

+J.M.J.

March 16, 2022



Dear SMS Families,

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY TOMORROW!

Did you know that St. Patrick was not native to Ireland? That he was captured by Irish *PIRATES!* as a boy and taken as a slave? He became a shepherd, with a lot of time to think and pray, and escaped when he was 20. A vision brought him back to Ireland, after first becoming a priest and then a bishop. In Ireland, he converted the entire country to Christianity, often using the shamrock as a teaching tool for the Holy Trinity (one God in three divine persons).

"The Breastplate," Patrick's poem of faith and trust in God:

"Christ be within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ to win me, Christ to comfort and restore me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ inquired, Christ in danger, Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in mouth of friend and stranger."

[Read more!](#)

Around the School:

- **Thank you to families that came to the St. Patrick's Day Glow Dance and for the ones who helped set up and tear down! It was so fun to be together!**
- Thank you to the SMS Families who attended the Listening Synod! The parish is so grateful for your feedback!
- **Congratulations to the following women who will serve on the PTO Board for the 2022-2023 school year:** Leighanne Bert, President; Trichelle Eddy, Vice President; Aimee Forsythe, Secretary, and Tina Sheirer and Sara Barr, Co-Treasurers!
- **Tomorrow is a FREE Jeans Day! Since it is St. Patrick's Day, green/St. Patrick's Day shirts may be worn instead of uniform shirts. Let's make the whole school GREEN tomorrow! St. Patrick is the patron saint of our diocese, as well as a beloved saint to our IRISH parish and school!**
- **Please kindly be mindful of due dates/return date on forms.** It helps us out a great deal.
- **Our snow make-up day from Friday, February 4 will be remote a Flexible Instruction Days (FID): Monday, March 21.** Packets of work will be sent home with students on March 17. Since the day we are making up was a noon dismissal day, packets will reflect a lighter workload. Completed packets will be counted for attendance for that day. No students or staff will be reporting to the school building on that day.
- **No students will report to school on Friday, March 18 or Monday, March 21!**
- **Daffin's Candy pick-up will be at Lateran Hall from 2:30-5:30pm on Friday, April 1.** If you are able to help with distribution, please let the office know!

- **St. Michael Parish and School will be hosting an EASTER EGG HUNT following the 11:00am Mass on Palm Sunday, April 10. At Mass this day, Children's Liturgy will also be making a comeback! Young children are welcome!! On Palm Sunday, since it is also Passion Sunday, older children will also be needed to act out Jesus' Passion.** More information will be forthcoming!
- **SCHOOL FIELD TRIP PLANNED!!** The PTO is planning an awesome field trip for the WHOLE SCHOOL to go to Keystone Safari on Monday, May 16!! More information will be coming home!
- **Mark your calendars for Tuesday, May 17, at 6:00pm! On behalf of Ms. Erin Warren, I am pleased to announce that at time, we will be hosting the SMS Performing and Fine Arts Show!** The show will feature students in Choir, Band, and Strings. Fine art from ALL grades will be featured! Thanks to the PTO for also providing refreshments! We are really looking forward to this event!
- Thank you to the many families who have volunteered to be on the **Car Raffle Committee!** We need several more, so please keep sending in your slips. **We need AT LEAST 20 school parents to make this a reality. This is the BIGGEST FUNDRAISER for our school (we typically raise \$50,000+), and we REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!** Our next meeting will be after Easter.
- **Our website has some fun new things on it,** including a new banner called "Do You Wanna Buy a Planet?", a [video featuring 2 Heart Heroes from our school!](#), and a new series, featuring an alumni titled "Why I Value Catholic Education".
- **Applications for financial assistance through the diocese for the 2022-2023 school year (STAR and BTAP) were sent home with students last Monday.** These applications, along with an application fee are to be mailed to the diocese by April 15. An internal financial aid packet will be coming home within the next few weeks.
- **Scholarship forms and applications for our school and community will be coming home soon.**
- **Do you have your clearances with us (or would be willing to get your clearances) and like working with our littlest students? We can use your help as a PreK Aide Substitute!** This will be a volunteer role, and only needed occasionally throughout the rest of the year. Call the school's office to get on our sub list!
- **YOU and your CHILD are the best PR for SMS!** Please share positive stories with your friends, family, and neighbors: in person and on social media to help bring more students and families into our community!
- Join the **40 Club!!** It is one of the biggest fundraisers for our school!! You can win 100s and even 1,000s of dollars! Call the church or school for more information! Spread the word to your family and friends!
- **Please bring your families to Mass! St. Michael School is a mission of and an integral part of St. Michael and St. Margaret Church! Going to Mass on Sundays, I miss seeing and praying with young families.** Our parish offers 4 Masses each weekend: 4:30pm on Saturday, 7:00am, 11:00am on Sunday (this is the Mass I always go to!) at St. Michael in Greenville and 9:00am on Sunday at St. Margaret in Jamestown.
- **The following is from Maggie Shaughnessy:**
We're up to the Third Sunday in Lent, already! Have you been talking with **Jesus** more (**praying**), and becoming **closer** to **Him**? If so,

that's *wonderful!* If you're having a bit of a problem getting started, remember: *it's never too late to begin!*

Do you have a **tree or plant** at your home or in your yard? *Is it always perfect?* Of course not! In today's gospel, **Jesus** explains that, **like a fig tree, we may not always produce fruit**, but **God the gardener is always willing to give us another chance**. Today's story is *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* (Judith Viorst, Ray Cruz).



- **If your child is sick, please keep them at home!!** Kindly contact the school if you or your child does develop any symptoms and also check with your child's doctor for next steps. Talk with your doctor and your child's doctor about whether the COVID vaccine is right for you and your child. **COVID vaccines are available now for children ages 5-12.** Speak with your child's pediatrician about the right decision for your child.
- **If your child is in need of a uniform, please let us know!** We can save you a lot of money! We have a PLETHORA of uniform shirts and pants that we are willing to give away at no charge. If your daughter is in K-4, we have plaid jumpers of many sizes! If you have a daughter in Grades 4-8, we have a LOT skirts of many sizes as well! All plaids from us are \$20. If you are *exchanging* a plaid, there is **NO COST!**

Thank you for partnering with us to make our students' year a great one!

St. Michael, pray for us!

Many Blessings,

Emily Zgone 😊

Principal

"Open wide the doors of your heart to Christ! Do not be afraid!" - St. John Paul II