



# Sacrifice and Prepare

*A Message from Principal Todora...*



Catholic schools are a place where children receive a faith-based education, integrating religious teachings into academic learning. This holistic approach aims to nurture moral and spiritual development alongside intellectual growth. Catholic schools prioritize values, discipline, and community, fostering a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and grow. They contribute to the broader mission of the Church by educating students in accordance with Catholic principles and encouraging a sense of social responsibility. Sacrifice and volunteering in Catholic schools are heavily valued as they contribute to the sense of community and the school's mission. It fosters a collaborative environment where families and friends actively support the school's educational and spiritual goals.

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**“MY SACRIFICE,  
O GOD, IS A  
CONTRITE SPIRIT;  
A CONTRITE,  
HUMBLER HEART,  
O GOD, YOU WILL  
NOT SCORN.”**

**PSALMS  
51:19**

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As we enter this Lenten season, sacrifice is emphasized as a way to spiritually prepare, following the example of Jesus' 40 days of fasting in the desert. Catholics engage in acts of sacrifice to deepen their relationship with God, reflect on Christ's sacrifice, and grow in self-discipline and compassion for others. It's a period of repentance and renewal, focusing on spiritual discipline and self-examination.

Making sacrifices for our children to receive a Catholic education, requires engagement and commitment in sacrifice as a way to align ourselves with Christ's selfless love. It's seen as a means of giving up something valuable as an offering to God, reflecting a commitment to spiritual growth and humility. A community of actively involved families builds a stronger connection between home, school, and faith. We are blessed to have a strong community of faith who are connected to something greater than themselves for the well-being of others.

*Principal Todora*





# It's Registration Time!

Registration for the 2024 - 2025 school year is open! All current St. Paul families were sent an email to re-enroll through the Family Portal. **If you are enrolling a NEW student in your family, you must first apply through the portal. Please contact the school office FIRST so that you are not charged the \$22 new student application fee. And as always, contact the office with any questions.**



# Dr. Seuss Week

**Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive that is you-er than you!** Our Preschool and Kindergarten classes celebrated Dr. Seuss Week Feb. 26th-Mar. 1st. From "Green Eggs and Ham" to "Cat in the Hat", there were plenty of themes to get silly about!







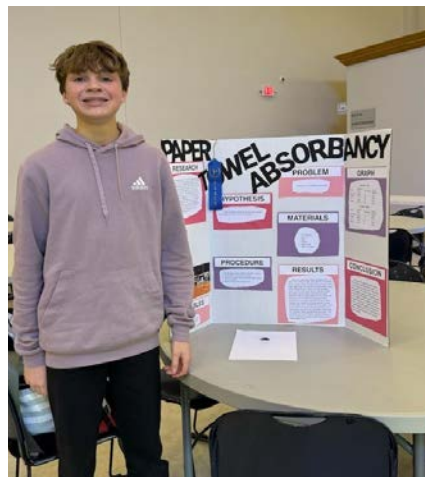
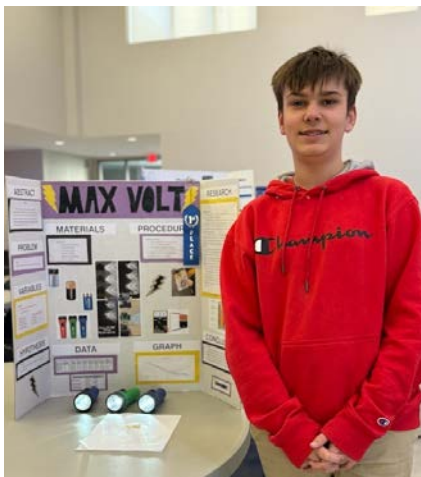
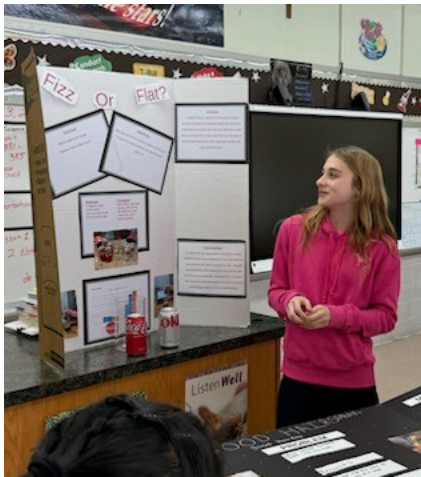
# Model UN Conference

Our Model UN team, consisting of Cecelia E., Kylie M., Burke E., and Gavin M., participated in the SIUE Conference last week. Congratulations on a job well done!



# Science Fair

The 8th graders worked very hard on their Science Fair projects this year! Unfortunately the weather interrupted the public showing, but our judges were still able to award ribbons to projects based on a number of criteria. 1st place ribbons went to: Deacon O. (placed 1st and Outstanding), Brynn B., Ava S., Lucas H., Colby L. and Lexi I.







# Band & Chorus, Solo & Ensemble

Our Band & Chorus performed as ensembles and solos at the IGSMC Contest, February 24th. Receiving First Superiors: Ava Abendroth, Leah Frey, Rylie Frey, Anna Holthaus, Leo Scarborough, and Haley Weinacht

Receiving a First rating: Mimi Boulanger, Cecelia Erlinger, Madelyn Heimburger, Sawyer Jacober, Kylie Marti, Madeline McGinley, Sophia Meridith, Hannah Norgaard, Tyler Quart, Melanie Porzukowiak, Elliott Ringwald, Oscar Scarborough, Elana Sheahan, Mackenzie Smith, and Haley Weinacht

Receiving a Second rating: Mimi Boulanger, Lillian Himsel, Reese Keeven, Kylie Marti, Madeline McGinley, Melanie Porzukowiak, Faye Rinderer, and Elora Thompson

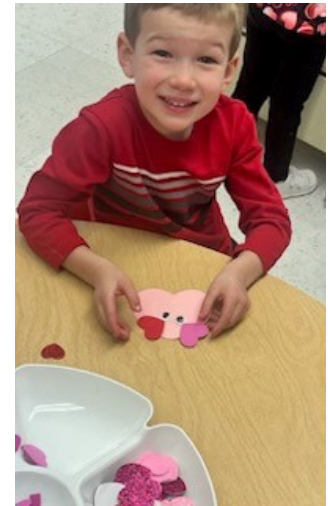






# Be My Valentine

During Valentine's week, students shared the love by creating creative boxes and Valentine cards. A big thank you to all the teachers and parent volunteers who made this week special for our students.







# Our Lenten Promises...

On Ash Wednesday, our Kindergarten students were reflecting on how they could better their lives by making their Lenten promises to God.



# Dioramas

The 5th grade students have been learning about ecosystems and food chains within their chosen ecosystem. They presented their dioramas to the kindergarteners.





## Easter Triduum

The term "Triduum" translates to "three days," following the Hebrew tradition of counting days from dusk to dusk. This period encompasses Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil/Easter Sunday.

Join us for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday at 7 p.m., followed by the Altar stripping and keeping watch. Commemorate the Lord's Passion on Good Friday at 7 p.m., with our 8th graders performing the Passion Play. Conclude with the Easter Vigil Mass, 8p.m., on Holy Saturday, celebrating the glorious Resurrection of Our Lord! **Mass begins in the dark, so don't forget your blessed Candlemas candles!**

## ACRE Testing

ACRE (Assessment of Children/Youth Religious Education) testing was held on Feb. 12th for both 5th & 8th grade students. This assessment evaluates the faith knowledge and attitudes of students in Catholic schools through a series of faith knowledge, religious beliefs, attitudes, practices, and perceptions questions.

## First Communion & Confirmation

Catholic students in our 3rd grade class at St. Paul will be receiving their First Holy Communion and Confirmation at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield on Saturday, March 23rd at 10 a.m. Please keep our students in your prayers as they make this spiritual journey.



## Come Pray With Us!

Our 7th grade students will be leading the Stations of the Cross on the following Fridays during Lent at St. Paul Church. Come pray with us as we walk with Jesus on His Way of the Cross.

**Mar. 8 @ 2:25 p.m.**

**Mar. 22 @ 2:25 p.m.**







# 8th Grade Volleyball Night

Our 8th grade Volleyball Vikings and parents were honored in between the girls and boys games on February 27th. Congratulations to Lucy M., Brynn B., Addison G., Lexi I., Ava S., Brady D., Lucas H., Noah R., Leo S., and Everett T. on your final season of Viking Volleyball!



**Sign-Up to Volunteer at Volleyball Games Here!**



[March 2: 4th Grade Volleyball](#)

[March 9: 4th Grade Volleyball](#)





# Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

Congratulations to fourth grader, Ava A., who placed 3rd in the National Catholic War Veterans Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest!



## 8TH GRADE Bowling NIGHT

THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH

LAST HOME  
GAME

AT 3:30 PM

HI-TOP BOWL  
vs. Highland





# **ST. PAUL 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CARRY OUT SPAGHETTI DINNER**

**Sunday, March 10, 2024  
11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Pick up from: St. Paul School Cafeteria  
(Corner of Ninth and Lemon Street, Highland, Illinois)**

**Includes Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Italian Salad,  
Breadsticks, Freshly Baked Desserts**

**Carryout - \$12**

**For tickets, see any 6<sup>th</sup> Grade student or  
contact St. Paul School (654-7525)**

**Proceeds will help fund the class trips in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade**





## Spring Photos Coming Soon!



Unforgettable by Anna will be taking Spring Photos at SPS on Wednesday, March 13th. All students will be able to wear Spring dress on this day. More information will be sent home soon. Save the date!

## Dinner Auction Free Dress Days

Only two more free dress days left from the Dinner Auction Raffle Bundle! For those students who were contacted by Mrs. Mitchell, you are allowed to wear FREE DRESS on Monday, Mar. 4th & Wednesday, Mar. 6th!

## Recording Volunteer Hours

If you or an adult family member have volunteered at SPS or at St. Paul Parish since January 1st, don't forget to record the hours worked in your Family Portal to receive credit for the 2024-2025 school year!

Please click on the **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** document to see the options for volunteering and instructions on how to enter the hours in the Family Portal.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for volunteering your time & talents to SPS!



## HELP WANTED

### CAFETERIA MANAGER

Do you love to cook and have an interest in preparing and serving healthy meals to children? St. Paul Catholic School is in search of a part-time cafeteria manager to oversee operations of the school cafeteria M-F from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

All interested applicants must complete the approved food handler training. Download an application online or contact Principal Haidee Todora for more information. Thank you!

**CONTACT:**

Principal Haidee Todora  
St. Paul Catholic School  
1416 Main Street  
Highland, Illinois  
htodora@stpaulhighland.org  
618.654.7525

Download an application online at [www.stpaulvikings.org](http://www.stpaulvikings.org)





# Fr. McGivney Service Day at SPS

Thank you to the many students from Fr. McGivney High School who spent their morning helping in our Preschool-5th grade classrooms and tidying up the school and parish grounds on Friday, March 1st. The visit was part of their House service project.

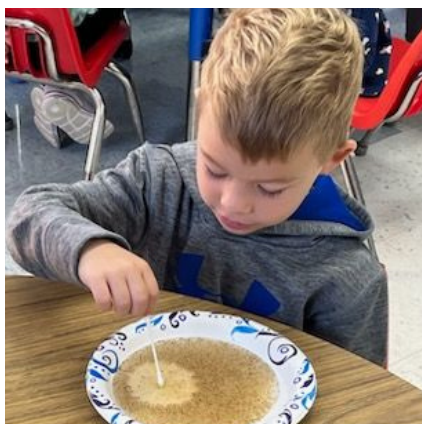
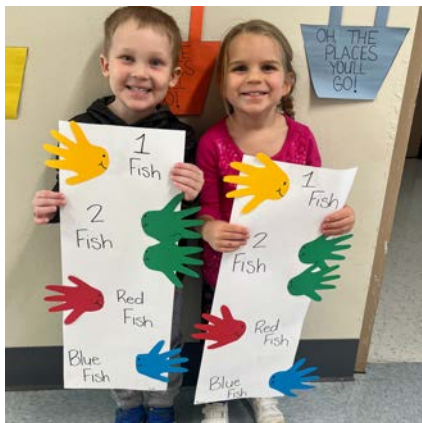


## Let's create!

Sixth grade students in Mrs. Thompson's art class were getting creative with paper mache this week. Messy projects are the most fun!












# St. Paul Catholic School

## Cafeteria Menu

### March 2024

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
				1 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Grilled Cheese Tossed Salad, Pineapple
4 1: Bosco Sticks 2: Ravioli w/marinara Corn, Peaches	5 1: Pancakes 2: Yogurt Parfait Sausage, Hash Brown, Orange Wedges	6 1: Chicken Nuggets 2: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Mashed Potatoes w/ gravy, Mandarin Oranges	7 1: Spaghetti & Meatballs 2: Grilled Cheese Sandwich Green Beans, Grapes	8 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Fish Sandwich Tossed Salad, Peaches
11 1: Nacho & Cheese 2: Pretzel & Cheese Baby Carrots w/Ranch, Pineapple	12 1: Waffles 2: Biscuits & Gravy Sausage, Hash Browns, Apple Juice	13 1: Chicken Sandwich 2: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Fries, Banana	14 1: Cheeseburger 2: Mini Corn Dogs Buttered Noodles, Applesauce	15 <b>11:35 A.M. DISMISSAL NO CAFETERIA</b>
18 1: Hot Dogs 2: BBQ Chicken Sandwich Fries, Mandarin Oranges	19 1: French Toast 2: Bagel & Cream Cheese Hash Brown, Apple Juice	20 1: Chicken Strips 2: Corn Dog Corn, Grapes	21 1: Soft Taco 2: Ham & Cheese Green Beans, Pineapple	22 1: Cheese Pizza 2: Fish Sandwich Tossed Salad, Applesauce
25 1: Cheeseburger 2: Mini Corn Dog Tots Apple Slices	26 1: Popcorn Chicken 2: Turkey & Cheese Sandwich Mashed Potatoes Peaches	27 1: Pancakes 2: Yogurt Parfait Sausage, Hash Brown, Orange Wedges	28 <b>NO SCHOOL HOLY THURSDAY</b>	29 <b>NO SCHOOL +</b> <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>

**School Lunch: \$4 (Does not include milk); Choose Option #1 or #2**  
**White or Chocolate Milk: \$.50 ea.**  
**A La Carte Fruit and Extra sides: \$.50 ea.**  
**Extra Entree: \$1 (Must be purchased with entree order.)**  
**Snack of the Day: \$.75 ea. (Limit one per student) For Grades 2nd - 8th ONLY**

*Menu subject to change. All items will be charged to the student's FACTS account during the school day.  
 A La Carte items will vary depending on availability.*



# ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL Donuts with Grown-Ups!

Friday, March 15, 2024

10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

ST. PAUL TRINITY HALL



PLEASE JOIN US FOR DONUTS AND FUN  
WITH YOUR PRESCHOOLER  
*and their Favorite Teddy Bear!*

Parents, grandparents, or special grown-ups are invited to attend. Limit to two adults per student. Guests are to go directly to Trinity Hall (use front entrance of St. Paul Parish). This is an 11:35 a.m. early dismissal day, so students can leave with their grown-ups after the program.

Please RSVP by completing the form below and return to your child's teacher by Friday, March 8th.



## See you soon!



**"Donuts with Grown-Ups" - Friday, March 15, 2024 / RSVP BY MARCH 8, 2024**

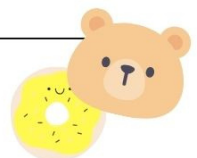
CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOMEROOM: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME(S) OF PARENT/GROWN-UP ATTENDING (Limit 2 grown-ups):  
\_\_\_\_\_

MY CHILD WILL BE LEAVING WITH \_\_\_\_\_

MY CHILD WILL BE ATTENDING AFTER-CARE. (Please bring a lunch.)

WE ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND.







## Looking Ahead...

### MARCH 7

8th Grade Bowling Night; 3:30p.m.

### MARCH 8

8:20 a.m. Mass; 2:25 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### MARCH 10

Spaghetti Dinner 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

### MARCH 13

Spring Photos

### MARCH 15

8:20 Mass; 10 a.m. - 11 a.m. Donuts with Grown-ups; 11:35 a.m. Dismissal; No Bus

### MARCH 20

2:25 p.m. Dismissal

### MARCH 22

8:20 a.m. Mass; 2:25 p.m. Stations of the Cross

### MARCH 23

10 a.m. 1st Holy Communion & Confirmation at the Cathedral in Springfield

### MARCH 27

8:20 a.m. Mass

### MARCH 28

7p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper

### MARCH 29

Good Friday; 7 p.m. 8th Grade Passion Play, The Lord's Passion

### MARCH 30

Holy Saturday; 8 p.m. Vigil Mass

### MARCH 31

Easter Sunday

### APRIL 1

No School; Easter Monday

### APRIL 2

Classes resume

## Contact Information

ST. PAUL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

1416 Main Street . Highland, IL 62249

TEL: 618-654-7525 . FAX: 618-654-8795

[www.stpaulvikings.org](http://www.stpaulvikings.org)

### SCHOOL HOURS:

School Office: 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

Preschool: 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Grades K-8: 8:15 am - 3:15 pm

**Don't miss a game! Check out our [sports calendar to stay up to date!](#)**

Fr. Pat Jakel - Pastor

[pjakel@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:pjakel@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Haidee Todora - Principal

[htodora@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:htodora@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Renee Mitchell - Vice Principal

[rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Stephanie Kuhn - Office Admin.

[officeadmin@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:officeadmin@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Debbie Koishor - Office Manager

Mrs. Kimberly Venarsky - Office Manager

[secretary@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:secretary@stpaulhighland.org)

Mrs. Lori Lucia - Viking Kid Care

[llucia@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:llucia@stpaulhighland.org)



*"Unless there is a Good Friday in your life, there can be no Easter Sunday."  
-Ven. Fulton Sheen*