

St. Patrick Prep February Newsletter

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Upcoming Events

Valentine's Day

2.14

NO PREP

2.15-2.16

Ash Wednesday

2.18

Kid Friendly Holy Hour

2.25

Middle School Youth Group Movie

Night

2.27



The Heart of the Matter

Brrr! It has been a biting February so far. As the wind howls and the temperatures dip, I hope you are all staying warm and safe. There is something about this extreme cold that reminds us of our need for shelter. Not just physical shelter, but the spiritual "home" we find in our faith and our parish community. In the midst of this winter chill, we have a very busy month ahead that transitions us from the joys of love to the depths of reflection.

- Saturday, Feb. 14 – St. Valentine's Day:** Before it became a day of cards and candy, it was the feast of a martyr who stood for the sanctity of marriage. Let's celebrate the *Agape* (selfless love) that Christ asks us to show one another.
- Feb. 15 & 16 – NO PREP Classes:** In observance of **Presidents' Day weekend**, there will be no classes this Sunday or Monday.
- Wednesday, Feb. 18 – Ash Wednesday:** Lent begins! As a holy day of obligation, let us seek the moment in which we remember that we are dust, but more importantly, that we are dust *loved by God*.
- Feb. 27 – Middle School Youth Group Movie Night:** 6:30 to 8:00 in the Parish Center. In the spirit of our Lenten promise of almsgiving, we ask each student to bring a pair of brand-new socks to be donated to adult men and women in need. All Saint Patrick Parishioners in 5th through 8th graders are welcome. There will be snacks and special door prizes too!



Recent highlights

Last week, our PREP students had a wonderful opportunity to hear a presentation from The Missionary Childhood Association (MCA). During our PREP class, students were able to interact with our guest speaker to learn how they can become disciples of Christ through their own works of mercy as a mini missionary.

The Missionary Childhood is a Pontifical Mission Society founded in 1843, dedicated to fostering a "children helping children" spirit, where young Catholics in 110 countries support peers in mission dioceses through prayer and sacrifice. It funds schools, health programs, and, through initiatives like the Christmas Art Contest and Mite Boxes, provides crucial resources to children in need, regardless of faith.

Each PREP student received a donation box at the end of the presentation. Please return the boxes on or before April 12-13.



*Sunday PREP classes during our MCA presentation

Saint Valentine

Saint Valentine dedicated his life to spreading love and faith. He bravely helped couples marry, which made him very special to many people! Sadly, his kindness led to his execution on February 14. Since then, he has been remembered not just as a martyr but as a symbol of love and hope. People began celebrating him and his actions each year, sharing stories of love on his feast day. Valentine inspired others to spread love, kindness, and compassion. His work reminds us that love is strong and can overcome many challenges!





LOOKING AHEAD

Any family not currently enrolled in our Religious Education program who would like to receive PREP registration materials for the 2026–2027 year is invited to contact Monica Bartoldson at mbartoldson@stpatrickmalvern.org

or 610-296-8899 to be added to our registration mailing list.

Registration materials will be sent out in early March.

For information, please visit our webpage or contact Monica Bartoldson at 610- 296-8899 or mbartoldson@stpatrickmalvern.org

A Note on Health

With the flu and cold season peaking alongside these freezing temperatures, please know we are praying for the health of all our students and their families. If your child is feeling under the weather, please keep them home to rest—we will see them when they are healthy and bright!

Stay warm, stay faithful, and may God bless your homes.

Peace in Christ,

Julian Swiggett

D.R.E.

