



Report Cards

Friday, October 29th marks the end of our first quarter. Report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, November 9th, and you can continue to get updates on your child's grades via Infinite Campus.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences will be held in person with teachers and students wearing masks. If you have a health condition or are uncomfortable wearing a mask, you are welcome to do your conferences by phone. You will be receiving information on how to schedule a conference.

Veterans' Day

We will be celebrating this year by praying for veterans at our 8:30 Mass on Friday, November 12th. Veterans are welcome to attend Mass. Father Mark will do a blessing, and a group picture with family members will be taken immediately following Mass. Our sincere appreciation goes out to all those who served and continue to serve for peace and justice in our world!

Halloween Update

Due to parents not being allowed in the building at this time, teachers will be doing Halloween activities with the students. Preschool, Young Fives, and Kindergarten students are welcome to wear their costumes to school on Friday, October 29th. Students in Gr. 1-3 are welcome to bring a costume for their afternoon party; however, the costume must be something that can be worn over their uniforms. They will not be going to the bathroom to change in and out of costumes. Please keep costumes simple, Christian appropriate, acceptable and with no weapons. Weather permitting, there will be an outdoor parade at 10:45 for the morning students and at 2:50 for the afternoon students down the sidewalk between the church and school. Older students and parents are welcome to line the sidewalk for the costume parades.

Financial Aid 2022-2023

The Diocese will again use **SMART AID** to provide the assessment for those applying for financial assistance. This is separate from Smart Tuition and can be accessed via <https://www.smartaidforparents.com>. The Aid process for 2022-23 is now open.

- If you're a first time Smart Aid applicant, please create an account and follow the on-screen directions by going to [Smart Aid Instructions](#).
- If you already have an account, enter your user name and password to continue.
- The deadline for the **1st round** of aid awards is December 5, 2021.
- If you have questions, call Customer Assistance at: 1 (800) 360-8027.

Important Dates:

Fri., Oct. 22nd

~Prof. Dev. Day – NO School
CDC Open

Sun., Oct. 24th

~Trunk or Treat 4:00pm

Tues., Oct. 26th

~Absentee Picture Day
~PTA Mtg. 7pm in Library

Thurs., Oct. 28th

~Fall Colors Color Day

Fri., Oct. 29th

~Mass 8:30am
~Halloween Parade
10:45am & 2:50pm
~End of 1st Quarter

Tues., Nov. 9th

~Report Cards Online

**Thurs., Nov. 11th & Tues.,
Nov. 16th**

~Parent/Teacher Conf.
4:00-7:30

Fri., Nov. 12th

~Veterans' Day Mass
8:30am

Fri., Nov. 19th

~Newsletter/Calendar

Tues., Nov. 23rd

~Mass 8:30am
~1st Gr. Thanksgiving
Celebrations
~2nd Qtr. Midterms Online

Weds.-Fri., Nov. 24th-26th

~No School - Thanksgiving
Break

Arrival Procedures

Students in grades 1-8 who are car riders may be dropped off between 8:05-8:15 and should not arrive before 8:05. **Pull all the way forward along the sidewalk by the rectory**, so students may walk safely to the playground and not between cars. Please do not stop by the island located between the two parking lots as this causes traffic backup for the cars behind you.

Dismissal Procedures

Remember to leave the first spot open for the Auction Parking Winner and to drive slowly and carefully as you pull out of the car line. Thank you, everyone, for your patience, kindness, and peacefulness in the parking lot as we strive for a swift and safe dismissal.

First Spot Auction Parking Winners

Congratulations to the Bouma Family who are the Auction winners of the Front Parking Spot for this school year!

Little Mermaid Jr.

Mr. David Inbody has offered to direct the musical, Little Mermaid Jr. this year with performances on March 12th at 2:30 and 7:00. Students in Grade 5-8 should turn in their final audition request forms by Tuesday, November 9th. Final auditions will be held during lunch recess on November 17th and 18th.

Hot Lunch Substitutions

We have been having significant supply issues, which has caused several very late changes to the menu. The most up to date changes are reflected on the Holy Spirit School website landing page real time calendar. <https://holyspiritschoolgr.org/>. You may also click the Calendar Tab at the top to see full month.

Working on Wellness

According to national health guidelines, children and adolescents should do one hour or more of physical activity daily. Here at school, students have recess choices offered at arrival and at noon recess with options such as: basketball, football, kickball, gaga ball, and sledding in the winter. Students in Gr. 4-8 have physical educational classes once a week, and students in K-Gr.3 have classes twice weekly. Teachers do movement activities during the school day. School sports and the Girls on the Run program are offered to students. We try to encourage families to exercise with us during Walking With the Spirit, roller skating in January, and YMCA night in February. Count up your family's daily exercise minutes!

News From The Boosters

Winter I Sports Registration

The last day to register for the 2021 GRACEAC **Winter I** sports season will be **this Friday, October 22**. This is for students in grades 5-8 for the 2021-2022 academic year. We will be offering girls competitive cheer and boys basketball. Registrations must be done via TeamSnap. Click [HERE](#) to register for Winter I Sports.

IN SYMPATHY



Please keep in your prayers the Carter Family on the loss of their Grandfather, the Helmus Family on the passing of their Great-Grandfather, Mrs. Houdek and Family on the death of her Grandmother, Mrs. Clancy and Family on the passing of her Grandfather, and Mrs. Berndt and Family and the Smith Family on the loss of their Cousin. May the memories of their loved ones live on in their hearts and bring them peace.

Holiday Food Drive

As we strive to serve others throughout the year, one thing we can do as a community is to come together to provide Thanksgiving food baskets for those less fortunate. Students are encouraged to donate something from the list below.

Preschool	Macaroni & Cheese, Soup	Gr. 4	Tuna Fish & Canned Meats
Y5 & K	Canned Fruit & Juice	Gr. 5	Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce
Gr. 1	Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce	Gr. 6	Cereal & Soup
Gr. 2	Peanut Butter & Jelly	Gr. 7	Canned Vegetables
Gr. 3	Cereal & Rice	Gr. 8	Peanut Butter & Jelly

Please join us for the packing of the Thanksgiving Boxes on Sunday, November 21st, right after the 10:00 Mass in the Multi-Purpose Room. These boxes go to Steepletown families. Thank you for helping out!

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, Giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17

Religious Education News

Volunteers: Please check your Virtus account for the correct email address. The program will automatically send you an email about a month before your next updated background check is due. Background checks must be redone every five years. Live Finger prints and nationals do not need to be repeated, but we need to do a Michigan one for all volunteers every five years.

Extra-Curricular Activities: All volunteers working with children at the school or parish need to fulfill all the volunteer requirements. If you are a leader of a group, please contact Diane Schoof to verify that all adults who are working with your group are current on their requirements.

Confirmation Date: The date for Confirmation this year is April 26 at 7pm. All candidates and sponsors need to be seated by 6:30 at the Cathedral of St. Andrew. The liturgy usually takes an hour and a half to two hours.

Due by Thanksgiving: Parent First Reconciliation homework and Confirmation registrations are due by Thanksgiving.



November Birthdays!



Anniston N.
Jackson F.
Anna G.
Grayson N.
Callan G.

Miles B.
Luke F.
Sophia J.
Gabriel H.
Wyatt S.

Annalise A.
Grace M.
Ethan B.
Bobby B.
Emilia L.

Isabelle Z.
Izzabella B.
Sawyer B.
Liam A.
Mrs. Koziatek

SEVERE WEATHER, CANCELLATIONS & BUSSING INFORMATION

In the event that it is necessary to delay the start of school or cancel classes, Holy Spirit School will communicate with you through Grand Rapids area radio and television stations. You may also access school closing announcements thru the following Web Sites: www.woodtv.com or www.wzzm13.com.

Every effort will be made to make one of the following announcements by 6:00 a.m. or as soon as possible thereafter...

<i>Situation/Condition</i>	<i>Response/Policy</i>
If the announcement is Holy Spirit School is closed:	Students do not report for school that day. This always includes Preschool and Child Care Programs as well.
If the Public School District you reside in is closed in your area:	No Catholic Schools Transportation in the A.M. or P.M. into the closed Public School District areas.
Catholic Schools have a two-hour delay:	Catholic Schools Transportation will begin transporting two hours after regular time. There will be no AM Preschool or Y5's or AM Kindergarten. Child Care will open at regular time for those enrolled in the program.
If the Public School District you reside in has a two-hour delay and Catholic Schools are on a regular schedule:	No Catholic Schools Transportation into the delayed district for the A.M. ONLY.

If school is closed because of inclement weather, all extra-curricular activities, including athletic events and practices, scheduled for Holy Spirit or for Holy Spirit teams on that day, will be cancelled. (Education Commission policy #2060.1)

On those winter days when school is open but you feel weather conditions are unsafe for your child to go to school, you may keep him or her home. However, we ask that you call school and let us know that you are keeping your child at home. While we do urge you to call school when your child will be absent, please don't call the school to ask if classes will be cancelled because of the weather. Instead, we urge you to monitor Grand Rapids area radio and television stations, or their web sites, which will be informed immediately of any cancellations or delays.



Thank you to all of the parents and staff members who attended our first PTA meeting of the year! It's great to see both some new faces and the people who continue to support the PTA. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 26 at 7pm. It will be offered both in person in the school library and virtually via google: meet.google.com/cvy-bkxb-gaw. We hope to see you there!

September and October have allowed the preschool, young 5's, and kindergarten to take a fun fall field trip, and this year we are pleased to bring back Trunk or Treat! The publishing center will also be open for business soon. It's great to have these fun opportunities for our children! We couldn't do it without parent volunteers. If you'd like to get involved, please email me. –Andrea Dewicki andreadewicki@gmail.com.

Publishing Center News

The Publishing Center is back!! It will be open on Tuesdays, all day, beginning on November 2.

We will continue with our "Featured Author" selection to be in the monthly school newsletter. The featured author will receive a fast food lunch at school for their efforts.

We will also offer movie theater candy – 1 package for the first story published each semester for our middle school students. This is ONLY available for grades 6-8.

Library News

We would like to welcome back Mrs. Jachim to our library this year, and also wish Mrs. Pawlanta a warm welcome as our new library aide. If your family is looking for a book to donate to the library, any of the **Dragon Masters** books, # 1-21 would be most appreciated. We will have a library book wish list located outside the Publishing Center, should you want additional suggestions on books the students would love to read.

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

*Our mission at Holy Spirit School is to live, learn, and share
the message and teachings
of Jesus Christ.*



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

September 28, 2021

- **CALL TO ORDER**
 - Andrea called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and said the opening prayer.
- **BOARD IDENTIFICATION:**
 - Andrea Dewicki -PRESIDENT – 616.350.0029 | andreadewicki@gmail.com
 - Emily Bouma - VICE PRES. 616.292.3286 | ebouma125@gmail.com
 - Philip Alt - TREASURER – 616.862.8674 | Philip.alt@altcc.biz
 - Kelly Toland - SECRETARY – 517.420.7625 | toland.kelly@gmail.com
- **STAFF RECOGNITION** -Pat Kalahar, Paula Ryan, Kelly Clancy, Elizabeth Liebler, Lizzie Duffy and Emily Andersen
- **READING OF GOALS** -Read by Emily
- **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT** -Pat Kalahar
 - Enrollment is up 8% this year.
 - All school mass is back on Fridays this year.
 - The school theme for the next three years is “Love One Another” John 13:34.
 - Two new teachers were hired this year, Becca Raines and Peyton Jones, who are doing extremely well.
 - Strategic plan for 2021-2026 has been completed by the board.
 - This past school year 2020/2021 was the 8th straight year under budget.
 - Summer remodeling included new carpet in the hallway, Miss Jones’ classroom was remodeled, and work on the roof was completed.
- **TREASURER’S REPORT** -Phil Alt

- Reviewed financial reports for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 school years.
- Ended the 2020-2021 year nearly \$20,000 ahead of budget.
- Increased Christmas and appreciation gifts for teachers, increased funding for field trips and playground equipment.
- Budgeting has begun for capital projects such as an updated security system and \$15,000 in classroom renovations beginning Spring and Summer 2022.
- Special projects will be reimbursed with forthcoming Federal funding.
- Committee Reports:
 - Holy Spirit Apparel (Emily Bouma)
 - First order for the year was a great turnout. Late next week (Oct. 8) apparel order should be available.
 - Contact Emily if there is anything specific you'd like to see on the next order. The order will be available before Christmas.
 - Birthday Board (Stephanie Martin)
 - All 12 months have been purchased, planned and receipts submitted.
 - Book Fair (Andrea Dewicki)
 - Amanda Koch will be the Chair this year.
 - Spartan Nash/General Mills Box Tops (Mercedes Barnum)
 - Submission should be ready by the end of 2021.
 - Tyson and Aunt Millies are no longer participating.
 - Family Outreach (Andrea Dewicki)
 - Annie Williams will be the Chair this year.
 - Hospitality/Staff Conference Meals (Michael Dewicki)
 - Decision needs to be made soon if conferences will be virtual or in-person.
 - Suggestion to provide Grub Hub or similar gift cards to teachers if conferences are virtual.
 - Paper Gator (Joylynn Kelly)
 - No report at this time.
 - Parent Ambassador (Kelly Clancy)

- There are many new families this year. The ice cream social and meet and greet was very well attended.
- Publishing Center (Rose Worm)
 - TBD
 - Discussion on possible options for rewards for students whose story is chosen and published.
 - Amanda Sekelsky volunteered to work with Rose.
- Room Parent Coordinator (Erin Gottleber)
 - No report at this time.
- Social Committee (Stephanie Martin)
 - Stephanie Martin volunteered to be the Chair.
 - Trunk or Treat TBD.
- Sunshine Committee (Emily Andersen)
 - Seventeen masses were said for those who have passed away this past year.
- Teacher Appreciation Week (Erin Gottleber)
 - No report at this time.
- Variety Show (Open)
 - Contact Andrea if interested in being the Chair.
- Walking with the Spirit (Kelly Clancy)
 - Extremely well supported this year including pledges, sponsorships, the day of participation, and enthusiasm from students.
 - Set a 14 year record with \$27,000 in pledges and \$14,000 in sponsorships! Totaling over \$41,000!
 - Becky Goodwin has offered to get a coin sorter to use in the future for counting change.
- Topics of Discussion:
 - Wellness Initiative- Healthy Snacks!
 - Infographic attached.
 - Request was shared to bring back assemblies and speakers, particularly ones focused on mental health.
 - Open Chair Positions: Social Variety Show

- Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

This year's meetings:

September 28, 2021 7:00pm

October 26, 2021 7:00pm

January 25, 2022 7:00pm

March 22, 2022 7:00pm





Holy Spirit School Calendar, November, 2021

*Lunch Supervision, Grade 6 / For updated information go to www.holyspiritschoolgr.org

*Parent-Teacher Conferences will be scheduled during the month of November.
Look for an email from your grade-level for more details.

	1 All Saints' <u>Day</u> <u>Mass 2:00</u> Gospel <u>Mt 5:1-12</u> Gr. 1-3 Robotics 6:30-7:30	2 Gr. 4-6 Robotics 6:30-8:00	3 Gr. 4-6 Robotics 6:30-8:00	4	5	6
7 Gospel Mk 12:38-44	8 Gr. 1-3 Robotics 6:30-7:30	9 Gr. 4-6 Robotics <u>6:30-8:00</u> Report Cards Online	10 Gr. 4-6 Robotics 6:30-8:00	11 Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30	12 Veterans' Day Mass 8:30	13
14 Gospel Mk 13:24-32	15 Gr. 1-3 Robotics 6:30-7:30	16 4-6 Robotics <u>6:30-8:00</u> Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30	17 6:30 Board <u>Meeting</u> Gr. 4-6 Robotics 6:30-8:00	18	19 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Little Flowers <u>3:15-4:30</u> Newsletter/ Calendar	20
21 Feast of Christ <u>the King</u> Gospel Jn 18:33-37	22 Gr. 1-3 Robotics 6:30-7:30	23 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Gr. 1 Thanksgiving <u>Celebrations</u> Gr. 4-6 Robotics <u>6:30-8:00</u> 2 nd Quarter Midterms Online	24 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	25 Happy Thanksgiving	26 <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed	27
28 1 st Sunday <u>of Advent</u> Gospel Lk 21:25-36	29 Gr. 1-3 Robotics 6:30-7:30	30 Giving <u>Tuesday</u> Advent by <u>Candlelight</u> Gr. 4-6 Robotics 6:30-8:00				

SPORTS SLIDE SHOW

Picture Request



Pictures are needed of all fall sports teams
Volleyball, Soccer, Cross Country, Football, Cheer

Please make sure to take pictures of your teams and players for this important video.

Guidelines and Deadlines

1. Please turn in all photos for **fall** sports to Damon Bouwkamp at athletics@hsparish.org no later than **Friday, November 19th** to be in the video. The video is an ongoing project, worked on throughout the year, enabling the editor to add pictures with each sports season.
2. Photos must be in a digital format on a CD or flash drive.
3. **Please** only send photos that are in focus and bright.
4. Get pictures of **all** the players on the team. Our goal is to have at least one picture of each player along with some team shots.
5. **Please** personally do this for your player. Most people are taking pictures of their child and not yours. It's important to the kids to be in the video, so please take a few pictures or ask someone to take some pictures for you.
6. **Please** do not send several hundred pictures for one team. Pick the best you have to send.

HOLY SPIRIT SCHOOL PTA PRESENTS

TRUNK OR TREAT

FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT
SCHOOL AND PARISH
COMMUNITY

OCTOBER 24, 2021

IN THE BACK PARKING LOT

BRING YOUR COSTUMED CHILDREN AND
LOTS OF CANDY TO SHARE!

Trunk or treat offers a safe, fun environment for families to trick or treat from trunks and tailgates of vehicles lined up in the back parking lot at Holy Spirit. You may choose to decorate your trunk/tailgate, though it is not a requirement.

Line up begins at 4pm, candy will be received from 4:30-5pm.

We ask that you please choose family friendly costumes and decor.





YouServe

God's Kitchen Bowl Painting Party

(Annual fundraiser "Soup's On" needs hand painted bowls to sell.)

Sunday, November 7, 2021 3-5pm

Holy Spirit School Cafeteria

Only \$8 a bowl for an afternoon of fun, food, and friends.

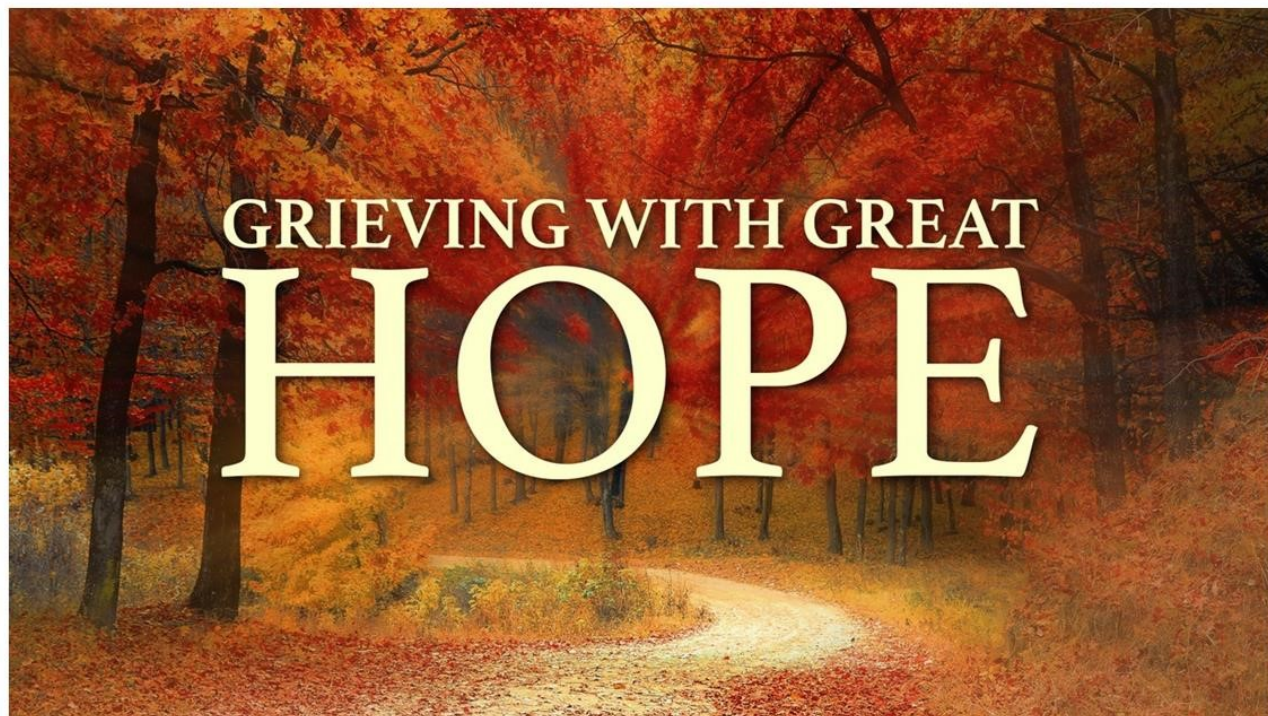
Open to Grades 8 through High School.

Money due to Religious Ed Office by November 1.

Cash or checks made out to Holy Spirit Religious Ed

Permission slip required.





"When you go through deep waters, I will be with you." Isaiah 43:2

Introductory Grief Support Group Session
Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 6:30 pm

Grieving with Great Hope is a grief support program and a healing ministry developed by a husband and wife who are grief counselors, but have also experienced profound grief themselves. Join in for prayerful reflection, practical learning, personal fellowship, and a powerful experience in mourning the loss of your loved one. If you have lost a spouse, a child (including pregnancy loss), a grandchild, a parent, another family member or a friend, you are encouraged to attend.

Contact Joanne Fallon at jfallon@wnj.com for more information or to attend.
Or contact the Religious Education Office at (616) 453-1591 or reledoffice@hsparish.org.