained by contacting Mrs. Erica Gorzen at 517-647-7551 ext. 111 or at ericagorzen@portlandstpats.com.

Come and Join Us at the 5th Annual Holiday Parade

St. Patrick School will be represented in the 5th Annual Holiday Fest Parade
 sponsored by the City of Portland
Saturday, December 12 at 6:00 p.m.

We want to have a large group of parents/students/staff/supporters walking in the parade behind our school banner. The theme of the parade is Old Tyme Christmas, and every entry is asked to display holiday lights—so bring along your glow necklaces, light up attire, or any other creative display of Christmas spirit. We will be meeting at the corner of Riverside Dr. and Orchard St. We will begin lining up around 5:30. Look for the big SPS banner!



Calendar of Events



12/11	JV & Var. Girls BB @ Fowler 5:30p	12/17	High School 5th & 6th hour Exams 7:30 - 10a
12/12	5/6 Grade Boys BB vs. St. Michael @ SPS 10a		Grades 6-12 dismissed at 10a - NO BUSES
	JV & Var. Boys BB vs. Bellevue @ PMS 6p		NHS Toys for Tots Distribution 8:45a
12/14	Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony in church 1:25p		2nd Grade Christmas Play Parish Hall 2:45p
	Chess Club Room 112 3:50 - 5p		Var. Bowling scrimmage vs. Ithaca Home 3:30p
	7/8 Grade Boys BB @ Fulton 5p		JV & Var. Boys BB @ Dansville 6p
12/15	High School 7th hour Exam 1:10-2:20p	12/18	High School 3rd & 4th hour Exams 7:30 - 10a
	PFCU Student Run Branch during lunch		Grades 6-12 dismissed at 10a - NO BUSES
	JV & Var. Boys BB vs. Fulton @ PMS 6p		6th Grade Reconciliation
	SPS Lego League at the Annex 6p		2nd Grade Christmas Play Parish Hall 9:30a
12/16	High School 1st & 2nd hour Exams 7:30 - 10a		Elementary Christmas Parties 10:30-11:30a
	Grades 6-12 dismissed at 10a - NO BUSES		1st Grade Field Trip to Country Living Assisted Living
	Bowling vs. Carson City-Crystal Home 3:30p		JV & Var. Girls BB @ Dansville 5:30p
	7/8 Grade Boys BB vs. Fowler @ SPS 5:30p		CHRISTMAS BREAK - December 19 - January 3
	JV & Var. Girls BB @ Fulton 5:30p	12/19	5/6 Grade Boys BB vs. IHM/St. Casimir @ SPS 10a
	Sanchin-Ryu Room 209 6p	1/4	School Resumes
	PTO Meeting at the Wagon Wheel 6p		