

St. Patrick's Shamrock

Where Faith and Knowledge Meet

<https://stpatrickismauston.com/>

November 2020

Greetings from Mr. Stanke

St. Patrick Parish Community:

Greetings from the school office! I believe Father sent an email to school families with a bio of my background, but I wanted to introduce myself to you as well. In short, while I technically retired at the end of last school year, I started this week (this past Tuesday, November 3rd) as *part-time Interim Principal* at St. Patrick Catholic School. I have served in Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis and the Diocese of Superior for 33 years as a teacher, Assistant Principal, and the last 25 years as a 4K-Grade 8 Principal. I am married (my wife Kathy is a retired 3M Systems Analyst/IT Project Manager), we have two sons who are married, and five grandchildren ranging in age from 18 months to 18 years. My wife and I are both from Wisconsin Rapids (alums of Catholic grade schools there and Assumption High School) and we now live in New Richmond, WI.

The first few days this week have been a whirlwind with all the new faces--even if masked :). On Tuesday I met and spoke briefly with the faculty and staff before school, had lunch and several meetings with Father, completed my background check paperwork for the diocese, and worked on finding my way around the school building. I also spent some time in jail. I needed to get fingerprinted which is part of the background check process. I haven't had to do that in years, and it's all digitized now--no more ink! Wednesday was Mass with the even-numbered grades, and Father gave me the opportunity to introduce myself to the students at the end of Mass. I completed my diocesan Safe Environment Training online and I also attended a Zoom meeting with the Health Department for an update on COVID cases and protocols. I also found time to walk around school and pop in on a few classes. As I write this it's Thursday, so the day is still unfolding. I attended Mass and spoke with the students in the odd-numbered grades, and I worked with our school secretary, Anita, to shuffle staff schedules somewhat due to a teacher absence and the inability to secure a sub. I am filling in for some recess duty, and I also have my first St. Patrick Catholic School Education Committee meeting this evening.

Probably too much information, but I thought I'd share my first few days. I have been so impressed with everyone I have met so far. The students and staff have been polite, friendly, and so welcoming! Thank you for that! You know you have a great Catholic school here, and thank you parents, parishioners, and benefactors for your continued prayers and support.

Again, I'm part-time but I'm on board. I'd invite you into the building to stop by and say "hi," but unfortunately, that's a "COVID can't." I often try to be outside in the morning and at dismissal so please wave or or give me an "air high five" as the kids have been doing!

God bless!

Mr. Stanke, Interim Principal
St. Patrick Catholic School





Happy

Halloween!





Classroom Highlight of the Month



Last month we had a glimpse into the 6th Grade science classroom. This month we're all about our 1st graders lesson on apples!

And of course once the lesson was done they got to have a little fun with using their apples to create some October pumpkins and have a nice little snack while they worked!



Messages from the Rectory

Join us for...

W  **Y**
HAPPY
HOUR

Last Tuesday of every
month...
Next gathering
November 24, 2020

Come for the
drinks, the food, and
the friends!

At State Street Tap!

Social hour from 6:30-7:00
Discussion from 7:00-7:30

SCRIP

School Parents:

You recently received a report on your Scrip usage report for the last four months, May 1 through August 31 which also included the amount you still need to buy to fulfill your school enrollment requirement of \$1,500. Some families have already surpassed the required amount and are now earning tuition credit (yahoo!).

We do want to remind you that even though Scrip is not available at the school office because of current restrictions, you can still buy by leaving your order with the school secretary. It will be filled and returned for you to pick up or it will be put in your child's backpack. **Order forms are available at the school office or on our website.**

Christmas is coming and we really don't know how it will look this year. Will we be able to shop in an actual store OR will we be doing much of our shopping online? Remember we have Amazon gift cards as well as many other national store cards (no need to use your credit card and maybe have it hacked). Gift Cards also make great gifts!

Ecumenical Community
Thanksgiving
Service

St. Patrick Parish will be hosting the Mauston Area Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service on Wednesday, November 25th at 7 PM here at St. Patrick's Church. People of all faiths from our community will join together to give thanks to God for all of our blessings. We invite your family to join us for this special event.

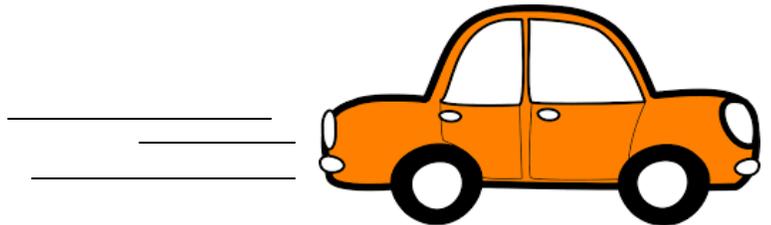
Salvation Army of Juneau County
BELL RINGING! Friday,
November 13 through Wednesday, December 23. Please consider signing up for a shift during the holidays to help the Salvation Army raise funds to support those in need in our community. Bell ringing will be at the Mauston Festival Foods.

To sign-up, please to go: <https://www.registertoring.com>



FREE INFORMATION SESSION! Learn how to protect your family and your financial future. Tuesday, November 10th, 6:30 PM—8 PM in Reardon Hall. Presented by Eric Johnson, Attorney at Curran, Hollenbeck & Orton, S.C. and Greg Helgerson, FIC, K of C Field Agent. Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Insurance. A link to attend virtually is available on our website: stpatricksmauston.com under the Knights of Columbus tab.

FREE COVID-19 DRIVE-THROUGH TESTING—New Lisbon Fire Department, 234 Pleasant Street—Thursdays from 10 AM—6 PM. November 12 & 19 and December 3 & 10.



St. Patrick Parish Fall Festival—Online Auction

Silent Auction Preview

Don't miss your chance on these great items up for bid!

**DINING—KIDS' FUN—HOME & YARD—SERVICES
FOOD SPECIALTIES—PET & PERSONAL—RETAIL**

With more items still coming in!

Auction Dates:

***Sunday, November 1 @ 12 Noon
Through***

***Sunday, November 15 @ 5 PM
(Bidding closes promptly at 5 PM!)***

***Check out our auction catalog and
set up your bidding account now!***

<https://fallfestival2020silentauction.ggo.bid>

Or visit our website at stpatricksmauston.com to find a link to our auction site.

(Item listing on reverse side.—More items added daily!)

Thank you to all who donated. We appreciate your generous support!

Words from Father

“The encounter with Christian Tradition becomes an entrance into a community, an awareness that our forebears have something to say about how we may interpret what it means to be a human being.” Timothy O’Malley. Church Life Journal.

That heavy statement plays out on a regular basis here at St. Patrick’s school. Hunter’s Night Out has been a great group and event for decades. Their support for our student athletes has never wavered. Even in 2020 they went to a Facebook live format to keep supporting our students. Thank you so much.

Beginning the month with All Saints Day reminds us also of how we are to live and learn by the example of the saint’s lives, actions and words. We are blessed in so many ways, here and as a nation, so celebrating Thanksgiving only seems right. May it be a time of prayer, thanks and togetherness as family.

We have the opportunity to gather in prayer on Wednesday nights at 6 pm when there is Religious Education. The Mass is a great way to build our community and grow in grace and the person that God is calling us to be. In this month don’t forget the Holy Souls that also need our prayers, the larger community of the Body of Christ we don’t physically see.

For our school the good news is that we have an interim principal, Randall Stanke, who brings such a passion for education and catholic Schools. He will be with us three days a week. Drawing upon his past experience we can strengthen our school. We can build upon the great things we have and look to wonderful new opportunities to grow and form our students as great human beings who know Jesus and live the faith out in service.

Blessings,

Fr. John





Upcoming Events

November

3-End of First Quarter

7-Hunter's Night Out

19- Parent Teacher
Conferences/ Online
Book Fair

20-NO SCHOOL-
A.M. Parent Teacher
Conferences

25-Early Release

26 & 27-NO SCHOOL:
Thanksgiving Break

December

23-31 NO SCHOOL:
Christmas Break

25- Christmas Day