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Newsletter—March 6, 2025

We Teach Truth - Build Character - Inspire Service



Calling All Comet Families - Come walk with STS in the St. Patrick's Day Parade!!

Monday, March 17th, 2025 - Parade starts at 11 am.

Staging location & time will be sent out to participants closer to parade.

Questions? Contact us at stscometes.pto@gmail.com

Please consider bringing candy to handout while walking in the parade.

Weather Permitting

Head to Heritage Square for a St. Patrick's Day party after the parade!!

[Parade Sign Up](#)

St. Patrick's Parade
Monday, March 17th

It's the Luck 'O the Comets!

Join us for the 2025 St. Patrick's Day in Downtown Peoria! The Parade kicks off at 11 am! Show your support for St. Thomas and have some St. Pat's fun as we walk throughout the streets of Downtown Peoria. We also have St. Pat's spirit wear to purchase special for the Parade!

We will be encouraging walking with your favorite STS Sport or Club!

Make sure you bring candy/prizes to be thrown out while walking! After Party immediately following at Heritage Square! Weather permitting!

RSVP

SPRIT WEAR

[St. Patrick's Day STS Apparel](#)

ST. THOMAS SCHOOL
ST. PATRICK'S APPAREL 2025

Order Online!

ORDER ONLINE AT
STTHOMASAPOSTLE.ITEMORDER.COM

OR SCAN THE QR CODE

PREORDER BY MARCH 7TH
ORDERS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT SCHOOL AFTER MARCH 14TH

Join the Peoria Notre Dame Youth Baseball and Softball League

The Peoria Notre Dame Youth Baseball and Softball League (PNDYBSL) invites you to join our league! We offer options for boys & girls ages 4-15, including t-ball, baseball, and softball. Go to <https://www.pndybsl.com/signup> to sign up.

Reach out to Tom Caldera at caldera.thomas@gmail.com with any questions.

Statements for Childcare & Tuition for Taxes:

If you go to the FACTS Family Portal you can get all of your tax information. Next to the words PAYMENT PLAN AND BILLING, you can click on VIEW DETAILS. On the next screen, you can click on VIEW PAYMENT SUMMARY. That page breaks down tuition and other expenses by child for the calendar year.



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John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund Protocols & Procedures

The John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship is an endowment fund established with contributions from the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria. If you would like to make a donation that would provide families the opportunity of a Catholic education for their children, click on the button to go to our online giving page. Scholarships of \$700,000 were recently awarded for the 2024-2025 school year.

Applications for scholarship grants will be available for the 2025-2026 academic year beginning in November 2024. Assistance is open to students enrolling, or intending to enroll, in any Catholic school, grade kindergarten through 12, located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are parishioners in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application procedure will be available here on the website or by contacting any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria in January. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for next year must *reapply*.

John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund Protocols and Procedures: 2025-2026

Deadline Date: Friday, April 25, 2025

PROTOCOLS:

- A family applying for Spalding Scholarship assistance must be an active member in good standing of a parish in the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.
- The student[s] for whom the aid is being sought must be enrolled in good standing [or seeking to be enrolled] in grades K through 12 in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All scholarship assistance will be based on a family's financial need objectively assessed. The diocese will use FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment Services to determine financial need.
- All scholarship assistance will also be dependent upon the recommendation of the pastor that the family is an active member of the parish in good standing
- If a student changes schools during a school year, tuition assistance grants will follow the student as long as the student is enrolled in and in good standing in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Peoria and the family is a member in good standing of a parish in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All awards are for one school year only. A family must apply for Spalding Scholarship assistance each school year.
- The number of grants and the amount of each grant for the school year will be dependent upon the funds available and the size and need of the applicant pool.

Payment of Spalding Scholarship Grants will be made twice a year directly to the Catholic school a student attends. These grants will be applied to the family's tuition obligation. It is anticipated that tuition assistance grants will be announced in early June 2025.

PROCEDURES:

Families interested in applying for tuition assistance from the Spalding Scholarship Fund must complete an online **FACTS Grant & Aid Application** at online.factsmgt.com/aid. **The application and required supporting tax documents must be received online by FACTS by the application deadline date of Friday, April 25, 2025.**

- The FACTS application, payment of the application fee, and any required supporting documents are to be transmitted online to FACTS according to their directions.
- Families must also request the pastor submit a recommendation to the Office of Catholic Schools verifying good standing in the parish.
- The application process is complete only when the pastor's recommendation has been submitted to the Office of Catholic Schools and when a completed parent financial aid application, required supporting documents, and the application fee have been uploaded and submitted to FACTS. **Only completed applications, which include supporting documents, submitted on or before the Friday, April 25, 2025 deadline will be considered when Spalding assistance awards are determined.**



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The brackets will be revealed at 5pm CT on March 16th on the CBS Selection Show, and available on the app shortly after that!

The brackets on CBS will lock at the tipoff of the first games, which start at 11am CT on March 20th. We'll need all entries filled out prior to that.




BASKETBALL BRACKETS

**\$10 Suggested
Donation to Play-
Turn \$\$\$ into office
labeled March
Madness**

**SIGN UP
USING
THE QR
CODE!**



**1st Prize
\$75 Gift Card**

**2nd Prize
\$50 Gift Card**

**3rd Place
\$25 Gift Card**



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OSF STEAM STEAM SATURDAY

March 22, 2025

Join us for an exciting STEAM Saturday event where kids will dive into the world of healthcare innovation!



Grades 6-12

Create Your Own Medical Tool!

Participants will learn about the importance of tools used in medical settings and how they can improve patient care. Kids will brainstorm, design and create their own custom molds for innovative healthcare tools!

Date: March 22 Time: 9 a.m. - noon

Where: Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center
1306 N. Berkeley Ave., Peoria, Illinois

Cost: \$45



Grades 6-12

Journey into the Brain

Join us for an exciting STEAM Saturday event, all about anatomy and physiology of the brain.

Date: March 22 Time: 9 a.m. - noon

Where: Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center
1306 N. Berkeley Ave., Peoria, Illinois

Cost: \$45

Register today at OSFIInnovation.org/events



Grades 6-12

OSF STEAM

Summer Camp 2025



-Health Care Heroes: Innovate, Explore and Save Lives-

In this years, learn how science, technology, and engineering can revolutionize healthcare. They will explore human anatomy, engineer solutions to medical challenges, investigate cutting-edge lab techniques, and certify in Basic CPR and Stop the Bleed. Each mission will combine creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving, all while fostering a love for learning and saving lives

Date: July 28 – August 2

Time: Grades 6-8: 8 a.m. - noon
Grades 9-12: 1-5 p.m.

Cost: \$200

Where: Jump Trading Simulation & Education Center
1306 N. Berkeley Ave., Peoria, Illinois

Register today at
OSFIInnovation.org/events





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Thank you!

OUR PROUD SPONSORS OF THE MONTH



EMO'S DAIRY MART



"Whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." Proverbs 11:25