



January 27, 2023
School Newsletter

Important Dates:

~Catholic Schools Week is Jan 29th - Feb 3rd - Please see the attached CSW schedule for details. Fr. Mark would like all family members to wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniforms to Mass on this weekend, January 28th & 29th. We look forward to celebrating with you throughout this Catholic Schools Week!

~Parent-Teacher Conferences – Conferences will be held in person on February 9th and 16th. You will be receiving an email on January 31st, with information on how to schedule your conference. Students in Grades 3-5 will need to be present at their conferences because they are student led.

~Happy Valentine's Day – To celebrate the feast of St. Valentine, students may have a color day and wear red, pink, purple, or white on Tuesday, February 14th.

~Living Stations of the Cross – To assist you on your Lenten journey, we would like to invite you to our 7th and 8th grade students' Living Stations of the Cross. This moving presentation, and Lenten reflection, will be presented on Friday, February 24th, at 7:00 pm in the church.

~YMCA Fun Night – Family Fun Night at the YMCA will be Saturday, February 25th from 7:15-9:30pm. Come celebrate another record breaking WWTS! More details to come as the event gets closer.

~Aladdin Jr. The Musical – Coming Soon! – Our students have been working hard and look forward to presenting to you "Aladdin Jr." on Saturday, March 11th, at 2:30pm and 7:00pm. Ticket information will be coming soon. Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss this musical!

~PTA News – This is an election year for two PTA board positions, with terms beginning after the end of this school year. The Secretary position is a two year commitment, and Vice President is a four year commitment (two years as Vice President followed by two years as President). Please prayerfully consider volunteering your time and talent in one of these positions. If you are interested, applications can be acquired by emailing Andrea Dewicki at andreadewicki@gmail.com.

~Thank You Parents – A huge **Thank You** goes out from the teachers to the Holy Spirit parents for the very generous Christmas gift cards your donations purchased for all of us. We really appreciate you thinking of us!

Sun., Jan. 29th – Feb. 3rd
~Catholic Schools Week

Mon., Feb. 6th
~Early Childhood Info Night
6:00-7:00pm

Thurs., Feb. 9th
~Parent Teacher Conferences

Tues., Feb. 14th
~St. Valentine Color Day

Thurs., Feb. 16th
~Parent Teacher Conferences

Mon., Feb. 20th -Tues., Feb. 21st
~NO School /Mid-Winter
Break
~CDC Open

Wed., Feb. 22nd
~Ash Wednesday Mass 8:30

Fri., Feb. 24th
~3rd Qtr. Midterms Online
~Living Stations of the Cross
7:00pm
~Newsletter/Calendar

Sat., Feb. 25th
~YMCA Fun Night
7:15-9:30 pm

HS Happenings



Advent Haiti Water Filter Project ~

*In total, students, families, and parishioners very generously donated **\$5,344**, providing **178 water filters**. The Penny War was an amazing success! These filters will improve the lives of hundreds of our brothers and sisters in Seguin, Haiti. Thank you so much!!!*

Girls On The Run – We have four coaches ready to coach a Girls on the Run team for 3rd and 4th grade girls. Please sign up online at: <https://www.gotrwm.org> by February 1st if your daughter is interested. Thank you.



Early Childhood

New Parent Information Night

Monday, February 6th ~ 6:00 – 7:00pm

Spread the good news to your neighbors, friends, and relatives, interested in enrolling their child in our **Preschool, Young 5's, or Kindergarten** for the 2023-2024 school year. All **new** parents and their children are invited to learn more about the many opportunities Holy Spirit School has to offer children in growing in knowledge and love of God. Call 616-453-2772 or email Paula Ryan at pryan@hsparish.org to RSVP your attendance. We look forward to welcoming new families!

In Sympathy



*Please Remember in Prayer, the **Baker Family** on the passing of their Aunt, the **Dolci, Sweedyk, and Eric Nawrocki Families** on the death of their Great-Grandmother, **Mrs. Kastner** on the loss of her Father, and the **Wing Family** on the passing of their Great-Grandmother. May their souls, and all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.*

Birthday Book Club

*Thank you to **Charlotte T., Felix P., and Wyatt S.**, our newest Birthday Book Club members. Their donations to the school library are greatly appreciated.*

In return for their generosity, they will receive a color day pass!

Awesome Authors Club!

Congratulations to the following HS

Published Authors for the month of January:

Kdg: Bennett H., Hazel B., Hailey Y.

1H: Nola A., Eden G., Luke F., Declan M.

1S: Ian H., Max K., Russell J., Mya G., Ellenor S., Danica G.

2J: Brooklyn K., Charlotte T., Zavyer H., Ava D., Hunter N., Evelyn B.,

2M: Ella W., Landon B., Hanna B., Annie N., Anastasia S., Annabelle P.

3D: Wiley Z., Elin M.

3K: Kennidy C., Morgan B., Maddie B., Sophie J.

5R: Keira G., Kennedy N.

Link Box

[GR Diocesan SMART Financial Aid Application](#)

[Western Little League Sign Up](#)

[NW Youth Soccer](#)

[Walker Rec Spring Soccer Registration](#)

[Champion Force Cheerleading/Martial Arts](#)

[Future Falcon News](#)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ian H.
Blair D.
Kate S.
Lincoln S.
Emma W.
Finley M.
Mrs. Null

Christian D.
Russell J.
Owen A.
Brooks D.
Layla S.
Sylvia B.
Mrs. Clancy

Quinn H.
Jaxson R.
Collin A.
Declan B.
Lily S.
Evelyn R.
Ms. Wright



Peyton B.
Elyse B.
Isabella P.
Ellory R.
Coraline P.
Jane B.

Mila S.
Arthur M.
Carson A.
Maxine J.
Evelyn B.

Religious Education News

First Communion Parent Class is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th, at 6:45pm in the Multi-Purpose Room at church. If you had a child receive in previous years, you do not need to come. Check your packet to see if you have homework. Some did not turn it in during previous years. It may still be in your computer files or emails waiting to be sent.

First Communion Platemarking is March 18th, at 9:00am. Please be sure to return your envelope by March 1st, either with your payment or mark it as “not participating.”

Confirmation Retreat: There will be a Confirmation Retreat here at Holy Spirit on Sunday, March 12th. The time is yet to be determined.

Scrip News

The next **local** order will process on Monday, February 6th. Please have your orders in by 9:00am. Thank you.

Local Establishments Include:

Arsulowicz Eye Care
Beckwith Family Dental
Beaches and Braces
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 Carwash
Walker Roadhouse

If you have any website related questions, please reach out to the “shop with scrip” customer service – they have both a 1-800 number and a chat service available. If you have any other questions, please let me know. April Alt - scrip@hsparish.org.

Holy Spirit Mission Statement

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

Sports Fees DUE! - If your son or daughter has or is participating in sports here at Holy Spirit, please remember to turn in your sports fee of \$85 per player to the school office next week. Thank you!

Please turn in washed boys' basketball uniforms to the school office.

Upcoming News:

SAVE THE DATE!

Holy Spirit Sports will be holding a **golf outing** this summer. Date has been set for Friday, August 18th, at The Falls at Barber Creek. If interested in being on the golf committee, please email Rosemary Sweedyk at rsweedyk@hsparish.org.

GRACEAC Spring Sports Sign Up

GRACEAC will be opening up registration soon for spring sports for girls and boys in grades **3rd thru 8th**. An "Interest sheet" will be sent to the classrooms to see what sports students are interested in participating in. Emails will then be sent to those parents to sign their child up on the GRACEAC site in order to participate.

Spring Sports being offered are:

<u>Boys Spring Sports</u>	<u>Girls Spring Sports</u>
5,6,7,8, Baseball	5,6,7,8, Softball
3,4,5,6,7,8 Track	3,4,5,6,7,8 Track
3,4,5,6,7,8 Lacrosse	3,4,5,6,7,8 Soccer
5,6,7,8 Tennis	5,6,7,8 Tennis

2023 Girls Basketball Schedules - Live Links for the schedules can be found in today's email blast.

SEVERE WEATHER UPDATE

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 through 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 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. (Board of Directors 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 home. While we do require you to call school when your child will be absent, please do not call school to ask if classes will be cancelled due to inclement weather. Instead, please monitor your email, our Facebook page, the Grand Rapids area radio and television stations, or their websites, which will be informed immediately of any cancellations or delays.



PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION MEETING AGENDA

January 24, 2023

- CALL TO ORDER 7:00PM
- 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 and Paula Ryan
- READING OF GOALS -Read by Emily
- PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
 - The Advent Christmas Program was held on December 12th and went really well, it was great to have everyone back together in the Church again. Thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Houdek for lending their talents in making it a success!
 - The Advent Haiti Water Filter fundraiser raised over \$5,000 which purchased 178 water filters. It's an exciting time to see our community giving and getting so excited to help people they don't know. A great example of taking care of your brothers and sisters.
 - Giving Tuesday raised \$55,000 for the playground project. We received several challenge grants from the Diocese.
 - Over Christmas we sent out over 2,000 targeted mailings to spread the word about Holy Spirit School. The postcard highlights faith, extracurriculars and academics.
 - The most recent Titan Toddler Time was very well attended and it continues to be a great, growing program.
 - Catholic School's Week begins this weekend. Please wear your Holy Spirit apparel to Mass this weekend.
 - Michael Thelen, a current Senior at Hillsdale College and Holy Spirit alum, will speak at Mass about how Holy Spirit helped shape and prepare him for the future.

- Upcoming Dates:

- February 6th Early Childhood Information Night.
- February 9th and 16th parent teacher conferences.

- TREASURER'S REPORT

- Review of financial report.
- WWTS raised \$38,670 this past year!
- Check was received in January from Spartan Nash.
- Checks were received from Amazon Smile for \$192 and \$71, \$157 from box tops and \$413 from paper gator.

- Committee Reports:

- Holy Spirit Apparel (Emily Bouma)

- Last order went out just before Christmas. One more order will take place before the end of the year.

- Birthday Board (Stephanie Kozlowicz)

- Email was sent to those interested in helping with the Birthday board.

- Book Fair (Amanda Koch)

- No report at this time.

- Spartan Nash (Mercedes Barnum)

- Check was issued recently and one more is likely expected for this year. Box tops check was also received.

- Family Outreach (Annie Williams)

- No report at this time.

- Hospitality/Staff Conference Meals (Michael Dewicki)

- Menu will be finalized this weekend for conferences in February.

- Paper Gator (Kelly Toland)

- No report at this time. Please continue to send in your paper!

- Parent Ambassador (Kelly Clancy)

- Keeping up with quarterly check-ins with families and personal reminders about the YMCA night on February 25th.

- Publishing Center (Amanda Sekelsky)
 - No report at this time.
- Room Parent Coordinator (Erin Gottleber)
 - No report at this time.
- Social Committee (Stephanie Martin)
 - Low turnout in October at the parent event but it was fun!
 - Looking to schedule another event this Spring.
- Sunshine Committee (Emily Andersen)
 - No report at this time.
- Teacher Appreciation Week (Emily Bouma)
 - May 1-5 will be teacher appreciation week this year. Planning has begun.
- Variety Show (Erin Gottleber)
 - No report at this time.
- Walking with the Spirit (Kelly Clancy)
 - YMCA night is coming up on February 25th.
 - Mark your calendar for next year's 16th annual WWTS on September 15th.
 - \$38,670 was raised this past year!

Topics of Discussion:

- Playground donation
 - \$136,000 has been raised. The cost of the playground will be approximately \$200,000.
 - PTA voted and unanimously approved a donation of \$40,000 from PTA funds to the playground project.
- Amazon Smile
 - The program has been discontinued by Amazon.
- Election year for Secretary and Vice President
- Adjourn 7:54PM

This year's meetings: September 27, 2022 7:00pm, October 25, 2022 7:00pm
January 24, 2023 7:00pm, March 28, 2023 7:00pm

Spanish Class News at Holy Spirit: January 2023

¡Feliz Año Nuevo! It's hard to believe that we are halfway through the school year as I type this! We continue to keep learning during Spanish class! Here is what we have been doing this month.

Kindergarten- We are reviewing color words and are now practicing the basic shapes with the colors; for example, el cuadrado rojo (the red square). We played colors and shapes bingo to practice listening to the vocabulary and matching the picture on our boards. We've also been practicing counting higher than 10 and singing the days of the week in Spanish during calendar time.

First grade- Hopefully your child told you about what we did with our shoes earlier this month! We finished up our pizza unit and are starting Unit 3 which is about emotions. This unit will be a little easier as students have been practicing basic emotions for the past few months as I ask them, "Como estas?" We recently learned a new movement song called "Una mano arriba" (One hand up).

Second-Third grades- Students colored un zapato (shoe) to leave out for the Wise Men for Three Kings Day on January 6. I heard back that some of your households had the Wise Men visit there! We are currently learning winter clothing and 2 new songs about winter. See if your child can say 1 or more words in Spanish about what they should wear outside en el invierno (winter)!

Fourth grade- In fourth grade, students have been practicing months, seasons and how to write the date in Spanish. We've learned some songs and played some games to help practice these concepts.

Fifth-Seventh grades- We have started our new unit (2.5) focusing on the following core vocabulary words: va=he/she goes, no puede= cannot, hay=there is/are. Students are hearing/seeing/saying the vocabulary in context and will soon create a class story with the vocabulary. 6th -8th graders will be receiving a letter grade for 2nd quarter. Their grade includes work from the first semester of school. If you would like to discuss your child's grade with me, please sign up to meet with me during conferences next month.

Eighth grade- We continue learning through Unit 3 vocabulary and activities. I brought in a Rosca de Reyes for January 6 for the 8th graders to try, along with some corn tamales. Three 8th grade ladies found the babies in the sweet bread and have to bring in a treat for Friday, February 2, which is the last day of the Christmas season in Mexico! Students are reading longer stories in Spanish and answering questions/understanding the gist of the story.

Hasta febrero, Sra Long (senoraloreal@gmail.com)

Featured Author of the Month

Congratulations to Bennett H., in Kindergarten, for being the Featured Author of the Month. He has won a lunch of his choice, and his story is featured below.

Chick Finds a Home

By Bennett H.

This book is dedicated to my baby sister, Sophie.

Chapter 1

A fish is swimming in the ocean.

His name is Chick.

He sees a boat.

Chick swims as fast as he can towards the boat.

Chapter 2

A man named Finn is fishing in the boat.

Chick jumps into a bucket of water on the boat.

Chapter 3

He says to Finn, "Can I be a part of your family? I lost mine." Finn says "Of course, we have a fish tank at home and there is one fish named Goldie. She is lonely."

Chapter 4

Chick smiles. "I'm so happy to finally have a family and a friend!"

THE END

About the Author

Bennett is 6 years old. He hopes to play tee ball someday. His favorite food is apples. Bennett also likes to watch the TV show Dinotrux. When Bennett grows up, he would like to work at a restaurant as a waiter.



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

2023 Catholic Schools Week

Saturday and Sunday, January 28-29

Celebrating our Parish

Families wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniforms. Students participate in Weekend Masses as lectors and commentators.

Monday, January 30

Celebrating our Students

Field Trip to Altitude

Parents - Initial and Sign Altitude Waiver Form by January 20th
Walking With The Spirit T-Shirt with athletic bottoms Color Day

Tuesday, January 31

Celebrating our Community

Student Government attends Mass at St. Andrew's Cathedral

The livestream will be available on the [Diocese of Grand Rapids website](#)

Gr. K-3, Rock Paper Scissors Tournaments at the classroom level

Gr. 4-8, Kahoot Tournaments at the classroom level

No homework or tests

Favorite Sports Team Top with jeans or athletic bottoms

Wednesday, February 1

Celebrating Our Nation

Write Thank You Letters to Police Officers and Fire Fighters

Student Government vs. Teachers Volleyball Games

Holy Spirit T-Shirt Color Day with jeans or athletic bottoms

Thursday, February 2

Celebrating Vocations

Class Cards and Prayers for a Seminarian

Comfy Color Day

Bingo Games about our Church and School with Super Friends

Friday, February 3

Celebrating Staff & Faculty

School Mass at 8:30

Love One Another shirt with uniform bottoms

Tournaments: Gr. K-3, Rock Paper Scissors & Gr. 4-8, Kahoot

Saturday, February 4

Celebrating Families

Families are encouraged to celebrate their family by having a family game night or movie night.

Thank you for choosing Holy Spirit School!

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



Holy Spirit School Calendar, February, 2023

*Lunch Supervision, Grade 4 / For updated information go to www.holyspiritschoolgr.org

January 29 Catholic Schools Week Wear Holy Spirit apparel or uniform to Mass this weekend. Mt 5:1-12	January 30 Altitude Field Trip WWTS Shirt <u>Color Day</u> All Kindergarten students attend in AM	January 31 Student Govt Mass at St. Andrew's Sports Team <u>Color Day</u> Robotics 6-7pm Meet the Teacher Conference Sign-ups Open	February 1 Holy Spirit Shirt Color Day	2 Comfy <u>Color Day</u> Robotics 6-7pm	3 <u>Mass 8:30</u> Love One Another Shirt with uniform bottoms	4
5 Gospel Mt 5:13-16	6 New Family Early Childhood Info Night <u>6:00-7:00 pm</u> Meet the Teacher Conference Sign-ups close at 4:00	7 Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6-7pm	8 2 nd Gr. Parent 1 st Communion Class 6:45pm in church Multipurpose Room	9 Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Robotics 6-7pm	10 Mass 8:30	11 Student Choir 5:00 Mass
12 Gospel Mt 5:17-37	13	14 St. Valentine <u>Color Day</u> Choir <u>3:15-4:15</u> Robotics 6-7pm	15	16 Little Flowers <u>3:15-4:30</u> Parent Teacher Conferences <u>4:00-7:30</u> Robotics 6-7pm	17 Mass 8:30	18
19 Gospel Mt 5:38-48	20 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	21 Mid-winter Break <u>No School</u> Child Care Open	22 Ash Wednesday 8:30 Mass	23 Robotics 6-7pm	24 Living Stations <u>7:00pm</u> 3 rd Quarter <u>Midterms</u> Newsletter/Calendar	25 YMCA Night 7:15-9:30pm
26 Student Choir 10:00 Mass	27	28 Robotics 6-7pm				



Refresh their springtime wardrobe & SAVE

40% OFF

School Uniform Bottoms

20% Off Everything Else

VALID: **FEB. 9-24, 2023** CODE: **PENCIL** PIN: **1356**



landsend.com/get-started



landsend.com/myschool

landsend.com/myschool | 1-800-469-2222

Receive 40% off school uniform bottoms; 20% off everything else online or by phone (excludes buy more and save pricing, monogramming, gift boxing, gift cards, shipping, taxes, duties, Lands' End Business Outfitters purchases, and excluded items as marked). Discount will be applied at checkout. This offer has no cash value. Promotional savings may be deducted from returns. 5-7 business day delivery to most addresses. Free standard shipping is valid on orders of \$99 or more (after promotions and discounts are applied) shipped to US and Canada addresses only. Offer valid through 11:59 p.m. Central, February 24, 2023. Not valid on previous purchases or when combined with any other promotional offers.