



We, at Holy Spirit School, are thankful for the many dedicated volunteers who assist and support us in our ministry to your children. Please join us for lunch at our Community Day on **Friday, June 1st** so we may express our appreciation and gratitude. **If you haven't already turned in your Student/Family Lunch order form, please do so by Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>** so we may plan for food accordingly. Thank you!

The schedule for our Community Day is as follows:

9:00 – 10:00 Praise Celebration  
10:00 - 11:30 Classroom Community Games  
11:30 - 12:20 Community Picnic Lunch  
12:45 - 3:00 Variety Show

Thank you to the following people who are so generously donating their time and talents to make our **Variety Show** a success: Elise Hollister, Paula Ryan, Angela Dusseau, Joe & Kathleen Houdek, Holli Sweedyk, Lizzie Duffy, Elizabeth West, and Kristine Olewinski.

### Scrip News

NO SCRIP the week of May 28<sup>th</sup>, due to school being closed on Monday for the holiday.

Monday, June 18<sup>th</sup> will be the LAST DAY to order Scrip through school, with pick up only from 3-4pm on Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, and after the 5pm Mass on Saturday and the 10 am Mass on Sunday. Also, if you have a presto pay account online, you can order scrip all summer long!

**Farewell...**to the following families whose youngest is graduating from Holy Spirit School: **Anschutz, Timothy Bouwhuis Family, Broekema, Caputo, Cienian, Coles, Fish, Jevaltas, Mahaney, Nauta, Penn, and Thomas.** Best Wishes for continued success!!

### Thank You, Father John

Please join us for our closing Mass on Friday, June 8 at 10:00am, as we thank Father John for his 13 years of service!

**Save the Date...** Catholic Charities Let's Go to Bat for KIDS will be Thursday, June 21st at Fifth Third Ballpark – Doors open at 5:30pm, Parking is \$7 and Admission is Free!!

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents** – West Catholic will be having a used uniform sale at WC on May 29-30 from 2:30-6pm.

Also, Spectrum Health Medical Group will provide free 2018-19 pre-participation sports physical exams for entering **9<sup>th</sup> graders** on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 4100 Lake Dr, Suite 300. WC's designated times are: Last Names A-K 1pm, Last Names L-Z 1:30pm. Physical forms must be filled out upon arrival.

## Important Dates:

### **Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

~ No School – Memorial Day  
~ Child Care Closed

### **Tuesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**

~Gr 8 Exams- 11:45am dismissal  
~Last day to return library books

### **Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**

~MWF Preschool – last day  
~Gr 8 Exams – 11:45am dismissal

### **Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup>**

~T/TH Preschool Last Day  
~Gr. 7 Class Trip  
~Gr. 8 Class Trip

### **Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

~WWT S T-shirt Color Day  
Community Day / Variety Show  
& Used Uniform Sale  
~**All Kdg & Y5 Attend in AM**

### **Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>**

~Gr. 6 & 7 Exams – Full Day  
~Gr. 8- 11:25 “Last Walk” dismissal  
~Gr. 8 Graduation - 6:00pm  
~Theatre Camp Registrations Due

### **Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

~Y5 & Kdg Picnic- 11am-1pm  
~Gr 6-7 Exams – 11:45am dismissal

### **Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

~Gr 6-7 Exams – 11:45am dismissal

### **Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>**

~Gr 6-7 Exams – 11:45am dismissal  
~ Y5 & Kdg - Last Day

### **Friday, June, 8<sup>th</sup>**

~Last Uniform Day  
~Mass at 10:00am  
~Dismissal at 11:25am  
~Child Care Closed

## *Holy Spirit Mission Statement*

*Holy Spirit School promotes the message and teachings of Jesus Christ.*

*Students, parents and faculty form a Catholic family of faith. Together, we challenge our students to achieve their fullest spiritual, academic, social, emotional, and physical potential.*

### Used Uniform Sale & Specifics

We will again be offering the Used Uniform Sale on Community Day, Friday, June 1st. A table will be set up in the hallway where you may drop off your items. Please pin an envelope to each item with your asking price, size, last name and classroom. If you would like to donate your proceeds or leftover items, please indicate "donate" on the envelope. Please check online for the school uniform policy before you purchase next year's uniforms and keep in mind that students grow during the year. For girls, note carefully the following from the uniform policy, Length **no more than 4 inches** above the middle of knee.

### 2018-19 Holy Spirit Uniform Information

We have enclosed the revised School Uniform Flyer/Order Form from Grand Rapids Educational Outfitters, should you wish to use them for next year. Also, if you wish to have your shirts embroidered with the Holy Spirit logo, they are offering FREE embroidering on all June orders.

### School Supply List

School supply lists were sent home today in case you wish to get a head start on supplies for the fall!

### Catechists Needed

Great News! Did you know that you do not need to have a child in the Wednesday Religious Education classes in order to be a catechist? This is an excellent opportunity to witness to your own children the importance of spreading the Gospel message to others. For more information and to set up an interview, contact Diane Schoof at [dschoof@hsparish.org](mailto:dschoof@hsparish.org) or 453-1591.

### Upcoming Virtus Classes:

Here is a list of the next Virtus classes happening in our Diocese. If you are planning to coach fall sports, or work with students in another area, please consider taking the class now so you are ready when the season starts. Go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) to preregister. There is no cost to take this class and they are mandatory when working with the students.

~ Thursday, May 31st, 6pm – St. Thomas, GR

~ Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm – St. Robert's, Ada

~ Friday, June 15th and Friday Sept. 7th, 8:30 am – Steepletown, GR

~ Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 9am – Franciscan Life Process Ctr, Lowell

### MEDICATIONS

If you had brought in any medications for your children during the 17-18 school year, please stop by the school office to pick up any leftover medication. Any meds not picked up by June 8th will be disposed of properly.

### LOST AND FOUND

We will be moving all the "found" items to tables in the hallway across from the office beginning next week. Please take a moment to look for anything that may belong to your child/ren. At the end of the year, items not claimed by June 8th will be donated. Thank you!

### SAVE THOSE CARTRIDGES

Please continue to save your used ink cartridges during the summer months. Profits realized from this program go to purchase enhancements for the classrooms.

### SUMMER CAMPS

All flyers and brochures about summer activities in and around our community can be found in the school hallway across from the office. Some of the flyers available are: the West Catholic sports &, cheerleading clinics, girls'/boys' basketball camps, Grand Rapids Library Summer Reading Challenge, GVSU, & Aquinas Camps, etc. If you don't see the form, we may have additional forms in the office. See **Links Box** for direct access to forms online.

## Walking With The Spirit - Save the Date: Friday, September 14, 2018

In the midst of field trip season and before school concludes for the summer, we wanted you to remember all the awesome ways that Walking With the Spirit funds were used during this school year to bring learning alive for our students. These educational opportunities would not be possible without the amazing support from families, friends, and our generous sponsors. As summer approaches and our calendars fill with family reunions, camping trips with friends, backyard BBQs, and many other social gatherings, let's also use that time to begin collecting pledges for the 11<sup>th</sup> annual Walking With the Spirit, which will take place on September 14, 2018. Also if you know of any sponsorship opportunities or would like to be a sponsor yourself, please contact Kelly Clancy at [kelly.clancy@ymail.com](mailto:kelly.clancy@ymail.com).

### PTA NEWS

#### **TITAN GIVE-BACK EVENTS:**

Many thanks to everyone who supported the spring Titan Give Back Night at Uccellos a couple of weeks ago! We raised \$148.90 for the PTA! Titan Give Back nights at local restaurants continue to be a great contributor to the PTA budget. Going into the next school year, we will continue to look at the surrounding community for opportunities that allow Holy Spirit to support a local restaurant, while benefitting from the restaurant giving back to the school. If you have any suggestions for restaurants you would like to support, please pass those along to the PTA Social Committee.

#### **AMAZON SMILE:**

As summer break approaches, please continue to utilize the AmazonSmile Website for your Amazon purchases. If you still need to link your account in order to support Holy Spirit PTA, you can use this link: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6019642>.

#### **FIELD TRIPS:**

With the end of the school year comes lots of year-end field trips! Thanks to PTA funds, students have enjoyed year-end picnics and field trips to the State Capital Building, the John Ball Zoo, Fredrick Meijer Gardens, GR Symphony, the Critter Barn, and many more! Additionally, our middle school students have continued to participate in community outreach at Steepletown, Gilda's Club and Mel Trotter.

**Keep in mind as summer approaches: PTA is a great way to get involved in the school and to meet new people! Look for opportunities this fall for Committee Chairs and Committee Member openings.**

### Link Box...

[Aquinas Summer Camps](#)

[WC Fine Arts Camp](#)

[NW Youth Soccer 2018 Fall Flyer](#)

[GVSU Summer Camps](#)

[Educational Outfitters Uniform Flyer](#)

[WC Summer Sports Camps](#)

[WMCAT TEEN Arts & Tech Camp](#)

### *In Sympathy*

Please keep in mind and prayers the families who have lost loved ones over the past school year, including most recently, **Mrs. Carlstrom**, the **Stout Family**, the **Stasiuk Family**, and the **Schwallier Family**.



## NEWS FROM THE BOOSTERS/ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

### 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Sports Requirements

To help you prepare for sports next year, if your child will be in 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades next school year and will play sports for Holy Spirit, please read the following requirements for participation in sports.

**PHYSICALS** – Before a child can practice or participate in sports, they **MUST** have a physical on file each year with the school and Athletic Director. This physical must be dated no earlier than April 15<sup>th</sup> to cover the upcoming school year or one year to cover the sports being played. **YOU MUST SCHEDULE YOUR CHILD’S PHYSICAL with your physician or health care provider.**

**Fall sports practices will begin for football, girls’ volleyball and boys’ soccer the Monday of the week of August 13<sup>th</sup>.** You must have your child’s physical completed by that date and turned in to the school and Athletic Director. They can be turned in the first night of signups and practice.

**SPORTS PARTICIPATION FEE** – There is a sports participation fee each year for those whose children will be playing sports. **The fee is \$85 for Holy Spirit Students.** The fee for non-school parishioner children wishing to play on Holy Spirit teams is \$135. These fees were approved by the Board of Directors of Holy Spirit School. This fee is per child/per year to a maximum of 2 fees per family. You can drop off the fee and physical at the school office to the attention of Athletic Director.

Thank you and have a great summer. We look forward to your participation in our athletic program and Boosters organization this coming school year and years to come.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents Interested in Coaching and Fall Sports Coaches

If you are new to the sports program at Holy Spirit, you may not know that one of the most important parts of the program is YOU. Coaches for our sports teams come from the parents of our children 99% of the time. What a great way to be involved with your children and to meet other parents and become involved in the Boosters and sports program here at Holy Spirit.

If you would like to coach next school year (starting in mid-August) all you have to do is pick up an application in the school office or on the school website and return it to the office. You will also have to attend a Virtus training session, “Protecting God’s Children”.

If you wish to coach a fall sport (football, girls’ volleyball or boys’ soccer) please return an application by June 15<sup>th</sup> so the Athletic Committee of the Education Commission can review and approve your application so we can be ready when practices begin in August in the above sports.

If you wish to coach another sport during the school year, watch the school newsletter for announcements asking for coaches in the other sports of basketball, baseball, softball, girls’ soccer and track or cheerleading.

## NEWS FROM THE LUNCHROOM

Dear Parents,

Starting next year we will be going straw less in an effort to create less waste and minimize our impact on the environment.

If you are using the cafeteria kitchen please be mindful to clean and return any items you have used back to where you found them.

If you are going to borrow any equipment please call the Lunchroom, Office or Lisa Feist to let us know. We are more than happy to help but do appreciate knowing in advance.

Thank you for supporting our Hot Lunch Program.

## THANK YOU ...

...The **Publishing Center** co-chairs, Mrs. Worm, Mrs. Bertram, and Mrs. Gottleber, and to the many volunteers for their dedication and commitment to ensuring a successful program for the student authors who published over **410 books** this year!

...The **Library Helpers**, Mrs. Jachim, Mrs. VanderHyde, and Mrs. Constant for their countless hours in staffing the library.

...The **Students** who donated 15 new books to our **Library's Birthday Book Club** this year. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated and will benefit many Holy Spirit readers for years to come.

...The **Laminating Parents**, Mrs. DeBruyne, Mrs. Holtsclaw, Mrs. Ricord, Mrs. Church, and Ms. Golembiewski for volunteering to laminate materials for us weekly.

...The **Hot Lunch Program** workers, Mrs. Feist, Ms. Nawrocki, Mrs. Kosnik, Mrs. Church, and Mrs. Wittkoski for tasty and nutritious food. You are greatly appreciated! Please make sure your lunch accounts are not in the negative and keep in mind any positive balance left on your accounts will carry over to next year. For 8<sup>th</sup> graders graduating to West Catholic, your accounts will also carry over. For information on MDE Summer Food Distribution Locations, go to: <http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/schoolnutrition/>.

...The **PTA Members, WWTS Workers, Room Parents, Lunch and Recess Supervisors**, and all you parents who help make Holy Spirit School so awesome in so many ways!

### **Birthday Book Club**

Congratulations to Dylan P. and Samantha H., the newest members of our Birthday Book Club. They have donated a book to our school library in honor of their birthdays and have received a color day pass for their generosity. Thank You!



### **Publishing Center News**

### **Awesome Authors Club**

**Congratulations to the following students who published books during the month of April.**

**Y5:** Ben E., Luke G.

**KK:** Erik H., Maisie M., Marcus A., Nora L., Sofia M., June A.

**1H/S:** Mia S., Liam A., Kayden K., Alex L., Lucy S., Lucas A., Carson A., Jacob B., Lily P.

**2F:** Isa P., Rogue C., Mackenzie C., Torey M., Parker P.

**3K:** Philip W., Luca M., Elizabeth F., Megan B., Natalie W., Cailyn J., Kate S., Caroline D., AJ A., Matthew V., Harper K., Emily H., Layla S.

**5K/C:** Lexi S., Matthew G., Michael N., Evelyn B.

**Congratulations to the following students who published books during the month of May.**

**KK:** Evelyn A.

**1H/S:** Carson A., William A., Jacob B., Lucas A.

**Congratulations to our Featured Author of the Month, Caroline D. in Grade 3K. Be sure to read her story featured in this month's newsletter.**



## SUMMER BIRTHDAYS!

### June

Michael N  
Elizabeth F  
Brooke T  
Olivia A  
Benjamin E  
Peter A  
Paul A  
Issac E  
Angelique P  
Wiley Z  
Katherine S  
Cole B  
Raegan N  
Alexandria G  
Kennedy N  
William R  
Payton P  
Gunner H  
Max W  
Catherine W  
Kylie S  
Anna D  
Elaina S  
Andrew M  
Jaxon R  
Kayla B  
Amelia K  
Thaddeus R  
Maggie A  
Emma W  
Kelsey B  
Ethan G  
Jillian W  
Bryce D

### July

Natalie W  
Christian H  
Rachel H  
Lucy V  
Jacob D  
Andrew B  
Emilee V  
Grace M  
Hannah V  
Emma T  
Ava B  
Tyler W  
Nicole B  
Cameron I  
Alexis B  
Kaitlyn C  
Mia S  
Judy H  
Mya R  
Madison N  
Tanner C  
Collin W  
Hannah V  
Lucky T  
Alec N

### August

Jack C  
Colin H  
Avery D  
Sophia H  
Dominic I  
Lauren T  
Kazimir R  
Drew B  
Philip W  
Noah A  
Karlie K  
Lucas A  
Cameron S  
Mackenzie C  
Anni B  
Tessa B  
Nicholas P  
Allison L  
Nora L  
Torey M  
Lucy E

## FEATURED AUTHOR OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Caroline D., in Grade 3K for being the Featured Author of the Month. Caroline has won a lunch of her choice and her story is featured below.

### THE STRAWBERRY

This book is dedicated to Kate

Once there was a tiny strawberry named Berry. He loved his family, but one day he got shipped to New York.

Berry was very sad so one morning he decided he was going to go back home to Michigan.

On his way he met a blueberry. His name was also Berry. They became best friends. Berry the strawberry told Berry the blueberry how he was going back home to his family.

Then Berry the blueberry remembered they were neighbors! When Berry and Berry got home, everyone was happy. Then they had a party and everyone was super happy!

Then a big dark shadow picked them up and brought them inside. Then a cat walked right next to the strawberry and blueberry and he laid down on them!

“Help! Help! HELP!” they cried. Then Superhero “Strawberry” and his sidekick, “Blueberry” saved everyone!

“Yay! Yay!” The party was so, so, so, so fun. Then the cat couldn’t take it anymore, so he just ate them.

**THE END!**

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Caroline is nine years old. She has two brothers and two sisters. She has a dog named Sadie. Her favorite subject at school is Science. Her favorite sports are basketball and soccer. She is looking forward to going to South Carolina this summer. When she grows up she would like to be a teacher.







## Holy Spirit School Calendar, June, 2018

<p>May 27 Solemnity of the Holy Trinity Mt 28:16-20</p>	<p>May 28 Memorial Day <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed</p>	<p>May 29 Gr. 8 Exams 11:45 <u>Dismissal</u> Gr. 4-5 <u>Field Trip</u> Last day to return library books</p>	<p>May 30 <u>Mass 8:45</u> Last day for 4-yr old <u>Preschool</u> Gr. 8 Exams 11:45 Dismissal</p>	<p>May 31 Last day for 3-yr old <u>Preschool</u> Gr. 7 <u>Field Trip</u> Gr. 8 <u>Class Trip</u> Used uniform sale tomorrow</p>	<p>June 1 WWTS Shirt <u>Color Day</u> <u>Community Day</u> 9:00 Praise Service 10:00 Games 12:45 Variety Show All K &amp; Y5 attend in am</p>	2
<p>3 Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ Mk 14:12-16, 22-26</p>	<p>4 Gr. 6-7 Exams <u>Full Day</u> Gr. 8 <u>11:25 Dismissal</u> Gr. 8 6:00 Graduation</p>	<p>5 Gr. 6-7 Exams <u>11:45 Dismissal</u> Y5 &amp; K Picnic 11:00-1:00</p>	<p>6 Gr. 6-7 Exams 11:45 Dismissal</p>	<p>7 Last day for Y5 &amp; K Gr. 6-7 Exams 11:45 Dismissal</p>	<p>8 Last Uniform Day <u>Mass 10:00</u> 11:25 <u>Dismissal</u> Child Care Closed</p>	9
<p>10 Gospel Mk 3:20-35</p>	<p>11 Child Care Open for the Summer Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30</p>	<p>12 Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30</p>	<p>13 4th Quarter Report Cards <u>Online</u> Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30</p>	<p>14 Vacation Bible School 6:30-8:30</p>	<p>15</p>	16
<p>17 Happy Father's Day Gospel Mk 4:26-34</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Let's Go to Bat for Kids @ 5<sup>th</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Ball Park Doors open at 5:30</p>	<p>22</p>	23
<p>24 Gospel Lk 1:57-66</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	30

### Enjoy Summer and Mark Your Calendars:

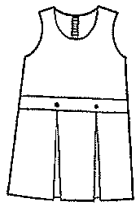


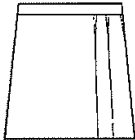

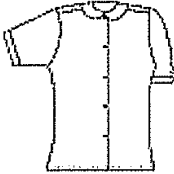
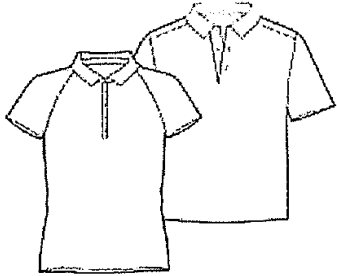
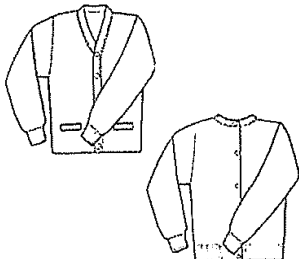
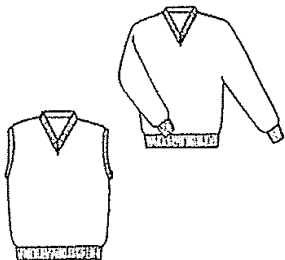
- Meet and Greet ~ Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup>
- Y5's - Gr. 8 First Day of School ~ Tuesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>
- 4-Year Old Preschool Begins ~ Monday, August 27<sup>th</sup>
- 3-Year Old Preschool Begins ~ Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>

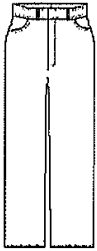


## 2018 School Uniform Catalog

Order on-line at

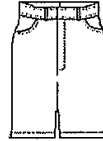
[GrandRapids.EducationalOutfitters.com](http://GrandRapids.EducationalOutfitters.com)

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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div data-bbox="172 1226 506 1499">  </div> <div data-bbox="539 1226 997 1457"> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Boys &amp; Girls Polo</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Girl Fit Short Sleeve</th> <th>Unisex Short Sleeve</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Youth</td> <td>\$15.99</td> <td>\$15.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult</td> <td>\$19.99</td> <td>\$19.99</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Pricing is the same for Dri Fit or Pique</b></p> </div> <div data-bbox="1058 1247 1328 1444"> <p>Available in White, Navy, Light Blue and Maroon</p> <p>Add a logo on any item for \$4.99</p> </div> </div>			Girl Fit Short Sleeve	Unisex Short Sleeve	Youth	\$15.99	\$15.99	Adult	\$19.99	\$19.99									
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### Navy and Khaki Girls Pants

Girls 3-7 Reg/Slim Pant	\$24.99
Girls 8-16 Reg/Slim Pant	\$26.99
Half/Jr Pants	\$29.99



### Girls Shorts—Navy and Khaki

Girls 3-7 Reg/Slim Short	\$19.99
Girls 8-16 Reg/Slim Short	\$23.99
Half/Jr Pants	\$25.99



### Navy and Khaki Boys Pants

Boys 3-7 Reg/Slim Pant	\$22.99
Boys 8-16 Reg/Slim Pant	\$24.99
Husky Pants	\$27.99
Prep/Men Pants	\$29.99



### Mens Shorts—Navy and Khaki

Boys 3-7 Reg/Slim Short	\$19.99
Boys 8-16 Reg/Slim Short	\$21.99
Husky Shorts	\$24.99
Prep/Men Shorts	\$24.99



Available in White, Navy,  
Light Blue and Maroon

Sweatshirt	
YXS-YXL	\$20.99
S-XL	\$22.99

Price includes logo



*Holy Spirit*

## Buy Early and Save!

June—**FREE** embroidered school logos

July 1-14 — buy 1 embroidered school logo and get 1 school logo free.

July 16-31 — buy 3 sale in any combination of pants, shorts, skirts,  
skorts or jumpers and receive \$2.00 off each item.

August 1-12— buy 3 tops and 3 bottoms and receive \$10.00 off your order.

**Please note that the above sales are for the same size, same child.**

Any clothes bought June through August 2018 can be exchanged if your child grows to another size  
by September 2018 (original tags **must** be on clothes).

**These sales apply to in-store, telephone, email or fax orders only!**

# Educational Outfitters

2055 28th St. SE, Ste; 18 | Grand Rapids, MI 49508 | 616-245-4800



## THE ADVANCE NEWSPAPERS' 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST

The topic for 2018 is:

***“Your teacher wants to teach a new subject for a few weeks. What should the subject be and why?”***

All students currently in the grades 1 - 12 are eligible to enter. Categories are:

1st thru 3rd grade	4th and 5th grade
6th thru 8th grade	9th thru 12th grade

**1<sup>st</sup> place – Samsung Galaxy Tablet A & Grand Rapids Civic Theatre Ticket**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place – Griffins Tickets & Boulder Ridge Animal Park Giftcard**

**3<sup>rd</sup> place – John Ball Zoo & Grand Rapids Public Museum Tickets**

**Essay submission deadline: Saturday, June 30th, 2018.**

Winners will be announced in the Advance Newspapers Back to School special section published on August 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Entries MUST include the name of the student, grade completed prior to summer vacation, school, teachers' name, students' home address and phone number for contact purposes only.**

Essays: hand written (legible) or typed.

1000 word limit.

PDF or word documents...**NO Google Docs please!**

Send entries to:

Email: [Elizabeth\\_Gaynor@mlive.com](mailto:Elizabeth_Gaynor@mlive.com)

Mail to:

Back to School Essay Contest

Advance Newspapers

3102 Walker Ridge Drive

Walker, MI 49544

Questions: call 616-209-0360 or email [Elizabeth\\_Gaynor@mlive.com](mailto:Elizabeth_Gaynor@mlive.com)

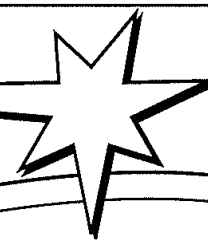
We appreciate your support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Liz Gaynor*

Contest Coordinator

# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

June 2018

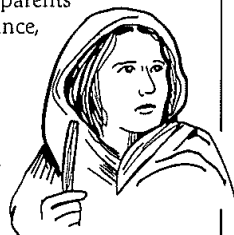
Parish of the Holy Spirit  
Religious Education



## Thoughtful Moments

### St. Germaine Cousin

Born to poor parents near Pibrac, France, St. Germaine suffered from a deformed right hand, sores on her neck and ill health from neglect and abuse. Despite this, she was never bitter. She walked to Mass daily – even in the winter – and shared what she had with the poor. The most powerful proof of St. Germaine's holiness was her forgiveness of her abusive stepmother, Hortense. She is the patroness of abuse victims, people with disabilities, and shepherdesses.



### Make anger work

Teach children that it isn't healthy to pretend we're not angry when we are. Instead of giving in to anger, though, find a solution to the problem. *"In your anger do not sin"* (Psalm 4:4).

### Biblical advice for kids

*"Children, obey your parents (in the Lord), for this is right. Honor your father and mother"* (Ephesians 6:1-2).  
*"Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord"* (Colossians 3:20).



## Have a holy summer

The lazy days of summer offer many opportunities to bring your family closer to God. Try ideas like these to have a happy and holy summer:

**Sing a psalm.** Choose a psalm that praises God for his mercy, kindness, and love, such as Psalm 103. Learn a new line each week and sing or recite it together at dinner time or bed time. By summer's end, you will have learned a new way to praise God.

**Strengthen a virtue.** Virtues are good habits. For example, temperance can be practiced by limiting the amount of time spent watching television or using electronics. Charity can be

strengthened by volunteering for a local aid organization as a family.

**Read a story.** The Bible is a library of books that weave together the story of our family of faith.

Read about heroes, brave rulers, warriors, prophets and thrilling victories. For example, the first book of Samuel (chapter 16) begins the account of David, a poet and musician, warrior and king with an extraordinary love for God. Or, read about the remarkable journey



Moses led out of slavery found in the book of Exodus."

Visit him each week. Weekly Mass is an important way to bring your family closer to God. Even when you are on vacation, visit [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com) to find a Mass close by.

## Why Do Catholics Do That ?

## Why do Catholics get confirmed?

The sacrament of Confirmation completes Baptism. In Confirmation, the recipient receives an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and an increase of spiritual gifts. He or she is spiritually equipped and called to be a public witness to



Christ in both words and deeds (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1303).

Confirmation can only be received once. Confirmation recalls Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on Jesus' disciples in the Upper Room and strengthened them to preach the Gospel (Acts 2:1-4).

## Help children love Confession

All children need reassurance that they are loved even when they make mistakes. That's why Jesus created the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He wanted to give us an outward sign of his unconditional love and forgiveness. Try these tips to help children appreciate God's special, forgiving love:

"Who, Me?!" Children often think of sin as relative. "It was okay to hit her because she hit me first." "I took his pen because he took my glove." Children need to know that God's rules are the ones to follow. Use the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes as guides.



"Say you're sorry." Even young children can understand the need to say they're sorry when they do something wrong. That's the first step toward taking responsibility for our actions and changing our behavior.

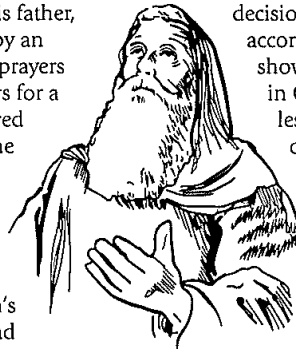
**Change.** Avoiding future sin means deciding to change. The priest may have suggestions, but you can also help your child figure out how to keep from "messing up" in the future.

**Remember** – forgiving sin is what God loves to do most.

### Scripture LESSON

**Luke 1:57-66, 80.**  
**Take God at his word.**

Sometimes God has to take drastic action to get our attention. Before John the Baptist was born, his father, Zechariah, was visited by an angel and told that his prayers for a son and his prayers for a savior would be answered in a miraculous way. The angel's appearance should have convinced Zechariah, but he was still unsure the message was true. So, God shut Zechariah's mouth to open his mind and heart to the truth.



After the angel's visit, Zechariah silently watched his wife's body swell with her miraculous pregnancy. After

the baby's birth, Zechariah demonstrated his obedience. His decision to name his son John according to the angel's message shows the growth of his faith in God. Having learned his lesson, his mouth was opened. Zechariah's first words showered praise on God and told the people around him of God's faithfulness and awesome love.

*What can a parent do? We can always trust God's love and care. He will never fail us. Help your children listen for God's voice and remember that all things are possible for God.*

### Parent TALK

Last summer I wanted to make sure that – in the busy pace of our summer – our family prayer didn't get neglected. My pastor suggested we



keep prayer journals. We went to an office-supplies store to buy some pretty journals. I explained that this would be where we would write requests to God for ourselves, petitions for others, but also thoughts and dreams we want to share with God. I explained that we would gather each night and write in them together.

Kara wrote her prayers as letters addressed to God and told him about her day. Tessa listed her prayer petitions and drew pictures "for God." I recorded my prayers and meditations about Scripture I read that day.

The prayer journals were the perfect devotion for the summer. Kara said, "It's like talking to a good friend. I can tell him anything, and I know my prayers are in good hands."

### Feasts & Celebrations

**June 3 – Corpus Christi Sunday (1264).** On this feast, we celebrate the transformation of the bread and wine into Jesus' Body and Blood in the Holy Eucharist. St. Juliana of Belgium had a vision of the full moon, representing the Church, with a dark spot in it, representing the missing solemnity. In 1264, Pope Urban IV ordered a Church-wide celebration for Corpus Christi, and asked St. Thomas Aquinas to compose the Office for the feast.

**June 8 – St. William of York (1154).** Born into a noble family in England,

St. William was named archbishop of York, but was slandered by political opponents. Despite this, St. William was never bitter or resentful. He died about two months after his consecration, probably poisoned.

**June 16 – St. John-Francis Regis (1640).** Born in France to a rich merchant, St. John-Francis joined the Jesuits when he was eighteen. Once ordained a priest, he was sent to southern France to start missions. He convinced his hearers to follow Christ more faithfully.



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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