

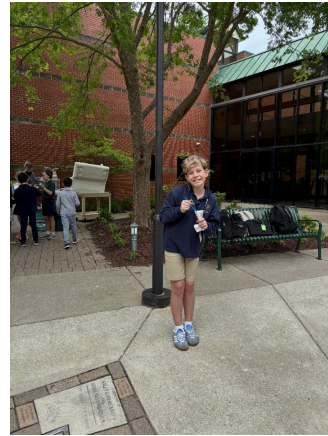
**From:** St. Patrick Catholic School kdawson@stpatlou.org  
**Subject:** PONY Newsletter May 8, 2026  
**Date:** May 8, 2026 at 3:10 PM  
**To:** smackowiak@stpatlou.org



PONY Newsletter | May 8, 2026



Welcome Home!







Above:(1-6) Youth Choir students enjoyed their end of the year celebration. (7) Our 4th grade students enjoyed a guest speaker from KET today, learning about how shows are created. (8-9) Brycen Conlin, put St. Patrick on the map by winning a trip to New York City. The prize included tickets to the Hamilton Broadway. Thank you to all the teachers that put together their 1st year EduHam! Club. (10-17) Our 8th grade students did a fantastic job with their Rube Goldberg inventions. They have worked on their machines for several months and were able to share with the students and parents. Congratulations to our winners.

## School Updates

May is a joyful and busy time in our school community, filled with special traditions and celebrations—Kentucky Derby, Mother's Day, Graduation, Field Day, and the excitement of the approaching summer break. We are grateful to our teachers and volunteers who are working hard to ensure a meaningful and memorable end to the school year for all students.

Our Preschool and Kindergarten classes will soon host their end-of-year performances, which will be shared with families. Please be sure to review communications from your

which will be shared with families. Please be sure to review communications from your child's teacher for specific details regarding these special events.

We also look forward to celebrating our 8th grade class as they prepare to graduate. Many of these students have been part of the St. Patrick School community since Preschool, and it has been a privilege to watch them grow in both their academic journey and faith. The Graduation ceremony will take place on Wednesday, May 13th at 7:00 PM in the church, followed by a small reception.

Our Field Day committee has been hard at work planning a fun-filled day for students and staff on May 21st. The ever-popular Dunk Tank is seeking brave volunteers willing to participate—coaches and parents are always a highlight! If you are interested, please use the attached [link](#) to sign up.

For families using Miller Transportation in the Fall, please be sure to complete registration as soon as possible. We are currently finalizing routes and need an accurate count by the May 17th deadline. If you have registered but still need to submit payment, kindly send a check payable to St. Patrick to the school office.

With only 10 school days remaining, we look forward to finishing the year strong and celebrating all that our students have accomplished.

Warmly,  
Kelley Dawson  
Office Manager

## Staff Updates

Dear St. Patrick Parents,

Diligent plans for an exciting 2026-27 school year have been underway for some time, including curriculum alignment, instructional initiatives, schedule building, and staffing. We have made several staffing announcements this week.

### ***Interim Principal***

I'd like to offer my sincere vote of confidence in Fr. Jeff and the Principal Search Committee's recent decision to appoint **Mrs. Caitlin Protenic** as our interim principal for the 2026-27 year. You can read that announcement [HERE](#). This appointment will provide the school with excellent stability as the Search Committee continues their work in the coming months.

I first met Mrs. Protenic in 2021 when she applied for a teaching position at St. Patrick. I instantly pivoted and asked her to consider a different role serving on the school leadership team, which utilized her strong classroom experiences and her master's degree in Educational Leadership from Indiana University. Since then, Mrs. Protenic has selflessly served in a number of leadership roles and capacities, including Learning Coordinator, temporary Math teacher, Elementary Assistant Principal, and Middle School Assistant Principal. At each stop, she has gained invaluable experience, skills, and confidence in what our school community and its students need to be successful. Our students and teachers will be in good hands next year as Mrs. Protenic, along with Fr. Jeff, our office staff, our School Leadership Team, our Team Leads, and our faculty and staff, leads the way.

### ***Learning Coordinator (K-8)***

In an effort to strengthen our stability and support for our administration, faculty, staff, and students. **Mrs. Brittany Coomer** will be stepping up to be Learning Coordinator for

and students, Mrs. Brittany Coomer will be stepping up to be Learning Coordinator for all grades K-8 for the 2026-27 school year. This will provide continuity with students and families as students transition grade levels as Mrs. Coomer knows the entire student body well. This also affords us the ability to have two assistant principals to support the principal role with academics and behavior.

#### ***Elementary Assistant Principal (K-4)***

I am pleased to announce that **Mrs. Hannah Schmidt** will be our Elementary Assistant Principal (Grades K-4) beginning in 2026-27, and she will be the first-ever St. Patrick alumna to serve as a school administrator. Mrs. Schmidt began her career at St. Patrick in 2021 after earning her bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Louisville. Since then, she earned a master's degree in Teacher Leadership from the University of Cumberlands (UC) in 2023 and is currently enrolled in UC's Education Specialist program for principal certification. Mrs. Schmidt has performed well as a 3rd grade teacher and Team Lead and is eager and prepared for this school leadership role. Her passion for the St. Patrick community and its people, especially our students, is unmatched.

#### ***School Leadership Team (2026-27)***

Mrs. Caitlin Protenic - Interim Principal  
Mrs. Brittany Coomer - Learning Coordinator  
Mrs. Emily Lindon - Lead School Counselor  
Mrs. Hannah Schmidt - Elementary Assistant Principal  
Now Searching - Middle School Assistant Principal

Please join me in congratulating these leaders and offering prayers during this time of transition. We will continue to build on this momentum as we staff and plan for an exciting 2026-27 school year.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nathan Sturtzel  
Principal

---

## **PTO News**

#### **Field Day (JK - 5th grade) Volunteer Signup**

If you are interested in volunteering for field day for JK-5th grade on May 21st the signup genius is now open. This is the third week the signup has been in the PONY and we still have spots open so any families wanting two spots please feel free to sign up for two! Please see details and available spots [here](#).

#### **Favorite Things Lists**

With the end of the year approaching we wanted to include the favorite things lists for anyone interested. Please see all lists [here](#).

#### **School Supply Kit Order Deadline May 29th**

Visit the [website](#) and enter account code 7076 to get started. When placing your order, please make sure to select the grade your child will be entering in Fall 2026. All ordered kits will be delivered directly to your child's classroom before the Back to School Fair and all proceeds from school kits benefit the PTO.

If you prefer to purchase school supplies on your own the supply lists are [here](#).

Note: We looked into adding preschool kits to this website. Due to the fact preschool supply lists vary by class (which will still be unknown at the order deadline) vs. being consistent across the grade we are unable to offer school kits for preschool through this program.

### **Thank You Teacher Appreciation Week Committee**

Thank you to our Teacher Appreciation Week Committee for all of their planning and hard work to make this week special for our teachers!

---

### **Important Dates**

Have you subscribed to our 25-26 PTO Parent Calendar? Click [HERE](#) to load the Google cal to your own device!

- **May 9-Mother-Son Drive In event **CANCELED****
- **May 21-Field Day**
- **May 22-Last Day of School! 11:30 am Dismissal**

**\*The Mother-Son Drive In event has been cancelled due to low ticket numbers.\***

## **CAM News**

# **CELTIC ATHLETICS**



**FALL SPORTS REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN IN GAMEDAY  
REGISTRATIONS CLOSE AT THE END OF MAY - PLEASE REGISTER ASAP!!!**

### **3<sup>RD</sup> - 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE FALL SPORTS**

**TACKLE FOOTBALL \* GIRLS FLAG FOOTBALL \* GIRLS VOLLEYBALL \* CROSS COUNTRY \* CHEERLEADING**

### **PEEWEE FALL SPORTS**

**FLAG FOOTBALL \* GIRLS VOLLEYBALL \* CROSS COUNTRY \* CHEERLEADING \* SOCCER**



**ST. PATRICK CELTICS**  
**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL**  
**TRVOITC**

**TRYOUTS**

**MONDAY 7/13**  
4PM-9PM

**WEDNESDAY 7/15**  
4PM- 9PM

**MAKEUP TRYOUTS:**  
MONDAY 7/20  
5PM-8PM  
TUESDAY 7/21  
5PM-8PM

TRYOUTS WILL BE HELD AT ST. PATRICKS GYM. EXACT TIME SLOTS FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL WILL BE ASSIGNED AT A LATER DATE

\*\*REGISTRATION THROUGH GAMEDAY WILL OPEN IN LATE APRIL\*\*

**RISING 3RD-8TH GRADERS**

**Sunday, May 17th 2026**  
**St Michael Field**  
**6:00pm to 8:00pm**

Wear cleats and bring water! No cost!

Questions? email [ulgrendel@gmail.com](mailto:ulgrendel@gmail.com) or [nkleinhalter@gmail.com](mailto:nkleinhalter@gmail.com)

## Parish Happenings

### Pastoral Council & School Board Nominations

Now is the time to nominate yourself or someone you know to serve on our Pastoral Council and School Board.

**The Pastoral Council** is the advisory Board to the pastor. Members advise the pastor in planning for the pastoral development of the parish and should have deep faith, imagination, broad experience and sound judgement. Members serve a three-year term and meet once a month, with the exception of December, June and July.

**The School Board** serves in an advisory role to assist the Pastor and Principal on matters relating to school policies. Members serve a three year term and meet seven times throughout the year. Members should be committed to the success of Catholic education and be able to work with others in achieving consensus for the good of the entire school community.

You may submit nominations in the following ways:

Online nomination forms links below: **(please hit submit when done)**

[Pastoral Council Nomination Form](#)

[School Board Nomination Form](#)

Hard copy forms located at the Welcome Desk in the church or School Office  
Please return hard copy forms to the green box on the Welcome Desk in the gathering space by Sunday, May 10. The drawings will take place on Pentecost Sunday, May 24 at 11:00 a.m. Mass. Contact the parish office if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your prayerful discernment and support of this process.

**SAFE**



# SAFE ENVIRONMENT

## Training

**ON MAY 19TH, 6:30 P.M. @ ST. PATRICK**

Are you a St. Patrick school or preschool parent and may want to be a field trip chaperone, room parent, athletic coach or aide, PTO volunteer, or help at our school in any other way in the coming years?

Or, are you a St. Patrick parishioner working or possibly wanting to work with children, youth or vulnerable adults in one of our ministries?



**Saint Patrick**  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Then join us for this training on  
May 19 in Schindler Hall!**

**NO RSVP REQUIRED**

If you are unsure about your training status scan this QR code request your training and background check status now!



### Why Choose Safe Environment Training now?

#### At St. Patrick we put safety first

All St. Patrick employees and volunteers who have contact with children, youth (18 and under) and vulnerable adults for ANY length of time are required to complete both an Archdiocesan approved background check as well as the safe environment training.

#### Fast renewal

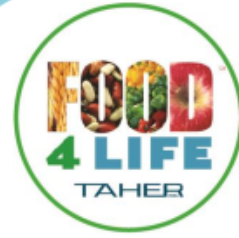
The earlier you get your first background check and training done, the faster is the renewal process in the future.

Want to learn more about all the exciting offerings of Youth Ministry? Bookmark their website! <https://stpatrickym-lou.weebly.com/>

## Cafeteria

# St. Patrick Cafeteria

## Your Food Service Update May 2026



### IMPORTANT LINKS:

- [Elementary Menu](#)
- [Middle School Menu](#)
- [MySchoolBucks](#)
- [Follow us on Facebook](#)

### Your Lunchroom at a Glance

**Healthy to a T Newsletter:** [>Click Here<](#)

### May Harvests of the Month:

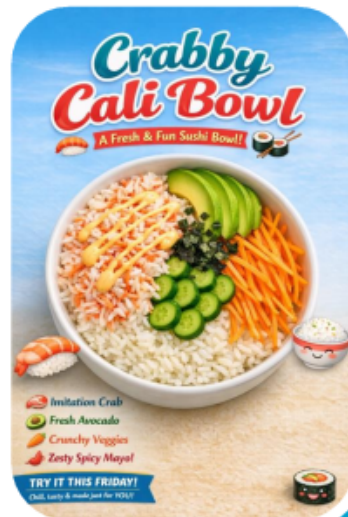
- Rhubarb
- Spinach
- Cilantro

### April Highlights:

**5/8: Crabby Cali Sushi Bowl Returns-** As we finish the year out, we thought everyone would enjoy the return of our Sushi Bowl!

**Parents:** As the school year winds down, please remember to monitor your child's lunch account. Significant negative balances will be reported to the school administration in May and may impact participation in field trips, field day, and/or graduation. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

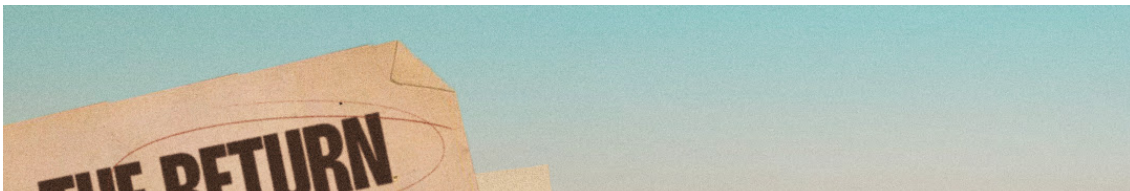
**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Account Refunds:** We will be sending out refund emails via our School Nutrition Email system on the last day 8<sup>th</sup> grade eats lunch. We are aiming to have cash refunds available for pickup on graduation day and after.



TAHER INC.

Check out the latest newsletter from Taher! For the latest information you may access their full website [HERE](#).

## Grow your prayer life!





**Have a great weekend!**

St. Patrick Catholic Church | 1000 North Beckley Station Rd. | Louisville, KY 40245 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)