

ST. PATRICK PRIDE



St. Patrick of Heatherdowns School, 4201 Heatherdowns Blvd., Toledo, OH 43614
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Service Hours

Included in this newsletter is a quarterly form for submitting supporting parishioner service hours. Our School Advisory Committee has designed this form for families to document their annual 15 hours of service. Please read the letter carefully and then record your service hours on the form and turn the forms into the school office. You may also scan it and email it to volunteerhours@toledostpats.org once a quarter. We only require parishioner families to complete these service hours, but we encourage all families to complete service hours for our school. The more you do to help this school, the more you are "uplifting" what our Father in heaven asks of us. This documentation is on an "honor" basis because we do **not** require that the person in charge of the activity sign your form. We have included in the letter many activities that are excellent ways to provide service to our school. Please notice that parish activities are also included because we want to embrace the sense of community within parish and school here at St. Pat's.

Online Assistance

<http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/downloads/office-online-file-converters-and-viewers-HA001044981.aspx>

This is a site from Microsoft that parents can download converters so they can read our emails (if they are having trouble viewing the newsletter online).

Pop Tabs for Ronald McDonald

Many families are wondering if we are collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Toledo and the answer is **YES!** Mrs. Dandar has been dedicated to this for years. Send them into the school office whenever you can.

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This newsletter is usually sent to you in an email on Thursday afternoon around 4, and it is also posted on our school website. Please send me an email at debora.oshea@toledostpats.org if you have another email address to add to our contact list.

Toys for Tots

We have a box in the school office for any of you who would like to donate to the Toys for Tots program. Just stop by any time during office hours in the next few weeks and put in a toy for those in need.

It Was a Silent Night

Rita Hoff, our Outreach Ministries director has coordinated the 12th year of our parish outreach to help those in need at Christmas. The theme she's chosen for this year is "It Was a Silent Night". I have included her parent letter that the teachers have sent home to you this week. Is there something you could help with? Please consider what you are able to do for others this Christmas.



Tapping News

St. Pat/UT Research Project

Spirit Day on Tuesday, December 20th! St. Pat has launched a research study to measure the effects that "tapping" on acupressure points has on student stress levels and achievement. Consent forms describing the study have been sent home. Students who return signed UT consent forms (with either "yes" or "no" responses) for the UT Tapping Research Project by Friday, Dec. 16th will earn a Spirit Day on Tuesday Dec. 20th. Look for the forms coming home soon.

Also in this Mailing

- Service/Volunteer Hours Letter and Form
- House Bill 136 Info – please contact our representatives!
- Christmas Concert Flyer for grades K–4
- Credit Union Scholarship Application (Gr. 8)
- January Lunch Menu and Form

Quiz Bowl

Quiz Bowl members this year are: Adam Bruckner, Megan Koralewski, Max Toerne, Jacob Foley, Justinee Adams, Shaun Sager, Chase Keller, Jay Denman, Catherine Meehan, Sarah Ohlinger, and Jacob Christy. Their next match is at Lial School on Monday, January 9th.

Mass Times

Saturdays: 4:30 p.m.

Sundays: 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 a.m.

Weekday Masses: 7 a.m. and 8:45 a.m.

Join us for Children's Liturgy on Fridays @ 8:45 a.m.

Parent Meeting Monday, January 9, 2012 7:00 P.M. in HFC

- + Sponsored by the PSO and SAC
- + Main Topics include – Tuition Info for 2012-2013 school year
- + Ann Riddle, a diocesan advocate for private school scholarships, will speak on the current bills before the Ohio House and Senate
- + We highly recommend one family member attend to learn details about Senate Bill 136 and other legislation that will potentially impact the families at St. Pat's.
- + Parents who attend will receive a Jeans Day Pass for their children to be used on Wednesday, Jan. 1st.
- + Parents who attend will also be entered in a tuition raffle, which is a "staple" of our PSO.
- + SAC and PSO officers will be given special recognition for their service to our school.
- + Word is: there will be a Chocolate Fountain for enjoying some delectable treats!
- + Babysitting will be provided in the Crites Room. Since 8th graders will be helping with the babysitting, donations will be graciously accepted for the 8th grade graduation fund.

Catholics Come Home

First Time Ever: Catholic Ads Airing Nationally on Prime-Time Network TV

Starting December 16, CatholicsComeHome.org will begin airing Catholic TV ads nationwide, inviting relatives, friends, and others to return home to the Catholic Church.

Help now to usher in the *largest family reunion in Church history!* Pray and spread the word by sharing this link with all Catholics you know:

www.CatholicsComeHome.org/Advent

Gift Ideas for Faculty

Are you interested in giving a gift to a faculty member but don't know what he/she would like? Well, we have created three bulletin boards to help with the decision making process. Remember the apple trees that were used in past years? Well, we have designed something new since the trees were getting dilapidated. Check out the bulletin boards in the Neumann Hall and Seton Hall entrance and also as you come into the basement lunchroom area. Please only have adults pulling the tabs! Stop by after Mass, before/after our Christmas concerts or before/after school.

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Friday, December 2 – All School Mass – 8:45 a.m., Grade 1 leading
 - Mid Terms Go Home
 - Penance Grades 3–5 beginning at 1 p.m.
- ❖ Sunday, December 4 – Barnes and Noble Day benefiting St. Pat’s
- ❖ Monday, December 5 – Ohio Skate Night 6:30–8:30 p.m.
 - Penance Grades 6–8 beginning at 1 p.m.
- ❖ Wednesday, December 7 – Prayer Service at 2:15 p.m.
- ❖ Thursday, December 8 – All School Mass – 10:00 a.m., Grade 6 leading, Feast of the Immaculate Conception
- ❖ Friday, December 9 – No School Mass
- ❖ Monday, December 12 – K–4 Christmas Program – 7 p.m.
 - “It Was a Silent Night” gifts due
- ❖ Tuesday, Dec. 13 – **First Quarter Honor’s Assembly at 10:15 a.m.** – families are encouraged to attend
- ❖ Thursday, Dec. 15 – Band Concert re-scheduled at 7 p.m.
- ❖ Friday, December 16 – Spirit Wear Day
- ❖ Sat./Sun. December 17 and 18 – Parish Musical – *A Rented Christmas*
- ❖ Tuesday, Dec. 20 – Last Day of School before Christmas Break
- ❖ Wednesday, Jan. 4 – School resumes after Christmas Break – no Band

First Quarter Honors’ Assembly

Mark your calendars for the First Quarter Honors’ Assembly which will take place in the church on Tuesday, December 13th at 10:15. Take an early lunch hour and come celebrate with our students who have earned honors for our first quarter. If you can’t attend, consider asking grandma or grandpa to come in your stead.

Congrats to Mrs. Rayfield and her Family

Mrs. Brenda Rayfield, one of our eighth grade teachers gave birth to a baby boy last Friday, Nov. 25th. Leo Donald Rayfield was born at 8:35 and has a happy sister named Zoe in our Pre-K. We celebrate with this new addition to the Rayfield family.

Office Depot 5% Back to Schools Program

Help our school get more supplies! Spread the word that our school’s ID number is **70080642** and if you give this number when you purchase items at Office Depot, 5% of your purchase will come back to our school. I know some of you are doing this already because I was just able to buy \$30 worth of office supplies for free from what you have already purchased this fall. Please tuck this number away in your wallet to have when you shop at Office Depot. There is only one Office Depot store in Toledo now and it is on Monroe St. right past Westfield Shopping Mall.

St. Pat's School Wide Anti-Bullying Policy

Our faculty has spent many hours establishing an anti-bullying plan for our school. As this policy unfolds with the students, we will bring you any updates. Following are the four agreements that we will be asking everyone in our school to embrace.

1. I will not bully anyone.
2. I will include anyone who is left out.
3. I will treat others the way I want to be treated.
4. I will tell two adults, one at school and one at home, whenever anyone is being bullied, including me.

Notes from the Parent Meeting on Cyber-Bullying

Every household has technology available and the students are the ones that know how to use it. Cyber-bullying is defined as bullying through the use of technology using digital devices to intentionally hurt another emotionally, psychologically or physically. If an adult did the same things it would be cyber-stalking or cyber-harassment.

In today's world "things" that used to stay at school can follow a student home through the use of the Internet and cell phones.

- 81% of students say it is easier to bully online than in person.
- 42% of students have been bullied online.
- 58% of students who have been bullied did not report it.

Parents are entitled to all passwords to children's accounts i.e. Facebook, iPhone, and the Internet.

Any postings on Facebook are there forever! There is a long list of programs available to protect your children on the Internet. Cell phone providers and Internet providers also have parental controls available.

Students need to be taught to STOP, BLOCK AND TELL to shut down bullying.

Sexting means sending or receiving sexually explicit pictures, messages or videos. Laws used to judge sexting cases are the same as for sexual predators. Persons found guilty can be charged with a felony.

- 71% of girls and 67% of boys have sent nude or semi-nude photos of themselves.
- 36% of girls and 39% of boys think it is okay to share these things.
- 66% of girls and 60% of boys say it is "just for fun".

Spirit Wear Half-Off Sale!

Did you read that correctly? Half-off everything that we have in our "old" stock will be on sale from 10-2 on Donut Sunday, Dec. 11 in the gym. You never know what you might find for Christmas!

Income Based Vouchers for Private Schools

The Ohio House of Representatives have introduced a bill House Bill 136 also known as the *Parental Choice and Taxpayer Savings (PACT) Scholarship* that if passed would provide income based vouchers so families could send their children to a participating private school. These vouchers would be worth up to \$4,626 per student for a family of four earning \$61,189 or \$2,313 per student for a family of four earning \$95,000.

This bill creates ways for parents' tax dollars to follow the education of their children, regardless whether they have attended public or chartered nonpublic schools. **In order for the bill to pass, your representative needs to hear from you.** If you do not know who your Ohio representative is, visit www.legislature.state.oh.us/. For an overview of the bill visit the Parish Website at www.parish.org.

Senator	Mark	Wagoner	2	Senate Building	(614) 466-8060	SD02@senate.state.oh.us
Senator	Edna	Brown	11	Senate Building	(614) 466-5204	SD11@maild.sen.state.oh.us
Rep.	Barbara	Sears	46	OH House of Reps	614-466-1731	district46@ohr.state.oh.us
Rep.	Michael	Ashford	48	OH House of Reps	(614) 466-1401	district48@ohr.state.oh.us
Rep.	Randy	Gardner	6	OH House of Reps	(614) 466-8104	district06@ohr.state.oh.us
Rep.	Matt	Szollosi	49	OH House of Reps	(614) 466-1418	district49@ohr.state.oh.us
Rep.	Teresa	Fedor	47	OH House of Reps	(614) 466-6017	district47@ohr.state.oh.us

Dismissal Message

Parents, due to the inclement weather coming, to avoid congestion in the Narthex, we ask that you wait in your car until you see the children coming out. Then you can come up and meet them.



Merry Christmas Everyone

**HOUSE BILL 136:
PROPOSAL FOR SCHOOL CHOICE EXPANSION**

Parental Choice and Taxpayer Savings (PACT) Scholarship

Goal: To extend private school choice to all middle- and lower- income families

Expanded student eligibility:

- School-age (K-12) students at or below 250% of the income cut-off for receiving reduced price lunch without geographic restrictions
- Includes a phase-in of eligibility for students currently attending private school over four years

Scholarship amounts and tuition:

- Scholarship amounts between 40-80% of state per pupil funding (\$2,313 - \$4,626) would be awarded on a sliding scale, depending on family income.
- The maximum family income is limited to \$95,000, regardless of family size.

Family income:	Family income example:	Max scholarship (% state share):	State savings per scholarship recipient
At or below 150% of RPL	Up to \$61,189 for a family of 4	\$4,626 (80%)	\$1,157
151% - 200% of RPL	Up to \$81,585 for a family of 4	\$3,470 (60%)	\$2,313
201% - 250% of RPL	Up to \$95,000 for a family of 4	\$2,313 (40%)	\$3,470

Note: RPL stands for Reduced Price Lunch income guidelines

- Private schools are required to apply the same tuition rate for scholarship students as other students (i.e. sibling discounts) but are not required to award school-based scholarships first
- Private schools are not required to accept the voucher amount as full payment, but they may if they choose

Individual education savings account:

- If the school's annual tuition is less than the student's maximum scholarship amount, the savings are rolled into an education savings account for the individual child up to age 25.
- Parents may use the education savings account to pay for:
 - o Private school tuition and fees (e.g. if high school costs exceed scholarship amount)
 - o School or college textbooks
 - o Tuition and fees at an Ohio college, university, or post high school institution

Private school accountability:

- Participating private schools must be either chartered by the state or have a letter of approval from the state and show financial assurances
- All students must take the same state assessments that are required of public school students
- The Ohio Department of Education is required to collect and report all the assessment data in a manner that allows for value-added analysis and is open to third-party research analysis

EdChoice Scholarship and Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program

- Removes exclusion of Cleveland students from using the EdChoice Scholarship

Spirit Day for UT Consent Forms!

Dear Parents,

November 28, 2011

Parent signatures are needed for the St. Pats/UT Research Project!
Please sign the attached form and return to school by Friday, December 16th.

A SPIRIT DAY is scheduled on Tuesday, December 20th for students who return the attached form with parent signature. The form is a consent form from UT explaining the research project that will begin at St. Pats in January. Some classes will serve as a control group. This means that all students will be asked to complete a stress questionnaire but some will not use the stress management technique in class. Your signature provides permission for your child to complete the questionnaire, participate in the stress management intervention with his/her class, and allow review of academic records. A brief overview of the stress management “tapping” technique is printed on the reverse side of this page.

Please sign the form and return to school by **Friday, December 16th.**

If you consent, please sign the form on the line provided.

If you do not want your child to participate, please write NO and sign the form in the white space at the bottom of the page.

All students who return UT forms with parent signatures to school by Friday, December 16th will earn a Spirit Day.

Cindy Baker, Licensed School Psychologist, will teach the stress management technique to teachers and students. Feel free to visit her website for more information at www.TappToledo.com or email her at Baker@gesutoledo.com.

Thanks for your immediate attention to this matter.

Your signature helps to advance our understanding of ways to support student learning!

Sincerely,

Deb O’Shea
Principal



It Was a Silent Night
Luke 2:6-7 The time came for the baby to be born
and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son.
Christmas Toy & Candy Collection
December 1 – 12, 2011

Dear Parents & Students,

I would like to invite you to please join me in helping families in need with our annual Christmas OutReach program which the school has been involved with for the last 12 years.

Prayerfully consider a donation of...

Pre-K & Kindergarten - hats & gloves or candy canes

Grades 1, 2, 3, - Christmas chocolate candy

Grades 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 - wrapped gift with assigned name tag

The candy deadline is the morning of **Tuesday December 6th** and the hats/gloves and child's gift deadline is the morning of **Monday December 12th**.

I am also in need of families to help deliver these gifts on December 14-15-16. Please let me know if your family would like to make a difference and help deliver Christmas to other families. You may call me at 724-4675 or email rita.hoff@toledostpats.org.

It Was a Silent Night

Rita Hoff

Director of OutReach Ministry

419-724-4675