



Absentee School Pictures

Absentee school pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 26th.

Report Cards

Friday, October 28th marks the end of our first quarter. Report cards will be sent home on Tuesday, November 8th, and you can continue to get updates on your child's grades via Infinite Campus.

Halloween

Preschool, Young Fives, and Kindergarten students are welcome to wear their costumes to school on Monday, October 31st. Students in Gr. 1-3 are welcome to bring a costume for their afternoon party. Please keep costumes simple, Christian appropriate, acceptable, and with no weapons. The costume parade will take place in the hallway at 2:30.

Kitchen Cleanup

During the weekend of October 22nd-23rd, you are invited to help do a deep clean of the upstairs kitchen. Please email Andrea Dewicki at andreadewicki@gmail.com if you would like to help. Thank you!

Parent-Teacher Conferences

In next Friday's email blast, you will receive the link to sign up for Parent-Teacher Conferences, which will take place on Thursday, November 10th and Tuesday, November 15th. Sign-ups will open on October 28th and close on November 7th.

Veterans' Day

Please join us on **Friday, November 11th** as we celebrate our Veterans during Mass at 8:30am. Should you know a Veteran who would like to come, please provide the office with their name so we may recognize them during our service. **See the form provided in this newsletter.** Following Mass, any Veterans who would like to share their experience are welcome to speak (for 15-20 minutes) with our students. Our sincere appreciation goes out to all those who served and continue to serve for peace and justice in our world!

Financial Aid 2023-2024

The Diocese will again use **SMART AID** to provide the assessment for those applying for financial assistance. This is separate from School Admin and can be accessed via <https://www.smartaidforparents.com>. The Aid process for 2023-24 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 4, 2022.
- If you have questions, call Customer Assistance at: 1 (800) 360-8027.

Important Dates:

Tues., Oct. 25th

~PTA Mtg. 7pm

Wed., Oct. 26th

~Absentee Picture Day

Fri., Oct. 28th

~Mass 8:30am

~End of 1st Quarter

Sun., Oct. 30th

~Trunk or Treat 4:00pm

Mon., Oct. 31st

~Fall Colors Color Day

~Halloween Parade 2:30

Thurs., Fri., Nov. 3-4

~Prof. Development

~No School – **CDC Open**

Tues., Nov. 8th

~Report Cards Online

**Thurs., Nov. 10th & Tues.,
Nov. 15th**

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

Fri., Nov. 11th

~Veterans' Day Mass
8:30am

Thurs., Nov. 17th

~Musical Auditions

Fri., Nov. 18th

~Newsletter/Calendar

Tues., Nov. 22nd

~Mass 8:30am

Weds.-Fri., Nov. 23rd-25th

~No School - Thanksgiving
Break

One Nation, Together in Adoration

On Election Day, November 8, after Daily Mass concludes, Fr. Mark will expose the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration through 8pm that evening (when the polls close). The day will be filled with much anxiety and fear over the outcomes, so what better way to spend the day than to offer Adoration to all parishioners all day long, to stop in before they vote or after, or just to ease their fears and offer up this state and nation to God.

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 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!

Christmas Program

Mark your calendars for our Christmas Program which will take place on **Monday, December 12th**.

Girls On The Run Coach

We are looking for a Gr. 3-4 Girls on the Run coach to assist Coach Becca Raines, our 5th grade teacher. Practices are held twice a week from 3:30-5:00, from March 13th through May 20th, which is the date of the run. Claire Brennan will not be coaching this year because she is due to have her baby in April but has offered to be our site liaison. Please contact the school office or Claire at claire.amat96@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions about this program. What an excellent opportunity to stay in shape and help girls develop social, emotional, and physical skills!

Aladdin Jr.

Mr. David Inbody has offered to direct the musical, Aladdin Jr. this year with performances on March 11th at 2:30 and 7:00. Students in Grades 5-8 should pick up an audition form from the office, and turn it in by Tuesday, November 8th. Auditions will be held during lunch recess on November 17th.

"Fill the Gator" Fridays

You can help save the environment and support our school by helping us fill the Paper Gator any time with the following: office paper, newspaper, junk mail, hard & soft cover books, magazines, shredded paper (bagged in clear plastic), paperboard (cereal type boxes), and thin cardboard (12"x12" or smaller). For your convenience, 8th graders will be at the Paper Gator in the corner of the parking lot every Friday from 8:00-8:15 am.

Hot Lunch Updates

Please be sure to check your lunch account balances for your children in Infinite Campus, under fees-food service. The government is no longer providing free lunches for all. Payments are now being made through Infinite Campus using your parent portal. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Occasional supply issues can cause last minute changes to the lunch menu. Therefore, we ask that you check for the most up to date changes on the Holy Spirit School website real time calendar: <https://holyspiritschoolgr.org/>. You may also click the Calendar Tab at the top to see the full month.

IN SYMPATHY



Please keep in your prayers the DelRaso Family on the passing of their Great-Grandmother, the Lightcap Family on the loss of their Great-Uncle, Mrs. Houdek and Family, The Nowicki Family, The Rood Family, and Mrs. Kelly on the death of their Grandfather, Great-Grandfather, and Father-In-Law. May the memories of their loved ones live on in their hearts and bring them peace.

Thanksgiving 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. This year, students will try to fill Mr. Kalahar's office with the food!

Preschool	Macaroni & Cheese, Soup	Gr. 4	Cereal & Soup
Y5 & K	Canned Fruit & Juice	Gr. 5	Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce
Gr. 1	Spaghetti & Spaghetti Sauce	Gr. 6	Tuna Fish & Canned Meats
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 20th, 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. 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. This includes class parties, field trips, recess duty, athletics, classroom volunteers, library, musical, etc.

Confirmation Date: The date for Confirmation this year is May 3rd 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.
Isabelle Z.
Izzabella B.
Grayson N.
Hunter B.

Miles B.
Jackson F.
Anna G.
Bobby B.
Emmett T.

Annalise A.
Luke F.
Brock B.
Liam A.
Callan G.

Catherine S.
Grace M.
Sophia J.
Stella B.
Wyatt S.

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.

SPANISH CLASS NEWS

Students at Holy Spirit will soon be learning about the holiday El Dia de los Muertos (The Day of the Dead) during Spanish class. The goal is for the students to know how and why this holiday is celebrated in Mexico and other countries in the Americas. Please know that the material covered will be in student friendly terms and the main focus will be on celebrating the life of the loved ones who passed. We will create an ofrenda (altar) and students may bring a picture of a loved one to place on the ofrenda. Students may bring in a small (no larger than 4x6) picture starting the week of October 24th during their Spanish class. Here are some links to more information in regards to this holiday.

[Day of the Dead \(nationalgeographic.com\)](http://nationalgeographic.com)

[A Kid-Friendly Introduction to Day of the Dead \(spanishmama.com\)](http://spanishmama.com)

[The Day of the Dead Resources for Kids – The Kitchen Table Classroom](#)

Please feel free to email me at senoraloreal@gmail.com if you have any comments/questions about this holiday. Muchas gracias!

PUBLISHING CENTER NEWS

The Publishing Center is off to a great start. Thirty-four books have already been published! Please continue to encourage your children to write stories, poems, and graphic novels! If they are having trouble coming up with ideas, here are a few: write about a family vacation/staycation, a favorite animal, a favorite activity they like to participate in, or write a new ending to their favorite book. Tell them to imagine and write about their dream vacation, what it would be like to travel to outer space, or time travel to the past or future.

SCRIP NEWS

The next local order will be placed on November 7. Have your orders in by Monday, November 7th at 9am. Not a member yet? Sign up at raiseright.com/. If you have any questions, please contact April Alt at scrip@hsparish.org. Local establishments include:

Arsulowicz Eye Care
Beckwith Family Dental
Beaches and Braces (Formerly Dr. Ed Young)
Dr. Laura Fogle
Dr. Joel Carroll
Dr. Bryton Mansfield
Standale Dental
Amway Grand Plaza
B.C Pizza
Big Apple Bagel
Countryside Greenhouse
Field's Fabric

Fruit Basket
Lewandoski's Market
Mr. Burger
Peppermill Grill
Peppino's Pizza
Sobie Meats
The Local
Trendz Hair Salon
Uccello's
Walker Car Wash
Walker Roadhouse

Titan Sports Update

Fall Sports are coming to an end. Congrats to all our fall athletes. If you have not paid your sports fee, please do so ASAP. The fee is \$85.00. Please make checks out to HS Boosters.

Athletes participating in Soccer or Volleyball, please return clean uniforms in a bag with your name on it. They can be dropped off at the school office.

Registration for Winter 1– Boys 5-8 Basketball is now closed. Teams have been finalized. Practices will begin the week of October 24th. Basketball games will begin the week of November 2nd and will be done for the year, the week of December 17th.

Teams are:

- 5/6th Boys Basketball, coached by Chris Abid.
- 7th Boys Basketball, coached by Jeff Gottleber, Phil Nicholson, and Jason Bauer.
- 8th Boys Basketball, coached by Heather Abram.

Coaches will be letting you know your practice times. Please download the Teamsnap app. This will keep you updated on schedules and on any changes that may happen.

Winter 2 Girls Basketball registration is OPEN

Girls basketball for grades 5-8 will begin practicing the week of January 2nd. Please register your daughter on the GRACEAC web site. It will lead you to the Teamsnap app. Please make sure your daughter has a sports physical on file before January 2nd, 2023 in order to practice and participate.

Go Titans!

WEST CATHOLIC/CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS

Experience West Night - Oct.25th, 6:30PM - [CLICK HERE](#)

GR Westside Cheer - [Click Here](#)

2023-24 CC Incoming Freshman Applications are OPEN - grcatholiccentral.org/admissions

CC Open House - Nov. 13th, 1-4 PM - [clickhere](#)

8th Grade CC Shadow Days, Now - Dec. 1 - [clickhere](#)



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 25 at 7pm in Room 203. 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 host Trunk or Treat on October 30. 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 at: andreadewicki@gmail.com.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA September 27, 2022

- **CALL TO ORDER**
 - Andrea called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and said the opening prayer.
- **BOARD IDENTIFICATION:**
 - Andrea Dewicki -PRESIDENT | andreadewicki@gmail.com
 - Emily Bouma - VICE PRES. | ebouma125@gmail.com
 - Philip Alt - TREASURER | Philip.alt@altcc.biz
 - Kelly Toland - SECRETARY | toland.kelly@gmail.com
- **STAFF RECOGNITION**-Pat Kalahar, Paula Ryan, Kelly Clancy, Elizabeth Liebler, Lizzie Duffy, and Erin Gottleber

- READING OF GOALS -Read by Emily
- PRINCIPAL'S REPORT-Pat Kalahar
 - The auction is this Saturday. Thank you so much to our auction committee for all of their efforts!
 - The school has seen a 3% increase in enrollment this year.
 - All school Mass is on Friday at 8:30am, all parents and family members are encouraged to attend if possible. It's wonderful to see parents and grandparents in attendance!
 - The security upgrades are 75% complete. The new vestibule, security cameras and door locks are completed. The new doors and frames are on backorder and should be installed soon.
 - The new teachers are doing great! They are a wonderful addition to the school.
 - Thank you to the PTA for several classroom re-models that were completed this summer.
 - We finished the 2021-22 fiscal year \$39,000 under budget.
 - More information to come regarding the playground renovation. We're currently collecting bids on the project. We plan to use multiple sources for funding.
- TREASURER'S REPORT -Phil Alt
 - Review of the financial report for the 2021-2022 school year.
 - Review of the financial report for the 2022-2023 school year.
 - PTA currently has close to \$95,000 in the bank.
 - Increased field trips budget this year due to an increase in students and gas prices.
 - Increased the budget for teacher Christmas and birthday gifts.
 - Increased the technology budget.
 - Thanks to the success of WWTS we're able to put money back into the school for students and teachers!
- Committee Reports:
 - Holy Spirit Apparel (Emily Bouma)
 - An order will be coming soon.
 - Birthday Board (Stephanie Kozlowicz & Stephanie Martin)
 - Everything is purchased and planned for the year.

- Book Fair (Amanda Koch)
 - Date is TBD.
- Spartan Nash (Mercedes Barnum)
 - Working on receipts and submitting.
 - Please download the boxtops app to submit receipts.
- Family Outreach (Annie Williams)
 - In touch with committee members. There are no needs at this time.
- Hospitality/Staff Conference Meals (Michael Dewicki)
 - The boxed meals went well last year, will do again this year for conferences.
 - Planning to deep clean and paint the kitchen the weekend of October 22nd. Volunteers appreciated!
- Paper Gator (Joylynn Kelly-Needs a new chair)
 - Kelly Toland is the new chair.
- Parent Ambassador (Kelly Clancy)
 - The ice cream social for new families the week school started was well attended and well received. Great to do things to build our community after COVID.
- Publishing Center (Rose Worm & Amanda Sekelsky)
 - Opening one month early due to enthusiasm from kids!
 - One story will be chosen to be published in the newsletter. The reward is a fast food lunch.
 - Middle schoolers will receive a box of movie theatre candy for submitting their first story.
- Room Parent Coordinator (Erin Gottleber)
 - All room parent coordinators have been contacted.
- Social Committee (Stephanie Martin)
 - First parent's night out will be at The Local on Thursday, October 27th 6-9pm. RSVP by October 14th.
 - Trunk or Treat will be October 30th.

- Sunshine Committee (Emily Andersen)
 - Nine masses have been offered for families this past year. Continually receiving compliments and appreciation from families that we reached out to during their time of need.
- Teacher Appreciation Week (Emily Bouma)
 - No report at this time.
- Variety Show (Erin Gottleber)
 - No report at this time.
- Walking with the Spirit (Kelly Clancy)
 - Another huge success this year! We brought in just under \$40,000!
 - Thank you to Pat Kalahar and Paula Ryan for all of their support! Thank you to the committee, the teachers, volunteers, and everyone who made this event a huge success! Thank you to the Grand Rapids Fire Department!
 - We are planning on celebrating our success at the YMCA on February 25, 2023.

- Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM

This year's meetings:

September 27, 2022 7:00pm

October 25, 2022 7:00pm

January 24, 2023 7:00pm

March 28, 2023 7:00pm

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

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

Featured Author of the Month

Congratulations to Edward B., in Grade 2M, for being the Featured Author of the Month. He has won a lunch of his choice, and his story is featured below.

.....

The Magic Dragon

This book is dedicated to my parents

Once I went to a magical forest.

I saw before my eyes a dragon.

It looked sparkly and green.

It was a nice dragon.

He let me ride on his back into a magical world.

There were a lot of dragons there.

All of the dragons were having a party.

They were roasting cookies.

When the party was over, he took me home.

To be continued....

About the Author

Edward is 7 years old. He likes to play the piano and would like to take drumming lessons. His favorite classes at school are computer class and PE. When he grows up, he would like to be a baker.



Holy Spirit School Calendar, November, 2022

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

		1 All Saints' Day <u>Mass 8:30</u> Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6:30-8:00	2	3 <u>No School</u> Professional Development <u>Day</u> Child Care Open	4 <u>No School</u> Professional Development <u>Day</u> Child Care Open	5 Evening of Worship 6:45pm
6 Gospel Lk 20:27-38	7 Meet the Teacher Conference Sign-ups close at 4:00pm	8 Report Cards <u>Online</u> Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6:30-8:00	9 Titan Toddler Time 10:15-10:45	10 Parent Teacher Conferences 4:00-7:30	11 Veterans' Day Mass 8:30	12
13 Gospel Lk 21:5-19	14	15 Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Robotics 6:30-8:00	16 6:30 Board Meeting	17 Musical Auditions <u>11:45-12:45</u> Turn in Food Drive Items by tomorrow	18 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Newsletter/ Calendar	19 Student Choir 5:00 Mass
20 Gospel <u>Lk 23:35-43</u> Packing Thanksgiving Food Boxes 11:00	21	22 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6:30-8:00	23 <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	24 Happy Thanksgiving	25 <u>No School</u> Child Care Closed	26
27 1 st Sunday of Advent Gospel Mt 24:37-44	28	29 Giving <u>Tuesday</u> Advent by <u>Candlelight</u> Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6:30-8:00	30			



pkalahar@hsparish.org
pryan@hsparish.org
(616)-453-2772

To: All Holy Spirit School Families
From: Mr. Kalahar, Mrs. Ryan, and Mr. Wisniewski
Date: October 21, 2022
Re: **Veterans' Day Mass, November 11, 2022, 8:30am**

Dear School Families,

To celebrate Veterans' Day, we would like to invite Veterans to join us for a special Mass in their honor on Friday, November 11th.

During Mass, we will honor and thank all who have served in the United States Armed Forces. To do so, we need your help! If you know a Veteran (Grandpa, Grandma, relative, parishioner, friend, neighbor) who has served in the Armed Forces, please ask him or her to consider joining us on Friday, November 11th, 8:30 am, for our Veterans' Day Mass.





Following the Mass, any Veteran who is willing to speak with a class/grade will join them in their classroom to briefly (15-20 minutes) share their experience and/or bring memorabilia with them to share with the students.

So we may recognize our Veterans during the Mass and have the right amount of coffee and donuts, please ask him or her to complete and return the attached slip.

Thank you for your help and assistance with our Veteran's Day Celebration, 2022!

So we may plan for our Veterans' Day Celebration, please return this slip to school by Wednesday, November 9th.

Yes, _____, will be joining us on Friday, November 11th, for our Veterans' Day Prayer Celebration Mass.

 Years of Service: _____
 Branch of Service: _____
 Rank Achieved: _____
 Place Served: _____

 Is related to/friends with the following child/ren at Holy Spirit School:

_____ Grade/Class _____
_____ Grade/Class _____
_____ Grade/Class _____

☐ _____ would be willing to briefly share his/her experience(s) as a Veteran with a small group of students.

FALL SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

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.

Guidelines and Deadlines

1. Please turn in all photos for **fall** sports to Rosemary Sweedyk at athletics@hsparish.org no later than **Friday, November 18th** . This 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 included, 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 30, 2022

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.

